Commission Update: New Mexico Hunters Helping the Hungry Program

September 29, 2015 New Mexico State Game Commission Meeting Albuquerque, NM



A wild game meat donation program.

 Initiated in response to House Memorial 78 (2013).

 Operated and administered by Roadrunner Food Bank



- Roadrunner Food Bank
 - A non-profit organization dedicated to helping hungry people throughout New Mexico
 - Roadrunner and its partner agencies reach nearly 40,000 hungry people weekly



- Working on receiving monetary donations before beginning program
- Approximately ten meat processors will be participating during the 2015-16 hunting season
 - Additional processors may be added in future years
 - Processors have agreed to reduced fees for this program
- The program will accept deer and elk
 - May be open to additional species in the future



- For Processors to participate
 - Must be property licensed and certified by the NM Environment Department
 - Must be enrolled with Roadrunner Food Bank
 - Agree to charge according to the program fee schedule
 - Invoice Roadrunner Food Bank for processing costs



- For Hunters to participate
 - Donations currently limited to deer and elk
 - Locate a participating processor
 - Complete a simple one page form stating the meat has been property cared for in the field and during transport
 - A list of participating processors and guidelines for proper carcass care will we published on the Roadrunner and Department websites and will be advertised widely



HUNTERS Helping the Hungry

Supplemental Information



Questions Hunters Must Answer to Donate Meat

- ·Yes or No...
 - The animal appeared to be healthy and did not exhibit obvious signs of illness
 - The animal was field dressed (eviscerated) within one hour of harvest
 - The meat was chilled or placed in refrigeration at temperatures below 41 degrees Fahrenheit quickly after field dressing
 - The meat was protected from contamination during transport and separated from non-food items
 - During transportation the meat was maintained at temperatures below 41 degrees Fahrenheit

Note: Processors have full authority to turn away any animal they believe has not been cared for properly