



Valles Caldera National Preserve Management Strategies

September 29, 2015

New Mexico State Game Commission Meeting

Albuquerque, NM

Public comment on elk hunting

7 public comments received to date

- opposed to putting VCNP into NMDGF Big Game Draw

A photograph of a herd of elk in a dry, golden-brown field. The elk are scattered across the middle ground, some facing left and some right. One elk in the center has large, dark antlers. The background is a vast, open field under a clear sky.

NPS Transition: Elk Hunting

- NPS takes over management of VCNP on Oct. 1, 2015
- This year elk hunts will be the same
- Worked with NPS to determine 2016-2018 proposals
 - Licenses to be administered through Big Game Draw
- Consistency of regulations on and off Preserve
 - Fewer individual hunts w/same number of licenses



Elk Season Structure: Current & Proposed

- Currently 235 licenses; Proposed 245 (increase of 10 ES Archery)
 - Current: 50 MB Licenses
35 ES Archery licenses
155 A Licenses
 - Proposed: 50 MB Licenses
45 ES Archery Licenses
155 A Licenses
- Currently 15 different hunts; Proposed 10



NPS Transition: Turkey Hunting

- Eliminate over-the-counter spring turkey hunt
- Add 20 draw licenses for 6B: 4/15-4/30



Questions?

The logo of the New Mexico Game & Fish Commission is a circular emblem. It features a central illustration of a bison's head facing forward. The words "NEW MEXICO" are written in a semi-circle above the bison, and "GAME & FISH" is written in a semi-circle below it. The entire emblem is surrounded by a decorative border.

Elk Rule 19.31.14

“Move to adopt the proposed changes to 19.31.14 NMAC, except for those sections previously adopted by the commission, as presented by the Department and allow the Department to make minor corrections to comply with filing this rule with State Records and Archives.”

Turkey Rule 19.31.16

“Move to adopt the proposed changes to 19.31.16 NMAC, except for those sections previously adopted by the commission, as presented by the Department and allow the Department to make minor corrections to comply with filing this rule with State Records and Archives.”

Elk Season Structure: Current & Proposed

Current Season Structure					Proposed Season Structure				
	2015-2016	Wpn	# Lic			2016-2017	Wpn	# Lic	
6B:VCNP	9/2-9/8	2	15	ES	6B:VCNP	9/1-9/14	2	20	ES
6B:VCNP	9/12-9/18	2	15	ES	6B:VCNP	9/15-9/24	2	20	ES
6B:VCNP mzl only	10/3-10/7	3	15	MB	6B:VCNP mzl only	10/8-10/12	3	15	MB
6B:VCNP mzl only	10/3-10/7	3	10	A					
6B:VCNP	10/10-10/14	1	15	MB	6B:VCNP	10/15-10/19	1	15	MB
6B:VCNP YO	10/10-10/14	1	10	A	6B:VCNP YO	11/26-11/30	1	35	A
6B:VCNP	10/17-10/21	1	11	MB	6B:VCNP	10/22-10/26	1	20	MB
6B:VCNP	10/17-10/21	1	9	MB					
6B:VCNP MI	10/23-10/26	1	15	A	6B:VCNP MI	10/29-11/2	1	15	A
6B:VCNP M/Y	10/30-11/2	1	20	A					
6B:VCNP veterans only	11/6-11/9	1	20	A					
6B:VCNP	11/13-11/16	1	20	A	6B:VCNP	11/5-11/9	1	35	A
6B:VCNP	11/20-11/23	1	20	A	6B:VCNP	11/19-11/23	1	35	A
6B:VCNP	11/27-11/30	1	20	A	6B:VCNP	12/3-12/7	1	35	A
6B:VCNP	12/4-12/7	1	20	A					
TOTAL LICENSES			235					245	

A photograph of a herd of elk in a field. The elk are of various sizes and colors, some with large antlers. They are standing in a line across a field of dry, golden-brown grass. The background is a vast, open landscape under a clear sky.

NPS Transition

- December 19, 2014 Congress established VCNP as a unit of the National Park System
- 3 year to complete management plan
- Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping **Shall** be permitted
- Any limitations **Shall** be in consultation with the Department