

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10

Tim Cimbal
Santa Fe, NM
January 9, 2026

Rule Hearing: Manner and
Method Rule 19.31.10.9.E
NMAC, Possession of Game
Animal Parts Found in the Field



Background

- During the 2025 legislative session, new legislation was passed.
- 17-3-2 Classes of Licenses:
 - Added shed hunter license.
 - “Entitles the licensee to shed hunting; provided that a shed hunter license shall not be required for shed hunting by a resident”.
- 17-3-13 License Fees:
 - The fee for a non-resident shed hunter license is \$200.00.



Manner and Method Proposal

- Residents do not need a shed hunter License.
- Non-residents require a shed hunter License to possess more than 2 shed antlers found in the field.
- All shed antlers collected in violation of commission rule remain property of the State and shall be seized.
- **19.31.10.9.E- Possession of game animal parts found in the field:** It is unlawful to possess heads, horns, antlers, or other parts of protected species found in the field without an invoice, permit, or license from the Department, with the exception of obviously shed antlers for residents and no more than two obviously shed antlers for non-residents. For any non-resident, it is unlawful to possess more than two obviously shed antlers found in the field without a shed hunter license. Residents do not require a shed hunter license. All shed antlers collected in violation of commission rule, in violation of any state or federal land closure, in violation of criminal trespass, in violation of the habitat protection act, while driving off road on public land or on a closed road on public land remain property of the State of New Mexico and shall be seized.



Public Outreach

- Held two public comment meetings- July 17, 2025, in Albuquerque and July 24, 2025, in Las Cruces. Four total attendees.
- 38 written comments.
- Rule Making Notice- November 18, 2025.
- Two additional comments.



Questions?



T. Cimbal, January 9, 2026