

COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA BRIEFING

Meeting Date: August 15, 2025

Agenda Number: 8

Presenter: Tim Cimbal

Corroborator:

Agenda Title: Discussion of Proposed Rule for Shed Hunting

1. Summary of Agenda Item

This is a discussion item only. The Department is proposing a change in the Manner and Method rule, 19.31.10.9.E, to require a shed hunter license for non-residents to possess more than two obviously shed antlers found in the field.

2. Background Information

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.

3. Strategic Plan References and Possible Impacts of Agenda Item

Requiring a shed hunter license for non-residents will allow the Department to generate revenue based on the sales of such licenses.

4. Considerations Regarding Duplications and/or Conflicts with Existing Rules or Statutes

By changing Manner and Method Rule 19.31.10.9.E to require a shed hunter license for non-residents to possess more than two obviously shed antlers found in the field, there will be no conflicts or duplications. The current rule contains an exception for obviously shed antlers found in the field, and the proposed rule change would modify that to require a shed hunter license for non-residents.

5. Description and Summary of Public Involvement Process and Results

Public comment meetings were held in Albuquerque on July 17, 2025, and in Las Cruces on July 24, 2025. The Department also received public comments via e-mail.

Below is a summary of the public comments received:

License should cost more: 4

License should cost less: 1

Against completely: 13

For completely: 4

Seasonal restrictions (resident and non) closed January-April: 1

Seasonal restrictions (resident and non) open April 1-Jan 15: 1

Seasonal restrictions (resident and non) closed January-May 1: 1

Seasonal restrictions (resident and non) open March 1, then closed for turkey season, then reopen: 1

Seasonal restriction (non-resident) closed Jan16-June 1

Seasonal restriction (all) January 1-April 31 and non-resident season opening May 31: 1

Seasonal restriction (all) opens March 15 then non-resident season opening April 1: 1

Require online ethics course: 2

Fix language for any antlers collected in violation of commission rule shall be seized: 1

Make exception for guides and outfitters licensed to operate in NM (not need license): 1

Make exception for big game licensed non-residents to not need shed license: 1

End all shed hunting: 1

6. Suggested Motion

This is not an action item and is only a discussion item.