

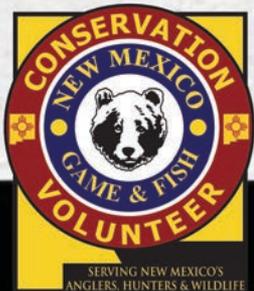
# Rule Development for Wildlife Conservation Volunteers 19.30.15 NMAC



# 17-1-14 NMSA 1978

**Gives authority for Commission to allow the Department to develop a Wildlife Conservation Volunteers rule to provide guidance to:**

- ◆ Recruit Volunteers
- ◆ Train Volunteers
- ◆ Utilize Volunteer Services



# Volunteer Program

## Considerations:

- ◆ Allow registered volunteers to ride in & drive Department vehicles
- ◆ Allow registered volunteers to utilize Department computers & equipment
- ◆ Allow registered volunteers to receive per diem, mileage & expense reimbursements
- ◆ Establish criteria for background investigations



# Policy and Operational Manual

- ◆ Develop a volunteer policy
- ◆ Develop a volunteer operations manual



# 19.30.15.7.H

“**public employee**”, as defined in 1.6.5.7 F NMAC, means individuals as defined in NMSA 1978, Section 41-4-3 (F) of the Tort Claims Act.

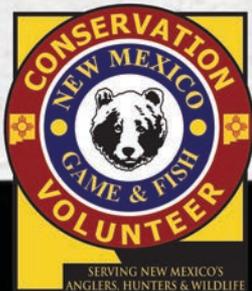


# 19.30.15.10. REVIEW AND REPORTING

**A.** The department shall provide to the commission an annual accounting of the wildlife conservation volunteers program.

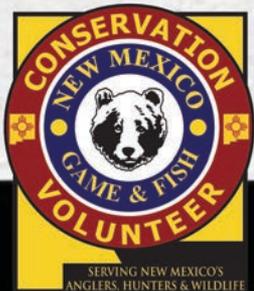
**B.** The wildlife conservation volunteers program shall be included in the annual independent audit of the department and must adhere to the Audit Act [12-6-12 NMSA 1978].

[19.30.15.10 NMAC - N, XX-XX-2016]



# 19.30.15.8.E

“....A registered volunteer that operates a state vehicle under the terms of this section shall be treated for the purposes of insurability and tort claims liability as a public employee of the state as described in the Tort Claims Act [41-4-1 through 41-4-30, NMSA 1978] and the General Government Administration Risk Management Certificate Of Coverage Rule [1.6.5 NMAC].”



# Public Comment

## Solicited through:

- Departments website
- Emails to current volunteers
- Facebook



## 13 public comments were received

9 People support the new rule

3 People have concerns with background checks

1 person felt volunteers shouldn't receive per diem





Information & Education Division

