



2015
Legislative Session
Update





# Odd Numbered Years are 60-Day Sessions

- Anything Goes Session:
  - -639 House Bills

- 726 Senate Bills

## 2015 Legislative Session Update

- Operating Budget Request (HB 2)
- Other Legislation
  - Penalties for hunting, fishing and trapping (felony waste of game & penalty assessments)
  - Veteran license discounts (50% discounts for resident veterans)
  - Broad-based volunteer program
  - Commission authority for tilapia
  - Other Legislation





### Operating Budget



- HB 2 State of New Mexico Budget Bill 6.2 Billion
- Do Pass House (42-25)
- Do Pass Senate (38-3) w Senate Finance Committee Amendments
- House Concurrence, March 20, 2015 (67-0)
  - Earmarked \$500K Game Protection Fund to State Parks for support hunting, fishing, trapping and wildlife conservation
  - Earmarked \$500K Trail Safety Fund to go to State Parks Programs
  - Earmarked \$297K Game Protection Fund to go to Office of the State Engineer for Silver Minnow Refugium
  - Special Appropriations \$525K to upgrade and outfit law enforcement vehicles
  - Special Appropriations \$350K for IT hardware and software (offsite data warehouse)
  - Special Appropriations \$500K Trail Safety Fund & \$500K from the Game Protection Fund to go to Forest Watershed Restoration (If HB 38 passes)

### Operating Budget FY 2016

	Original DGF		
	Request	Final Action HB2	Difference
Field Operations			
<b>Budget Total</b>	\$ 8,251.6	\$ 8,251.6	\$ -
FTE Total	96.0	96.0	
Conservation Services Program			
<b>Budget Total</b>	\$ 21,914.0	\$ 22,991.0	\$ 1,077.00
FTE Total	157.0	157.0	Division National
Wildlife Depredation and Nuisance Abatement Program			
<b>Budget Total</b>	\$ 1,040.1	\$ 1,040.1	\$ -
FTE Total	4.0	4.0	
Program Support			
<b>Budget Total</b>	\$ 7,964.9	\$ 7,964.9	\$ -
FTE Total	52.0	52.0	
Total All Programs			ON A HOLL
<b>Budget Total</b>	\$ 39,170.6	\$ 40,247.6	\$ 1,077.00
FTE Total	309.0	309.0	



### Other Budget Impacts

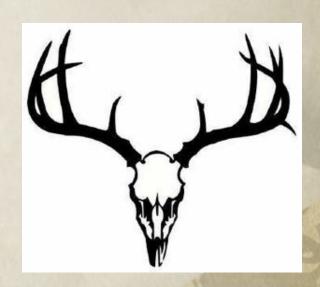
- Budget Adjustment Request Authority:
  - \$250,000 can be added to operating budget for emergencies
- No Capital Projects approved this year; however Department will continue with existing projects (1-4 years in length)

# HB202 Hunting & Fishing Penalty Assessment Citations

- Sponsored by Rep. Alonzo Baldonado
- Do Pass in Regulatory and Public Affairs Committee and Agriculture, Water and Wildlife Committee
- Passed House (57-3)
- Do Pass in Senate Conservation and Senate Judiciary
- Passed Senate (40-0)
- Governor Signed TBD

# SB254 Hunting & Fishing Waste of Game

- Sponsored by Sen. Clemente Sanchez
- Passed in Senate Conservation
- Tabled in Senate Judiciary



#### **HB203**

### Veteran License Discount (50% Resident Veterans & Active Duty)

- Sponsored by Rep. Alonzo Baldonado
- Do Pass in Regulatory and Public Affairs Committee and Agriculture, Water and Wildlife Committee
- Passed House (59-0)
- Do Pass in Conservation Committee and Finance Committee
- Passed Senate (38-0)
- Governor Signed TBD

#### SB231 Volunteer Authority

- Sponsored by Sen. Benny Shendo
- Do Pass in Conservation Committee and Judiciary Committee
- Passed Senate (38-0)
- Do Pass in Agriculture, Water and Wildlife Committee
- Passed House (61-0)
- Governor Signed TBD



### HB201 Tilapia and Bass

- Sponsored by Rep. Alonzo Baldonado
- Do Pass in Agriculture, Water and Wildlife Committee
- Passed House (62-1)
- Do Pass in Conservation Committee and Public Affairs Committee
- Passed Senate (40-0)
- Governor Signed TBD

#### Other Successful Legislation

#### Stream Access

- SB 226 (Sen. Martinez)
- Senate version (2 substitutes, 1 amendment)
- Similar bill HB 235 (Rep. Bandy)
- Passed Senate (32-7)
- Passed House (32-31)
- Governor Signed TBD

C. No person engaged in hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, hiking, sightseeing, the operation of watercraft or any other recreational use shall walk or wade onto private property through non-navigable public water or access public water via private property unless the private property owner or lessee or person in control of private lands has expressly consented in writing."



#### Other Successful Legislation

#### Forest Restoration

- HB 38 (Rep. Bandy)
- 1 substitute, 1 amendment
- Passed House (58-0)
- Passed Senate (37-0)
- Governor Signed TBD

#### Unsuccessful Legislation

- HB 97 Restrict Certain Draw Hunts to Non-felons
- HB 98 Department Annual Report
- HB 235 NM Wildlife Protection & Public Safety Act (prohibited trapping on public lands)
- HB 468 State Sovereignty over Lesser Prairie Chickens
- HB 502 Off-highway Vehicles
- HB 586 Unprotect Cougars
- HB 616 Elk Population Management
- SB 215 Depredation/Prohibit Killing without Contacting NMDGF First
- SB 253 Prohibit Coyote Killing Contests
- SB 254 Game and Fish Violation Penalties

#### Other Legislation

- Unlawful Use of Drones to Take Protected
   Species
  - SB 82 (Sen. Morales amended/withdrawn)
- Study to Protect Wildlife from Drones Memorials
  - HM 81 (Rep. Baldonado) Passed 70-0
  - SM 91 (Sen. Morales) Passed 26-0

#### Other Legislation

#### Other Memorials

- HM 45—Watershed Restoration for Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout (Passed House 45-0)
- HM 66—Wolf Recovery Plan with compensation
- HM 74—Lesser Prairie Chickens on State Lands (Passed House 31-22)
- HM 99—Manage Mexican Wolf Program
- HM 114—Elk population Management
- HM 117—Denounce Wolf plan and transfer to state



#### **Important Dates**

- April 10, 2015- Legislation not acted upon by governor is pocket vetoed
- June 19, 2015- Effective date of legislation enacted (except Budget July 1)
- Next Session
  - NMDGF Requests to Commission for Legislative Initiatives Summer/Fall 2015
  - Pre-file Legislation Jan 15, 2016
  - Session Dates Jan 19, 2016 Feb 18, 2016

## Questions, Comments?

