



New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

2020–2021 NEW MEXICO

UPLAND GAME HUNTING RULES & INFO

Eurasian
collared-dove,
grouse,
pheasant,
quail and
squirrel

wildlife.state.nm.us

Conserving New Mexico's Wildlife for Future Generations

Wildlife Are Held in Trust for the Public



Wildlife in North America belong to no individual but are held in trust for the public by state and federal governments.

In 1842, the Supreme Court established this concept in law and set the foundation for the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation.

Founding principles of the North American Model include:

- The elimination of market hunting for game.
- Wildlife should be allocated through law.
- The killing of wildlife requires a legitimate purpose.
- Wildlife are international resources.
- Science is the proper tool to determine and discharge wildlife policy.
- Hunting and fishing rules and regulations should be developed through public processes that create systems of wildlife conservation and use.

These principles helped end an era when millions of bison, birds, elk and other wildlife were killed without seasons or bag limits and helped to begin more than a century of conservation efforts to restore wildlife across North America.

Wildlife management today continues to be guided by these principles, and the success of these practices is evident every time a resident or visitor glimpses an often elusive bouquet of pheasants or flushes from the brush one of the four different species of quail found in New Mexico.

All of this would never be possible without people like you — hunters who provide the means from fees and licenses to fund wildlife management across America. This is why we at the Department of Game and Fish encourage, recruit and work to retain hunters like you. You make this legacy of wildlife restoration and conservation available to everyone.

Thanks for all you do to support wildlife conservation in New Mexico.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael B. Sloane'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michael B. Sloane, Director-New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

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General Information

Our Mission

To conserve, regulate, propagate and protect the wildlife and fish within the State of New Mexico, using a flexible management system that ensures sustainable use for public food supply, recreation and safety and to provide for off-highway motor vehicle recreation that recognizes cultural, historic and resource values while ensuring public safety.

New Mexico State Game Commission

Commissioner emails available online: www.state.wildlife.nm.us; P.O. Box 25112, Santa Fe, NM 87504.

Sharon Salazar Hickey, Chair, Los Alamos
Roberta Salazar-Henry, Vice Chair, Las Cruces
Jimmy Ray Bates, Sr., Albuquerque
Gail Cramer, Mayhill
Tirzio J. Lopez, Cebolla
David Soules, Las Cruces
Jeremy Vesbach, Placitas

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

One Wildlife Way, Santa Fe, NM 87507 1-888-248-6866

Michael B. Sloane, Director
Vacant, Deputy Director
Vacant, Assistant Director
James Comins, Assistant Director
Robert Griego, Colonel – Field Operations

Regional Offices

Northwest Office: 7816 Alamo Road, NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120 (505) 222-4700
Southwest Office: 2715 Northrise Drive, Las Cruces, NM 88011 (575) 532-2100
Northeast Office: 215 York Canyon Road, Raton, NM 87740 (575) 445-2311
P.O. Box 1145, Raton NM 87740
Southeast Office: 1615 West College Boulevard, Roswell, NM 88201 (575) 624-6135

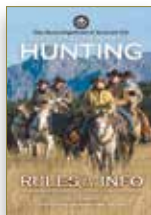
Conservation Officer Contact Information

<http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/enforcement/law-enforcement-contact-information/>

Important Telephone Numbers

General Information, License Sales and Harvest Reporting 1-888-248-6866
Hunter Education Program Information (505) 222-4731
Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Information (505) 222-4712
Operation Game Thief (OGT) **1-800-432-4263**
24-hour Depredation Hotline 1-888-727-4883
TDD (number for hearing impaired) (505) 476-8143

The *2020–21 New Mexico Upland Game Hunting Rules and Information* includes seasons for upland game. Information about seasons for migratory game birds is provided online in the *2020–21 New Mexico Migratory Game Bird Hunting Rules and Information*. Information about big game and turkey hunting regulations, license requirements and fees is provided online in the *2020–21 New Mexico Hunting Rules and Information*. Information about furbearer trapping and hunting regulations, license requirements and fees is also provided online in the *2020–21 New Mexico Furbearer Rules and Information*. Cover: Gamble quail. Department photo by Dan Williams.



Important Reminders

Pheasant Application Deadline: August 19, 2020

Deadline for all special permit pheasant hunts is August 19, 2020 before 5 p.m. MDT. No more than four persons may apply per application.

Upland Game Species Include:

Eurasian collared-doves, grouse, pheasant, quail and squirrel.

Game Hunting Licenses (see page 6)

Licenses and permits can be purchased online: www.wildlife.state.nm.us or by telephone: 1-888-248-6866. Licenses and permits may also be purchased at New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF) offices or over the counter (OTC) at local vendors. Harvest reports also may be filed online or by telephone.

Print Your Own Licenses and Permits

NMDGF Game-hunting Licenses and permits are available online and may be printed on standard paper (PDF READER REQUIRED). Licenses and permits will no longer be mailed unless requested by telephone: 1-888-248-6866.

Information Center Assistance: 1-888-248-6866

The NMDGF Information Center is open year-round Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. (except holidays) to answer questions and assist with license issues or harvest reports.

Free Online Maps and Mobile app

Maps are available at www.wildlife.state.nm.us for La Joya North and South Ponds, the Bernardo hunt areas, and hunt boundaries and designated areas in the lower Rio Grande Valley.

BLM-New Mexico has partnered with the NMDGF to provide free maps of big game hunting units and recreational areas on public lands. Download the CarryMap app to your mobile device, then download New Mexico maps at: www.blm.gov/maps/frequently-requested/new-mexico/hunting/maps.



License Requirements & Fees

While in The Field You Must Have All of the Following

1. Game Hunting or Game Hunting & Fishing License: Required for all upland game hunters.
2. Habitat Management & Access Validation: Required for all hunters, trappers or anglers. See exceptions on page 7.
3. Habitat Stamp: Required for all hunters, trappers or anglers on U.S. Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management lands. See exceptions on page 7.
4. Written Permission: All hunters on private lands must possess written permission from the landowner or person authorized to grant permission.

License Fees

License Type	Resident	Nonresident
Game Hunting License Squirrel and game birds	\$15.	\$65
Game Hunting & Fishing License. Squirrel, game birds and fishing	\$30.	Not Issued
Junior Game Hunting License. Squirrel and game birds	\$10.	\$15
Junior Game Hunting & Fishing License Squirrel, game birds and fishing	\$15.	Not Issued
Senior and Handicapped Game Hunting License Squirrel and game birds	\$15.	Not Issued
Senior and Handicapped Game Hunting & Fishing License Squirrel, game birds and fishing	\$20.	Not Issued
Disabled Veteran (less than 100%) Game Hunting & Fishing License Squirrel, game birds and fishing	\$10.	Not Issued
Temporary (4 days) Game Hunting License Squirrel and game birds (other than turkey)	Not Issued.	\$33
Nongame Hunting License Nongame species (pages 9 and 10).	Not Issued.	\$65
Habitat Improvement Stamp Mandatory on all U.S. Forest Service and BLM properties. For age requirements and exceptions, see page 7.	\$5	\$5
Habitat Management & Access Validation (HMAV) This validation does not replace the Habitat Stamp. For age requirements and exceptions, see page 7.	\$4	\$4

Licenses, stamps and validations may be purchased online: www.wildlife.state.nm.us, by telephone: **1-888-248-6866**, at all NMDGF offices and over the counter at local vendors (\$1 vendor fee applies).

License Information

Habitat Management & Access Validation

A Habitat Management & Access Validation (HMAV) must be purchased and possessed by all hunters, trappers or anglers, except individuals 17 years of age and younger, resident anglers 70 years and older (free fishing license) and 100% Disabled-Veteran card holders. Only one stamp each license year is required. Fees are used to: lease access to private lands for public use; provide public access to landlocked public land; and provide improvement, maintenance, development and operation of State Game Commission property for fish and wildlife habitat management. The HMAV will automatically be added to the shopping cart with your first purchase of a hunting, fishing or trapper license if required.

Habitat Improvement Stamp

Hunters, trappers and anglers must purchase and possess a current Habitat Stamp to use U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands in New Mexico, except trappers or anglers 11 years of age and younger and 100% disabled resident veterans in conjunction with privileges covered by the Disabled-Veteran card. Only one stamp is required each license year for these lands. The stamp is not required on other public property or on private property. The stamp is not required in Unit 28 which is predominately BLM property under military withdrawal. Funds from the sale of Habitat Stamps are used to improve wildlife habitat. All hunters, trappers and anglers are encouraged to purchase a Habitat Stamp.

Hunter Education or Mentor-Youth Hunter Number Required

Individuals younger than 18 years of age must either: 1) possess a Hunter Education number from New Mexico or another state; or 2) possess a New Mexico Mentor-Youth Hunter number. Certification and/or registration numbers will be printed on all hunter's Game Hunting Licenses once completed.

New Mexico Residency Requirements

To qualify for New Mexico resident license(s), an individual must meet one of the following criteria:

1. A United States citizen who has resided in N.M. for a period of not less than 90 days immediately preceding the date of application (or purchase) for the license, has been domiciled in N.M. and has not claimed residency elsewhere for any purpose. Temporary or seasonal residents and home owners or P.O. box holders, who maintain a primary residence outside of N.M., do not qualify for resident licenses.
2. A citizen of another country who is legally in the United States and has actually lived in N.M. for at least 90 days immediately preceding his/her license application (or purchase).
3. A student, not otherwise entitled to claim residence, who is attending any educational institution in N.M., has attended and actually has lived in the state for at least one full semester immediately preceding the application (or purchase) for a license. Students must present a certificate or letter verifying their enrollment and attendance from the proper authorities of the educational institution.
4. A member of the U.S. military, not otherwise entitled to claim residence, who is permanently assigned to a military installation located within N.M. and who presents with his/her application a certificate or letter that verifies the military assignment and is signed by the commanding officer. The spouse or dependent of such person, living within the same household and similarly certified by the person's commanding officer may also purchase resident licenses.

Military and Veteran Licenses

Free Licenses for 100% Disabled Resident Veterans

New Mexico residents who are 100%-disabled veterans of the armed services are eligible for a free lifetime Game Hunting & Fishing License. Disabled veterans may apply to NMDGF for a Disabled American Veteran card which allows the holder to hunt small game (migratory game birds and upland game), fish and obtain a free deer license. Card holders do not need to buy or possess a Habitat Stamp when fishing or hunting small game.

Disabled Veterans Game Hunting & Fishing Licenses

Residents who are disabled veterans of the armed services, but do not meet the 100%-disabled qualification, are eligible for a \$10 Game Hunting & Fishing License (\$20 savings). All other license requirements apply (page 6).

50% Discount for Resident Active Military and Veterans

50% discounts on all licenses, permits and stamps are available to New Mexico residents who are active duty military or veterans. The discount may be claimed by applying for or purchasing any license, permit or stamp online, by telephone or at any license vendor. Residents claiming this discount must be able to provide proof of active duty military or veteran status upon request. Discount does not apply to: application fees, license vendor fees, administrative fees, the federal Duck Stamp or the Resident Disabled Veteran Game Hunting & Fishing License.

Nongame Hunting License

Nonresidents must purchase a Nonresident Nongame License or a New Mexico Nonresident Game Hunting License. Residents are not required to have a license to take nongame species. See page 10, Rabbits and Other Nongame Species.

License Refunds and Transfers

New Mexico Game Hunting licenses are nontransferable and nonrefundable. For more information, telephone the NMDGF Information Center: 1-888-248-6866.

License Information Is Public Record

Pursuant to the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act, Sections 14-2-1 et. seq. NMSA 1978, information provided when applying for licenses and permits is public record and must be disclosed to anyone when properly requested except as provided by law.

Penalties for Hunting without a License

Hunters cited for hunting upland game without a license may pay a penalty assessment instead of appearing in court. The penalty assessment is \$125 for residents, \$175 nonresidents and includes the cost of a hunting license, permits, stamps and fees related to the citation (pages 6–7). A license will be mailed upon payment of the assessment. A hunter cited will be assessed 10 points against a potential 20 points which may result in license revocation. License Revocation: hunting and fishing privileges may be revoked for three years or more, if accumulated game law violations equal 20+ points within a three year period. For further information, please contact any NMDGF office.

Parental Responsibility Act

The Parental Responsibility Act requires the New Mexico State Game Commission to suspend the recreational and professional licenses of anyone who does not comply with court-ordered child support obligations. The purpose is to discourage parental neglect of children by suspending hunting and fishing privileges until failure to pay court-ordered child support has been corrected and a \$25 reinstatement fee has been paid. For more information, telephone NMDGF Field Operations: (505) 476-8065 or 1-888-248-6866.

Operation Game Thief (OGT)

OGT is an anonymous tip line for reporting wildlife crimes anywhere in the state. Rewards are paid for any case in which charges have been filed; a conviction is not required. OGT is funded solely through donations from individuals and organizations and not from tax or license fees. Rewards range from \$50–\$750.

OGT Hotline (24 hours, 7 days a week):

1-800-432-4263 or **www.wildlife.state.nm.us/ogt**



General Regulations

It is unlawful to:

- Hunt protected species without a license and all applicable permits, stamps or validations.
- Hunt any protected species outside of established season for that species.
- Hunt protected species using licenses, permits, stamps or validations belonging to another individual or take or attempt to take a protected species for another person.
- Take or attempt to take game species by the aid of baiting. An area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the removal of the bait.
- Use live protected species as decoys to take or attempt to take game species.
- Exceed the daily bag limit or have more than the legal possession limit of any species.
- Use electronically or mechanically recorded calling devices, except as permitted for nongame species and during the Light Goose Conservation Order.
- Shoot at protected species or artificial wildlife from a motor vehicle.
- Discharge a firearm within 150 yards of a dwelling or building (not including abandoned or vacated buildings on public land) without the permission of the owner or lessee.
- Hunt while under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicants, including medical marijuana.
- Litter and/or pollute streams, lakes and other waters.
- Leave a fire unattended or improperly handle fire.
- Shine spotlights or other artificial lights into areas where livestock may be present, while in possession of any sporting arm.
- Park any motor vehicle or camp within 300 yards of any man-made water hole, water well or watering tank used by wildlife or domestic stock, without the prior consent of the private landowner, private-land lessee, public-land lessee or public-land management agency.
- Shoot at game on, from or across any paved, graded or maintained public road or within the fenced right-of-way of any paved, graded or maintained public road.
- Use motor-driven vehicles on roads closed under the Habitat Protection Act or other federal regulation.
- Hunt or shoot at any animal from an aircraft or drone or cause any non-domesticated animal to move from its place of rest or change its direction of travel.
- Hunt from, signal locations of protected species to hunters from or harass game with aircraft; hunt protected species observed from aircraft within 48 hours of observation; or hunt protected species the same day of air travel, except by commercial airline or direct flight to a landing strip.
- Take any animal that is protected by law but not listed as a game species and/or any animal that is listed as an endangered or threatened species.
- Recklessly or carelessly handle a firearm.

Protected Bird Species

Unless otherwise designated, all birds are protected by law. In addition to the game birds listed in this booklet, protected birds include eagles, hawks, falcons, owls, vultures, crows, ravens and all songbirds. Unprotected birds are starlings, rock doves (common pigeons) and house sparrows (English sparrows).

Rabbits and Other Nongame Species

Common nongame species include coyotes, skunks, rabbits and rock squirrels. New Mexico residents are not required to have a license to take nongame species. Nonresidents must possess either a Nonresident Nongame License or a current New Mexico Nonresident Game Hunting license. Nongame species may be taken on U.S. Forest Service and BLM lands open to hunting. Nongame species may also be taken on State Trust Lands which are opened by easement, provided the hunter holds a valid license for protected species on those lands and he/she is hunting during the season(s) designated for that license. White-sided jackrabbits, found primarily in Hidalgo county, are protected under the New Mexico Wildlife Conservation Act and may not be hunted.

Vehicle Use: Driving Off-road or on a Closed Road

1. During the seasons established for any protected species, it is unlawful to drive or ride in a motor vehicle which is driven off an established road on **public land** or on a closed road on public land when the vehicle bears a licensed hunter, angler or trapper.
2. During the seasons established for any protected species, it is unlawful to drive or ride in a motor vehicle which is driven off an established road on **private land**, without written permission from the landowner, when the vehicle bears a licensed hunter, angler or trapper.
3. It is unlawful to drive or ride in a motor vehicle which is being driven off an established road or on a closed road when gathering or searching for shed antlers on public land.
4. EXCEPTION: Snowmobiles may be driven off established roads and lawfully taken game may be retrieved in areas not closed to vehicular traffic.
5. Public land as used in this section shall mean any federally owned or managed property, any state owned or managed property, any private property which is part of a unitization hunting agreement, ranch wide agreement or unit wide agreement for the species being hunted, any private property which the Department has paid for public access for the species being hunted or any New Mexico State Game Commission owned or managed property.

Established road means:

1. A road, built or maintained by equipment, which shows no evidence of ever being closed to vehicular traffic by such means as berms, ripping, scarification, reseeding, fencing, gates, barricades or posted closures;
2. A two-track road which shows use prior to hunting seasons for other purposes such as recreation, mining, logging and ranching and which shows no evidence of ever being closed to vehicular traffic by such means as berms, ripping, scarification, reseeding, fencing, gates, barricades or posted closures.

Hunting on Private Land

Hunters must obtain written permission before entering private lands (*see Criminal Trespass*). It is unlawful to hunt, capture, take, attempt to take or kill any game on posted private property without written permission of the landowner or person in control of the land, or if consent to remain on the property has been denied or withdrawn. Any game taken in violation of the above, shall be subject to seizure.

Criminal Trespass

Any person entering private property without written permission from the landowner, manager or leasee may be charged with criminal trespass under Chapter 30-14-1, NMSA 1978. Criminal trespass is a misdemeanor and punishable by fines up to \$1,000 and 364 days in jail. For complete descriptions of *what is* and *what is not* criminal trespass and the penalties involved, see page 26–27 of the *2020–21 New Mexico Hunting Rules and Information*, available online: www.wildlife.state.nm.us. Any person convicted of criminal trespass shall be revoked for at least three years.

Open Gate Program

Open Gate is a voluntary access program available to landowners statewide. The purpose of the program is to provide outdoor users more opportunities to hunt, fish and trap. To accomplish this lands and waters are leased from private landowners.



Each participating Open Gate property has special rules for permitted activities agreed upon by the landowner and NMDGF. These rules will be posted on the property and are also available on the NMDGF website: www.wildlife.state.nm.us. Hunters, anglers and trappers can use online information to locate and learn about properties that match their interests. It is the responsibility of the individual using the property to know and obey posted rules. Citations may be issued for violation of any rules or regulations.

Upland Game Rules

Legal Sporting Arms

Upland Game: Eurasian collared-doves, grouse, pheasant, quail and squirrel.

Quail and pheasant may be taken with shotguns and muzzle-loading shotguns firing shot, bows and crossbows. Eurasian collared-dove, grouse and squirrels may be taken with shotguns firing shot, muzzle-loading shotguns, rim-fire and muzzle-loading firearms, bows, crossbows and compressed air guns firing a pellet .177 or larger.

Nontoxic Shot Mandatory

Hunters must use and may possess only USFWS-approved nontoxic shot when hunting any waterfowl, coot, common moorhen, crane (draw hunt only), snipe, sora or Virginia rail with shotguns (including muzzle-loading shotguns).

Anyone hunting upland game on Bernardo, LaJoya and Huey WMAs must use and possess only USFWS-approved nontoxic shot. Nontoxic shot is not required for any species of upland game on other State Game Commission owned or managed properties.

Nontoxic shot includes: bismuth-tin, iron (steel), copper-clad iron, iron-tungsten, iron-tungsten-nickel, tungsten-bronze, tungsten-iron-copper-nickel, tungsten matrix, tungsten polymer, tungsten-tin-iron, tungsten-tin-bismuth, tungsten-tin-iron-nickel and tungsten-iron-polymer.

Possession, Transportation and Storage

It is unlawful to possess game birds or squirrels without a proper license or possession certificate demonstrating the game was taken legally.

No game of any kind may be transported or possessed by another person, unless that game is accompanied by a possession certificate (sample possession certificate, page 19 and online: www.wildlife.state.nm.us).

Proof of Species, Sex and Bag Limit

The head or leg of each pheasant, one foot of each quail and one fully feathered wing of each Eurasian collared-dove (other species of dove and band-tailed pigeons are exempt) must remain attached to the bird until it is at a residence, taxidermist, meat processing facility or place of final cold storage.

Wanton Waste

Wanton waste is illegal. Anyone taking upland game must transport the edible portions of the meat from the field for human consumption.

Regulated Areas

Access to Public Lands

New Mexico contains approximately nine million acres of National Forest and 13 million acres of BLM lands. NMDGF recommends contacting the appropriate land management agency prior to hunting. Many public lands in New Mexico are also interspersed with privately owned property. A private landowner has the right to control the use of his/her private land. Where no public access exists, sportsmen/women must obtain written permission from the landowner or leaseholder to cross private land for access to public land. It is unlawful for persons to post or restrict lawful use of public land.

Forest Service and BLM Lands

Most BLM and U.S. Forest Service lands, including Wilderness Study Areas, are open to public hunters. It is the responsibility of each hunter to know what restrictions apply and where. Vehicle use and off-road vehicle travel may be restricted or prohibited on these lands. For more information visit: www.fs.fed.us or www.blm.gov/nm/st/en.html

State Trust Lands

The New Mexico State Game Commission has purchased a lease for hunting, fishing and trapping of protected species on State Trust Land. Certain State Trust Land may be under business lease and withdrawn by the Commissioner of Public Lands, and therefore unavailable for hunting, fishing or trapping. For specific locations, contact the New Mexico State Land Office: (505) 827-5842 or www.nmstatelands.org/Recreational_Access.aspx#SportsmanAccess.

National Parks and Monuments

National parks and national monuments are closed to hunting, except the following BLM managed national monuments: Rio Grande Del Norte National Monument, Prehistoric Trackways National Monument and Organ Mountains–Desert Peaks National Monument.

National Wildlife Refuges

Contact individual federal refuges for regulations on hunting. For more information, see page 21.

Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)

Areas owned and operated by the Bureau of Reclamation are open, unless otherwise posted. Additional restrictions may apply for lands managed by BOR. For information contact the Bureau of Reclamation: (505) 462-3540.

Native American Tribal Lands

Check with tribal officials about hunting on tribal lands.

McGregor Range in Unit 28

For access information, contact the Fort Bliss Security Office: (915) 568-3215.

Jornada Experimental Station

Contact the Jornada Experimental Station in Doña Ana County for public access and restrictions: (575) 646-4842.

Chihuahuan Desert Research Center

The Chihuahuan Desert Rangeland Research Center (College Ranch) is closed to public access. Telephone: (575) 646-2514 or visit online: <http://chihuahuansc.nmsu.edu/index.html>.

Regulated Areas—continued.

1-888-248-6866 NMDGF Information Center: Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. (except holidays)

Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District

For more information and to obtain access along the Rio Grande telephone: (505) 864-7466.

Sandia Ranger District

The Sandia Ranger District is open only to bow and crossbow hunting for upland game during established seasons.

Valle Vidal

Valle Vidal is closed to all upland game hunting.

New Mexico State Parks

New Mexico State Parks are closed to all hunting except in designated areas. Contact state park superintendents for designated hunting areas and directions or telephone: 1-888-667-2757.

1. **Bluewater, Caballo, El Vado, Heron, Conchas, Ute, Elephant Butte and Sumner Lake State Parks:** Open for common snipe, sora, Virginia rail and waterfowl.
2. **Navajo Lake State Park:** Open for common snipe, sora, Virginia rail and waterfowl.
Closed areas: Navajo Dam stilling basin which includes the area from the crest of the bluff above the north bank of the San Juan River to N.M. Hwy. 511 on the south side of the river for ¼ mile downstream from the dam; Cottonwood Campground and Day Use Area from the lower boundary of the Quality Waters to a fence ¼ mile downstream from the Cottonwood Day Use Area; Pine and Sims Mesa Recreation Area; and Navajo Reservoir Recreation Area south end.

State Game Commission Owned or Managed Areas

The State Game Commission owns and manages lands across New Mexico for the benefit of fish, wildlife and their habitats. These lands include New Mexico's Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs). Select WMAs are open to provide additional public hunting opportunities. See below for special WMA rules.

General Rules for Hunting on Wildlife Management Areas

- WMA access is allowed by each properly-licensed hunter with up to three guests during his/her published hunt period (and scouting period for big game hunters only).
- Individuals may not enter closed areas as posted on site.
- Vehicles may not be operated off established roads or on closed roads.
- Camping is restricted to designated areas. Individuals may not camp more than 14 consecutive days, except during their published hunt period (and scouting period for big game hunters only).
- Campfires must be safely contained.
- Dogs must remain on leash, except when being used for hunting purposes as allowed by rule.
- Domestic livestock feed, other than pelleted feed, grain feed or hay certified as weed free, is prohibited.
- Individuals may not deface or remove rocks, minerals, plants (including fruits, nuts and berries), animals, firewood or man-made features (including artifacts).
- Individuals may not violate access rules for WMAs posted on site or otherwise published by NMDGF.

State Game Commission Owned or Managed Areas—continued.

Hunting nongame animals, protected furbearers or unprotected species (feral hogs) is not allowed on WMAs,

except Water Canyon WMA where nongame hunting is allowed January 1–March 31, 2021. For further rules and specific information about each WMA, visit Conservation/State Game Commission Lands at <http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/conservation/state-game-commission-lands/>

WMAs **not specifically listed as open** on pages 17 and 23 **are closed to hunting** for species listed in this booklet.

Eurasian collared-dove hunting is open during seasons for mourning and white-winged dove and during open quail, squirrel and dusky grouse seasons on all open WMAs.

Shooting Hours

Upland Game: ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset, unless otherwise noted.

Bottomless Lakes Overflow: ½ hour before sunrise to 1 p.m.

Wildlife Management Areas

Bernardo, Casa Colorada, Jackson Lake, La Joya and W.S. Huey: ½ hour before sunrise to 1 p.m.

Exceptions: Shooting hours for pheasant on the W.S. Huey WMA are ½ hour before sunrise to 4 p.m.

Upland game hunting on all other WMAs: ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.



NMDGF photo by Martin Perea.

1-888-248-6866 NMDGF Information Center: Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. (except holidays)

Upland Game Seasons

Quail

Scaled, Gambel's, Bobwhite, Montezuma

Hunt Area	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
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Statewide	Nov. 15–Feb. 15, '21 . . .	15 per day (no more than 5 Montezuma quail) / 30 in possession (no more than 10 Montezuma quail).
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Dusky (Blue) Grouse

Hunt Area	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
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Statewide	Sept. 1–Nov. 30.	3 per day / 6 in possession
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Squirrel (Abert's, Red, Gray and Fox)

Hunt Area	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
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Statewide	Sept. 1–Nov. 30.	8 per day / 16 in possession
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Pheasant

Over the Counter, Statewide (excluding Valencia County)

Hunt Area	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
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Statewide	Dec. 10–13	3 males per day / 6 in possession
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Private Land, Valencia County

Hunt Area	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
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Valencia County	Dec. 12	3 males
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Landowners in Valencia County can receive from the NMDGF Northwest Office in Albuquerque an unlimited number of applications specially marked for hunting pheasants on their private land. See page 18.

Eurasian Collared-Dove

Hunt Area	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
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Statewide	April 1–March 31, '21	Unlimited
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Upland Game Seasons—continued.

State Game Commission WMAs

State Game Commission owned or managed areas listed below are open to upland game hunting. No hunting is allowed outside of open seasons or for species not listed. No camping is allowed and vehicles are restricted to designated areas. Shooting hours are listed on page 15.

Days Open to Upland Game Hunting (• = Days Open)

WMAs	Species	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thr.	Fri.	Sat.
W.S. Huey	Quail only		•		•			•
Prairie Chicken Areas	Quail only	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Colin Neblett, E.S. Barker, Humphries, Marquez, Rio Chama, Sandhills Prairie Conservation Area, Sargent, Socorro-Escondida, Urraca and Water Canyon.	All Upland Game	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Draw Permit Hunts (Resident Only)

Applications must be made no later than Wednesday, August 19 before 5 p.m. MDT.

Bernardo and W.S. Huey Youth-only Pheasant Hunts

Two youth-only pheasant hunts are available by drawing. Using the hunt codes listed below, apply online or by telephone: 1-888-248-6866. Youth hunters must have a Game Hunting License and be accompanied by a non-hunting adult.

Hunt Area	Hunt Code	Season Dates	Bag Limit	Permits
Bernardo	PHE-0-001 . . . . .	.Oct. 17	3 males. . . . .	.20
W.S. Huey	PHE-0-002 . . . . .	.Dec. 5.	3 males. . . . .	.40

W.S. Huey Pheasant Hunt

A draw-permit hunt open to all applicants will be held at W.S. Huey. Using the hunt code listed below, apply online or by telephone (listed above). This hunt is open to adult and youth hunters. A Game Hunting License is required.

Hunt Area	Hunt Code	Season Dates	Bag Limit	Permits
W.S. Huey.	PHE-0-005. . . . .	.Dec. 12	3 males. . . . .	.40

Bitter Lake Youth-only Pheasant Hunt

A youth-only pheasant hunt at Bitter Lake Refuge will be scheduled. Hunter Education and/or Mentor-Youth Hunter Program requirements are listed on page 7. For details contact the Bitter Lake Refuge: (575) 622-6755 or steve_alvarez@fws.gov.

NMDGF photo by Martin Perea.

Upland Game Seasons—continued.

Valencia County Landowner Pheasant Permits

No public-land pheasant hunting is allowed in Valencia County. Private-land pheasant hunting is allowed in Valencia County, provided permission has been obtained from the landowner. Landowners are required to provide NMDGF's Northwest Office in Albuquerque proof of ownership and sufficient acreage to safely conduct the planned hunt(s). The landowner will be issued application forms to distribute to hunters.

All hunters intending to hunt on private land in Valencia County must obtain an application from the landowner and submit it to NMDGF's Northwest Office in Albuquerque (page 4). Hunters may possess a Valencia County Landowner Permit in addition to another special pheasant hunt permit.

Special Pheasant Permits

Permits (issued by drawing) are required for special permit pheasant hunts on W.S. Huey and for youth-only pheasant hunts on Bernardo WMA. To receive a permit, hunters may apply online: www.wildlife.state.nm.us or by telephone: 1-888-248-6866. Applications must be submitted by August 19 before 5 p.m. MDT. Hunt codes and further information are listed on page 17.

Dog Call-Pen and Field Trial Permits

A \$15 permit is required for either a call-pen release or dog field trial. Contact NMDGF's Santa Fe Office for information: (505) 476-8064.

Shooting Preserve Permits

A shooting preserve permit fee is \$200. Contact NMDGF's Santa Fe office for information: (505) 476-8064.

Possession of Live Birds

Wounded birds must be killed immediately. Possession of live birds without a permit is illegal.

Falconry Upland Game Seasons (Statewide)

Grouse, pheasant, quail, squirrel and Eurasian collared-doves.

Species	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
Grouse and Pheasant	Sept. 1–Feb. 28 '21 . . . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 6 in possession
Quail	Sept. 1–Feb. 28 '21 . . . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 30 in possession
Squirrel	Sept. 1–Feb. 28 '21 . . . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 16 in possession
Eurasian collared-dove	Apr. 1–Mar. 31 '21	No bag or possession limits



Possession Certificate

Use this certificate if you give game animals or parts to a person or organization.

I, _____ ,
Full name of license holder. Please print.

residing at: _____ tel.: (____) ____ - _____ ,
Address and telephone of license holder required. Please print.

on this day: ____/____/____ at: _____ ,
Date of transaction; Place of transaction.

hereby convey to: _____ the following game animal(s) or parts:
Full name of person receiving game animal(s) of parts.

Detailed description of the kind and number of animals donated or the kind, approximate weight and specific parts donated.
(Example: one scaled quail weighing approximately 1 lb.)

for the purpose of: _____ ,
Donation, taxidermy and/or meat processing.

taken in GMU _____ under license number: _____ and taken on: ____/____/____.

Donor: _____ Recipient: _____
(Signature of license holder) (Signature of recipient)

By signing we understand and acknowledge to postdate, predate or otherwise falsify a Possession Certificate is unlawful.



Title VI Funding: Certain programs of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish receive federal funds from the U.S. Department of the Interior. These programs are therefore subject to requirements of the New Mexico Human Rights Act and Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which prohibit discrimination because of ancestry, sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age or physical or mental handicap. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility, please send a detailed description of the incident by certified mail to the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. If you desire further information on Title VI, write: New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, ADA Coordinator, P.O. Box 25112, Santa Fe, NM 87504 or Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20240. The Department of Game and Fish will schedule public meetings and operate facilities that are accessible to physically impaired persons. Reasonable accommodations will be made for other impairments, including hearing and sight. If special aids are required, call (505) 476-8000 or write to P.O. Box 25112, Santa Fe, NM 87504 at least three working days prior to the meeting date. To initiate a complaint, write to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Diversity and Inclusive Workforce Management, Public Civil Rights Accessibility & Disability Coordinator, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041; (703) 358-1724.

Fondos de Titulo VI: Ciertos programas del New Mexico Department of Game and Fish reciben fondos federales del U.S. Department of the Interior. Estos programas son subyugados a requisitos de la ley de New Mexico Human Rights Act and Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, que prohíben la discriminación por razones de ascendencia, sexo, raza, color, religión origen nacional, edad o impedimento físico o mental. Si usted cree que ha sufrido discriminación en cualquier programa, actividad o comodidades, por favor envíe por correo certificado una descripción detallada al Department of Game and Fish. Si desea mas informacion sobre Titulo VI, por favor escriba a: Department of Game and Fish, ADA Coordinator, P.O. Box 25112, Santa Fe, NM 87504 or Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20240. Al programar sus reuniones públicas, el Department of Game and Fish operará en facilidades que proveen acceso para personas con incapacidades físicas. Las personas con otras incapacidades, inclusive del oído y de la vista, recibirán acceso razonable a las reuniones. Si usted necesita algún auxiliar o ayuda especial, por favor llame al número (505) 476-8000 o escriba a P.O. Box 25112, Santa Fe, NM 87504, por lo menos tres días antes de la reunión. Para iniciar una queja, escriba a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Diversity and Inclusive Workforce Management, Public Civil Rights Accessibility & Disability Coordinator, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041; (703) 358-1724.



New Mexico Department of Game and Fish
Conserving New Mexico's Wildlife for Future Generations

**Will she remember the
experiences of a lifetime or
another online chat?**

Mentor-Youth Hunter Education
www.wildlife.state.nm.us/education
(505) 222-4731

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