

# Management Hunts

Licenses, applications, harvest reporting and general information: **1-888-248-6866**

## Population Management Hunts

Hunters wishing to be considered for population management hunts for Barbary sheep, bighorn sheep, deer, elk, ibex, javelina, oryx or pronghorn **must select the fifth-choice option on the draw application for the appropriate species.**

Hunters cannot be added to the list after the public draw deadline. Applications must be completed online or by telephone by March 20 before 5 p.m.

Applicants must apply for at least one regular draw hunt choice to be eligible for the population management hunt for the same species. By choosing this option, hunters are indicating their willingness, if unsuccessful in drawing their first, second, third or fourth choice, to be contacted by NMDGF if a population management hunt is scheduled for that species.

If a population management hunt is scheduled, a NMDGF official will contact the hunter to notify him/her of the hunt areas, dates, bag limit, allowable sporting arms and any other special restrictions. The hunter will be asked to accept or decline a hunt. If the hunter accepts the hunt, they must purchase the license online or by phone. If the hunter declines, the next hunter in sequence will be contacted. Bag limits for population management hunts will be primarily female animals, since these hunts are intended to reduce populations in specific areas.

Choosing a population management hunt option is not a guarantee the applicant will be contacted for a hunt. Population management hunters must file a harvest report.

**White Sands Missile Range (WSMR):** To be eligible for population management hunts on WSMR, applicants must enter a hunt authorization code from an approved 2024 WSMR Security Sponsor (see page 114). **Leave the WSMR Population Management Hunt Authorization Code box unchecked if you do not have an authorization code.**

## Population Management Hunt Fees

If unsuccessful for the first, second, third or fourth choice, applicants will be refunded the license fee. If a hunter is contacted and accepts a fifth-choice hunt, she/he will be required to purchase the appropriate license(s) with tags.

White Sands Missile Range and Jornada Experimental Range each charge a \$150 access fee to all oryx hunters. Other federal agencies may charge access fees.

Choosing the oryx population management hunt implies acceptance of additional fees should a hunter be called for one of these hunts. Population management hunters must file a harvest report and may be required to obtain a carcass tag in person at a license vendor or NMDGF office.

## Avoid Late Fees: Harvest Reporting for Late-Season Management Hunts

Population management license holders for hunts that occur late in the license year or after the reporting deadlines must submit a harvest report on or before April 7 to maintain draw eligibility. NMDGF recommends reporting by telephone at:

**1-888-248-6866** to avoid late fees.

# Enhancement Hunts

## Enhancement Hunts

NMDGF issues special hunting permits through either auction or the sale of raffle tickets. NMDGF works with non-profit organizations dedicated to wildlife conservation to carry out these auctions and raffles and all proceeds from enhancement hunts are used solely for habitat enhancement, conservation, research and management projects in New Mexico for each species. Authorizations may be used either by the recipient or any individual of the recipient's choice through sale, barter or gift. These are not once-in-a-lifetime hunts. More information can be found on NMDGF's website: <https://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/hunting/applications-and-draw-information/enhancement-hunts/>

## Enhancement Hunts to be Auctioned

1. Two big game enhancement packages. Each package will consist of five authorizations, one for each of deer, elk, ibex, oryx and pronghorn. The season dates are: Sept. 1, 2024–Jan. 31, 2025 for deer and elk; April 1, 2024–March 31, 2025 for ibex and oryx (for oryx hunts, WSMR access must be prearranged); and Aug. 1–Nov. 1, 2024 for pronghorn.
2. Two bighorn sheep authorizations, one for Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep and one for desert bighorn sheep. The season dates are: Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep: Aug. 1–Dec. 31, 2024, except in GMU 53 (Wheeler Peak), which is closed Aug. 16–31, 2024; desert bighorn sheep: Aug. 1–Dec. 31, 2024.
3. One authorization valid for a fork-antlered deer. The season dates are Sept. 1, 2024–Jan. 31, 2025.
4. One authorization valid for a mature bull elk. The season dates are Sept. 1, 2024–Jan. 31, 2025.
5. One authorization valid for one bearded Gould's turkey. The season dates are any consecutive 30 days of the hunter's choosing between April 1 and May 31 each year.

## Enhancement Hunts to be Raffled

1. Two bighorn sheep authorizations, one for Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep and one for desert bighorn sheep. The season dates are: Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep: Aug. 1–Dec. 31, 2024, except in GMU 53 (Wheeler Peak), which is closed Aug. 16–31, 2024; desert bighorn sheep: Aug. 1–Dec. 31, 2024.
2. One authorization valid for a fork-antlered deer. The season dates are Sept. 1, 2024–Jan. 31, 2025.
3. One authorization valid for a mature bull elk. The season dates are Sept. 1, 2024–Jan. 31, 2025.
4. One authorization valid for one bearded Gould's turkey. The season dates are any consecutive 30 days of the hunter's choosing between April 1 and May 31 each year.