

COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA BRIEFING

Meeting Date: March 20, 2026

Agenda Number: 15

Presenter: Stewart Liley

Corroborator: N/A

Agenda Title: Subsequent discussion on javelina rule (19.31.21 NMAC) for the 2027 – 2030 hunting seasons.

1. Summary of Agenda Item

The Department will present biological and proposed adjustments to the javelina rule (19.31.21 NMAC) based on public feedback, biological information, and management goals. We held 2 hybrid in person/virtual public meetings and have also received comments on the rule..

The Department is proposing the following changes:

- Increases in licenses for OTC area (from 1,200 to 1,300 any-legal weapon licenses and from 360 to 400 bow licenses)
- Allow bootheel draw hunters to hunt OTC areas also
- Eliminate GMU 28 McGregor hunt of 10 licenses based on discussions with Fort Bliss staff (over time, an average of only 3 of the 10 hunters show up for the hunt and it is logistically burdensome to organize for the military)

2. Background Information

The javelina rule is re-evaluated every four years and changed based on biological data, harvest data, and management goals. In addition, the Department will receive public feedback and consider it in the context of the species biological and management goals. The Department has reached out to the public for input.

Javelina are concentrated in the southwestern part of the state. Javelina continue to be observed in new areas. The Department strives to balance javelina hunting opportunity with population sustainability.

3. Strategic Plan References and Possible Impacts of Agenda Item

The process as presented to the Commission meets the Conservation Services Program Objectives 1, 2 and 5 of the Department's Strategic Plan: FY 2019 – FY 2023

4. Considerations Regarding Duplications and/or Conflicts with Existing Rules or Statutes

None

5. Description and Summary of Public Involvement Process and Results

The Department held 2 hybrid in person/virtual public meetings in Las Cruces and Albuquerque. Public comments will be presented at the Commission meeting. Proposed changes to the javelina rule have been posted on the Department's website.

Suggested Motion

This is a discussion item and no motion is necessary, unless Commission discretion dictates otherwise.