

Agenda Item # 16 Update on the State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP)

James Comins
New Mexico Department of Game & Fish
August 25, 2016





SWAP update since June 23, 2016

- Held a follow up meeting with representatives from the gas and oil industry on June 30, 2016
 - Expressed concerns about the number of Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)
 - Talked about the current federal regulations on gas and oil wells and their willingness to adhere to those on non federal lands
 - Presented the SGCN categories for their input
 - Offered to let the representatives draft a paragraph for the gas/oil section of the SWAP
 - Later received comments from Jerry Fanning and incorporated those comments into the current draft SWAP
- Agriculture representatives submitted draft copy of the agriculture section of the SWAP.
 - Incorporated some of the revised language into the SWAP





Revisions to the draft SWAP

- Reduced the number of SGCN list down to 235 species (from 455 species)
- Categorized the SGCN using the following criteria:
 - Immediate Priority Species
 - Specialized or Limited-Habitat Species
 - Susceptible Species
 - Species with Conservation Data Gaps
 - Federally-listed Species
- Addressed the tone and language concerns in the draft
- Revised the Climate Change section of the draft





Public Involvement Process for draft review

- The 30 day public comment period on the draft SWAP started August 2 and ends August 31
- Notification of the public comment period included:
 - Press release
 - Posted on Department Website
 - Letters to 26 tribes/councils
 - E-mails to SWAP Core team members and stakeholders





SWAP timeline

- Address public comments in draft SWAP by October 7, 2016
- Complete final review and edits of draft SWAP by November 10, 2016
- Present final SWAP draft to the Commission on November 17, 2016





Questions



