

STATE GAME COMMISSION MEETING AND RULE MAKING NOTICE

The New Mexico State Game Commission (“Commission”) will be hosting a meeting and rule hearing on Friday May 28, 2026 beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the NM Institute of Mining and Technology, Fidel Student Union Building, 801 Leroy Pl., Socorro, NM 87801. Please check the Department’s website for any changes at <https://wildlife.dgf.nm.gov/commission/meeting-agendas/>. The purpose of this meeting is to hear and consider action as appropriate on the proposed changes to the Turkey Rule and the Javelina Rule.

Synopsis:

Turkey Rule

The proposal is to amend the Turkey Rule 19.31.16 NMAC which will become effective April 1, 2027. The most recent version of the rule will expire on March 31, 2027. The proposed changes are as follows:

1. Adjust hunt dates based on calendar dates
2. Increase up-to permit number for Gould’s once-in-a-lifetime hunt in GMU 26 and 27 to 15
3. In unit 8, increase permits from 15 to 20
4. Require the purchase of a license at least one day prior to hunting.

Javelina Rule

The proposal is to amend the Javelina Rule 19.31.21 NMAC which will become effective April 1, 2027. The most recent version of the rule will expire on March 31, 2027. The proposed changes are as follows:

1. Increase licenses in OTC areas - Any-legal weapon: 1,200 increase to 1,300 (8%)
2. Expand the validity of the GMUs 19, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 (bootheel) javelina licenses to include OTC areas (excluding GMU 28), effectively making these “statewide” licenses. This approach is consistent with an existing youth hunt, which already allows this.
3. Eliminate GMU 28 hunt of 10 licenses (only 30% of hunters show up for hunt and its logistically challenging for the military to implement).
4. Require the purchase of a license at least one day prior to hunting.

A full text of changes for all rules will be available on the Department’s website at: <https://wildlife.dgf.nm.gov/>. Interested persons may submit comments on the proposed changes for the Turkey Rule to DGF-Gamebird@dgf.nm.gov, and for the Javelina Rule to DGF-Javelina-Rule@dgf.nm.gov . Individuals may also submit written comments to the physical address below. Comments are due by 1:00 p.m. on May 26th, 2026. The final proposed rules will be voted on by the Commission during a public meeting on May 28, 2026. Interested persons may also provide data, views or arguments, orally or in writing, at the public rule hearings to be held on May 28, 2026.

Full copies of text of the proposed new rules, technical information related to proposed rule changes, and the agenda can be obtained from the Office of the Director, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, 1 Wildlife Way, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87507, or from the Department’s website at <https://wildlife.dgf.nm.gov/commission/proposals-under-consideration/>. This agenda is subject to change up to 72 hours prior to the meeting. Please contact the Director’s Office at (505) 476-8000, or the Department’s website at <https://wildlife.dgf.nm.gov/> for updated information.

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact the Department at (505) 476-8000 at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact the Department at 505-476-8000 if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.

Legal authority for this rulemaking can be found in the General Powers and Duties of the State Game Commission 17-1-14, et seq. NMSA 1978; Commission’s Power to establish rules and regulations 17-1-26, et seq. NMSA 1978.

TITLE 19 NATURAL RESOURCES AND WILDLIFE
CHAPTER 31 HUNTING AND FISHING
PART 16 TURKEY

19.31.16.1 ISSUING AGENCY: New Mexico department of game and fish-wildlife.
[19.31.16.1 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.1 NMAC, 4/1/2027]

19.31.16.2 SCOPE: Sportspersons interested in turkey management and hunting. Additional requirements may be found in Chapter 17 NMSA 1978, and Title 19 NMAC.
[19.31.16.2 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.2 NMAC, 4/1/2027]

19.31.16.3 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Sections 17-1-14, 17-1-26, 17-3-16.4 and 17-3-16.5 NMSA 1978 provide that the New Mexico state gamewildlife commission has the authority to establish rules and regulations that it may deem necessary to carry out the purpose of Chapter 17 NMSA 1978 and all other acts pertaining to protected mammals, birds and fish.
[19.31.16.3 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.3 NMAC, 4/1/2027]

19.31.16.4 DURATION: April 1, 2023-2027 through March 31, 2027-2031.
[19.31.16.4 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.4 NMAC, 4/1/2027]

19.31.16.5 EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, 2023-2027, unless a later date is cited at the end of a section.
[19.31.16.5 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.5 NMAC, 4/1/2027]

19.31.16.6 OBJECTIVE: Establishing open hunting seasons, rules and procedures governing the distribution and issuance of turkey permits and licenses by the department.
[19.31.16.6 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.6 NMAC, 4/1/2027]

19.31.16.7 DEFINITIONS:

- A. **“Bearded turkey” or “BT”** shall mean a turkey with a visible beard.
 - B. **“Department”** shall mean the New Mexico department of game and fish-wildlife.
 - C. **“Director”** shall mean the director of the New Mexico department of game and fish-wildlife.
 - D. **“Entry permit”** shall entitle the holder of a valid turkey license to hunt areas otherwise closed to turkey hunting.
 - E. **“Game management unit” or “GMU”** shall mean those areas described in 19.30.4 NMAC Boundary Descriptions for Game Management Units.
 - F. **“Wildlife management areas” or “WMAs”** shall mean those areas described in 19.34.5 NMAC Wildlife Management Areas.
- [19.31.16.7 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.7 NMAC, 4/1/2027]

19.31.16.8 ADJUSTMENT OF LICENSES, PERMITS AND AUTHORIZATIONS: The director, with the verbal concurrence of the chairperson or their designee, may adjust the number of licenses, permits or authorizations for turkey up or down by no more than twenty percent to address significant changes in population levels or habitat availability. This adjustment may be applied to any or all entry hunt codes for turkey.
[19.31.16.8 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.8 NMAC, 4/1/2027]

19.31.16.9 TURKEY ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME-HUNTS: It shall be unlawful for anyone to apply for or hold a once-in-a-lifetime turkey entry permit if he or she has held a once-in-a-lifetime entry permit to hunt turkey.
[19.31.16.9 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.9 NMAC, 4/1/2027]

19.31.16.10 TURKEY HUNTING SEASONS: The 2023-24-2027-28 through 2026-27-2030-31 hunting seasons shall be as indicated below, listing the GMUs or areas open, eligibility requirements or restrictions, hunt dates, hunt codes, legal sporting arms, number of permits and bag limits. All WMAs, except as listed in Subsection A of 19.31.16.10 NMAC, are open to over-the-counter turkey hunting if the GMU where they are located is open to turkey hunting or are restricted to entry permit holders as listed in Subsection B of 19.31.16.10 NMAC.

A. Over-the-counter hunts: All over-the-counter turkey licenses shall be valid for any legal sporting arms, except turkey hunting in the Sandia ranger district portion of GMU 14 and Sugarite canyon state park in GMU 57 ~~are~~ restricted to bow and crossbow only. The number of licenses for these hunts shall be unlimited.

(1) Spring seasons:

Open GMUs or areas	hunt dates	bag limit
Statewide except the following GMUs or areas are closed to over-the-counter turkey hunting: GMU: 2A areas east of US 550 and north of NM 173, 2B areas in the Carson national forest, 2C areas in the Carson national forest, 6B, 8, 19, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31 Bernardo WMA, Jackson lake WMA, La Joya WMA, Marquez/LBar WMA, Prairie Chicken WMAs, Red Rock WMA, Valle Vidal, W.S. Huey WMA	4/15-5/15	2 turkeys with visible beards
Statewide except as listed above, youth only	4/7-9/2023 4/12-14/2024 4/11-13/2025 4/10-12/2026 4/9-11/2027 4/7-9/2028 4/6-8/2029 4/12-14/2030	2 turkeys with visible beards

(2) Fall seasons:

Open GMUs or areas	hunt dates	bag limit
Statewide except the following GMUs or areas are closed to over-the-counter turkey hunting: GMU: 2A areas east of US 550 and north of NM 173, 2B areas in the Carson national forest, 2C areas in the Carson national forest, 6B, 8, 14, 18, 19, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 33, 38, 49, 50, 53 Bernardo WMA, Bill Evans WMA, Edward Sargent WMA, Jackson lake WMA, La Joya WMA, Lake Roberts WMA, Marquez/LBar WMA, Prairie Chicken WMAs, Red Rock WMA, Rio Chama WMA, Sugarite canyon state park, Valle Vidal, W.S. Huey WMA	bow only: 9/1-30 any legal sporting arms: 11/1-30	any 1 turkey

B. Entry permit hunts: All entry permits shall be valid for any legal sporting arms except turkey hunting in the Sandia ranger district portion of GMU 8. An entry permit authorizes the holder to hunt in the area, for the bag limit, and for the season dates listed on the permit. In addition, holders of a turkey entry permit may hunt in any open over-the-counter area during the spring season for a second turkey (if applicable) or if unsuccessful in their entry hunt area. In no circumstance may any turkey hunter take or attempt to take more than two bearded turkeys during the spring season. Holders of an entry hunt permit must also purchase a turkey hunting license prior to hunting.

Open GMUs or areas	2023-2024 2027-2028 hunt dates	2024-2025 2028-2029 hunt dates	2025-2026 2029-2030 hunt dates	2026-2027 2030-2031 hunt dates	hunt code	permits	bag limit
2B (Carson national forest) 2C (Carson national forest)	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	TUR-1-100 TUR-C2B-S1-BT-PUB	115	1 turkey with visible beard
2B (Carson national forest) 2C (Carson national forest), youth only	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	TUR-1-101 TUR-C2B-S1-BT-YTH	50	1 turkey with visible beard
2A (areas east of US 550 and north of NM 173), youth only	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	TUR-1-102 TUR-2A-S1-BT-YTH	5	1 turkey with visible beard

6B Valles Caldera national preserve	4/15-4/30	4/15-4/30	4/15-4/30	4/15-4/30	TUR 1-103 TUR-6B-S1-BT-PUB	20	1 turkey with visible beard
8 (bow and crossbow only in Sandia ranger district)	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	TUR 1-104 TUR-8-S1-BT-PUB	15 20	2 turkeys with visible beard
9 Marquez/LBar WMA	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	TUR 1-105 TUR-9L-S1-BT-PUB	15	1 turkey with visible beard
26 and 27 once-in-a-lifetime	5/1-5/30	5/1-5/30	5/1-5/30	5/1-5/30	TUR 1-106 TUR-C26-S1-BT-PUB	up to 5 15	1 turkey with visible beard
30 Washington ranch (private land) and Black river management area (BLM), youth only	4/28-4/30 4/23-4/25	4/26-4/28 4/28-4/30	4/25-4/27 4/27-4/29	4/24-4/26 4/26-4/28	TUR 1-107 TUR-30-S1-BT-YTH	up to 4	1 turkey with visible beard
30 Washington ranch (private land) and Black river management area (BLM), youth only	5/5-5/7 4/30-5/1	5/3-5/5 5/5-5/7	5/2-5/4 5/4-5/6	5/1-5/3 5/3-5/5	TUR 1-108 TUR-30-S2-BT-YTH	up to 4	1 turkey with visible beard
55 Valle Vidal (only the east side is open from 5/14/15-5/15 ; west side is open from 4/15-4/30)	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	TUR 1-109 TUR-55-S1-BT-PUB	20	1 turkey with visible beard

[19.31.16.10 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.9 NMAC, 4/1/2027]

19.31.16.11 TURKEY POPULATION MANAGEMENT HUNTS:

A. The director or their designee may authorize population management hunts for turkey when justified in writing by department personnel.

B. The director or their designee shall designate the sporting arms, season dates, season lengths, bag limits, hunt boundaries, specific requirements or restrictions and number of licenses to be issued.

C. In the event that an applicant is not able to hunt on the dates specified, the applicant's name shall be moved to the bottom of the list and another applicant may be contacted for the hunt.

D. In those instances where a population management hunt is warranted on deeded private lands, the landowner may suggest eligible hunters of their choice by submitting a list of prospective hunters' names to the department for licensing consideration. No more than one-half of the total number of licenses authorized shall be available to landowner-identified hunters. The balance of prospective hunters shall be identified by the department.

[19.31.16.11 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.10 NMAC, 4/1/2027]

19.31.16.12 GOULD'S TURKEY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM:

A. The director shall collect all proceeds generated through the auction or lottery or both, of not more than two special Gould's turkey enhancement entry permits annually, and such monies shall be deposited into the game protection fund. These monies shall be available for expenditure by the department to be used exclusively for activities, projects and programs aimed at benefitting Gould's turkeys and Gould's turkey habitat, and for costs incurred in carrying out these programs.

- B.** Requirements for issuance, sale and use of Gould's turkey enhancement permits:
- (1) **Issuance:** The director may issue up to two Gould's turkey enhancement entry permits annually.
- (2) **Sale:** The auction or lottery or both shall be conducted by an incorporated non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of wildlife, in cooperation with and overseen by the department.
- (3) **Use:**
- (a) The successful recipient(s) shall be allotted an authorization for a Gould's turkey enhancement entry permit, which may be transferred through sale, barter, donation or gift to other individuals qualified to obtain a license and hunt. Once an authorization is converted to a permit, the permit will be non-transferable.
- (b) Individuals hunting pursuant to a Gould's turkey enhancement entry permit must obtain and have in their possession a valid turkey hunting license and any other stamps, tags or permits required by rule.
- (c) Unless their hunting privileges have been revoked pursuant to law, any person is eligible to bid on and purchase a Gould's turkey enhancement entry permit.
- (d) Individuals holding a Gould's turkey enhancement entry permit shall not be prohibited from hunting other subspecies of turkeys in New Mexico as allowed in 19.31.16 NMAC.
- (e) The entry permit shall be valid for any legal sporting arms, and the bag limit shall be one bearded Gould's turkey.
- (f) The season dates for each entry permit shall be no more than 30 consecutive days between April 1 and May 31 as specified by the entry permit each license year.
- (g) The harvest of one bearded Gould's turkey shall count against the license holder's spring turkey bag limit.
- (h) The hunt area for each entry permit shall be any legally accessible public lands in GMUs 26 and 27 where hunting is allowed, and private land with written permission.
- (i) Gould's turkey enhancement entry permits granted through auction or lottery, as described above, shall not be considered 'once-in-a-lifetime' permits.
[19.31.16.12 NMAC -Rp , 19.31.16.11 NMAC, 4/1/2027]

HISTORY OF 19.31.16 NMAC:

Pre-NMAC History: The material in this part was derived from that previously filed with the State Records Center and Archives under:

Regulation No. 482, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, Elk, Antelope, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, And Barbary Sheep, filed 5/31/1967;

Regulation No. 487, Establishing 1967 Seasons On Javelina And Barbary Sheep, filed 12/15/1967;

Regulation No. 489, Establishing Turkey Seasons For The Spring of 1968, filed 3/1/1968;

Regulation No. 491, Establishing Big Game Seasons For 1968 For Jicarilla Reservation, filed 3/1/1968;

Regulation No. 492, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, Elk, Antelope, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, And Barbary Sheep, filed 6/6/1968;

Regulation No. 495, Establishing A Season On Bighorn Sheep, filed 10/2/1968;

Regulation No. 496, Establishing An Elk Season In The Tres Piedras Area, Elk Area P-6, filed 12/11/1968;

Regulation No. 502, Establishing Turkey Seasons For The Spring Of 1969, filed 3/5/1969;

Regulation No. 503, Establishing 1969 Deer Seasons For Bowhunting Only And Big Game Seasons For The Jicarilla Indian Reservation, filed 3/5/1969;

Regulation 504, Establishing Seasons on Deer, Bear, Turkey, Dusky Grouse, Chickaree And Tassel-Eared Squirrel, And Barbary Sheep, filed 6/4/1969;

Regulation No. 507, Establishing A Season On Bighorn Sheep, filed 8/26/1969;

Regulation No. 512, Establishing Turkey Season For The Spring Of 1970, filed 2/20/1970;

Regulation No. 513, Establishing Deer Season For Bowhunting Only In Sandia State Game Refuge, filed 2/20/1970;

Regulation No. 514, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, Elk, Antelope, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, Barbary Sheep And Bighorn Sheep, filed 6/9/1970;

Regulation No 520, Establishing Turkey Seasons For The Spring Of 1971, filed 3/9/1971;

Regulation No. 522, Establishing 1971 Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, And Elk On The Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, filed 3/9/1971;

Regulation No. 523, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep And Bighorn Sheep, filed 6/9/1971;

Regulation No. 531, Establishing A Season On Javelina, filed 12/17/1971;

Regulation No. 532, Establishing Turkey Seasons For The Spring Of 1972, filed 3/20/1972;

Regulation No. 534, Establishing 1972 Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, And Elk On The Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, filed 3/20/1972;

Regulation No. 536, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Chickaree And Tassel-Eared Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep And Bighorn Sheep, filed 6/26/1972;

Regulation No. 542, Establishing A Season On Javelina, filed 12/1/1972;

Regulation No. 545, Establishing Turkey Seasons For The Spring Of 1973, filed 2/26/1973;

Regulation No. 546, Establishing 1973 Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, And Elk On The Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, filed 2/26/1973;

Regulation No. 547, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Chickaree And Tassel-Eared Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep And Bighorn Sheep, And Javelina, filed 5/31/1973;

Regulation No. 554, Establishing Special Turkey Seasons For The Spring of 1974, filed 3/4/1974;

Regulation No. 556, Establishing 1974 Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, And Elk On The Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, filed 3/14/1974;

Regulation No. 558, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx, And Ibex, filed 5/29/1974;

Regulation No. 565, Establishing Special Turkey Seasons For The Spring Of 1975, filed 3/24/75;

Regulation No. 567, Establishing 1975 Seasons On Deer, Bear, And Turkey On The Jicarilla Apache And Navajo Indian Reservations And On Elk On The Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, filed 3/24/1975;

Regulation No. 568, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Chickaree And Tassel-Eared Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex, filed 6/25/1975;

Regulation No. 573, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex, filed 2/23/1976;

Regulation No. 583, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex, filed 2/11/1977;

Regulation No. 590, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex, filed 2/15/1978;

Regulation No. 596, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex, filed 2/23/1979;

Regulation No. 603, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1980 through March 31, 1981, filed 2/22/1980;

Regulation No. 609, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1981 through March 31, 1982, filed 3/17/1981;

Regulation No. 614, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1982 through March 31, 1983, filed 3/10/1982;

Regulation No. 622, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1983 through March 31, 1984, filed 3/9/1983;

Regulation No. 628, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1984 through March 31, 1985, filed 4/2/1984;

Regulation No. 634, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1985 Through March 31, 1986, filed 4/18/1985;

Regulation No. 640, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1986 through March 31, 1987, filed 3/25/1986;

Regulation No. 645, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1987 through March 31, 1988, filed 2/12/1987; Regulation No. 653, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1988 through March 31, 1989, filed 12/18/1987; Regulation No. 663, Establishing Opening Spring Turkey For The Period April 1, 1989 through March 31, 1990, filed 3/28/1989; Regulation No. 664, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1989 through March 31, 1990, filed 3/20/1989; Regulation No. 674, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1990 through March 31, 1991, filed 11/21/1989; Regulation No. 683, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx, And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1991 through March 31, 1992, filed 2/8/1991; Regulation No. 689, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx, And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1992 through March 31, 1993, filed 3/4/1992; Regulation No. 700, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx, And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1993 through March 31, 1995, filed 3/11/1993.

History of Repealed Material:

19.31.8 NMAC, Big Game, filed 3/1/2001 - duration expired 3/31/2003.
19.31.8 NMAC, Big Game and Turkey, filed 3/3/2003 - duration expired 3/31/2005.
19.31.8 NMAC, Big Game and Turkey, filed 12/15/2004 - duration expired 3/31/2007.
19.31.16 NMAC, Turkey, filed 12/1/2006 - duration expired 3/31/2009.
19.31.16 NMAC, Turkey, filed 2/26/2009 - duration expired 3/31/2011.
19.31.16 NMAC, Turkey, filed 9/15/2010 - duration expired 3/31/2015.
19.31.16 NMAC, Turkey, filed 3/17/2015, repealed 3/31/2016.
19.31.16 NMAC, Turkey, filed 2/29/2016, duration expired 3/31/2019.
19.31.16 NMAC, Turkey, filed 7/2/2018, duration expired 3/31/2023.
19.31.16 NMAC, Turkey, filed 10/21/2022, duration expired 3/31/2027.

Instructions for completing the NMAC TRANSMITTAL FORM



Your agency must complete the following:

Volume, Issue and Publication Date. [Example: Volume: XXXII , Issue: 10, Publication date: May 25, 2021.](#)

Provide the total number of pages of the paper version of the new rule, amendment, repeal, or emergency document.
[Note: Do not include the pages of the transmittal form, billing sheet, PO, etc.](#)

Sequence number is for **ALD use only**.

Issuing agency's name and mailing address.

Agency's 3-digit DFA code. [Example: 123](#)

Contact person's Name, Phone number, E-mail address.

Check type of rule action: **New** (brand new rule or replacement rule), **Amendment**, **Repeal** (repeal and do not replace or repeal and replace), **Emergency**, or **Renumber**. **For a repeal and replacement rule, the agency must provide TWO signed transmittal forms; one for the repeal statement and another for the new (replacement) rule.**

Most Recent Filing Date of the Part for **ALD use only**.

Identify NMAC Title, Chapter and Part numbers and Title, Chapter and Part names.

[Example:](#)

Title 19 Natural Resources and Wildlife
Chapter 30 Wildlife Administration Aquatic
Part 14 Invasive Species

Description of Amendment: (if amending) [Example: "Amending three sections"](#).

Amendment's NMAC citation: (if amending) [Example: "Sections 9, 10 and 18 of 7.1.13 NMAC"](#).

Are any materials incorporated by reference? [Check: Yes or No. If Yes, please list attachments or provide Internet site.](#)

If incorporated, has copyright permission been granted? [Check Yes or No or check if document is in the public domain.](#)

Concise Explanatory Statement for rulemaking adoption See 1.24.25.14 NMAC:

Provide your agency's specific statutory or other authority authorizing rulemaking: Check with your agency's general counsel office to determine the correct citation(s) authorizing your agency to make rules.

Provide your Notice date(s) ([when notice of rulemaking was published in Register](#)): Hearing date(s) (if agency has board or commission): Rule adoption date: ([see note below](#)) and Rule effective date ([date rulemaking becomes effective](#))

Note:

- There must be at least **30** days between the notice publication date and hearing date.
- Your agency **must file** your rule within **15** days from rule adoption date. The date of adoption of the proposed rule shall be the date the concise explanatory statement is signed by the agency, unless otherwise specified in the concise explanatory statement. Unless your rule is an emergency filing, the rule effective date cannot be any earlier than the publication date in the New Mexico Register.

Findings required for rulemaking adoption. If attaching a separate document as findings or as concise explanatory statement, please indicate as such in findings section.

[Check with your agency's general counsel office regarding substance of any required findings to be filed.](#)

Issuing Authority: Name, Title Date signed and original Signature of issuing authority or their delegate in **black** ink or with valid digital signature: [Note: If authority has been delegated, this box must be checked. A letter of delegation must be on file with the State Records Center and Archives, Administrative Law Division.](#)

NMAC

Transmittal Form



Volume: Issue: Publication date: Number of pages: (ALD Use Only) Sequence No.

Issuing agency name and address:

Agency DFA code:

Contact person's name:

Phone number:

E-mail address:

Type of rule action:

(ALD Use) Recent filing date:

New ☒ Amendment ☐ Repeal ☐ Emergency ☐ Renumber ☐

Title number:

Title name:

Chapter number:

Chapter name:

Part number:

Part name:

Amendment description (If filing an amendment):

Amendment's NMAC citation (If filing an amendment):

Are there any materials incorporated by reference?

Please list attachments or Internet sites if applicable.

Yes ☐ No ☒

If materials are attached, has copyright permission been received?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Public domain ☐

Specific statutory or other authority authorizing rulemaking:

Notice date(s):

Hearing date(s):

Rule adoption date:

Rule effective date:

Concise Explanatory Statement For Rulemaking Adoption:

Findings required for rulemaking adoption:

Findings MUST include:

- Reasons for adopting rule, including any findings otherwise required by law of the agency, and a summary of any independent analysis done by the agency;
- Reasons for any change between the published proposed rule and the final rule; and
- Reasons for not accepting substantive arguments made through public comment.

The rulemaking was undertaken to adopt a new Turkey Rule 19.31.16 NMAC which will become effective April 1, 2027. The most recent version of the rule will expire on March 31, 2027.

The new rule will include:

- Adjust hunt dates based on calendar dates
- Increase up-to permit number for Gould's once-in-a-lifetime hunt in GMU 26 and 27 to 15
- Conducted analysis of fall hen harvest, and this indicated that there are no units for which low-level harvest will negatively impact the population
- In unit 8, increase permits from 15 to 20
- Require the purchase of a license at least one day prior to hunting

There have been no changes between the published proposed rule and the final rule. There were no substantive arguments made through public comment that were not accepted. To view public comments, please visit www.wildlife.state.nm.us/commission/meeting-agendas/ and click on the Hearing Archive tab. The resulting rule was based on what was best for the resource and overall hunter satisfaction.

Issuing authority (If delegated, authority letter must be on file with ALD):

Name:

Michael B. Sloane

Check if authority has been delegated

☐

Title:

Director, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

Signature: (BLACK ink only OR Digital Signature)

Date signed:

Michael B. Sloane

Digitally signed by Michael B. Sloane

Date: 2026.06.01 16:45:19 -06'00'



Turkey Rule 19.31.16 NMAC

May 28, 2026

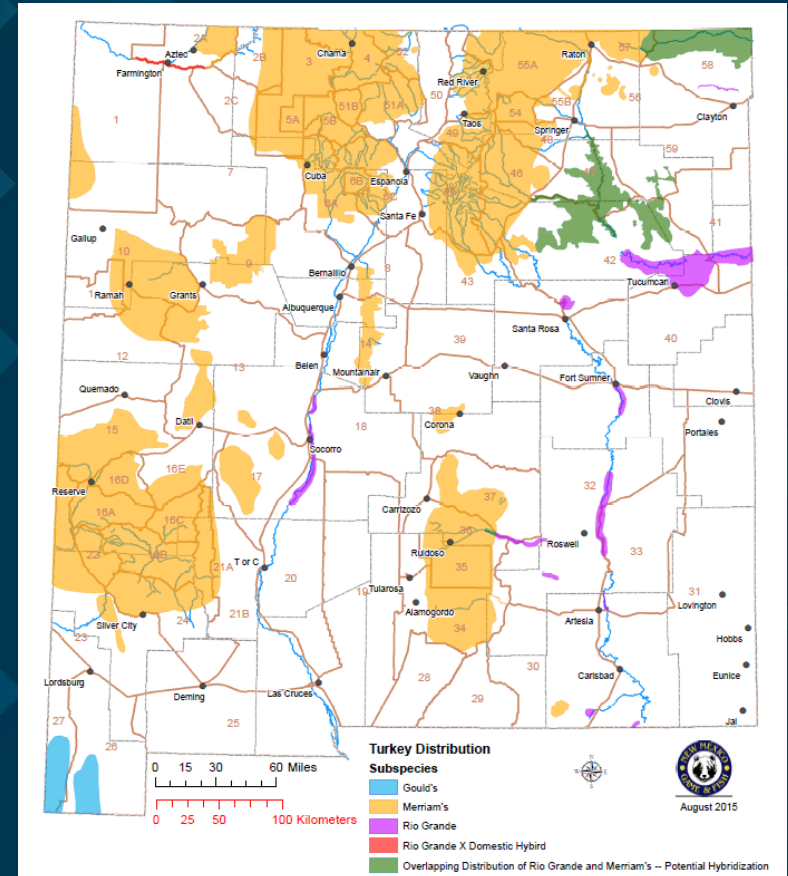
New Mexico State Game Commission Meeting
Socorro, NM



Turkey Biology

Three Subspecies in New Mexico

- **Merriam's (Mountainous)**
- **Rio Grande (River valleys)**
- **Gould's (Bootheel)**



Amend 19.31.16 Turkey

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE



Turkey Biology

- **Populations vary with environmental conditions**
- **Spring hunting harvest is primarily males and one male can breed many hens**
- **Fall hunting has the potential for additive mortality on hens**



Amend: Turkey 19.31.16 NMAC

Recommendations

- **Adjust hunts based on calendar dates**
- **Increase up-to permit numbers for OIL GMU 26 and 27 hunt to 15**
- **Increase GMU 8 draw tags from 15 to 20**
- **Conducted analysis of fall hen harvest, and this indicated that there are no units for which low-level harvest will negatively impact the population**
- **Require the purchase of a license at least 1 day prior to hunting**



Adjust dates by Calendar Year

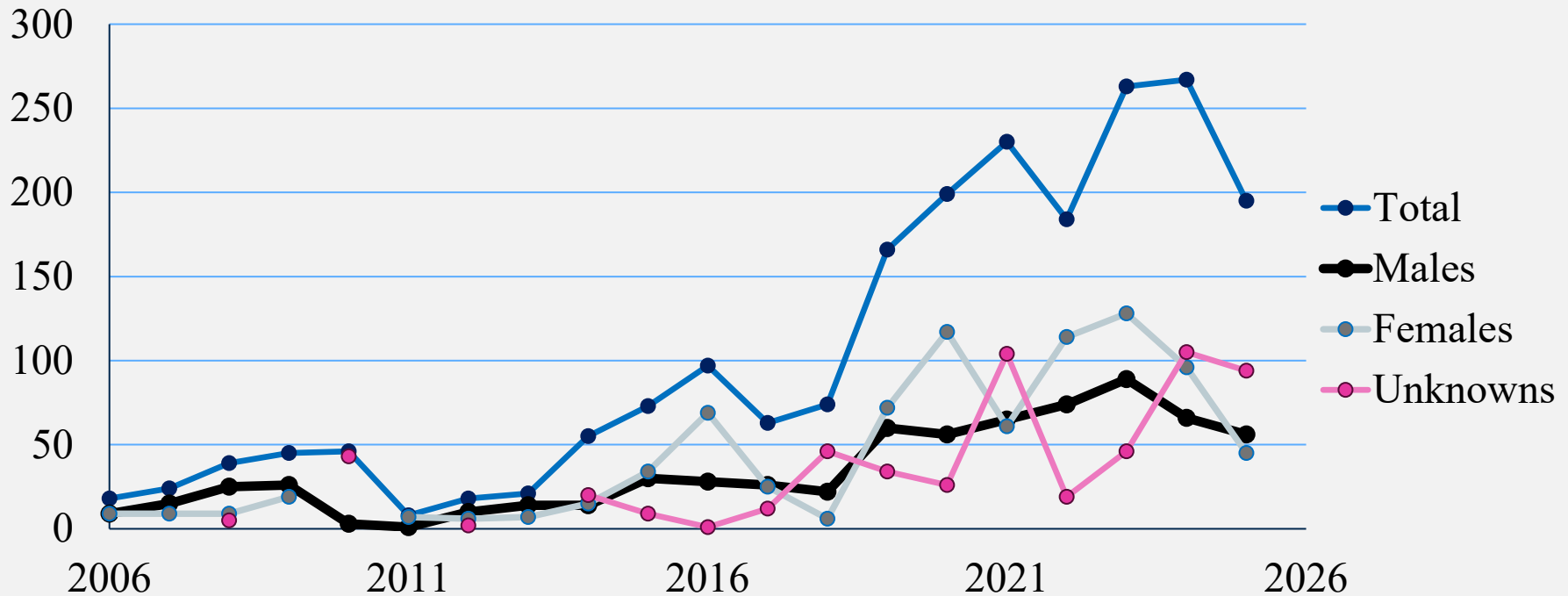
Youth Seasons	
Year	Dates
2027	April 9-11
2028	April 7-9
2029	April 6-8
2030	April 12-14

Amend 19.31.16 Turkey



Increase up-to OIL Licenses for GMU 26/27 to 15

Gould's Turkey Surveys



Amend 19.31.16 Turkey

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE



Increase GMU 8 draw tags from 15 to 20



Amend 19.31.16 Turkey

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE



Public Outreach Turkey 19.31.16 NMAC

Hybrid meetings- March 11 & 12

Albuquerque and Las Cruces - 11 online & 9 in-person attendees for both meetings

Virtual Meeting- March 9

**National Wild Turkey Federation Virtual Meeting-
9 in attendance**

**26 written comments from 23
organizations/individuals**

Amend 19.31.16 Turkey

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE



Public Comment Turkey 19.31.16 NMAC

Comments received as of May 26, 2026

- Remove/Reduce fall hen harvest (8)
- Reduce spring bag limit to 1 VB (8)
- Limit non-resident tag numbers (5)
- Remove/Reduce fall hunt days (4)
- Expand Gould's tag numbers (4)
- Limit non-residents to 1 VB (2)
- Change turkey to a draw/quota hunt (2)
- Shorten/Stratify the spring season (2)
- Change Gould's hunt structure to multiple shorter hunts (2)
- Support for current proposals (2)
- End legal hunting hours at sunset (1)
- Increase GMU 8 Tags (1)
- Change spring bag to 1 male- not 1 VB (1)
- Reduce GMUs open for youth hunt (1)
- Add a weekend hunt for Veterans (1)
- Add a hunt for seniors over 70 (1)
- Keep the closing date in May (1)
- Increase predator hunting opportunities (1)

Amend 19.31.16 Turkey

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE



Questions?



Amend 19.31.16 Turkey

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE



- **“Move to repeal and replace 19.31.16 NMAC, as presented by the Department and allow the Department to make minor corrections to comply with filing this rule with State Records and Archives.”**

Amend 19.31.16 Turkey



On-going Research

Merriam's hen reproduction study

GPS mark hens across NM
42 hens marked in 2025

National turkey brood survey

Document turkeys in July
and August



Amend 19.31.16 Turkey

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE



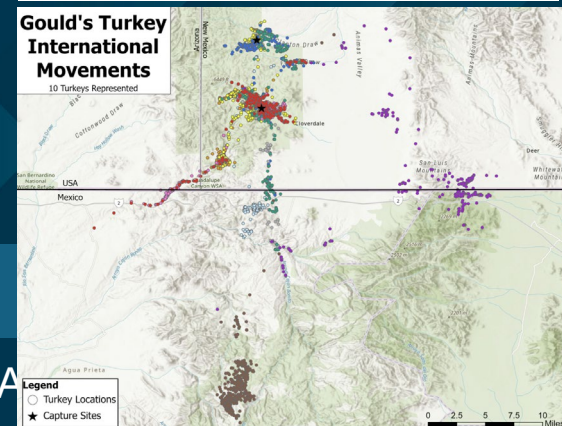
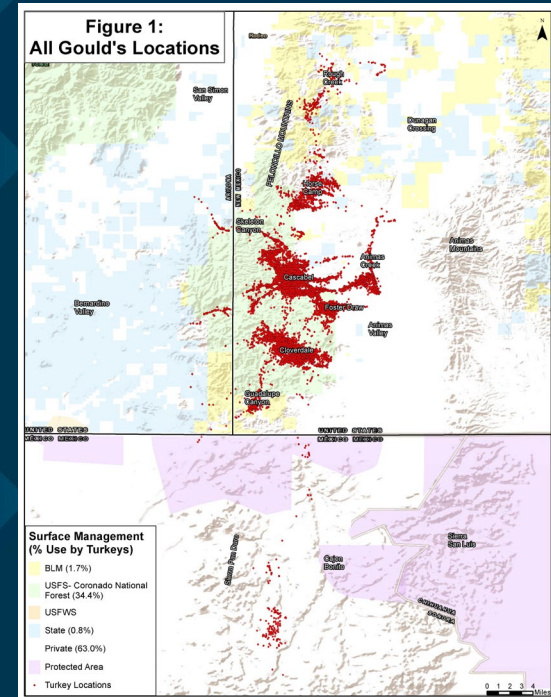
On-going Research

Gould's turkey monitoring following delisting

Continued population counts
Monitoring nesting and brooding success
Movement and habitat use

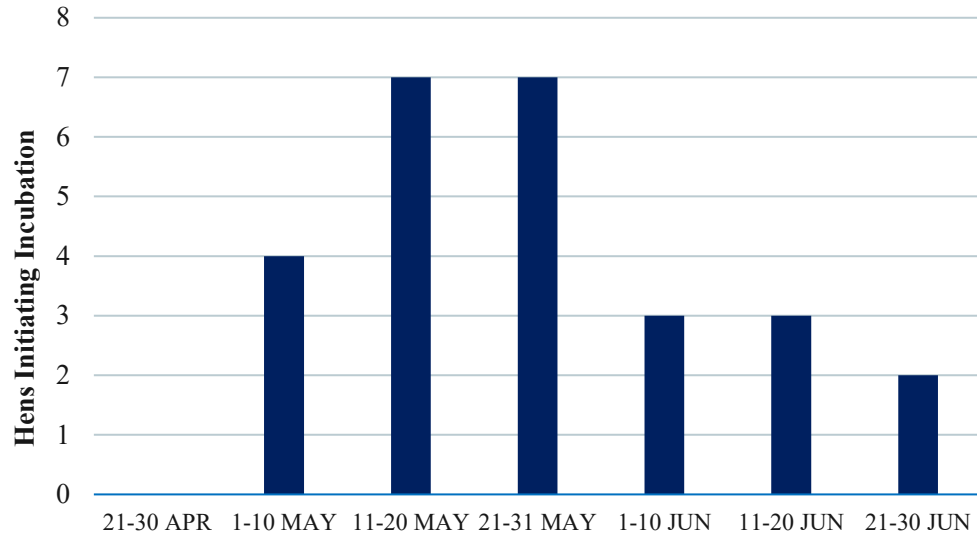


Amend 19.31.16 T



Breeding Activity- New Mexico

Merriam's Nesting 2025



1980s Gobbling Activity Study

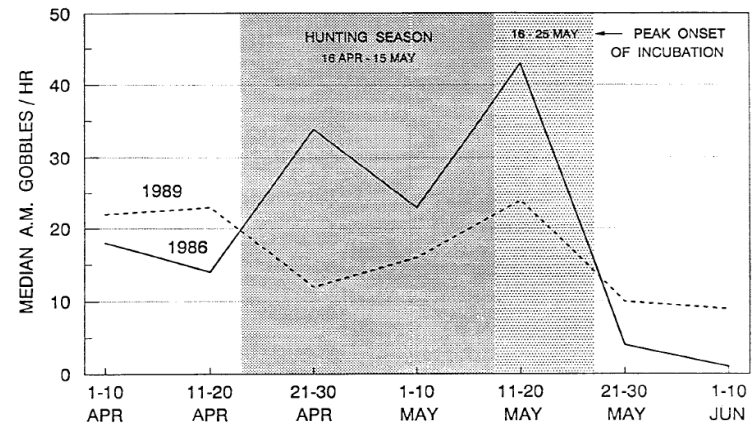


Fig. 1. Chronologic distribution of gobbling activity of adult male Merriam's wild turkeys in Colorado and New Mexico.

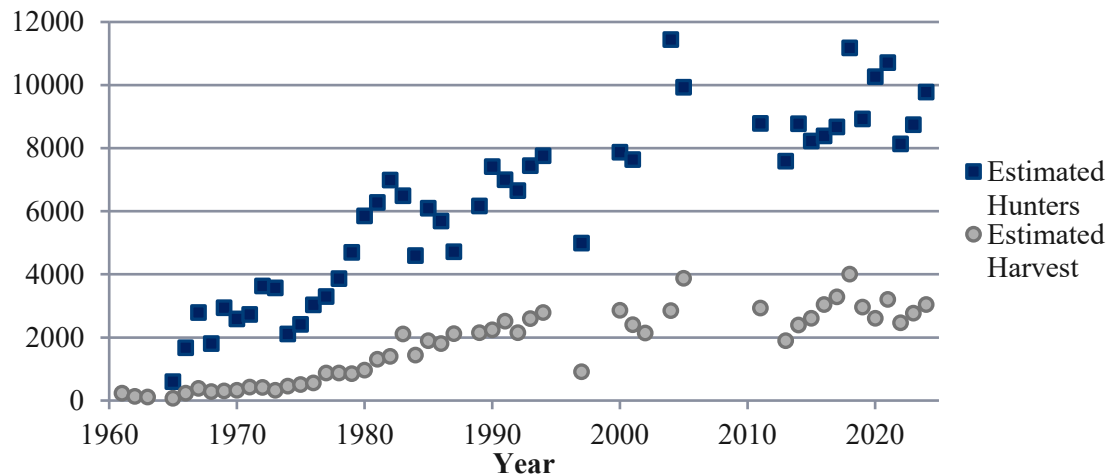
Amend 19.31.16 Turkey

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

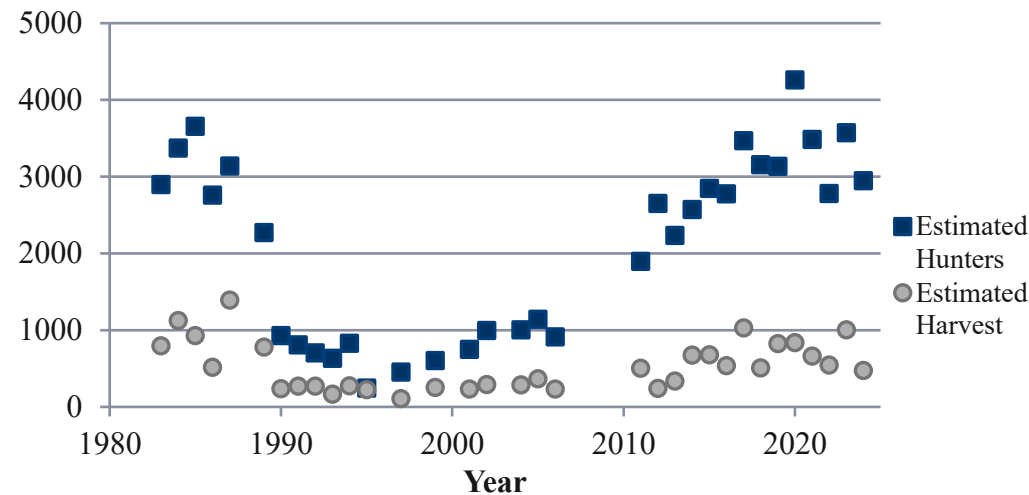


Long-term Overview

New Mexico Spring Turkey



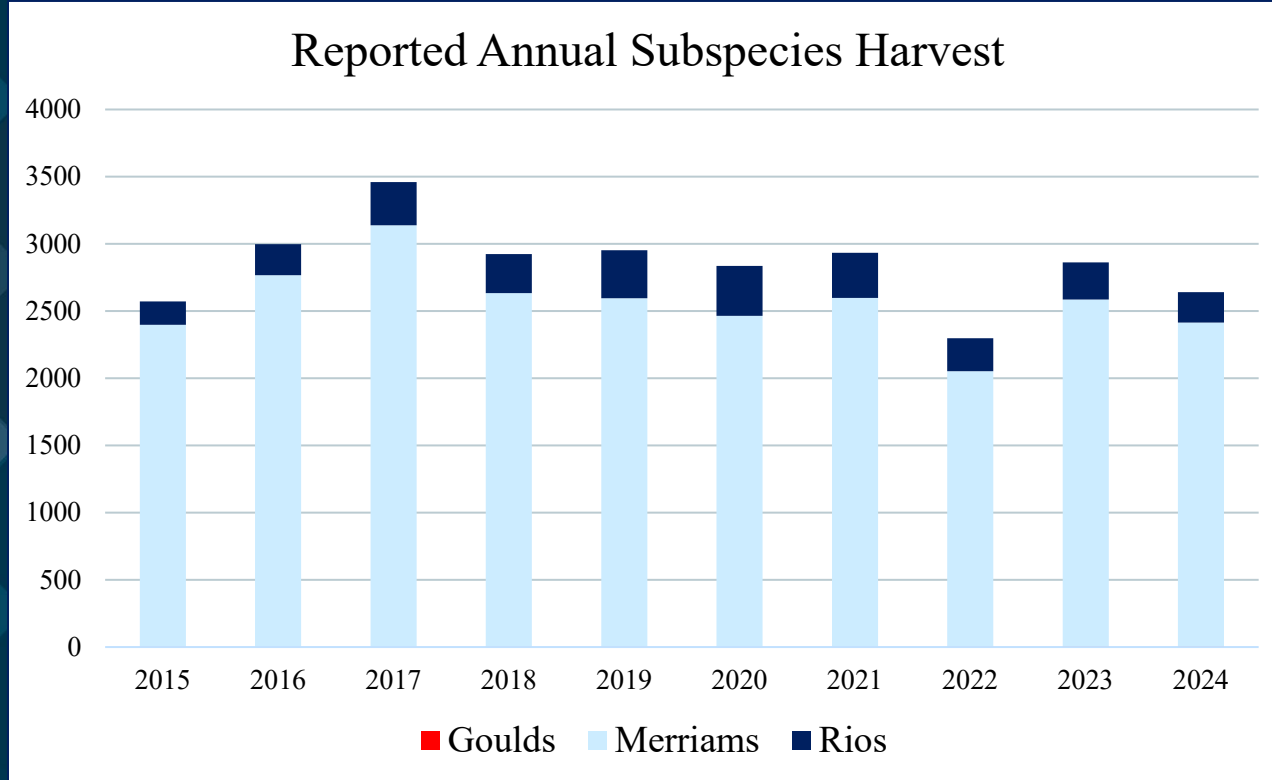
New Mexico Fall Turkey



Amend 19.31.16 Turkey

NEW

Subspecies Harvest Overview



Amend 19.31.16 Turkey

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE



Hen Harvest Summary

Estimates in top 11 units

GMU	5-Year Average	10-Year Average
Statewide	427	427
34	105	102
16	44	48
6	41	38
36	25	27
45	23	21
24	13	19
9	11	15
10	12	15
15	14	15
51	24	14
5	16	12

Amend 19



Recent Hunting Results

Year	Estimated Spring Harvest	Spring Harvest Success	Spring First Turkey	Spring Second Turkey	Second Turkey Success	Spring Satisfaction		Total Fall Harvest	Fall Harvest Success	Hens Harvest	Fall Satisfaction
2014	2,395	26.3%	1,977	398	20.0%	3.4		675	26.3%	420	3.3
2015	2,607	25.8%	2,117	490	23.1%	3.4		680	23.9%	424	3.5
2016	3,036	29.0%	2,431	605	24.9%	3.5		536	19.3%	263	3.2
2017	3,281	29.9%	2,590	691	26.7%	3.6		1,030	29.7%	624	3.5
2018	4,007	28.2%	3,149	858	27.2%	3.5		508	16.1%	252	3.1
2019	2,960	26.4%	2,352	608	25.9%	3.5		824	26.3%	571	3.5
2020	2,600	20.9%	2,147	453	21.1%	3.3		837	19.7%	476	2.4
2021	3,201	23.8%	2,553	648	25.4%	3.4		661	17.7%	409	3.3
2022	2,462	22.8%	1,964	498	25.4%	3.3		544	19.6%	333	2.2
2023	2,769	24.8%	2,248	521	23.2%	3.4		1,003	28.1%	658	3.5
2024	3,037	24.0%	2,411	626	26.0%	3.5		473	16.1%	258	3.2

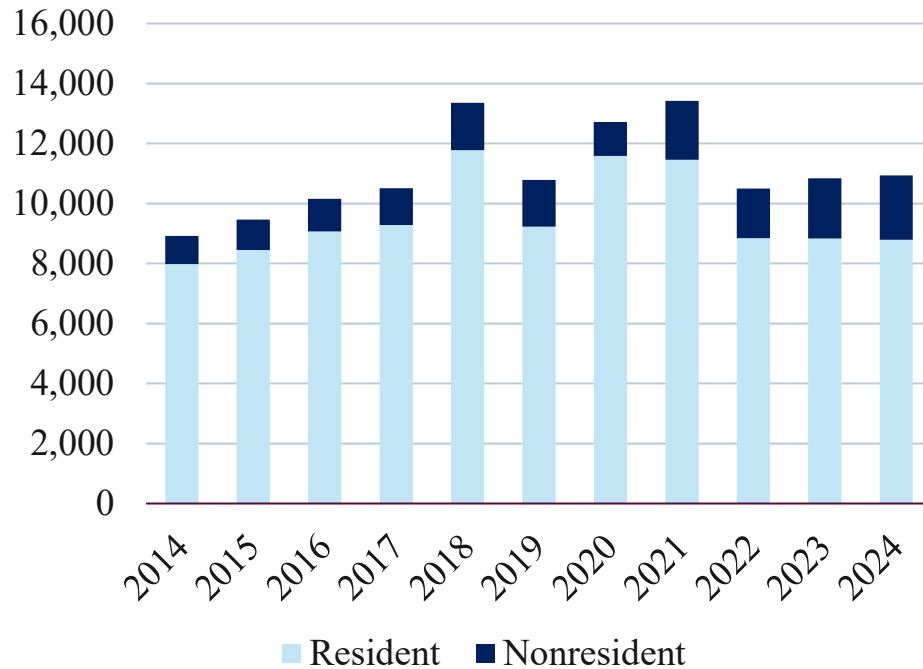
Amend 19.31.16 Turkey

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

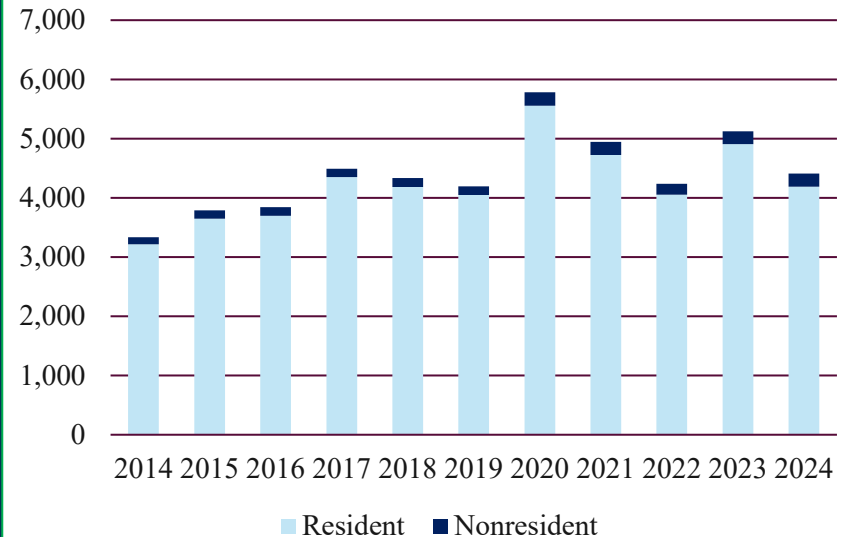


Turkey License Sales

Spring License Sales



Fall License Sales



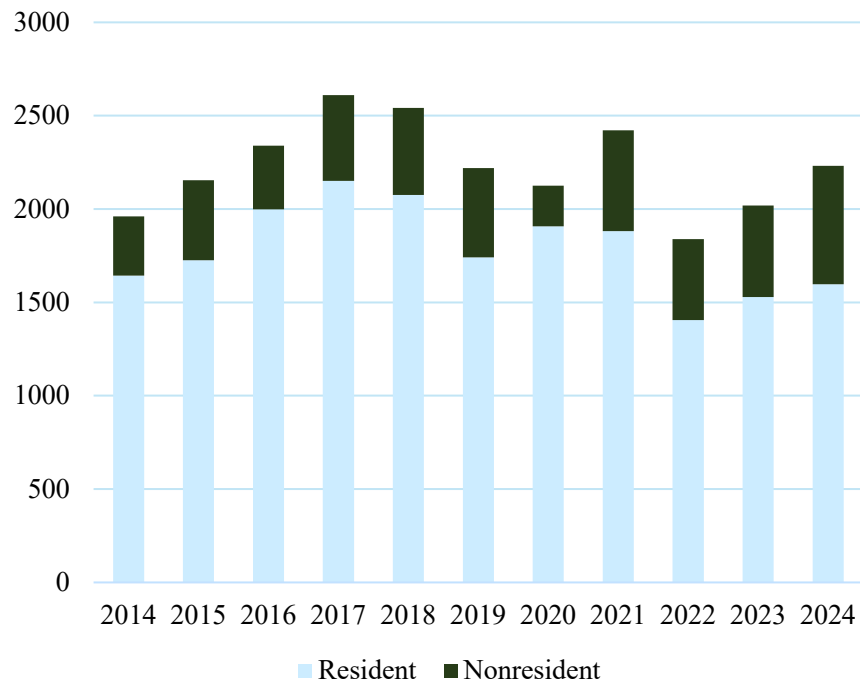
Amend 19.31.16 Turkey

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

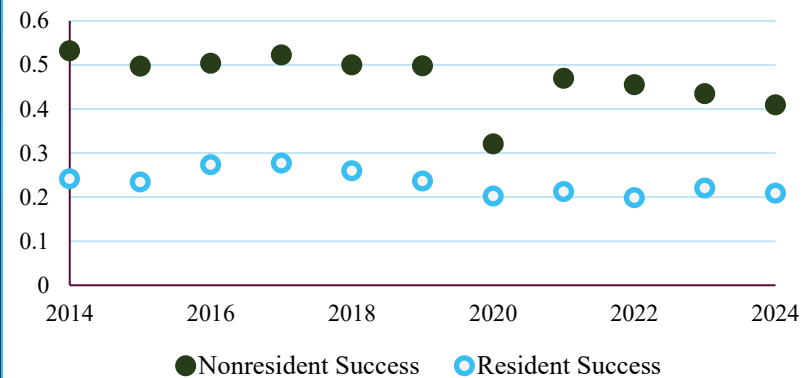


Spring Hunting Season

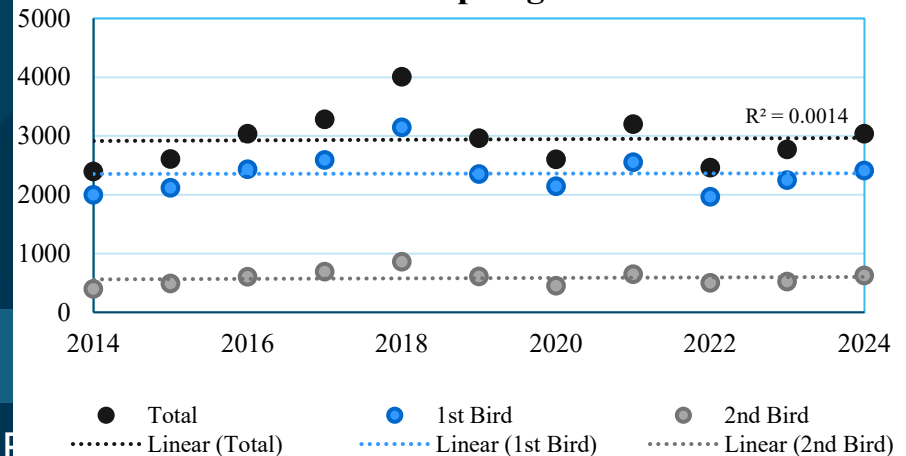
Reported Spring Harvest



Spring Success Rates



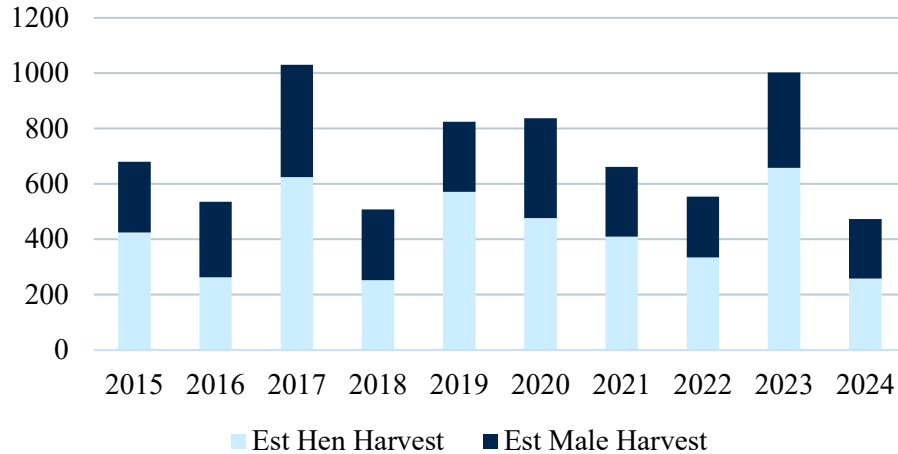
Estimated Spring Harvest



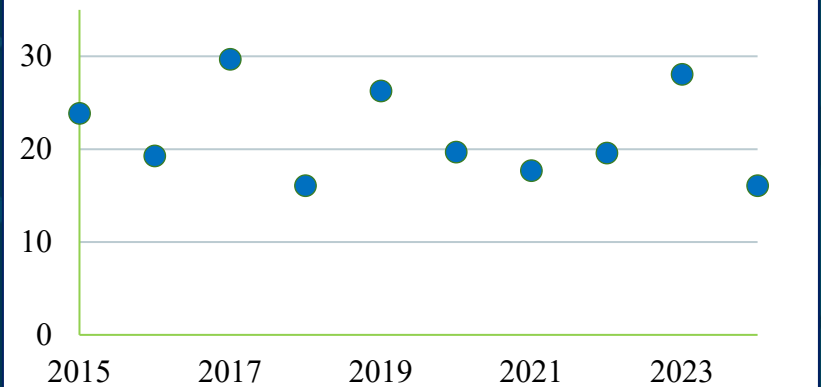
Amend 19.31.16 Turkey

Fall Hunting Season

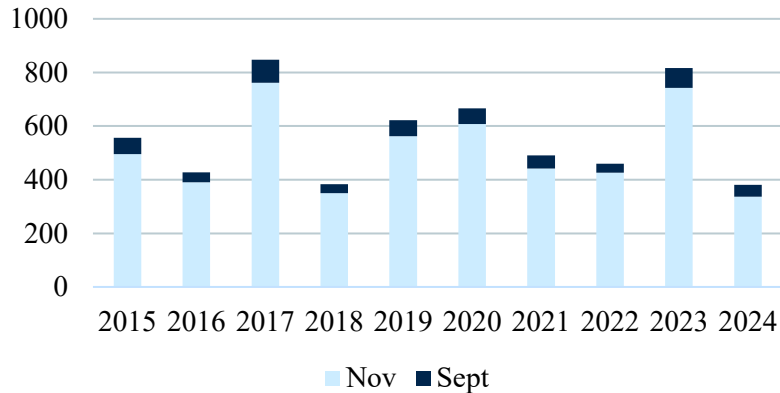
Fall Harvest Breakdown- Sex



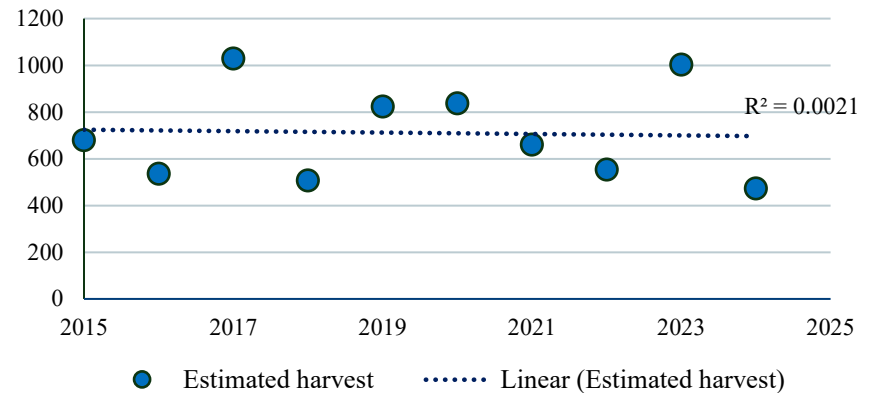
Fall Harvest Success Rates



Fall Harvest Breakdown-Month



Estimated Fall Harvest



Consider Fall Hen Harvest Closures

Based on harvest reporting and biological assessment, no units are being proposed for closure

GMU	5-Year Average	10-Year Average
Statewide	427	427
34	105	102
16	44	48
6	41	38
36	25	27
45	23	21
24	13	19
9	11	15
10	12	15
15	14	15
51	24	14
5	16	12

Amend 19.31.16 Turkey



PROPOSED TURKEY RULE SUMMARY, 2027-2031

Date of update: 4/10/2026

The turkey rule is amended every four years as part of the turkey rule development cycle. The current 4-year rule expires April 1, 2027. Proposed changes to the rule are made based on findings in scientific literature, data collected by Department staff, and public observations and recommendations.

Proposed amendments include:

- Adjust hunt dates based on calendar dates
- Increase up-to permit number for Gould's once-in-a-lifetime hunt in GMU 26 and 27 to 15
- Conducted analysis of fall hen harvest, and this indicated that there are no units for which low-level harvest will negatively impact the population
- In unit 8, increase permits from 15 to 20
- Require the purchase of a license at least one day prior to hunting

Proposed Dates for 2027-2031:

Species	Zone	Open	Close
Youth	Statewide (in open GMUs)	Apr. 9, 2027	Apr. 11, 2027
		Apr. 7, 2028	Apr. 9, 2028
		Apr. 6, 2029	Apr. 8, 2029
		Apr. 12, 2030	Apr. 14, 2030

If you would like to comment on the proposals, send email to: DGF-Gamebird@dgf.nm.gov



TECHNICAL INFORMATION FOR TURKEY RULE DEVELOPMENT

PURPOSE

Maintain current turkey populations and offer hunting opportunity that does not significantly impact turkey across the state.

TURKEY BIOLOGY AND HARVEST BACKGROUND

New Mexico is home to three subspecies of wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*): Merriam's (*M. g. merriami*), Rio Grande (*M. g. intermedia*), and Gould's (*M. g. mexicana*).

Wild turkey populations are characterized by annual fluctuations, largely dependent on environmental conditions. Annual mortality rates can range from 30% to 55%, with most mortality occurring the first year of life. Rates decline after this time and remain somewhat stable for older birds. Most juvenile or yearling mortality occurs during winter. Hen mortality is highest between March and June. This coincides with the peak of incubation when hens are most vulnerable.

Wild turkeys exhibit a moderate potential for population growth. Reproduction is seasonal and the mating system is polygamous; males play no role in rearing young. All males ≥ 2 years old can breed. Females are capable of reproducing at 1 year of age, but adult hens are usually more successful at hatching nests than are yearlings.

Spring gobbler hunting is biologically the most conservative hunting approach and is unlikely to result in overharvest. Studies have shown that harvest of up to 30% of adult gobblers leaves enough for effective breeding and quality hunting the following season (Healy and Powell 1999). A spring seasons opener that is approximately 2 weeks before the peak onset of incubation will ensure that the majority of hens are bred prior to the removal of males from the year's breed stock. Fall harvest has the potential to depress population growth by the removal of hens and therefore hunting should be lighter during this time.

Turkey hunters will regulate themselves to a degree. Fewer hunters will go afield when population numbers are low, though hunters that do go at this time are more efficient. Turkey hunting in New Mexico is structured so that it does not negatively impact the turkey population.

Population Monitoring

The current statewide wild turkey population is unknown but based on calculations from Eriksen et al. (2015), the population could be estimated to be about 18,500 birds. The Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) can be used to understand broadscale changes in bird populations and distribution. BBS data can be used to summarize population change and relative species abundance (Sauer et al. 2013). Wild turkey population trends often follow weather patterns, with populations increasing in years with good environmental conditions, and declining during bad years. The Department has initiated a research project to evaluate Merriam turkey reproductive rates, onset of incubation, fall hen harvest rates, and habitat use. This project is in the early stages and will provide more population information in the upcoming years. New Mexico is participating in a nationwide brood survey, where individuals submit turkey sightings in July and August. Poult per hen ratios of 2:1 indicate stable population reproductive output. The statewide average from 2022-2025 is 2.21.

Since 2006, the Department has conducted spring Gould's turkey walking survey routes within the Coronado National Forest, where surveyors record all birds seen and categorize birds by age and sex. Initial survey focused on surveying roost locations identified in the 1980s and 1990s. A new survey protocol was established in 2019 which involves surveying locations received from deployed GPS transmitters.

Literature Cited

Eriksen, R. E., T. W. Hughes, T. A. Brown, M. D. Akridge, K. B. Scott, and C. S. Penner. 2015. Status and distribution of wild turkeys in the United States: 2014 status. Proceedings of the National Wild Turkey Symposium 11:7-18.
Healy, W. M. and Sm. M. Powell. 1999. Wild turkey harvest management: biology, strategies, and techniques. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. BTP-R5001-1999.

Population Information

Figure: BBS trend data for wild turkey in New Mexico.

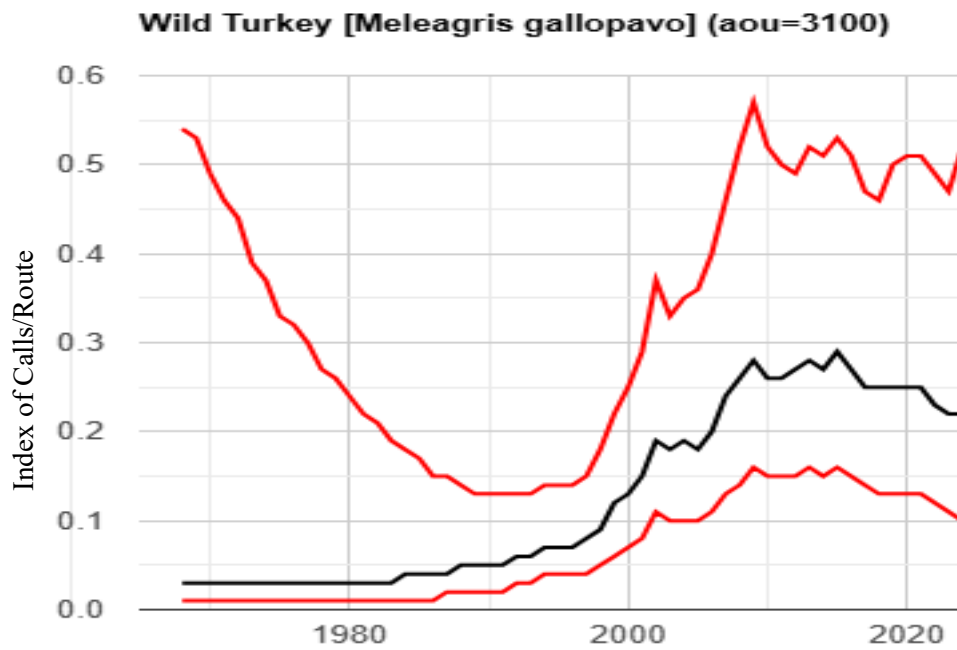


Figure: Counts from Gould's surveys in the Peloncillo Mountains, New Mexico. A new survey method started in 2019 using GPS transmittered turkeys to target survey locations

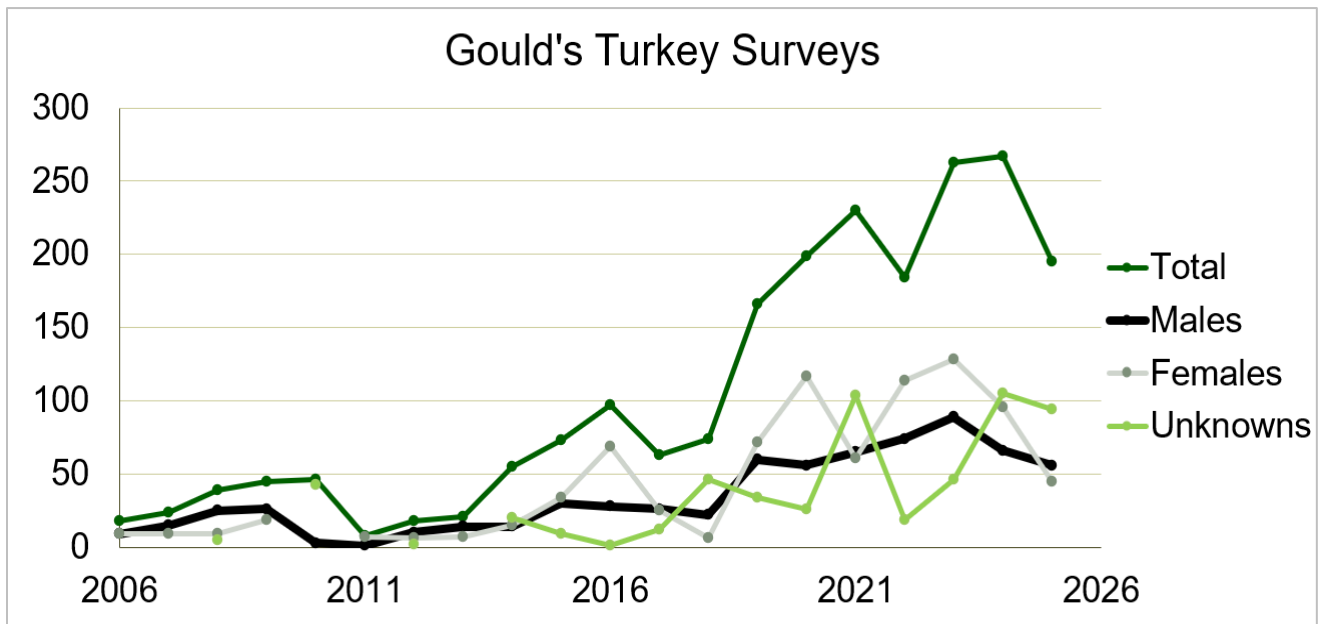


Figure: New Mexico Merriam turkey hen nest incubation onset from turkeys with GPS transmitters in 2025

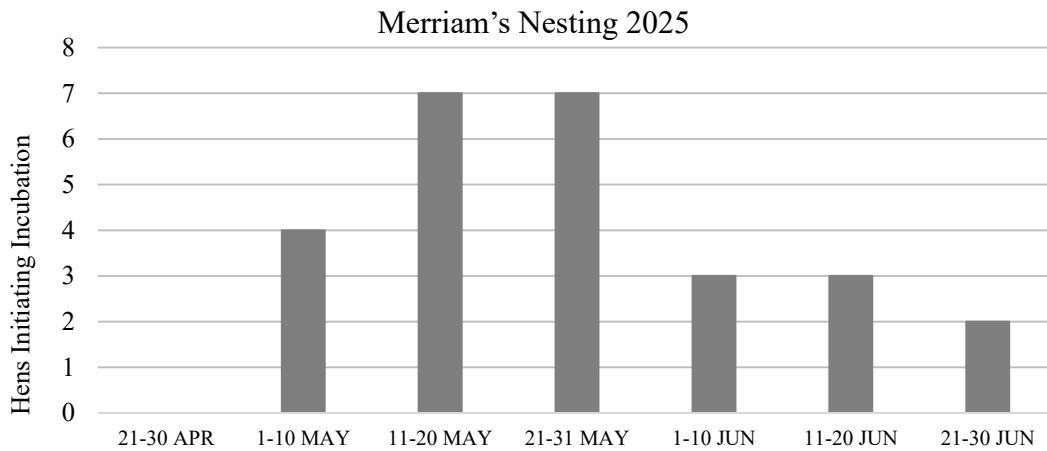


Figure: New Mexico Merriam turkey hen nest estimated onset of incubation of radiomarked turkeys in 1986 and 1989

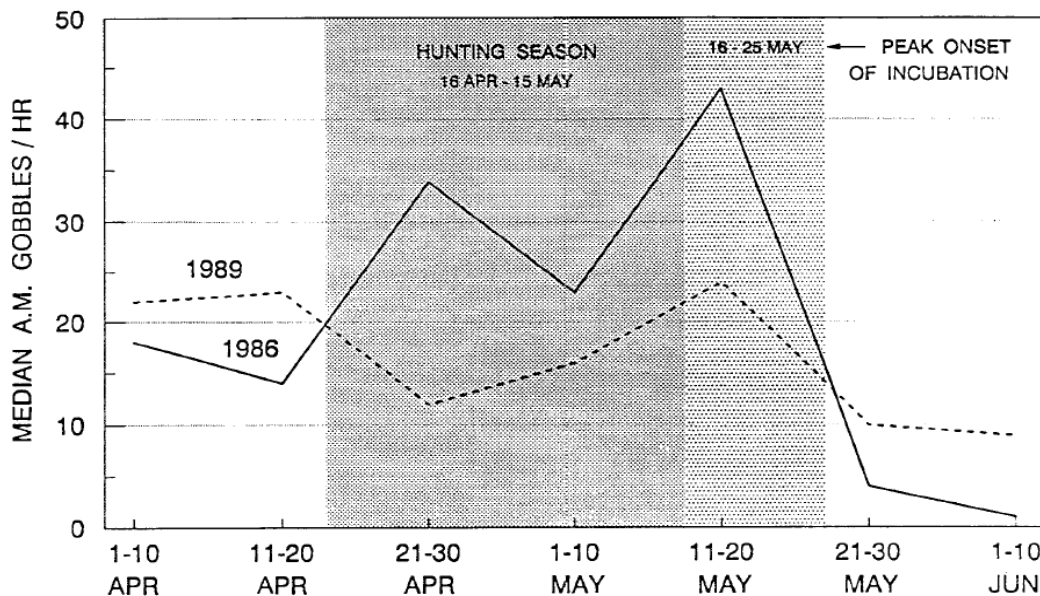


Fig. 1. Chronologic distribution of gobbling activity of adult male Merriam's wild turkeys in Colorado and New Mexico.

Table. New Mexico statewide brood survey poult per hen (PPH) ratios

Year	2022	2023	2024	2025
PPH Ratio	2.14	2.41	2.72	1.57

Hunter and Harvest Estimates

The Department monitors wild turkey populations using hunter harvest index information.

Figure: New Mexico wild turkey spring license sales

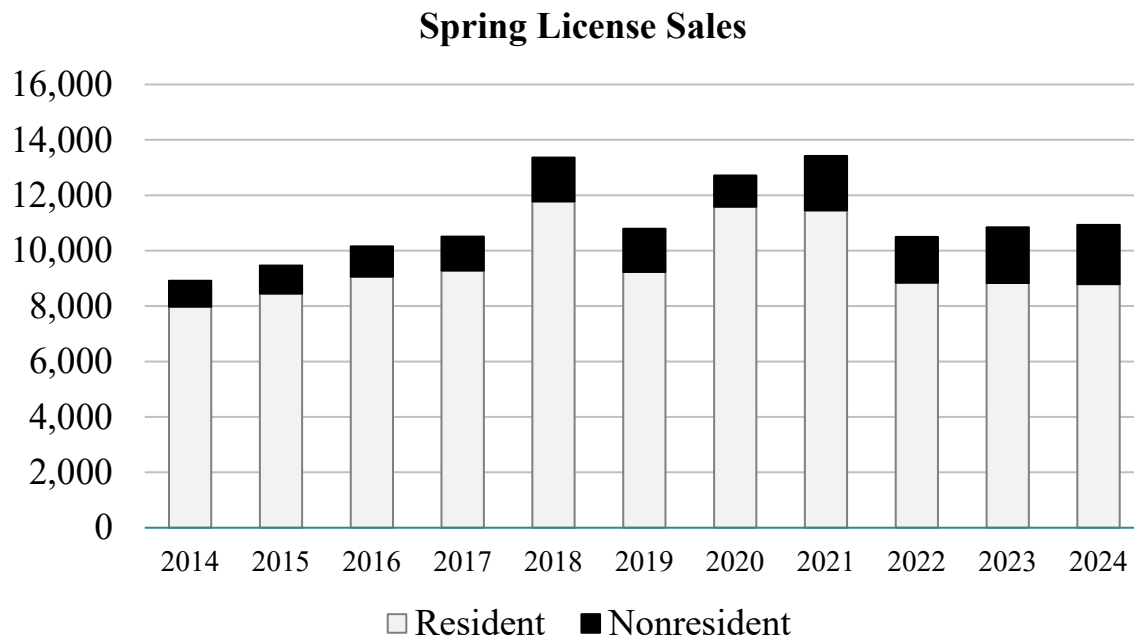


Figure: New Mexico wild turkey fall license sales

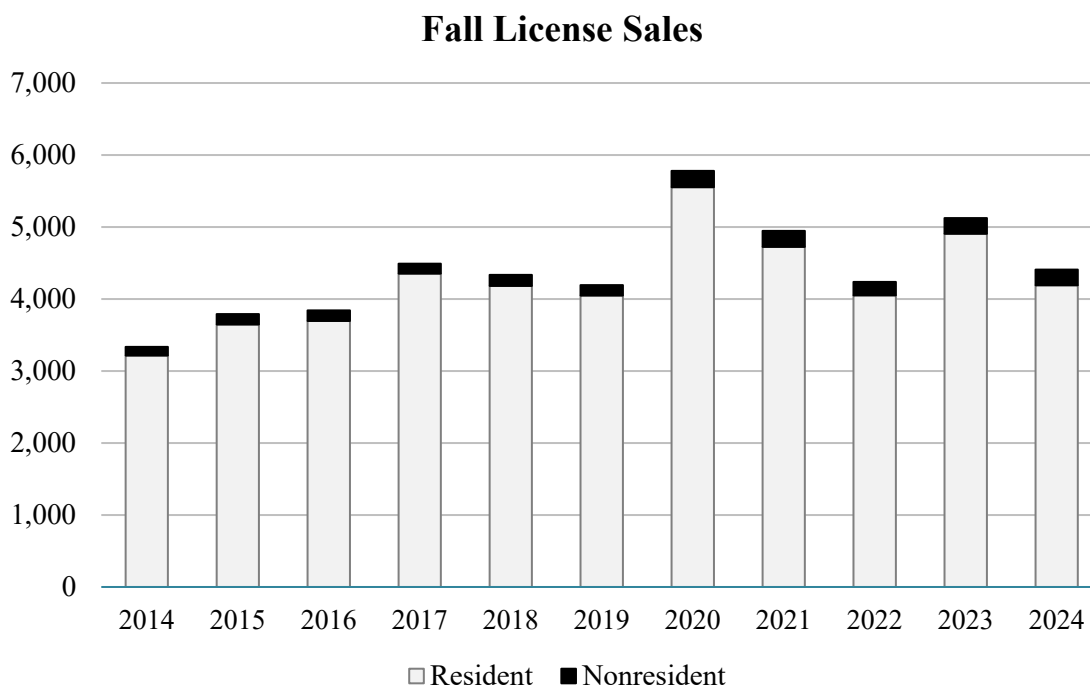


Figure: New Mexico wild turkey spring harvest

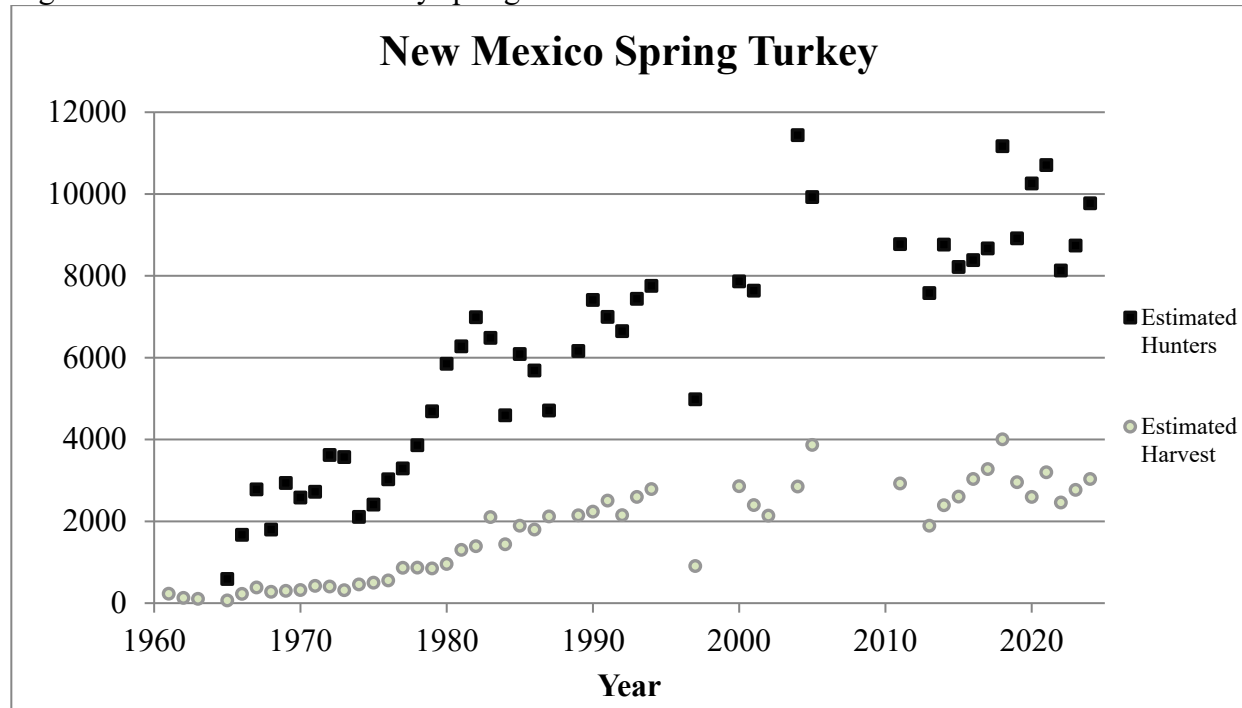


Figure: New Mexico wild turkey fall harvest

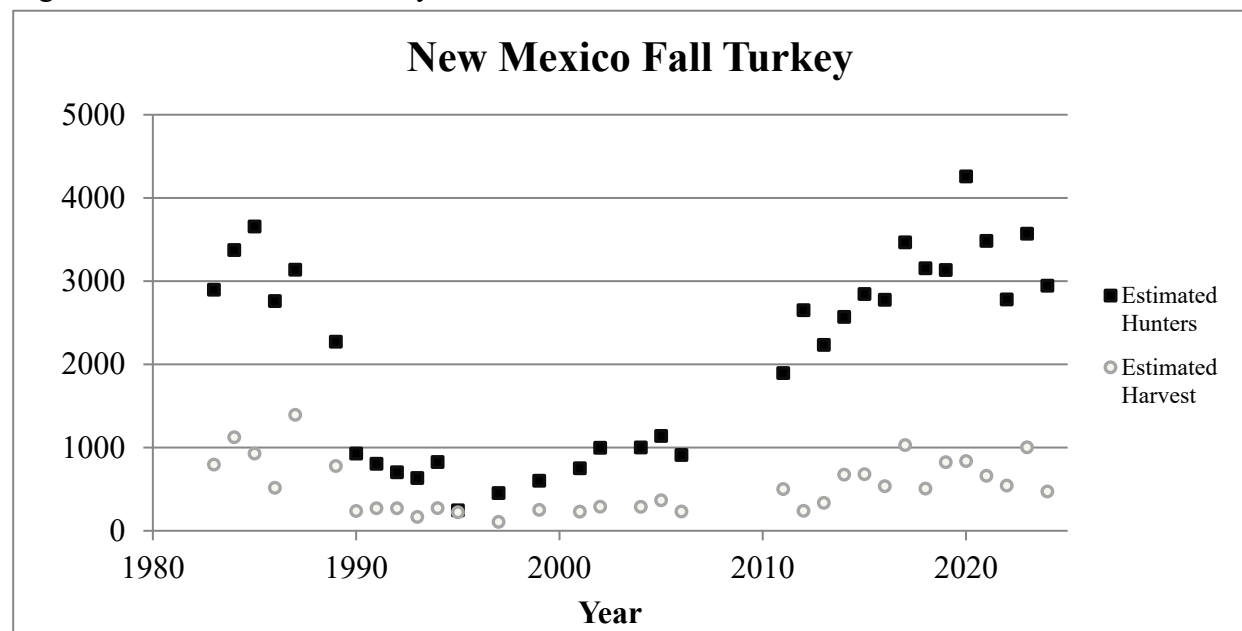


Table: Summary of harvest for spring and fall hunting seasons in New Mexico, 2011–2024.

Year	# of Spring License Holders Reporting	Reported Spring Harvest	Estimated Total Spring Harvest	# of Fall License Holders Reporting	Reported Fall Harvest	Estimated Total Fall Harvest
2011*	1,094	624	2,926	286	45	502
2012*	1,800	540	n/a	957	240	n/a
2013	6,782	1,459	1,894	2,221	258	335
2014	7,297	1,960	2,395	2,742	555	675
2015	7,823	2,155	2,607	3,101	556	680
2016	7,827	2,339	3,036	3,062	427	536
2017	8,362	2,611	3,281	3,696	848	1,030
2018	8,473	2,541	4,007	3,267	383	508
2019	8,093	2,220	2,960	3,329	654	824
2020	12,717	2,125	2,600	4,839	701	837
2021	10,156	2,422	3,201	4,105	512	661
2022	8,313	1,839	2,462	3,585	460	544
2023	8,392	2,019	2,769	4,308	843	1,003
2024	8,266	2,232	3,037	3,703	397	473

* Online reporting was not mandatory in 2011 or 2012.

Figure: New Mexico wild turkey fall harvest

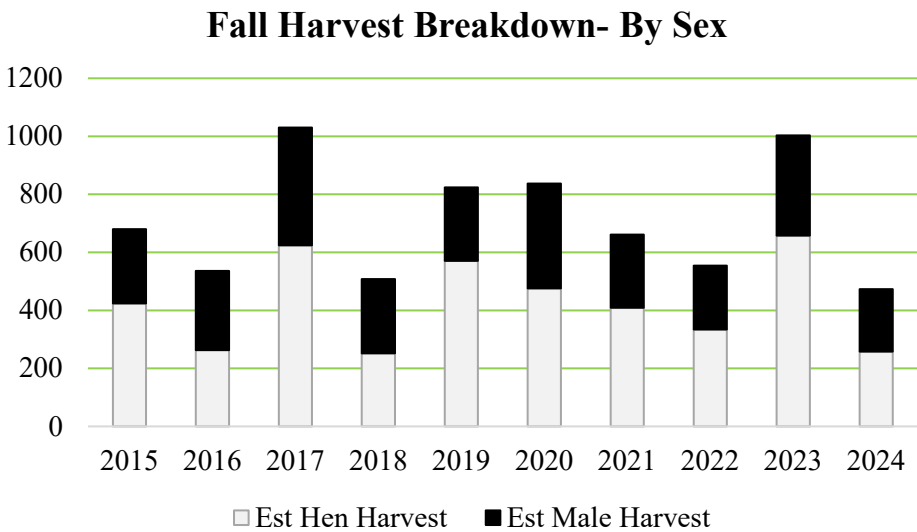


Table: Summary of GMUs with highest hen harvest, 2015–2024.

GMU	5-Year Average	10-Year Average
Statewide	427	427
34	105	102
16	44	48
6	41	38
36	25	27
45	23	21
24	13	19
9	11	15
10	12	15
15	14	15
51	24	14
5	16	11

2024 Spring Harvest Report Summaries

<i>GMU</i>	<i>Hunters</i>	<i>Days Hunted</i>	<i>Harvest</i>	<i>First Harvest</i>	<i>Success on First Turkey</i>	<i>Second Turkey</i>	<i>% of Beards >4"</i>	<i>Hunter Rating</i>
1*	17	72	1	1	6%		100%	3.7
2	260	836	125	103	40%	22	80%	3.7
3*	4	13			0%			2.8
4	115	398	47	39	34%	8	83%	3.6
5	192	683	35	31	16%	4	57%	3.2
6	668	2,247	100	83	12%	17	82%	3.2
7	25	102	10	7	28%	3	60%	3.7
8**	10	42	4	3	30%	1	50%	4.4
9	156	669	33	27	17%	6	76%	3.3
10	264	1,135	44	35	13%	9	82%	3.2
12	18	94			0%			3.6
13	59	231	12	11	19%	1	75%	3.8
14	299	1,070	49	44	15%	5	73%	3.2
15	368	1,495	105	85	23%	20	78%	3.5
16	667	2,548	233	183	27%	50	80%	3.9
17	121	346	39	22	18%	17	67%	3.5
18	65	287	20	17	26%	3	65%	3.5
19**	7	31	1	1	14%		0%	3.9
20	35	84	11	10	29%	1	100%	3.5
21	100	281	22	18	18%	4	57%	3.4
22	17	57	8	6	35%	2	88%	3.7
23	177	610	68	46	26%	22	81%	3.4
24	262	1,044	90	72	27%	18	86%	3.4
26**	2	7			0%			3.0
27	6	13	4	4	67%		100%	4.5
28**	2	6			0%			5.0
30**	8	23	1	1	13%		0%	3.3
31**	3	6			0%			3.7
32	54	172	28	23	43%	5	71%	3.6
33	2	4			0%			4.0
34	1,138	4,038	340	272	24%	68	88%	3.4
35*	4	14	3	2	50%	1	100%	4.3
36	400	1,415	131	103	26%	28	89%	3.5
37	150	453	51	40	27%	11	80%	3.6
38	41	112	7	5	12%	2	86%	3.3
39	46	109	22	19	41%	3	86%	3.8
40	11	43	3	3	27%		100%	3.2
41	10	28	3	3	30%		100%	3.3
42	73	195	33	26	36%	7	70%	3.6
43	55	217	13	12	22%	1	54%	3.3
44	2	10			0%			5.0
45	431	1,616	100	84	19%	16	89%	3.4
46	75	340	36	32	43%	4	78%	3.6
47	31	92	6	5	16%	1	100%	3.6
48	63	228	23	18	29%	5	96%	3.8
49	168	711	47	39	23%	8	89%	3.6
50	3	9			0%			2.3
51	240	830	68	53	22%	15	88%	3.7
52	83	271	23	19	23%	4	83%	3.7
53	73	326	17	15	21%	2	88%	3.7
54	16	60	10	8	50%	2	100%	4.5
55	166	443	128	85	51%	43	90%	4.6
56	21	57	9	6	29%	3	100%	3.6
57	58	162	37	27	47%	10	89%	3.7
58	29	63	18	14	48%	4	89%	4.0
59	15	33	13	9	60%	4	69%	3.8
UNK	6	52	1	1	17%			3.0
TOTAL	7,392	26,533	2,232	1,772	24%	460	83%	3.5

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2024 Fall Harvest Report Summaries

GMU	Hunters	Days Hunted	Harvest	Success Rates	Hunter Rating	<u>Sex of Harvest</u>		<u>Harvest Month</u>	
						Hens	Gobblers	Sept	Nov
1*	8	22	1	13%	3.3	1			1
2	54	171	20	37%	3.5	5	15	2	18
3*	1	3		0%	4.0				
4	13	54		0%	3.4				
5	76	298	7	9%	3.0	5	2	1	5
6	286	943	36	13%	3.2	23	13	3	30
7	5	13		0%	4.4				
8**	1	1	1	100%	4.0	1			1
9	67	306	14	21%	3.3	9	5	3	10
10	114	466	18	16%	3.2	7	11	4	13
12	10	37		0%	2.7				
13	39	198	2	5%	2.9		2		2
14**	18	63		0%	3.3				
15	136	606	19	14%	3.2	9	10	4	15
16	316	1,343	60	19%	3.1	33	27	11	49
17	62	205	12	19%	3.1	8	4	1	11
18**	7	14	1	14%	2.7		1		1
20	16	59	2	13%	2.9	1	1		2
21	39	138	3	8%	3.0	2	1	0	3
22	11	34	3	27%	3.3	1	2	1	2
23	80	302	13	16%	3.5	6	7	2	11
24	99	314	21	21%	3.3	7	14	1	20
27**	3	6	1	33%	2.7	1			1
29	1	5		0%	5.0				
30**	2	4		0%	3.5				
31**	1	2		0%	1.0				
32	10	17	2	20%	3.4		2		2
33**	1	1		0%	2.0				
34	409	1,391	64	16%	3.4	44	20	1	58
35*	1	2		0%	2.0				
36	97	341	11	11%	3.1	6	5		10
37	51	255	1	2%	2.9	1			
38**	3	7	1	33%	4.3		1		1
39	10	18	6	60%	3.7	3	3		5
40	1	2	1	100%	4.0	1			1
41	2	2	2	100%	4.0		2		2
42	9	36	6	67%	3.7	2	4	1	5
43	20	82	2	10%	3.1		2		2
44	1	1		0%	5.0				
45	131	579	14	11%	3.1	8	6	2	11
46	8	26	1	13%	3.3	1			1
47	4	11		0%	3.5				
48	22	95	6	27%	3.6	5	1	2	4
49**	12	41	2	17%	3.8	1	1		2
50**	4	17		0%	2.5				
51	120	424	29	24%	3.4	16	13	1	28
52	64	331	4	6%	3.1	4		2	1
53**	4	9	2	50%	4.8	1	1	1	1
54	2	6	1	50%	4.0		1		1
55	9	52	2	22%	3.6	1	1	0	2
56	3	3	3	100%	5	2	1	1	2
57	7	39	1	14%	3		1		1
59	4	8	2	50%	4.3	2			2
TOTAL	2,474	9,403	397	16%	3.2	217	180	44	337

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2023 Spring Harvest Report Summaries

<i>GMU</i>	<i>Hunters</i>	<i>Days Hunted</i>	<i>Harvest</i>	<i>First Harvest</i>	<i>Success on First Turkey</i>	<i>Second Turkey</i>	<i>% of Beards >4"</i>	<i>Hunter Rating</i>
1*	20	79	2	2	10%		2	3.0
2	270	894	105	85	31%	20	86	3.5
3*	4	13						3.0
4	128	357	51	38	30%	13	44	3.5
5	209	704	35	31	15%	4	29	3.1
6	683	2,363	85	73	11%	12	67	3.2
7	17	39	8	5	29%	3	8	3.5
8**	13	57	1	1	8%		1	3.5
9	184	746	22	19	10%	3	19	3.3
10	287	1,377	51	43	15%	8	42	3.2
11*	2	10						4.0
12	12	82	1	1	8%	1	1	3.6
13	79	292	11	10	13%	1	9	3.2
14	323	1,137	73	60	19%	13	62	3.3
15	335	1,387	63	54	16%	9	51	3.1
16	617	2,433	139	117	19%	22	108	3.4
17	96	362	22	18	19%	4	20	3.0
18	83	355	27	22	27%	5	18	3.4
19**	1	4						2.0
20	48	152	18	15	31%	3	13	3.5
21	66	210	10	9	14%	1	7	2.8
22	10	35	2	2	20%		1	3.0
23	148	590	47	38	26%	9	38	3.3
24	248	1006	75	61	25%	14	63	3.3
26**	1	5						5.0
27	4	7	4	4	100%		4	4.5
28**	1	6						3.0
29	1	3						5.0
30**	10	31	5	5	50%		5	3.1
31**	6	23						2.7
32	60	206	30	22	37%	8	27	3.6
33	4	6						2.5
34	1200	4,268	310	246	21%	64	254	3.4
35*	7	26	3	3	43%		3	3.6
36	363	1,278	112	91	25%	21	97	3.5
37	149	524	47	41	28%	6	43	3.5
38	43	157	1	1	2%		1	3.3
39	56	143	27	20	36%	7	25	3.6
40	21	40	12	10	48%	2	11	3.6
41	10	22	5	5	50%		5	3.7
42	96	236	52	44	46%	8	46	3.8
43	63	241	12	10	16%	2	12	3.1
44	2	7						2.0
45	425	1,714	104	83	20%	21	88	3.3
46	85	299	46	40	47%	6	39	4.0
47	39	128	16	14	36%	2	15	3.8
48	78	267	27	19	24%	8	22	3.3
49	189	833	74	55	29%	19	63	3.7
50	5	12						3.4
51	225	804	55	49	22%	6	17	3.3
52	76	268	17	14	18%	3	15	3.5
53	58	266	21	16	28%	5	17	3.8
54	24	45	15	9	38%	6	14	4.2
55	135	299	99	77	57%	22	91	4.3
56	23	53	13	10	43%	3	13	4.1
57	59	144	34	22	37%	12	31	3.8
58	32	90	18	15	47%	3	16	4.4
59	20	52	12	10	50%	2	11	3.9
UNK	7	34						4.0
TOTAL	6,597	27,261	2,019	1,639	24.8%	380	1,703	3.4

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2023 Fall Harvest Report Summaries

GMU	Hunters	Days Hunted	Harvest	Success Rates	Hunter Rating	Sex of Harvest		Harvest Month	
						Hens	Gobblers	Sept	Nov
1*	13	44	1	8%	2.7		1		1
2	67	242	28	42%	3.7	9	19	2	22
3*	2	8		0%	1.0				
4	16	40	3	19%	2.8	2	1	1	2
5	121	438	43	36%	3.8	30	13	6	36
6	325	1,122	64	20%	3.4	45	19	3	59
7	6	13	1	17%	2.2		1		1
8**	2	4		0%	3.0				
9	92	401	13	14%	3.2	10	3	2	12
10	143	616	20	14%	3.2	16	4		18
11*	1	5	1	100%	5.0		1		1
12	12	34	4	33%	4.0	3	1	2	2
13	57	268	8	14%	3.4	5	3		8
14**	15	33	7	47%	3.4	5	2	1	6
15	156	644	40	26%	3.4	23	17	3	37
16	337	1,375	111	33%	3.8	81	30	9	99
17	68	240	21	31%	3.4	13	8	2	19
18**	7	17		0%	3.7				
19**	3	13		0%	1.3				
20	21	38	9	43%	3.5	6	3		9
21	45	149	13	29%	3.8	10	3	2	11
22	22	82	9	41%	4.3	7	2		7
23	116	430	40	34%	3.7	27	13	7	33
24	116	363	41	35%	3.8	30	11	3	37
27**	3	16	1	33%	4.3		1		1
31**	1	3		0%	4.0				
32	18	47	5	28%	4.1		5	2	3
33**	1	1		0%	4.0				
34	478	1,615	145	30%	3.5	94	51	8	134
35*	4	11	1	25%	5.0	1			1
36	162	544	58	36%	3.5	40	18	7	49
37	50	180	4	8%	3.2	3	1		4
38**	8	16	2	25%	4.0	2			2
39	13	37	7	54%	3.4	1	6		7
40	6	29	5	83%	3.3	5			5
41	1	1		0%	3.0				
42	24	58	6	25%	3.7	3	3		6
43	16	48	4	25%	3.4	3	1		4
45	209	845	46	22%	3.4	32	14	2	41
46	10	27	3	30%	3.5	3			3
47	8	22	3	38%	4.4	2	1		3
48	26	99	3	12%	3.4	2	1	1	2
49**	6	27	2	33%	3.3		2		2
50**	2	14		0%	1.5				
51	166	684	46	28%	3.6	27	19	2	42
52	67	336	9	13%	3.6	6	3	4	5
53**	6	44	1	17%	4.2	1		1	
54	2	6		0%	3.0				
55	16	50	8	50%	4.3	3	5	4	4
56	4	19	1	25%	4.0	1			1
57	8	20	2	25%	3.6	2			2
58	2	3	1	50%	5.0		1		1
59	3	10	3	100%	3.7		3		2
UNK	6	23	0	0%	3.7	0	0	1	0
TOTAL	3,001	11,454	843	28.1%	3.5	553	290	74	742

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2022 Spring Harvest Report Summaries

GMU	Hunters	Days Hunted	Harvest	First Harvest	Success on First Turkey	Second Turkey	% of Beards >4"	Hunter Rating
1*	21	91	3	3	14%		33	3.4
2	244	860	85	69	28%	16	79	3.6
3*	4	12	0	0	0%		0	2
4	92	267	46	39	42%	7	78	3.8
5	211	720	35	29	14%	6	74	3.3
6	658	2,201	77	62	9%	15	82	3.1
7	20	51	5	4	20%	1	100	3.9
8**	16	81	7	7	44%		100	3.5
9	198	667	26	24	12%	2	77	3.1
10	305	1,387	40	33	11%	7	93	3
11	1	2	0	0	0%		0	3
12	15	57	4	4	27%		100	3.6
13	69	300	13	11	16%	2	85	3.4
14	283	979	45	35	12%	10	78	3.2
15	325	1,385	56	51	16%	5	96	3.1
16	656	2,541	167	136	21%	31	88	3.3
17	126	414	27	23	18%	4	59	3.1
18	77	339	19	15	19%	4	42	3.3
19**	5	19	2	2	40%		50	3.2
20	50	115	22	15	30%	7	95	3.9
21	92	309	26	18	20%	8	92	3.1
22	21	75	7	5	24%	2	71	3
23	124	529	35	29	23%	6	91	3.1
24	237	944	42	34	14%	8	83	3.1
25**	1	1	0	0	0%		0	3
26**	1	1	0	0	0%		0	1
27**	4	15	1	1	25%		100	4.3
28**	1	3	0	0	0%		0	1
30**	8	20	4	4	50%		100	4.4
31**	4	13	0	0	0%		0	3.3
32	55	150	20	13	24%	7	75	3.3
33*	9	28	2	2	22%		50	4.1
34	1,185	4,017	305	236	20%	69	84	3.4
35*	11	39	1	1	9%		100	3.3
36	300	1,133	96	73	24%	23	89	3.5
37	130	439	43	37	28%	6	86	3.3
38	41	113	2	2	5%		100	3.4
39	55	120	27	21	38%	6	81	3.5
40	21	59	11	8	38%	3	100	3.5
41	13	22	5	4	31%	1	80	3.5
42	81	174	48	33	41%	15	75	4
43	63	187	16	13	21%	3	81	3.2
44	3	10	0	0	0%		0	2.7
45	392	1,314	85	70	18%	15	91	3.3
46	71	214	27	20	28%	7	89	3.3
47	47	137	16	15	32%	1	100	3.6
48	44	161	14	12	27%	2	71	3.5
49	158	656	53	42	27%	11	30	3.5
50	2	7	0	0	0%		0	3.5
51	263	985	62	52	20%	10	71	3.3
52	72	298	15	12	17%	3	93	3.2
53	66	271	12	8	12%	4	92	2.9
54	16	47	9	6	38%	3	89	4.2
55	108	253	67	50	46%	17	90	3.9
56	19	60	12	9	47%	3	75	3.8
57	79	210	42	31	39%	11	67	3.7
58	45	106	39	32	71%	7	82	4.3
59	25	63	16	12	48%	4	81	4.2
UNK	3	45	0	0	0%		0	1.3
TOTAL	6,441	25,716	1,839	1,467	22.8%	372	83%	3.3

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2022 Fall Harvest Report Summaries

GMU	Hunters	Days Hunted	Harvest	Success Rates	Hunter Rating	<u>Sex of Harvest</u>		<u>Harvest Month</u>	
						Hens	Gobblers	Sept	Nov
1*	10	25	0	0%	2.5				
2	55	209	19	35%	3.3	8	11	2	17
3	1	2	1	100%	3		1		1
4	14	44	5	36%	3.8	5			3
5	89	364	14	16%	3.4	7	7	2	12
6	317	1,031	42	13%	3.3	25	17	3	37
7	8	20	3	38%	3.9		3		3
9	87	321	2	2%	3	2			2
10	115	520	17	15%	3	10	7	2	14
12	11	43	0	0%	2.4				
13	22	113	1	5%	3.2	1			1
14**	12	20	0	0%	2.2				
15	136	503	26	19%	3.1	15	11	1	25
16	213	861	45	21%	3.2	29	16	4	36
17	59	162	8	14%	2.9	6	2	1	7
18**	3	14	0	0%	2				
19**	1	8	0	0%	3				
20**	3	5	2	67%	3	1	1		2
21	31	127	2	6%	3.1	0	2	1	1
22	18	57	4	22%	3.2	2	2		4
23	58	241	11	19%	3.5	4	7	3	8
24	82	322	17	21%	3.4	10	7		17
26**	2	7	1	50%	4	1			1
30**	8	19	0	0%	3				
31**	2	13	0	0%	2				
32	20	56	6	30%	3.5	4	2		6
34	444	1,525	106	24%	3.5	81	25	5	92
35*	2	9	0	0%	3				
36	104	387	28	27%	3.4	22	6	2	25
37	51	185	9	18%	3.3	5	4		9
38**	9	47	0	0%	3.9				
39	9	14	4	44%	3.2		4	1	3
41	2	11	1	50%	4	1			1
42	16	34	9	56%	3.8		9	1	8
43**	5	10	0	0%	3.4				
45	146	534	25	17%	3.3	14	11	1	24
46	15	60	1	7%	2.9	1			1
47	10	30	1	10%	3.7	1			1
48	19	105	3	16%	3.2	1	2	1	2
49**	8	17	1	13%	2.9	1			1
50**	4	15	0	0%	1.8				
51	126	400	26	21%	3.4	18	8	1	24
52	60	263	9	15%	3.5	3	6	1	7
53**	7	20	1	14%	3.6	1			1
54	8	22	0	0%	2.4				
55	7	16	4	57%	4.9	1	3	0	4
56	2	7	1	50%	5		1		1
57	9	31	4	44%	4.1	2	2		4
59	3	6	1	33%	4		1		1
UNK	1	1	0	0%	2				
TOTAL	2,351	8,856	460	19.6%	2.2	282	178	34	426

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2021 Spring Harvest Report Summaries

GMU	Hunters	Days Hunted	Harvest	First Harvest	Success on First Turkey	Second Turkey	% of Beards >4"	Hunter Rating
1*	45	178	5	5	11%		5	3.2
2	284	1059	99	85	30%	14	76	3.6
3*	4	11	0	0	0%			2.8
4	103	321	36	29	28%	7	27	3.6
5	225	832	37	34	15%	3	34	3.3
6	917	3578	113	97	11%	16	85	3.2
7	17	58	3	3	18%		1	3.2
8**	11	82	1	1	9%		1	3.2
9	232	937	34	29	13%	5	26	3.1
10	416	1761	83	72	17%	11	79	3.3
11	7	31	0	0	0%			2.3
12	19	57	5	4	21%	1	4	3.4
13	73	233	13	13	18%	0	11	3.5
14	365	1366	60	52	14%	8	52	3.2
15	377	1604	87	69	18%	18	76	3.3
16	761	2947	192	158	21%	34	176	3.4
17	160	481	40	34	21%	6	37	3.2
18	95	343	33	26	27%	7	19	3.4
19**	7	39	0	0	0%			3.4
20	58	194	21	14	24%	7	15	3.6
21	130	468	37	31	24%	6	35	3.4
22	27	94	14	10	37%	4	14	3.3
23	166	697	49	38	23%	11	47	3.3
24	298	1214	72	57	19%	15	68	3.2
25**	2	11	1	1	50%		1	4.0
26**	1	8	1	1	100%		1	4.0
28**	1	8	0	0	0%			2.0
30**	11	29	4	3	27%	1	4	3.6
31**	6	18	0	0	0%			2.7
32	92	229	48	35	38%	13	35	4.0
33*	7	23	3	3	43%		1	3.7
34	1333	4545	317	261	20%	56	286	3.3
35*	10	31	0	0	0%			2.4
36	437	1563	142	110	25%	32	133	3.6
37	197	661	66	47	24%	19	64	3.7
38	71	220	17	14	20%	3	14	3.5
39	52	148	23	20	38%	3	18	3.6
40	35	100	20	15	43%	5	14	3.9
41	13	21	5	5	38%	0	4	3.5
42	135	291	78	51	38%	27	72	3.9
43	76	293	29	23	30%	6	23	3.6
44	4	20	0	0	0%			2.8
45	552	2199	123	103	19%	20	106	3.4
46	136	458	60	49	36%	11	56	3.9
47	51	111	20	12	24%	8	20	3.9
48	72	246	16	14	19%	2	16	3.3
49	190	856	59	44	23%	15	51	3.6
50	10	20	3	2	20%	1	3	4.2
51	323	1192	53	41	13%	12	46	3.3
52	86	319	20	16	19%	4	16	3.4
53	63	308	20	18	29%	2	20	3.3
54	30	63	23	14	47%	9	21	4.5
55	125	326	79	56	45%	23	72	4.3
56	35	102	18	13	37%	5	17	4.1
57	106	329	57	43	41%	14	54	3.8
58	71	127	56	34	48%	22	51	4.3
59	32	66	21	19	59%	2	19	3.9
UNK	8	5	6	4	50%	2	5	3.5
TOTAL	8,104	33,531	2,422	1,932	23.8%	490	88%	3.4

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2021 Fall Harvest Report Summaries

GMU	Hunters	Days Hunted	Harvest	Success Rates	Hunter Rating	Sex of Harvest		Harvest Month	
						Hens	Gobblers	Sept	Nov
1*	15	51	1	7%	3.1	1	0	0	1
2	54	159	13	24%	3.2	7	6	3	9
3	1	1	1	100%	3.0		1		
4	12	60	4	33%	3.8	2	2	1	3
5	125	456	17	14%	3.1	8	9	3	13
6	415	1444	60	14%	3.3	34	26	0	19
7	8	31	2	25%	2.5	1	1		1
8**	1	1	0	0%	2.0				
9	125	509	20	16%	3.4	12	8	5	15
10	153	710	20	13%	3.2	14	6	1	19
11	2	4	0	0%	3.5				
12	10	33	1	10%	3.2		1		
13	38	173	2	5%	3.1	1	1		2
14**	19	56	2	11%	3.0	1	1	0	2
15	136	676	17	13%	3.1	10	7	1	15
16	281	1086	42	15%	3.1	27	15	2	40
17	74	312	6	8%	3.0	2	4		6
18**	5	20	1	20%	2.4	1			1
19**	3	8	0	0%	3.3				
20**	2	5	0	0%	3.0				
21	37	135	6	16%	2.7	4	2	0	6
22	10	46	2	20%	3.5	2			2
23	59	222	8	14%	3.0	5	3	2	6
24	89	351	7	8%	3.3	3	4		6
31**	1	2	0	0%	3.0			2	10
32	35	81	14	40%	3.6	12	2	0	1
34	498	1634	117	23%	3.4	81	36	5	108
35	3	2	1	33%	3.0	0	1	0	1
36	146	595	38	26%	3.5	22	16	3	35
37	64	256	2	3%	2.8	1	1	1	1
38**	1	5	0	0%	5.0				
39	11	25	2	18%	2.8	1	1		2
40	14	37	4	29%	3.8		4	1	3
41	5	8	1	20%	3.0		1		1
42	22	75	10	45%	4.0	6	4		10
43**	12	49	3	25%	3.3	1	2		3
45	200	875	30	15%	3.5	20	10	5	24
46	28	72	3	11%	3.3	3			3
47	8	17	3	38%	4.5	3			3
48	28	134	4	14%	3.1	1	3	1	3
49**	12	44	2	17%	3.3	1	1	1	1
50**	5	26	0	0%	3.2				
51	138	464	23	17%	3.3	12	11	3	17
52	67	295	6	9%	3.2	6		3	3
53**	8	43	1	13%	3.5	1			1
54	7	22	2	29%	3.7	2		1	
55	14	34	6	43%	3.6	4	2	1	5
56	3	6	0	0%	3.3				
57	12	54	5	42%	4.1	5			5
58	4	6	1	25%	4.0		1		1
59	4	7	2	50%	4.5		2		2
TOTAL	2,891	11,434	512	17.7%	3.3	317	195	49	442

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2020 Spring Harvest Report Summaries

<i>GMU</i>	<i>Hunters</i>	<i>Days Hunted</i>	<i>Harvest</i>	<i>First Harvest</i>	<i>Success on First Turkey</i>	<i>Second Turkey</i>	<i>% of Beards >4"</i>	<i>Hunter Rating</i>
1*	38	100	3	3	78%	0	100	2.8
2	312	1,205	108	92	30%	16	61.1	3.4
3*	6	19	2	1	17%	1	100	4.2
4	118	411	32	31	26%	1	90.6	3.4
5	241	799	35	31	13%	4	62.9	3.1
6	847	3,283	75	65	8%	10	78.7	3.0
7	16	51	6	5	31%	1	66.7	4.1
8**	18	113	1	1	6%		100	3.1
9	275	1,060	32	27	10%	5	65.6	3.1
10	385	1,784	38	31	8%	7	55.3	2.9
11	4	9	0		0%			1.8
12	25	70	0		0%			2.7
13	82	289	9	8	10%	1	44.4	3.1
14	369	1,369	46	41	11%	5	63.0	3.1
15	402	1,821	57	49	12%	8	63.2	3.0
16	869	3,436	169	142	16%	27	80.0	3.2
17	171	646	28	22	13%	6	67.9	3.1
18	93	379	28	24	26%	4	75	3.4
19**	3	8	1	1	33%		0	3.33
20	34	97	16	14	41%	2	87.5	3.8
21	119	426	21	19	16%	2	100	3.1
22	24	110	4	4	17%	0	100	2.9
23	164	635	42	34	21%	8	64.3	3.0
24	366	1,537	79	68	19%	11	87.3	3.2
26**	2	9	0		0%			2.0
27**	3	5	1	1	33%		100	2.7
29	1	1	0		0%			2.0
30**	10	31	0		0%			2.5
31**	3	12	0		0%			3.0
32	82	220	45	33	40%	12	68.9	3.7
33*	4	12	1	1	25%		100	2.5
34	1578	5,872	321	270	17%	51	81.6	3.3
35	13	40	4	2	15%	2	50	3.5
36	470	1,896	152	121	26%	31	89.5	3.5
37	218	771	51	43	19%	8	82	3.2
38	38	114	5	4	11%	1	40	2.8
39	48	123	20	15	31%	5	75	3.3
40	33	87	12	8	24%	4	83.3	3.8
41	23	57	12	8	35%	4	58.3	3.3
42	155	349	96	69	45%	27	78.1	4.0
43	88	349	25	20	23%	5	84	3.3
44	2	5	0		0%			4.5
45	510	2,186	108	95	19%	13	76.9	3.4
46	139	564	60	48	35%	12	76.7	3.9
47	48	158	24	20	42%	4	83.3	3.6
48	83	330	23	20	24%	3	73.9	3.2
49	211	996	56	48	23%	8	87.5	3.4
50	11	38	0		0%			2.9
51	305	1,144	58	53	17%	5	77.6	3.3
52	110	419	23	19	17%	4	69.6	3.5
53	58	299	16	13	22%	3	100	3.7
54	8	15	5	4	50%	1	100	4.5
55	71	228	38	32	45%	6	78.9	4.1
56	42	95	26	17	41%	9	96.2	3.8
57	87	268	56	40	46%	16	78.6	4.0
58	34	96	25	17	50%	8	96	4.4
59	39	86	27	19	49%	8	88.8	3.9
UNK	7	11	3	2	29%	1	66.7	3.7
TOTAL	9,515	36,543	2,125	1,755	20.9%	370	78	3.3

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2020 Fall Harvest Report Summaries

GMU	Hunters	Days Hunted	Harvest	Success Rates	Hunter Rating	Sex of Harvest		Harvest Month	
						Hens	Gobblers	Sept	Nov
1*	16	51	2	13%	3.0	0	0	0	0
2	73	273	18	25%	3.5	5	13	2	14
3	2	4	0	0%	2.5				
4	17	60	6	35%	3.6	5	1		6
5	133	485	25	19%	3.5	15	10		23
6	481	1,995	58	12%	3.2	43	15	7	48
7	9	37	2	22%	3.6	1	1	1	1
8**	5	13	1	20%	3.2	1			1
9	147	601	22	15%	3.2	13	9	3	19
10	168	883	4	2%	2.8	4		1	2
11	2	5	0	0%	4.0				
12	22	89	1	5%	2.6	1			1
13	42	183	1	2%	2.5	1			1
14**	19	91	2	11%	2.8	2			2
15	160	743	9	6%	2.9	3	6	3	6
16	363	1,653	23	6%	2.9	14	9	4	18
17	89	337	10	11%	2.8	6	4	2	8
18**	8	24	0	0%	2.8				
20**	5	8	1	20%	2.0		1		1
21	57	233	8	14%	3.2	4	4		8
22	20	94	4	20%	3.3	1	3		3
23	83	375	15	18%	3	7	8		14
24	115	436	11	10%	3.1	6	5	1	10
31**	2	2	0	0%					
32	45	118	23	51%	3.8	14	9	1	21
34	668	2,335	205	31%	3.6	133	72	8	187
35	4	11	0	0%					
36	175	690	36	21%	3.4	16	20	9	25
37	86	314	10	12%	2.8	3	7		10
38**	9	24	0	0%	3.4				
39	10	34	2	20%	2.8		2		2
40	16	42	12	75%	3.9	7	5		12
41	9	19	5	56%	3.8	2	3	1	3
42	54	141	43	80%	4.4	16	27	1	42
43**	7	36	0	0%	3.9				
44	2	10	0	0%	3.5				
45	212	813	34	16%	3.4	20	14	3	28
46	41	168	15	37%	3.8	5	10	2	12
47	17	39	6	35%	4.2	1	5		5
48	50	217	15	30%	3.3	7	8	1	12
49**	8	31	2	25%	3.9	1	1		2
50**	7	22	3	43%	4.3	3			3
51	163	622	43	26%	3.4	27	16	1	41
52	64	275	6	9%	3.3	5	1	3	2
53**	6	35	3	50%	4	2	1	1	2
54	7	28	0	0%	2.7				
55	13	38	3	23%	2.8	2	1	0	3
56	3	8	0	0%	3.3				
57	25	99	8	32%	3.9	1	7	1	7
58	7	28	2	29%	4.0	1	1	2	
59	2	11	1	50%	3.0		1		1
TOTAL	3,565	14,901	701	19.7%	2.4	399	302	58	608

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2019 Spring Harvest Report Summaries

<i>GMU</i>	<i>Hunters</i>	<i>Days Hunted</i>	<i>Harvest</i>	<i>First Harvest</i>	<i>Success on First Turkey</i>	<i>Second Turkey</i>	<i>% of Beards >4"</i>	<i>Hunter Rating</i>
1*	23	60	2	1	4%	1	50%	3.0
2	240	841	79	65	27%	14	81%	3.6
3	3	7			0%			4.0
4	122	335	52	40	33%	12	83%	3.8
5	129	414	26	23	18%	3	89%	3.1
6	700	2,523	64	58	8%	6	87%	3.1
7	17	41	7	5	29%	2	86%	3.8
8	16	85	3	3	19%		100%	3.6
9	203	728	19	16	8%	3	84%	3.0
10	304	1,225	47	40	13%	7	96%	3.1
12	19	83	3	3	16%		67%	3.3
13	45	145	4	4	9%		75%	2.9
14	280	980	48	40	14%	8	88%	3.1
15	334	1,326	54	48	14%	6	91%	3.1
16	703	2,592	196	156	22%	40	94%	3.5
17	100	301	30	25	25%	5	87%	3.1
18	46	137	10	10	22%		90%	3.1
19**	4	16			0%			4.5
20	36	67	19	15	42%	4	100%	3.9
21	107	373	28	25	23%	3	96%	3.1
22	13	43	3	2	15%	1	100%	3.5
23	138	591	44	37	27%	7	91%	3.4
24	301	1,052	110	85	28%	25	91%	3.6
25**	2	5			0%			1.5
26**	3	12			0%			3.0
27**	5	8	3	2	40%	1	100%	4.6
29	2	11			0%			3.5
30**	4	7	4	3	75%	1	100%	5.0
31**	3	4	1	1	33%		100%	4.0
32	58	148	28	21	36%	7	86%	4.0
33*	3	10	1	1	33%		100%	4.0
34	1,207	3,945	350	282	23%	68	94%	3.6
35	13	43	2	2	15%		50%	3.5
36	335	1,136	132	101	30%	31	95%	3.6
37	162	532	49	41	25%	8	94%	3.6
38	17	46			0%			3.5
39	40	91	24	19	48%	5	83%	3.7
40	35	69	19	15	43%	4	89%	3.8
41	20	32	16	12	60%	4	94%	3.9
42	121	274	87	62	51%	25	84%	4.2
43	71	212	20	17	24%	3	90%	3.4
44	4	11			0%			3.3
45	473	1,687	132	105	22%	27	97%	3.5
46	121	435	64	47	39%	17	86%	4.2
47	50	108	26	21	42%	5	88%	3.7
48	60	212	21	19	32%	2	90%	3.6
49	149	658	48	39	26%	9	90%	3.8
50	4	10			0%			3.0
51	211	746	51	44	21%	7	79%	3.4
52	69	213	15	14	20%	1	87%	3.4
53	49	212	13	11	22%	2	92%	3.8
54	24	69	13	10	42%	3	92%	4.4
55	116	289	78	54	47%	24	96%	4.3
56	39	85	31	21	54%	10	94%	4.4
57	118	286	75	52	44%	23	93%	4.2
58	63	98	48	29	46%	19	100%	4.6
59	29	68	21	18	62%	3	90%	4.1
TOTAL	7,563	25,737	2,220	1,764	26.4%	456	91%	3.5

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2019 Fall Harvest Report Summaries

GMU	Hunters	Days Hunted	Harvest	Success Rates	Hunter Rating	Sex of Harvest		Harvest Month	
						Hens	Gobblers	Sept	Nov
1*	14	51	0	0%	3.0				
2	55	151	14	25%	3.6	5	9	2	12
4	4	10	4	100%	4.0		4		4
5	69	266	16	23%	3.3	11	5	1	15
6	255	965	32	13%	3.3	28	4	2	28
7	5	14	1	20%	2.0		1		1
8**	3	15	1	33%	3.7		1		1
9	112	422	17	15%	3.2	10	7	6	10
10	144	540	28	19%	3.3	20	8	3	25
11	2	9	0	0%	3.5				
12	14	33	3	21%	3.6	2	1		3
13	23	80	5	22%	3.5	2	3		4
14**	5	7	2	40%	3.2	1	1		2
15	140	523	43	31%	3.5	32	11	4	37
16	329	1,321	116	35%	3.7	87	29	16	93
17	42	103	16	38%	3.5	8	8	3	13
18**	2	7	0	0%	2.5				
19**	5	16	0	0%	4.4				
20**	2	4	0	0%	1.0				
21	51	184	9	18%	3.2	6	3	1	7
22	17	74	7	41%	4.1	4	3		7
23	63	230	18	29%	3.5	14	4	1	15
24	99	367	28	28%	3.5	22	6	1	26
30**	1	5	0	0%	3.0				
32	34	94	23	68%	4.1	17	6	1	22
34	426	1,453	114	27%	3.5	87	27	6	103
35	3	7	0	0%	3.3				
36	135	430	32	24%	3.5	21	11	3	28
37	96	284	23	24%	3.4	14	9	1	20
38**	5	21	1	20%	3.6	1			1
39	4	9	1	25%	3.5		1		1
40	7	28	5	71%	3.9	3	2		4
41	3	4	2	67%	5.0	2			2
42	39	67	26	67%	4.1	15	11		23
43**	8	25	2	25%	3.9	1	1	1	1
45	134	505	15	11%	3.0	14	1	1	14
46	14	52	3	21%	3.0	2	1	1	1
47	5	10	1	20%	2.8	1			1
48	23	139	3	13%	3.1		3		3
49**	7	37	0	0%	3.6				
50**	2	11	0	0%	1.0				
51	90	313	23	26%	3.4	12	11	3	19
52	33	153	1	3%	3.0	1			1
53**	4	16	1	25%	4.5	1			
54	3	6	0	0%	3.3				
55	11	30	3	27%	3.5	2	1		3
56	8	27	1	13%	2.0		1		1
57	22	77	11	50%	4.1	6	5	2	9
58	3	9	1	33%	4.0	1			1
59	3	4	2	67%	4.3		2	1	1
TOTAL	2,582	9,212	654	26.3%	3.5	453	201	60	562

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2018 Spring Harvest Report Summaries

<i>GMU</i>	<i>Hunters</i>	<i>Days Hunted</i>	<i>Harvest</i>	<i>First Turkey</i>	<i>Success on First Harvest</i>	<i>Second Turkey</i>	<i>% of Beards >4"</i>	<i>Hunter Rating</i>
1*	28	63	2	2	7%		50%	3.6
2	232	880	90	74	32%	16	74%	3.5
3*	4	8	1	1	25%		100%	3.5
4	100	329	46	35	35%	11	78%	3.4
5	177	650	36	30	17%	6	69%	3.2
6	871	3048	119	98	11%	21	80%	3.1
7	15	38	4	3	20%	1	50%	2.9
8***	14	69	1	1	7%		100%	3.8
9	223	830	38	33	15%	5	89%	3.2
10	283	1258	60	49	17%	11	83%	3.2
12	19	71	2	2	11%		100%	2.8
13	55	216	7	7	13%		86%	3.1
14	271	838	38	32	12%	6	84%	3.2
15	312	1251	78	68	22%	10	87%	3.3
16	690	2634	208	165	24%	43	93%	3.4
17	118	455	35	27	23%	8	57%	3.2
18	38	126	7	6	16%	1	57%	3.1
19**	1	10	2	1	100%	1	100%	4
20	32	84	14	12	38%	2	71%	3.5
21	116	364	31	26	22%	5	90%	3.2
22	15	77	4	3	20%	1	100%	3.1
23	138	511	37	32	23%	5	70%	3.3
24	299	1156	106	80	27%	26	86%	3.3
25**	2	4	0	0	0%		0	2
26**	3	8	1	1	33%		100%	3.3
27***	1	4	1	1	100%		0	5
28**	1	7	0	0	0%		0	2
29	1	3	1	1	100%		100%	3
30**	9	28	5	3	33%	2	60%	3.4
31**	10	26	3	2	20%	1	100%	3.1
32	44	110	25	17	39%	8	88%	3.9
33***	2	4	0	0	0%		0	4
34	1102	3823	365	289	26%	76	88%	3.5
35*	8	20	4	2	25%	2	100%	3.8
36	371	1300	145	109	29%	36	90%	3.5
37	169	599	53	43	25%	10	85%	3.5
38	29	92	5	4	14%	1	010%	3.2
39	38	88	20	14	37%	6	75%	3.5
40	26	63	17	15	58%	2	76%	3.9
41	13	22	17	13	100%	4	88%	4
42	104	312	94	66	63%	28	86%	4
43	57	200	29	24	42%	5	86%	3.6
44**	4	13	0	0	0%		0	2.8
45	460	1828	158	130	28%	28	87%	3.5
46	113	388	76	58	51%	18	92%	4
47	47	128	32	24	51%	8	91%	3.8
48	68	262	39	33	49%	6	90%	3.7
49	162	725	73	58	36%	15	100%	3.6
50**	9	27	1	1	11%		100%	3.2
51	231	825	58	52	23%	6	90%	3.4
52	97	307	28	23	24%	5	82%	3.6
53	51	219	26	20	39%	6	81%	3.6
54	22	61	19	12	55%	7	100%	4.3
55	96	265	93	64	67%	29	87%	4.3
56	16	42	19	11	69%	8	84%	4.6
57	105	311	95	65	62%	30	89%	4.4
58	50	114	47	33	66%	14	89%	4.6
59	23	42	24	20	87%	4	88%	4.3
UNK	3	6	2	2	67%		50%	3.5
TOTAL	7,598	27,242	2,541	1,997	28.2%	544	86%	3.5

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** These GMUs are closed to spring turkey hunting. Hunters may have misreported GMU of harvest.

*** These GMUs have draw hunts, but are primarily closed to spring turkey hunting. GMU 8 had more hunter reports than tags offered. Hunters may have misreported GMU of harvest.

2018 Fall Harvest Report Summaries

GMU	Hunters	Days Hunted	Harvest	Success Rates	Hunter Rating	Sex of Harvest		Harvest Month	
						Hens	Gobblers	Sept	Nov
1*	13	33	0	0%	2.5				
2	71	204	21	30%	3.3	18	3	2	19
3*	1	3	0	0%	3				
4**	3	9	0	0%	2				
5	71	296	11	15%	3.0	2	9	2	9
6	322	1199	30	9%	2.9	11	19	6	24
7	2	9	0	0%	2				
8**	3	18	1	33%	3	1			1
9	152	562	16	11%	3	11	5	2	14
10	120	470	10	8%	2.8	8	2	1	9
12	12	45	2	17%	4	1	1		2
13	22	92	0	0%	2.1				
14**	10	28	1	10%	2.6		1		1
15	100	376	7	7%	3	1	6		7
16	264	1273	36	14%	3.0	12	24	1	35
17	35	123	1	3%	2.5	1			1
18**	1	4	1	100%	5	1			1
19**	3	7	0	0%	2				
21	36	122	7	19%	3.0	2	5	0	7
22	11	35	1	9%	3.5	1			1
23	49	180	8	16%	3.1	2	6	1	7
24	93	368	17	18%	3	11	6	1	16
28	1	4	0	0%	3				
30**	1	2	0	0%	2				
31	2	3	0	0%	2.5				
32	32	62	9	28%	3.4	5	4	1	8
34	438	1409	70	16%	3.2	28	42	6	64
35	1	3	0	0%	5				
36	154	538	32	21%	3.5	17	15	3	29
37	110	371	9	8%	3	3	6	1	8
38**	7	24	1	14%	3	1			1
39**	2	6	0	0%	4.5				
40	12	21	9	75%	4.1	6	3	1	8
41	5	10	1	20%	3.8		1		1
42	26	53	16	62%	3.7	14	2	1	15
43**	6	30	1	17%	3.7	1			1
44	1	7	0	0%	5				
45	156	586	32	21%	3.3	15	17	2	30
46	22	99	8	36%	3.9	4	4	1	7
47	5	8	2	40%	3.6	2			2
48	23	128	3	13%	3		3	1	2
49**	5	19	0	0%	2.4				
50**	1	7	0	0%	1				
51**	18	50	1	6%	3.3	0	1	0	1
52**	12	47	1	8%	2.8	1		1	
53**	10	52	2	20%	3.5	2			2
54	3	7	1	33%	3.3		1		1
55	12	44	2	17%	3.0	2	0	1	1
56	7	27	2	29%	4.3	2			2
57	16	47	7	44%	3.9	3	4		7
58	5	19	3	60%	4.4	3			3
59	1	2	0	0%	5				
UNK	1	2	1	100%	0	1			1
TOTAL	2,489	9,141	383	16.1%	3.1	193	190	35	348

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** These GMUs are closed to fall turkey hunting. Hunters may have misreported GMU of harvest.

2017 Spring Harvest Report Summaries

<i>GMU</i>	<i>Hunters</i>	<i>Days Hunted</i>	<i>Harvest</i>	<i>First Turkey</i>	<i>Success on First Harvest</i>	<i>Second Turkey</i>	<i>% of Beards >4"</i>	<i>Hunter Rating</i>
1*	35	133	10	9	25.7%	1	70%	3.3
2	209	755	83	77	36.8%	6	79.5%	3.7
3*	2	8	0		0%			4
4	106	278	39	32	30.2%	7	89.7%	3.6
5	145	491	18	14	9.7%	4	72.2%	3.4
6	815	2,906	141	122	15%	19	85.1%	3.2
7	19	44	8	5	26.3%	3	100%	3.7
8	14	44	2	2	14.3%		100%	3.5
9	213	760	43	35	16.4%	8	79.1%	3.4
10	337	1,320	73	57	16.9%	16	89%	3.3
11*	1	5	1	1	100%		100%	5
12	20	89	3	2	10%	1	100%	3.8
13	51	174	8	6	11.8%	2	87.5%	3.3
14	340	1,182	73	61	17.9%	12	84.9%	3.4
15	311	1,258	76	68	21.9%	8	92.1%	3.3
16	748	2,630	249	200	26.7%	49	91.2%	3.5
17	118	355	27	19	16.1%	8	85.2%	3
18	27	88	7	6	22.2%	1	85.7%	3.1
19	4	7	2	2	50%		100%	3.8
20	32	75	7	5	15.6%	2	28.6%	3.2
21	144	456	41	32	22.2%	9	95.1%	3.4
22	15	61	1	1	6.7%		100%	3.7
23	132	549	42	36	27.3%	6	100%	3.4
24	296	1,215	91	72	24.3%	19	91.2%	3.5
25	4	12	1	1	25%		100%	4.3
26	1	2	0		0%			3
27	3	18	1	1	33.3%		100%	4
29**	1	4	0		0			2
30**	3	10	0		0%			3
31**	1	2	0		0%			5
32	62	157	27	22	35.5%	5	81.5%	3.7
33	9	18	4	3	33.3%	1	75%	3.6
34	1,182	3,532	391	307	26%	84	93.1%	3.7
35*	5	25	0		0%			2.4
36	361	117	157	120	33.2%	37	94.9%	3.8
37	200	711	68	54	27%	14	89.7%	3.7
38	28	81	8	6	21.4%	2	62.5%	3.6
39	64	112	51	35	54.7%	16	88.2%	4.3
40	30	35	23	13	43.3%	10	91.3%	4.4
41	23	46	16	12	52.2%	4	81.3%	4
42	119	250	77	54	45.4%	23	85.7%	4.2
43	72	245	29	23	31.9	6	79.3%	3.6
44	5	16	0		0%			2.2
45	446	1,605	157	125	28%	32	86.6%	3.6
46	108	358	56	49	45.4%	7	82.1%	4
47	32	62	20	13	40.6%	7	60%	4.2
48	82	260	39	35	42.7%	4	94.9%	3.9
49	158	625	58	47	29.7%	11	82.8%	3.5
50	1	2	0		0%			3
51	220	788	71	60	27.3%	11	83.1%	3.7
52	68	221	23	18	26.5%	5	95.7%	3.6
53	45	220	17	14	31.1%	3	94.1%	3.8
54	16	34	11	8	50%	3	72.7%	4.1
55	124	252	100	65	52.4%	35	95%	4.6
56	21	63	18	15	71.4%	3	100%	4.4
57	102	239	70	50	49%	20	88.6%	4.3
58	61	95	5	30	49.2%	20	90%	4.7
59	25	53	21	16	64%	5	85.7%	4.4
UNK	2	6	2	1	50%	1	100%	5
TOTAL	7,838	26,219	2,611	2,061	29.8%	550	88.7%	3.6

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2017 Fall Harvest Report Summaries

GMU	Hunters	Days Hunted	Harvest	Hunter Rating	Success Rates	Hens	Gobblers	Sept	Nov
1*	16	42	2	12.5%	3.4		2		2
2	64	217	24	37.5%	3.5	12	12	3	21
4**	2	4		0%	3				
5	86	362	25	29.1%	3.8	15	10	11	14
6	407	1,358	65	16%	3.3	35	30	8	57
7	7	44		0%	4				
8**	2	9		0%	2.5				
9	159	529	43	27%	3.6	27	16	8	35
10	183	657	36	19.7%	3.4	24	12	6	30
11*	1	4		0%	4				
12	10	49	2	20%	3.2		2		2
13	33	117	7	21.2%	3.5	4	3	2	5
14**	13	33	2	15.4%	3.1	1	1		2
15	121	455	27	22.3%	3.5	19	8	5	22
16	305	1,361	91	29.8%	3.5	56	35	5	86
17	54	197	10	18.5%	3.3	7	3		10
18**	1	6		0%	2				
19**	3	9		0%	2				
20**	2	8		0%	3.5				
21	58	199	16	27.6%	3.3	12	4	1	15
22	6	23	2	33.3%	3	2			2
23	67	284	26	38.8%	3.3	10	16	2	24
24	128	340	62	48.4%	3.8	38	24	8	54
30**	1	2		0%	3				
31**	1	2		0%	3				
32	24	68	10	41.7%	3.6	5	5	1	9
33**	1	1		0%	3				
34	521	1,598	174	33.4%	3.7	129	45	13	161
35*	4	9	2	50%	4	2			2
36	187	587	77	41.2%	3.7	49	28	4	73
37	101	334	35	34.7%	3.8	18	17		35
38**	5	17	2	40%	2.6		2		2
39**	3	4		0%	3.7				
40	10	11	5	50%	3.4	3	2		5
41	6	7	5	83.3%	4.3	4	1		5
42	22	33	14	63.6%	4.5	5	9		14
43**	6	19	1	16.7%	3.3		1		1
44**	3	20		0%	1				
45	146	497	34	23.3%	3.5	20	14	1	33
46	27	86	11	40.7%	3.7	5	6	1	10
47	6	17	1	16.7%	3.3	1			1
48	31	121	10	32.3%	3.4	2	8	3	7
49**	10	40	5	50%	3.1	2	3		5
50**	1	8	0	0%	3				
51**	21	55	6	28.6%	3.4	4	2	2	4
52**	11	57	1	9.1%	4	1			1
53**	4	9	0	0%	3.5				
54	10	26	1	10%	3.2		1	1	
55	13	25	3	23.1%	3.9	1	2	2	1
56	1	6	0	0%	2				
57	20	83	10	50%	4.2	1	9		10
58	2	3	1	50%	5		1		1
UNK	1	6		0%	4				
TOTAL	2,938	10,058	848	29.7%	3.5	514	334	87	761

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2016 Spring Harvest Report Summaries

GMU	Hunters	Days Hunted	Harvest	% of Beards >4"	First Turkey	Success on First Harvest	Second Turkey	Hunter Rating
1*	21	67	4	75%	4	19%		2.8
2	232	793	93	73%	79	34.1%	14	3.7
3*	7	33	0		0	0%		3.6
4	100	288	42	88%	34	34%	8	3.8
5	164	524	31	94%	28	17.1%	3	3.3
6	782	2802	151	90%	127	16.2%	24	3.3
7	8	38	1	0%	1	12.5%		2.4
8**	9	46	2	100%	2	22.2%		3.3
9	222	732	43	74%	35	15.8%	8	3.4
10	297	1198	59	71%	49	16.5%	10	3.3
11*	1	2	0		0	0%		3
12	11	46	2	100%	2	18.2%		3.8
13	62	180	12	75%	10	16.1%	2	3.2
14	346	1150	79	66%	64	18.5%	15	3.3
15	347	1289	86	80%	70	20.1%	16	3.4
16	1131	3968	414	99%	326	28.8%	88	3.7
17	97	395	28	75%	23	23.7%	5	3.2
18	24	78	5	60%	3	12.5%	2	3.1
19**	1	3	0		0	0%		1
20	26	49	9	44%	8	30.8%	1	3
21	104	327	40	83%	35	33.7%	5	3.5
22	16	81	4	100%	4	25%		4
23	112	446	38	79%	30	26.8%	8	3.4
24	280	1056	92	82%	76	27.1%	16	3.4
25**	3	5	0		0	0%		2.3
26**	1	2	0		0	0%		5
28**	2	5	0		0	0%		2
29	1	3	0		0	0%		4
30**	5	15	1	0%	1	20%		3.4
31**	3	10	1	100%	1	33.3%		3
32	51	108	31	58%	24	47.1%	7	3.8
33**	5	15	3	67%	3	60%		4
34	1186	3832	345	82%	277	23.4%	68	3.5
35*	5	21	1	100%	1	20%		3.2
36	318	1043	106	86%	82	25.8%	24	3.6
37	212	737	68	82%	58	27.4%	10	3.5
38	26	78	8	88%	6	23.1%	2	3.3
39	50	91	35	71%	25	50%	10	4.3
40	30	56	19	84%	15	50%	4	3.8
41	15	26	13	54%	10	66.7%	3	3.9
42	88	209	67	82%	45	51.1%	22	4.3
43	42	120	14	86%	12	28.6%	2	3.6
44**	3	10	1	100%	1	33.3%		3.3
45	433	1665	134	79%	111	25.6%	23	3.4
46	84	277	49	73%	37	44%	12	4
47	20	41	14	79%	12	60%	2	3.8
48	73	226	42	74%	35	47.9%	7	3.7
49	152	677	67	82%	49	32.2%	18	3.7
50**	3	9	1	0%	1	33.3%		3.7
51	182	700	37	89%	34	18.7%	3	3.4
52	53	193	19	84%	14	26.4%	5	3.4
53	41	174	11	82%	9	22%	2	3.4
54	23	52	13	92%	10	43.5%	3	4.1
55	90	206	66	92%	47	52.2%	19	4.4
56	22	57	16	88%	13	59.1%	3	4.2
57	91	274	53	83%	39	42.9%	14	3.9
58	38	72	30	87%	19	50%	11	4.7
59	22	48	16	69%	13	59.1%	3	4
UNK	7	4	1	100%	0	0%	1	4.3
TOTAL	6,461	24,924	2,339	80.9%	1,873	80.1%	466	3.5

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2016 Fall Harvest Report Summaries

GMU	Hunters	Days Hunted	Harvest	Hunter Rating	Success Rates	Sex of Harvest		Harvest Month	
						Hens	Gobblers	Sept	Nov
1*	8	30	0	2.3	0%	0	0	0	0
2	56	231	20	3.1	35.7%	4	16	0	20
3*	3	18	0	3	0%	0	0	0	0
4**	2	5	0	1	0%	0	0	0	0
5	60	297	2	3.1	3.3%	1	1	1	1
6	324	1024	37	3.2	11.4%	18	19	2	35
7	4	24	0	3	0%	0	0	0	0
8**	3	5	0	3	0%	0	0	0	0
9	142	596	25	3.1	17.6%	13	12	5	20
10	129	532	24	3	18.6%	15	9	2	22
12	3	6	0	3.3	0%	0	0	0	0
13	31	110	1	2.8	3.2%	1	0	0	1
14**	4	8	0	3.5	0%	0	0	0	0
15	109	461	14	3.1	12.8%	6	8	1	13
16	300	1256	52	3.3	17.3%	22	30	3	49
17	22	68	1	2.8	4.5%	0	1	0	1
18**	5	13	1	3.4	20%	1	0	0	1
19**	1	1	0	2	0%	0	0	0	0
20**	2	4	0	3.5	0%	0	0	0	0
21	51	199	8	2.8	15.7%	4	4	2	6
22	11	44	3	2.5	27.3%	2	1	0	3
23	66	305	5	3.1	7.6%	1	4	0	5
24	85	236	23	3.4	27.1%	13	10	0	23
25**	2	7	0	3	0%	0	0	0	0
26**	4	11	1	3	25%	0	1	0	1
29	1	3	0	5	0%	0	0	0	0
30**	3	3	1	2.7	33.3%	1	0	0	1
32	19	63	6	3.6	31.6%	1	5	1	5
34	410	1370	85	3.3	20.7%	51	34	7	78
36	108	416	29	3.4	26.9%	11	18	1	28
37	80	298	18	3.3	22.5%	13	5	2	16
38**	4	14	0	2.8	0%	0	0	0	0
39**	3	6	0	2.3	0%	0	0	0	0
40	10	16	6	3.7	60%	0	6	0	6
41	2	4	2	5	100%	1	1	1	1
42	16	38	12	3.8	75%	6	6	0	12
43**	2	5	0	2.5	0%	0	0	0	0
45	112	460	26	3	23.2%	13	13	1	25
46	15	43	5	3.4	33.3%	2	3	0	5
47	1	1	0	2	0%	0	0	0	0
48	22	84	3	2.8	13.6%	1	2	1	2
49**	3	6	0	3.7	0%	0	0	0	0
51**	9	26	1	2.9	11.1%	1	0	0	1
52**	7	21	0	3	0%	0	0	0	0
53**	1	3	0	3	0%	0	0	0	0
54	6	20	2	3.8	33.3%	1	1	0	2
55	12	58	6	4.3	50%	2	4	0	6
56	4	8	2	4.5	50%	1	1	0	2
57	18	76	6	4	33.3%	4	2	0	6
58	3	11	0	3.7	0%	0	0	0	0
59	1	1	0	5	0%	0	0	0	0
UNK	2	0	0	3.5	0%	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2,212	8,545	427	3.18	19.3%	210	217	36	391

* These GMUs are in Reservation lands, and not under the jurisdiction of New Mexico Game and Fish.

Hunters may have misreported GMU of harvest, or reported a harvest from a Reservation Permit.

** These GMUs are closed to fall turkey hunting. Hunters may have misreported GMU of harvest.

2015 Spring Harvest Report Summaries

GMU	# of Hunters	Total Harvest	% of Beards >4"	First Turkey	Success on First Harvest	Second Turkey	Hunter Rating
1	31	2	50%	2	7%		2.6
2	172	57	63%	52	30%	5	3.3
3	8	0			0%		2.9
4	90	40	63%	35	39%	5	3.7
5	118	32	63%	28	24%	4	3.3
6	727	153	67%	133	18%	20	3.2
7	13	8	75%	7	54%	1	3.7
8	8	0			0%		2.9
9	205	41	68%	33	16%	8	3.2
10	287	67	75%	57	20%	10	3.2
11	4	0			0%		3
12	15	3	100%	3	20%		3.3
13	47	6	100%	6	13%		3
14	260	59	70%	48	19%	11	3.2
15	310	126	74%	106	34%	20	3.5
16	527	173	82%	148	28%	25	3.5
17	78	21	81%	18	23%	3	3.1
18	24	7	71%	6	25%	1	3.1
19	2	2	50%	2	100%		4
20	14	8	63%	7	50%	1	3.9
21	72	23	83%	20	28%	3	3.3
22	11	4	100%	4	36%		3.9
23	97	30	73%	26	27%	4	3.2
24	271	70	76%	61	23%	9	3.2
27	1	1	100%	1	100%		4
28	1	0			0%		2
30	3	2	50%	1	33%	1	3.3
31	3	0			0%		5
32	27	20	80%	18	67%	2	3.6
33	2	1	0%	1	50%		3
34	1096	342	74%	279	26%	63	3.3
35	12	3	67%	2	17%	1	3.2
36	307	117	70%	93	30%	24	3.5
37	165	47	77%	37	22%	10	3.3
38	18	5	40%	4	22%	1	3.1
39	19	3	67%	3	16%		3.5
40	11	6	83%	5	46%	1	2.8
41	9	3	100%	3	33%		3.4
42	53	21	76%	17	32%	4	3
43	22	8	88%	7	32%	1	2.9
44	2	0			0%		2
45	336	90	63%	74	22%	16	3.3
46	64	26	65%	23	36%	3	3.6
47	18	14	64%	9	50%	5	3.7
48	52	25	80%	21	40%	4	3.6
49	110	48	71%	40	36%	8	3.4
50	5	2	100%	2	40%		3.2
51	153	34	41%	29	19%	5	3.3
52	47	13	54%	9	19%	4	3.6
53	41	17	82%	16	39%	1	3.5
54	20	13	77%	10	50%	3	3.9
55	92	79	66%	58	63%	21	4.3
56	12	9	78%	7	58%	2	3.5
57	85	50	78%	41	48%	9	3.8
58	18	21	71%	15	83%	6	4.4
59	8	6	67%	5	63%	1	3.3
UNK	11	2	100%	2	40%		4.6
TOTALS	6214	1960	36.76	1634	26%	326	3.35

2015 Fall Harvest Report Summaries

GMU	Hunters	Days Hunted	Harvest	Hunter Rating	Success Rates	Sex of Harvest		Harvest Month	
						Hens	Gobblers	Sept	Nov
1	13	47	2	2.7	15%	2	0	0	2
2	49	156	17	3.3	35%	10	7	3	14
3	2	4	0	2	0%				
4	4	8	0	3.3	0%				
5	13	38	5	2.8	38%	2	3	1	4
6	312	1193	65	3.3	21%	49	16	6	58
7	4	10	2	3.8	50%	0	2	0	2
8	1	3	0	3	0%				
9	129	457	29	3.3	22%	18	11	1	28
10	128	681	14	3	11%	7	7	1	13
11	1	1	0	1	0%				
12	7	15	0	3	0%				
13	26	117	1	3	4%	0	1	0	1
14	5	10	2	4	40%	1	1	0	2
15	101	424	17	3.2	17%	6	11	0	17
16	217	947	56	3.4	26%	33	23	9	47
17	28	101	6	3.2	21%	6	0	0	6
19	8	20	0	3	0%				
20	1	4	0	3	0%				
21	40	102	13	3.2	33%	10	3	1	12
22	10	46	4	3.5	40%	4	0	3	1
23	70	293	20	3	29%	6	14	1	19
24	63	234	21	3.5	33%	12	9	4	16
27	2	8	1	4	50%	0	1	1	0
29	1	3	0	3	0%				
30	1	4	0	1	0%				
31	4	9	1	3.8	25%	0	1	0	1
32	14	29	6	4.1	43%	2	4	0	5
33	3	5	2	4.3	67%	0	2	1	1
34	444	1385	145	3.4	33%	104	41	8	136
35	5	8	3	3.3	60%	0	2	0	2
36	95	333	27	3.2	28%	18	9	3	24
37	71	213	22	3.2	31%	13	9	0	22
38	2	6	0	3.7	0%				
39	3	7	0	2.7	0%				
40	4	15	2	3.2	50%	1	1	0	2
41	5	20	2	4.2	40%	0	2	0	2
42	10	21	5	3.1	50%	4	1	0	5
43	4	7	1	3.3	25%	1	0	1	0
44	1	2	0	4	0%				
45	108	400	31	3.1	29%	18	13	3	28
46	19	50	7	3.6	37%	5	2	1	6
47	4	13	2	4	50%	0	2	0	2
48	18	74	2	3.4	11%	1	1	0	2
49	3	7	1	3.3	33%	0	1	0	1
51	11	44	1	3.2	9%	1	0	0	1
52	5	20	1	2.2	20%	0	1	0	1
53	2	5	0	3.5	0%				
54	2	10	1	4	50%	1	0	0	1
55	5	12	2	3.8	40%	0	2	0	2
56	1	2	1	4	100%	1	0	0	1
57	27	112	14	3.9	52%	8	6	1	13
58	1	25	1	5	100%	1	0	1	0
59	2	4	0	4.5	0%				
UNK	4	18	0	4.8	0%	0	1	0	5
TOTALS	2113	7782	555	3.30	26.3%	345	210	50	505

2014 Spring Harvest Report Summaries

GMU	# of Hunters	Total Harvest	% of Beards >4"	First Turkey	Success on First Harvest	Second Turkey	Hunter Rating
1	31	2	50%	2	7%		2.6
2	172	57	63%	52	30%	5	3.3
3	8	0			0%		2.9
4	90	40	63%	35	39%	5	3.7
5	118	32	63%	28	24%	4	3.3
6	727	153	67%	133	18%	20	3.2
7	13	8	75%	7	54%	1	3.7
8	8	0			0%		2.9
9	205	41	68%	33	16%	8	3.2
10	287	67	75%	57	20%	10	3.2
11	4	0			0%		3
12	15	3	100%	3	20%		3.3
13	47	6	100%	6	13%		3
14	260	59	70%	48	19%	11	3.2
15	310	126	74%	106	34%	20	3.5
16	527	173	82%	148	28%	25	3.5
17	78	21	81%	18	23%	3	3.1
18	24	7	71%	6	25%	1	3.1
19	2	2	50%	2	100%		4
20	14	8	63%	7	50%	1	3.9
21	72	23	83%	20	28%	3	3.3
22	11	4	100%	4	36%		3.9
23	97	30	73%	26	27%	4	3.2
24	271	70	76%	61	23%	9	3.2
27	1	1	100%	1	100%		4
28	1	0			0%		2
30	3	2	50%	1	33%	1	3.3
31	3	0			0%		5
32	27	20	80%	18	67%	2	3.6
33	2	1	0%	1	50%		3
34	1096	342	74%	279	26%	63	3.3
35	12	3	67%	2	17%	1	3.2
36	307	117	70%	93	30%	24	3.5
37	165	47	77%	37	22%	10	3.3
38	18	5	40%	4	22%	1	3.1
39	19	3	67%	3	16%		3.5
40	11	6	83%	5	46%	1	2.8
41	9	3	100%	3	33%		3.4
42	53	21	76%	17	32%	4	3
43	22	8	88%	7	32%	1	2.9
44	2	0			0%		2
45	336	90	63%	74	22%	16	3.3
46	64	26	65%	23	36%	3	3.6
47	18	14	64%	9	50%	5	3.7
48	52	25	80%	21	40%	4	3.6
49	110	48	71%	40	36%	8	3.4
50	5	2	100%	2	40%		3.2
51	153	34	41%	29	19%	5	3.3
52	47	13	54%	9	19%	4	3.6
53	41	17	82%	16	39%	1	3.5
54	20	13	77%	10	50%	3	3.9
55	92	79	66%	58	63%	21	4.3
56	12	9	78%	7	58%	2	3.5
57	85	50	78%	41	48%	9	3.8
58	18	21	71%	15	83%	6	4.4
59	8	6	67%	5	63%	1	3.3
UNK	11	2	100%	2	40%		4.6
TOTALS	6214	1960	36.76	1634	26%	326	3.35

2014 Fall Harvest Report Summaries

GMU	Hunters	Days Hunted	Harvest	Hunter Rating	Success Rates	Sex of Harvest		Harvest Month	
						Hens	Gobblers	Sept	Nov
1	13	47	2	2.7	15%	2	0	0	2
2	49	156	17	3.3	35%	10	7	3	14
3	2	4	0	2	0%				
4	4	8	0	3.3	0%				
5	13	38	5	2.8	38%	2	3	1	4
6	312	1193	65	3.3	21%	49	16	6	58
7	4	10	2	3.8	50%	0	2	0	2
8	1	3	0	3	0%				
9	129	457	29	3.3	22%	18	11	1	28
10	128	681	14	3	11%	7	7	1	13
11	1	1	0	1	0%				
12	7	15	0	3	0%				
13	26	117	1	3	4%	0	1	0	1
14	5	10	2	4	40%	1	1	0	2
15	101	424	17	3.2	17%	6	11	0	17
16	217	947	56	3.4	26%	33	23	9	47
17	28	101	6	3.2	21%	6	0	0	6
19	8	20	0	3	0%				
20	1	4	0	3	0%				
21	40	102	13	3.2	33%	10	3	1	12
22	10	46	4	3.5	40%	4	0	3	1
23	70	293	20	3	29%	6	14	1	19
24	63	234	21	3.5	33%	12	9	4	16
27	2	8	1	4	50%	0	1	1	0
29	1	3	0	3	0%				
30	1	4	0	1	0%				
31	4	9	1	3.8	25%	0	1	0	1
32	14	29	6	4.1	43%	2	4	0	5
33	3	5	2	4.3	67%	0	2	1	1
34	444	1385	145	3.4	33%	104	41	8	136
35	5	8	3	3.3	60%	0	2	0	2
36	95	333	27	3.2	28%	18	9	3	24
37	71	213	22	3.2	31%	13	9	0	22
38	2	6	0	3.7	0%				
39	3	7	0	2.7	0%				
40	4	15	2	3.2	50%	1	1	0	2
41	5	20	2	4.2	40%	0	2	0	2
42	10	21	5	3.1	50%	4	1	0	5
43	4	7	1	3.3	25%	1	0	1	0
44	1	2	0	4	0%				
45	108	400	31	3.1	29%	18	13	3	28
46	19	50	7	3.6	37%	5	2	1	6
47	4	13	2	4	50%	0	2	0	2
48	18	74	2	3.4	11%	1	1	0	2
49	3	7	1	3.3	33%	0	1	0	1
51	11	44	1	3.2	9%	1	0	0	1
52	5	20	1	2.2	20%	0	1	0	1
53	2	5	0	3.5	0%				
54	2	10	1	4	50%	1	0	0	1
55	5	12	2	3.8	40%	0	2	0	2
56	1	2	1	4	100%	1	0	0	1
57	27	112	14	3.9	52%	8	6	1	13
58	1	25	1	5	100%	1	0	1	0
59	2	4	0	4.5	0%				
UNK	4	18	0	4.8	0%	0	1	0	5
TOTALS	2113	7782	555	3.30	26.3%	345	210	50	505

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: Jim Bates <jim_bates2@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2026 9:21 AM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Turkey Rule Changes Comments

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

To Whom It May Concern:

I have reviewed the proposed changes as indicated the summary and would make the following comments:

First observation: As a dedicated (resident) spring gobbler hunter with decades of hunting experience here, it is clear to me (and others with long-time experience) that our turkey populations, and especially gobbler numbers, are in a downward trend. Hunting pressure has increased over time, as well as the effectiveness of hunting methods and tools, such that there is no question a larger segment of our gobbler population is being harvested than in the past. This is a concern that needs to be considered and addressed.

I think it is important to consider not only the current status of our turkey population in NM, but also what is happening in the surrounding states, as well as across the country, in terms of changing regulations. Succinctly, many other states in our region in particular, and also throughout the country, are implementing reductions in seasons, bag limits, and nonresident opportunities. It would behoove the Department to take note of what is happening in other states and consider how that could impact hunting pressure and especially nonresident hunter numbers here in New Mexico.

Nonresident hunting : Due to the increasing popularity of turkey hunting (spring hunting in particular), there has been a significant increase in nonresident participation in most states. I think that trend would be demonstrated, as well, in NM. A number of states have set a maximum number of nonresident permits (either issued by drawing or first come/first served). In addition, many states are delaying nonresident hunt dates to allow residents first opportunity to hunt. A number of states also have reduced the bag limit to a single gobbler.

How does that impact New Mexico? By continuing with a two-bird bag limit, NM is becoming more and more attractive to nonresident hunters, resulting in increased nonresident hunting pressure. That trend is bound to increase as more and more surrounding states reduce nonresident opportunity while NM does not. It is time for NM to consider instituting similar nonresident restrictions in terms of setting maximum permit numbers, as well as possibly instituting a one-bird bag limit for nonresidents. Failing to address the potential impact of reductions of nonresident hunting opportunity is surrounding states when contemplating regulations to be implemented in NM is short-sighted.

Recommendations:

1. Season length: the current season structure is acceptable, but if other changes are not implemented in terms of reduced nonresident opportunity (delayed starting dates, reduced bag limit) the season length should possibly be reduced or consideration of the use of stratified seasons (see Wisconsin) might be considered.

2. Nonresident bag limits: At a minimum, the bag limit for nonresidents should be reduced to one gobbler/bearded turkey (in the spring season). Not doing so while other states do this will, without question, increase the influx of nonresident hunters into the state. We are at a point that we need to look at reducing hunting pressure rather than creating a situation where it is likely to increase and increase significantly. Additionally, consideration should be given to delaying the season start date for nonresidents to allow resident hunters the first opportunity to hunt.
3. Resident bag limit: Serious consideration should be given to also reducing the resident bag limit to one gobbler/bearded turkey. I have been a proponent of the two-bird limit, but we are at the point that going back to a one-bird limit should be considered.
4. Fall hunting: Continued monitoring of the impacts of fall, either-sex hunting is imperative. If the apparent downward trend in our turkey numbers continues, it would be wise to reduce the fall season length, or curtail fall hunting of hens altogether, at least in areas of concern. Evaluating fall harvest impacts within management units should be done rather than on a statewide basis.

Thank you for considering these recommendations...

Jim Bates (Las Cruces resident)

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: Hopkins, Keely <KHopkins@scifirstforhunters.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2026 10:47 AM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SCI Comments
Attachments: NM Turkey Rule Change-WLH Signed.pdf

Some people who received this message don't often get email from khopkins@scifirstforhunters.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

Good Morning,

Please find attached SCI's comments on the Turkey rule.

Thank you,



Keely Hopkins, J.D.

Western State and Local Liaison

Phone/Text: (541) 910-3395

khopkins@scifirstforhunters.org

www.safariclub.org

**Join me in Nashville February
18-21, 2026 for Convention!**

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7 April 2026

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish
State Game Commission
One Wildlife Way
Santa Fe, NM 87507

Re: Proposed Changes to Turkey Rule 19.31.1

Dear Commissioners and Director Sloane:

On behalf of Safari Club International, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to Turkey Rule 19.31.1.

The proposed changes generally demonstrates responsible and sustainable management of these species while maintaining a high level of opportunity for hunters. SCI believes that sound science-based conservation involving hunting as the primary management tool, while maximizing opportunities for all huntable species, including turkey, is necessary to the long-term health of wildlife. Hunters have long paid the way for conservation, both game and non-game wildlife and maximizing opportunity for hunting is also key to long-term funding for all conservation. Hunting benefits wildlife conservation.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on to proposed changes to Turkey Rule 19.31.1. SCI is dedicated to protecting the freedom to hunt and we appreciate the continued partnership with the Department and the Commission. SCI is always first for hunters.

Sincerely,

W. Laird Hamberlin
Chief Executive Officer
Safari Club International

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: Kerrie Romero <kerriecoxromero@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2026 6:59 AM
To: Stump, Richard, DGF; Clemente, Fernando, DGF; Witt, Christopher, DGF; Lopez, Tirzio, DGF; gfulfer@gmail.com; Harwood, Kyle, DGF
Cc: DGF-Javelina-Rule; DGF-Waterfowl; DGF-Gamebird; DGF-Exotics-Rule
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NMCOG's Official Recommendations as they relate to the Javelina, Turkey, Migratory Bird, & Exotics Rules

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

Good Morning Mr. Chairman & Commissioners,

Please accept the following as the official recommendations of the New Mexico Council of Outfitters and Guides as it relates to the Proposals Under Consideration for Javelina, Turkey, Migratory Bird, and Exotics as of March 19, 2026.

JAVELINA

Support Department's proposed changes as published in the Commission Agenda Meeting Briefing dated March 20, 2026

TURKEY

Generally supportive of the Department's proposed changes as published in the Commission Agenda Meeting Briefing dated March 20, 2026.

NMCOG additionally recommends that the fall turkey hunts, specifically in GMU 6, 10, & 17 become "1 bearded turkey". These hunts are currently either sex. Outfitters in these GMUs have expressed that turkey numbers are noticeably lower compared to previous years. While we recognize that hen harvest is not a large percentage of the overall turkey harvest, eliminating hen harvest is one area where the Dept. has the ability to at least prevent additive mortality.

MIGRATORY BIRD

Generally supportive of the Department's proposed changes as published in the Commission Agenda Meeting Briefing dated March 20, 2026.

NMCOG additionally recommends that the Estancia Valley Sandhill Crane hunts be moved from November 1st to either mid December or January. Over the past several years outfitters report seeing very few to no sandhill cranes in the Estancia Valley during November. However, during late December and January (after the hunt dates have concluded) there are hundreds of cranes in nearly every agricultural field in the Estancia Valley.

EXOTICS

Generally supportive of the Department's proposed changes as published in the Commission Agenda Meeting Briefing dated March 20, 2026.

Oryx

NMCOG Generally supports most of the Department's proposed changes.

We are NOT in favor of increasing the number of off-range Oryx licenses. Outfitters do not agree that the number of public land off-range Oryx is high. We understand that the success rate has increased but we believe this due to an increase in harvest on private lands. Outfitters hunting BLM and State land are seeing very few oryx and it is not uncommon to hunt several days or more without seeing any oryx. The current number of licenses is already bordering on overcrowding in the field. We recommend that the number of off-range Oryx licenses be reduced or at least remain at current levels.

NMCOG additionally recommends that the Department clarify the definition, in Rule, of Broken Horn Oryx. The current definition is confusing and does not clearly specify that Oryx that are completely missing horn(s) would be interpreted as a Broken Horn Oryx. Additionally, NMCOG would recommend the Department eliminate a portion of the second sentence of the definition. That sentence is very hard to understand for most people and causes confusion in the field. Outfitters have indicated that they have failed to allow hunters to harvest obviously broken horn oryx because they are not certain what it means that the "terminal end would not taper to a point for another 25% growth".

It is important to remember that the reason we have a definition of Broken Horn Oryx is because we want to encourage the harvest of these animals. This definition does the opposite by generating confusion that results in outfitters/hunters passing up the chance to harvest a BHO because they are unsure if it meets the definition. NMCOG has spoken with representatives of the White Sands Missile Range and they are supportive of amending the definition. They agree that the current definition causes confusion amongst hunters.

The current definition reads as follows:

“Broken-horned oryx” or “BHO” shall mean an oryx of either sex that possesses at least one horn missing at least twenty-five percent of its normal growth. This may be determined by comparing the broken horn’s length to the remaining horn or where it is readily apparent the terminal end would not taper to a point for another twenty-five percent of growth.

We would recommend that the definition be amended to read something similar to the below suggestion:

“Broken-horned oryx” or “BHO” shall mean an oryx of either sex that possesses at least one horn missing at least twenty-five percent of its normal growth. This may be determined by comparing the broken horn’s length to the remaining horn or if both horns are obviously missing 25% of normal growth. Also to include an oryx of either sex that is missing one or both horns.

Ibex

NMCOG fully supports the Department's decision to dramatically reduce Ibex licenses.

NMCOG has been vocal in expressing concern about the continued decline of the Ibex population for several years. We also understand that the current mortality issue is not a result of hunter harvest. We would like to see the Department allocate additional resources towards helping restore the Ibex population. We would recommend the Dept. consider a more dedicated predator

management emphasis (for both lion and eagle). We have also been notified by outfitters that there are at least 3 water catchment structures in the Florida Mountains (originally installed by the BLM for the benefit of Ibex) and ALL of them are currently non-functional and in disrepair. Perhaps this would be an area where the Dept. might be able to work with the BLM to restore those drinkers.

Barbary Sheep

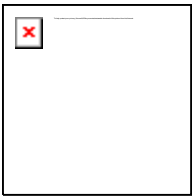
Support Department's proposed changes as published in the Commission Agenda Meeting Briefing dated March 20, 2026

Thank you for your consideration!

Kerrie Cox Romero - Executive Director

Cell: 505-440-5258

New Mexico Council of Outfitters and Guides



Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: John Harding <johnharding1954@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2026 8:46 PM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Wild Turkey Ruled

Some people who received this message don't often get email from johnharding1954@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Casey, today I listened to your presentation. Thank you for putting that together. I'd like to add to my earlier comment that if modeling shows we have 30 k birds in our state and 11k hunters it seems 1 hunter to every three birds is a bit on the side of over hunting. I would propose dropping bag limits to one gobbler in the spring. I also think predation should be factored in on population reduction and possibly aviary disease. I'm one of those passionate conservationist that is worried about our turkey population. I know some GMU have more than others, however many units are seeing far less birds. I still feel we should reduce fall hunting to not more than 5 days in November. I'm also thinking it's time for Turkey hunting to go to a draw.

Thank you

John Harding

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: John Harding <johnharding1954@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2026 2:26 PM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Turkey rule prooosal

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My thoughts are we need to manage fall hunting by cutting back the number of days back for September bow to only 5 days of hunting and 5 days for shotgun , bow and cross bow. The November hunt should be shotgun only. My concern is there are more hens being harvested during the fall hunts than gobblers in the spring. Add that number along with predation and mortality rate and flocks are not recovering. Thank you for considering my opinion.

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: bkrogers at gilanet.com <bkrogers@gilanet.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:34 PM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Turkey rule update

Some people who received this message don't often get email from bkrogers@gilanet.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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I would like to add my comments to the proposed changes in turkey hunting. Due to the ongoing severe drought, I would like to see the fall hunt not include female turkey based on conditions and harvest data. Drought conditions always seem to have a drastic effect on poult recruitment. From my observations in the field, reproduction and survival rates seem to be very low affecting the overall populations. I hunt in the SW corner of NM.

Thank you for your consideration.
B. Keith Rogers
Silver City, NM
575-574-2004

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: Johnny Curry <johnnycurry@johnncurry.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2026 1:37 PM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gould's Turkey hunt

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NM Game and Fish Department.

Good afternoon.

I was one of the fortunate hunters who drew a Gould's Turkey tag here in New Mexico last year. What an amazing experience it was! I was able to harvest a mature tom with my bow on the 2nd day of the hunt. I feel truly blessed to have been able to take part in hunting Gould's here in New Mexico. It took great effort and expense for the state to establish a stable huntable population, but I feel it was worth all your efforts. The hunt exceeded my expectations and was an absolute blast. During my hunt, the toms were "henned up" and would not reliably come into calls. The spring winds contributed to that as well. There were opportunities to jump shoot birds several times, but that is not what I wanted out of a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Sitting water proved to be the best option and worked out after a few hours. A hen came in followed by the tom. We got to watch both interact with/attack the decoys before making the shot. My son and brother-in-law were there as well, and we will cherish the memories from this hunt for years to come.

I believe that there are a sufficient number of turkeys to expand the number of tags. In the couple days we were down there, we saw approximately 12 different gobblers on public land and probably 10-15 more on private. Early in the morning, we also heard others gobbling from their roosts both on public and private. The number of birds there was surprising to me, especially considering how dry the conditions were. The ranchers were running far fewer cattle than they normally would because of the drought. Fortunately, they still were pumping water to some of the tanks and drinkers which congregated the birds within a couple miles of available water. I do not have personal knowledge of other years in the bootheel area, but everyone I talked with said that last spring was about as bad as it has ever been.

The biggest issue I see with additional tags is the limited access to huntable areas due to the private land. Much of the public land is effectively cut off from access for hunting. Very few turkey hunters are going to walk in 3 to 5 miles it requires to get around the private land to get to hunting areas. Without better access, additional hunters will be congregated to a few areas. If additional access cannot be obtained, I would look at spreading the tags out by having several different 7 to 10-day hunts.

I would love to see the NMGF figure out a way to get access on or through some of the private land for turkey hunting. As we saw a few weeks ago in Nashville at the NWTF convention, people are willing to spend thousands of dollars to hunt Gould's Turkey and not have to leave the US. Maybe the state can issue a few tags to landowners that they can in turn sell, in return for granting access through their land for additional hunters? If that type of an arrangement could be made, I believe that the state could issue quite a few more tags for the public as there are turkeys now that are not huntable due to being on private and inaccessible public land. This may not be doable, but I would love to see more people get the opportunity to hunt Gould's turkeys as I did this past spring.

Thank you for your work in reestablishing these birds to the landscape of SW New Mexico. I very much appreciate all the NMGF department has done there. Feel free to contact me with any additional questions.

Johnny Curry

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: Marciano Diaz <marcianodiaz501@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 10:16 AM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Turkey populations

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As an avid turkey hunter, having hunted and successfully harvested male turkeys since 2015, and a background in wildlife management, it has come to my attention that our wild turkey populations are taking a hit from both the drought and hunting. Units like 34 cannot sustain 1,000 plus hunters a year, but neither can other desirable units like 16,24, or 15. I understand I'm a measly voice in the wind but hear this. Has the department considered a "quota" for Turkey hunting? Similar to the bear harvest and Arizona's OTC quotas it allows for an unlimited amount of tag sales (\$\$\$\$) and the same amount of people to go afield. If those individual units meet the harvest threshold then close it. This will spread pressure and keep populations to a manageable level. Is this the answer idk I'm just an environmental scientist, but I will say this, it would be a step in the right direction.

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: tim rizzo <timrizzo33@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 9:25 AM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Turkey Changes

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Good morning,

I saw that you were taking comments for the potential changes to turkey hunting. I wonder if it would be possible to add a veteran turkey hunting day/weekend before or after the season closes?

V/R
Timothy Rizzo

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: Juan Grajiola <grajiolajr@icloud.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 21, 2026 8:30 AM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Turkey rule change

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I like the idea of the proposed amendments on this specific topic
- Juan Grajiola Jr.

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: Blaine <bgblovesclb@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2026 1:04 PM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Turkey rule change for the youth hunts

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Instead of having all units open to the youth before it's open for the rest of the public, designate only certain units. Their 3 or 4 day hunts impact the coming days for the rest of us. I have come across youth hunters out scouting before the hunts with parents or guardians. Both the youth and parent or guardians are both carrying shotguns. Make the rules that the youth only be carrying a legal weapon during their hunt !

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: Blaine <bgblovesclb@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 6, 2026 9:49 AM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

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Turkey rule for 2027. How about seniors over 70 included

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: Chantry Borden <chantryborden14@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2026 10:40 AM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Consideration

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As someone who's hunted turkey in NM I think it's an awesome opportunity. That being said, turkey in area that don't have many are being extremely pressured by predators. I'd like to see the commission take our coyote and mountain lion problem into more consideration when discussing rule changes. People from all over the country come to New Mexico to hunt coyotes. Why not make easier avenues to take care of problem animals. The rules on coyote hunting in NM are extremely outdated and undefined. We need to have clear rules regarding methods of hunting and leave the grey areas out of it. We need to allow the use of thermal optics to dispatch an already classified non-game animal. As a New Mexican I would even entertain buying a license to hunt with thermals at night so long as it were stated clearly in the rule book. New Mexico could cash in on all of these out of state coyote hunters were leaving so much money on the table and instead relying on state funded helicopter depredation. It works don't get me wrong but why not throw a bone to us. We have some of the best coyote hunting in the entire country and I'd like to see you guys take a hard look at what's going on with predators in this state.

Sent from my iPhone

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: Lee <leelee5223@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 11:34 AM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] revisions to 19.31.16 NMAC (1-13-26)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from leelee5223@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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I would like to comment on a proposed revision to the referenced game bird hunt regulations. Specifically, the proposal to review hen harvests in individual GMU's for potential fall closure.

I have lived in the Datil, New Mexico area for 25 years. I live in an area that has traditionally been active with numerous wild turkey rafters (flocks).

However, approximately the past 5-7 years I have seen a noticeable decrease in the wild turkey population in my area. My driveway, which is dirt and gravel, has often been used as a "turkey" route from the areas across the highway from my property, to the areas west and south of my house. In the past, a common occurrence was to inadvertently encounter many turkeys enroute to somewhere. That no longer happens.

I do not know if a person has moved to the area who is illegally harvesting birds, if the area is over-hunted, or if climate changes have caused the turkeys to go elsewhere. Or a combination of many things detrimental to the turkeys.

In any event, I am in favor of closing the hunt during the fall so that the flocks can attempt to recover from whatever the problem might be.

Sincerely,
Linda Schilling
P.O. Box 394
Datil, New Mexico 87821
(505) 417-8700

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: Eric Clapp <eric@stevensforestry.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 10:46 AM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Changes Turkey

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To Whom It May Concern,

New Mexico is a great state to hunt turkeys in. I've only had the privilege to hunt turkeys there once and hope to return and do it again.

I read the proposal for "hen harvest". There should be no excuse for any hunter to want and shoot a hen. New Mexico Department of Wildlife should take off any type of hen harvest including bearded hens. Hens are the on the front line of raising poults and sacrificing themselves to raise then. Humans should not be a factor in taking a hens life. You're not allowed to kill hen pheasant, so why should it be okay for turkeys?

Thank you for your time and reading this email.

Sincerely,

*Eric D. Clapp, ACF, RF, Exec. Broker
Stevens Forestry Service, Inc.
P.O. Drawer 1994
100 Sharp Street
El Dorado, Arkansas 71731
Office: (870) 863-5068
Fax: (870) 863-5156
Cell: (870) 310-5228*



Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: Shawn C. <shawnsf907@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 8:03 AM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Turkey season Change proposal

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I'm opposed to the closing date. Historically bad weather happens at the proposed time which in turn lower turkey harvests. Past research from NMGF early 1980's indicates turkeys have two cycles of mating times. The first one in mid march and then starting in mid April depending on late snow falls. The northern hunts should remain until May. A 5 day turkey hunt is totally unjustified by NMGF past research. Solution: start the southern Turkey hunt April 1 for 15 days and the Northern hunt April 15 to May 1

Thank you,

Shawn Chafins

Former NMGF Special Hunts Supervisor

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: michael clifton <mikeclifton26@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 6:23 AM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Turkey Rule

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Turkey numbers continue to drop across the lincoln national forest and gila national forest. Nonresident turkey tags should be limited and issued through a draw to reduce hunting pressure and allow our turkey populations to rebound. The amount of AZ hunters that come to NM during turkey season is absurd but makes sense since turkey tags are a draw in AZ.

sincerely
michael clifton
Sent from my iPhone

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: Charles Tripp <chtrippjr@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 1:03 PM
To: DGF-Gamebird; Stump, Richard, DGF; Clemente, Fernando, DGF; Fulfer, Gregg, DGF; Lopez, Tirzio, DGF; Witt, Christopher, DGF
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Turkey rule 2026
Attachments: Turkey rule 2026.docx

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Charles Tripp
chtrippjr@gmail.com
970-361-5554

Turkey rule 2026

I think it would be great if with the proposed increase in Gould's Licenses the number of licenses to be increased were posted, as it is listed it seems very vague online. I do remember 4 years ago the original proposal was to have 6 or 8 licenses available and there was a compromise made to limit to 4 licenses to prevent having licenses go to outfitters and non-resident since it's such a coveted license to obtain; there was much discussion around having two hunt codes before increasing the number on the original hunt code and I honestly think that would be a great idea if your increasing the number of Gould's turkey to be harvest I think it would be best keep for New Mexicans until numbers get much larger as the probability of a New Mexican drawing is still way less than 1%. Another idea I have is the possibility of having a hunt code for youth and/or another hunt code for veteran hunt would be better than giving to non-resident.

Charles Tripp

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: Jed Janes <jedjanes@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 12:17 PM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Turkey

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As a NM resident and avid turkey hunter, I propose making both spring and fall hunts 1 bird bag limit. I believe this would be the most beneficial change to increase bird population and hunt quality across the state.

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: Christopher McAdams <chrismcadams355@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 12:13 PM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Turkey

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I propose we make a change to spring turkey hunting , as a resident I think it should be a one Visible beard turkey bag limit for residents and non residents, don't change the price, or if you still want the two bearded turkey bag limit , make it to where non residents need put in a draw for each unit and just give out a certain amount of tags for them depending on the unit , and if there's left overs after the draw then first come first serve for non residents, or reduce a certain amount of non resident tags for first come first serve basis like yall do javelina , so the turkey populations can get better.

Sent from my iPhone

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: cody creager <armyccreager@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 9:10 AM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Turkey rule proposal

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Turkey hunting quality is terrible compared to what it used to be when we were kids. There needs to be a fall closure or at least severely and limiting the amount on non resident tags and limiting them to one bird. Unlimited non resident tags is absolutely crazy considering we are the first mountain state most turkey hunters hit headed west for merriems. Please for the love of God put resident hunters first for once and save our hunt quality.

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: info@bluemountainoutfitters.com
Sent: Friday, February 6, 2026 11:30 AM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed changes

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Hello,

I support the Departments proposal to stop hen harvest in certain units. I have seen a decrease in turkey numbers over the past few years in the units that I have hunted for many years: 6, 10 and 17. I would also ask that the bag limit in these units (possibly others as well) be reduced to one gobbler.

Thank you,
Bob Atwood

Cardinal, Casey, DGF

From: dsheft82@pvttn.net
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 10:13 AM
To: DGF-Gamebird
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed turkey rule

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I strongly support closing units with minimal harvest success to either sex fall hunts. In those units with obvious low populations with low success, hunting should be limited to gobbler only spring hunting. I also strongly recommend restricting harvest during spring hunts to gobblers only rather than allowing bearded hens to be shot because of a lack of education regarding identification by hunters. There also seems to be an increasing number of gobblers, at least here in unit 34, the last two years with no visible beards. Under the current rule these birds are not legal to harvest in the spring and if illegally harvested are being mis-reported as immature rather than mature birds. I also strongly support reducing the spring bag limit to 1 gobbler to potentially spread opportunity out over more license holders rather than those of us who have more experience or time to hunt turkeys.

David Heft, CWB
PO Box 13
Mayhill, NM 88339

May 6, 2026

Comments for the Proposed Turkey Rule 2027-2031:

I am voicing my strong objections to the proposed turkey rule as currently proposed. The rule fails to take into consideration the current status of turkey populations and the effects of additive mortality to turkey populations which are declining in New Mexico. Attached is a summary using the Department's data showing the decline in harvest success for 10 hunt units with single digit or no success on the fall hunts. Unit 14 which is not legally open to fall hunting is also represented as hunters continue to report hunting the unit in the fall indicating that the Department has taken no action to rectify the situation. The Department states in their technical information that poult counts show a stable population but this information cannot stand alone as the percentage of hens with poults in a population must also be analyzed in conjunction with this metric to give a true indication of the population trend. 5% of the hen population with 2.21 poults has a very different population impact than 25% of the hen population with 2.21 poults per hen. The Department's current statewide population estimate of 18,500 turkeys represents a significant decline from the estimate just 5 years ago and contradicts the statement of a stable population based on poult counts. The Department monitoring data for Goulds turkeys also shows an approximate 20% decline primarily attributed to drought conditions. This effect is also most likely occurring in Merriams populations which do not have population monitoring ongoing. The Department sold over 15,000 turkey licenses in 2024. No other species has this high of a ratio of licenses sold to an estimated population.

The Department continues to fail to recognize the impact of the loss of tens of thousands of acres of ponderosa pine and mixed conifer forest to stand replacement intensity fires. This is also having an effect on turkey populations particularly in the availability of roost sites on public lands. The current and proposed rule prohibiting take of turkeys on a roost is extremely difficult to enforce. Limiting shooting hours to end at sunset would more likely achieve this objective and simplify law enforcement's ability to enforce the rule. This is already used in neighboring states such as Colorado and used to be the rule for New Mexico.

The neighboring state of Arizona, which is most similar to New Mexico, authorizes turkey hunting only through limited draw hunts. Their population estimate is currently 28,000. They also only have a 3 week spring hunt and a 1 week fall hunt. This contrasts with New Mexico's 2 months of fall hunting and 5 weeks of spring hunting with unlimited licenses. The fall archery hunt should be synchronized with the fall deer and elk hunts to allow for more effective law enforcement efforts. The fall either sex any legal weapon hunt should also be shortened to a two week period. The neighboring state of Texas which has a turkey

population almost 20 times larger than New Mexico's is eliminating either sex harvest for all turkey hunting beginning September 1, 2026 due to population declines. Texas also requires 24 hour harvest reporting for turkeys due to ongoing population declines and the need for better data. The New Mexico spring hunt is also far too long. No monitoring is being done to quantify the percentage of adult male birds being harvested to ensure staying below the recommended maximum harvest level of 30%. Observations in our area of the Southern Sacramentos in unit 34 over the last 9 years show a take of 50-78% of the adult male turkeys every spring. The season length has also resulted in increasing conflicts with private property owners as hunters are unable to find birds on public lands as the hunt goes on. Department data shows that the average hunter is only hunting 3.8 days (2 weekends), a 16-21 day spring season would provide more than adequate time to hunt. The Department currently has a 3 day youth hunt followed by a 31 day general season.

The Department's proposed rule does not address the current situation with turkey populations in New Mexico or the expected impacts on ongoing drought and fires. We need to respect the resource more and be more proactive in our wildlife management. None of the recommendations I have made here would decrease licenses available to the public or significantly decrease the opportunity for public hunting. It would potentially positively impact the resource and simplify regulation enforcement.

David L. Heft, CWB

PO Box 13

Mayhill, New Mexico 88339

Evaluation of fall turkey hunting success in 10 New Mexico hunt units.

Unit	Average % success 2019-2023	Success rate 2024	% decline
4	45%	0%	100%
5	22%	9%	59%
7	24%	0%	100%
12	14%	0%	100%
13	10%	5%	50%
14	22%	0%	100%
21	17%	8%	53%
37	13%	2%	85%
47	28%	0%	100%
52	12%	6%	50%

Data provided by NMDOW. 2025 harvest data not available. In our area of unit 34 a 25% decline in population was observed from 2025 to 2026. Units with less than 10% success should not have hunts continued in them until population recovery is achieved. Habitat loss due primarily to stand replacement fires and degradation due to drought does not seem to have been considered in the proposed turkey rule.

From: Edwards, Travis <Travis.Edwards@T-Mobile.com>

Sent: Monday, January 12, 2026 12:36 PM

To: ISPA, DGF <ispa@dgf.nm.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] 2027 - 2030 Big game rule cycle

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Good morning,

I wanted to comment on Turkey Rules for the next 4 year cycle (2027 – 2030) and just general rules. I didn't see a specific address for the Turkey comments so just sending here. I listened to the commission meeting on the 9th and heard what has been initially proposed.

Turkey

- I like and am encouraged to hear possibly more Gould's tags coming soon. I hope I get lucky and draw that tag one of these days. I appreciate all the work G&F has done and is still doing to get Gould's off the state endangered list and allowing some tags to residents.
- I have been concerned about the Turkey population, seems like it has been going down pretty much everywhere I've been. I'm still seeing Turkeys, but flock size seem to have gone down in the last 5 years. I have no idea if that is only because of drought or possibly some of the fall hunting that happens. I really would like to see and was encouraged to hear on the meeting possibly going to Gobbler only for the fall. I think that would be a good move state wide for the next 4 years and see how the Turkey populations responds and see what kind of feedback you get from hunters. Another alternative might be having shorter season for ES turkey and then a longer Gobbler only season.
- Last feedback I wanted to give is around the Spring season. I really would like to see something done with over-crowding, especially in the Sacramento mountains. I've been seeing so many hunters lately and especially a huge influx of non-resident hunters. I think either a cap needs to be put on NR licenses or maybe a draw for NR only. The other thing that might help is limiting the tags to 1 gobbler, at least for NR on public land. Honestly, I would like to see it for everyone, residents and NR, 1 Gobbler is plenty for anyone in my opinion and will make the hunting pressure less for everyone.

I also really liked hearing the possible 2 changes for how Private land hunt OTC tags are purchased and the E-TAG purchase change. I think all OTC Private tags for all species should have some kind of private land validation when you buy the tag. I can't tell you how many times I've run into Private land only hunters on public land, especially during Barbary sheep hunts. And the E-Tag/online purchase change totally makes sense. I think it should only be available to purchase before the season starts or at least 24 hours in advance.

Thank you for taking my comments!

Travis

COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA BRIEFING

Meeting Date: May 28, 2026

Agenda Number: 11

Presenter: Stewart Liley

Corroborator: N/A

Agenda Title: Rule Making Hearing: Turkey Rule (19.31.16 NMAC) for the 2027 – 2031 hunting seasons.

1. Summary of Agenda Item

The Department will present proposed changes to the Turkey Rule (19.31.16 NMAC) based on recent survey information, management goals, and public comment.

Proposed amendments focus on:

- Adjust hunt dates based on calendar dates
- Increase up-to permit number for Gould's once-in-a-lifetime hunt in GMU 26 and 27 to 15
- In unit 8, increase permits from 15 to 20
- Conducted analysis of fall hen harvest, and this indicated that there are no units for which low-level harvest will negatively impact the population
- Require the purchase of a license at least one day prior to hunting

2. Background Information

The turkey rule is amended every four years as part of the turkey rule development cycle. The current 4-year rule expires April 1, 2027. Proposed changes to the rule are made based on findings in scientific literature, data collected by Department staff, and public observations and recommendations.

3. Strategic Plan References and Possible Impacts of Agenda Item

The process as presented to the Commission meets the Conservation Services Program Objectives 1, 2 and 5 of the Department's Strategic Plan: FY 2019 – FY 2023

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

None

5. Description and Summary of Public Involvement Process and Results

The Department has posted proposed changes to the turkey rule on the Department's website. Input has been gathered from mail and email. Hybrid public meetings were held March 11st in Albuquerque and March 12th in Las Cruces, and a presentation was given at a virtual National Wild Turkey Federation meeting to gather public comments on the proposed changes to the turkey rule.

Suggested Motion

The Department respectfully suggests the following motion unless Commission discretion indicates a different course of action:

“Move to repeal and replace 19.31.16 NMAC, as presented by the Department and allow the Department to make minor corrections to comply with filing this rule with State Records and Archives.”

TITLE 19 NATURAL RESOURCES AND WILDLIFE
CHAPTER 31 HUNTING AND FISHING
PART 16 TURKEY

19.31.16.1 ISSUING AGENCY: New Mexico department of ~~game and fish-wildlife~~.
[19.31.16.1 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.1 NMAC, 4/1/2023]

19.31.16.2 SCOPE: Sportspersons interested in turkey management and hunting. Additional requirements may be found in Chapter 17 NMSA 1978, and Title 19 NMAC.
[19.31.16.2 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.2 NMAC, 4/1/2023]

19.31.16.3 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Sections 17-1-14, 17-1-26, 17-3-16.4 and 17-3-16.5 NMSA 1978 provide that the New Mexico state ~~game~~wildlife commission has the authority to establish rules and regulations that it may deem necessary to carry out the purpose of Chapter 17 NMSA 1978 and all other acts pertaining to protected mammals, birds and fish.
[19.31.16.3 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.3 NMAC, 4/1/2023]

19.31.16.4 DURATION: April 1, ~~2023~~2027 through March 31, ~~2027~~2031.
[19.31.16.4 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.4 NMAC, 4/1/2023]

19.31.16.5 EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, ~~2023~~2027, unless a later date is cited at the end of a section.
[19.31.16.5 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.5 NMAC, 4/1/2023]

19.31.16.6 OBJECTIVE: Establishing open hunting seasons, rules and procedures governing the distribution and issuance of turkey permits and licenses by the department.
[19.31.16.6 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.6 NMAC, 4/1/2023]

19.31.16.7 DEFINITIONS:

- A.** “Bearded turkey” shall mean a turkey with a visible beard.
 - B.** “Department” shall mean the New Mexico department of ~~game and fish-wildlife~~.
 - C.** “Director” shall mean the director of the New Mexico department of ~~game and fish-wildlife~~.
 - D.** “Entry permit” shall entitle the holder of a valid turkey license to hunt areas otherwise closed to turkey hunting.
 - E.** “Game management unit” or “GMU” shall mean those areas described 19.30.4 NMAC Boundary Descriptions for Game Management Units.
 - F.** “Wildlife management areas” or “WMAs” shall mean those areas described in 19.34.5 NMAC Wildlife Management Areas.
- [19.31.16.7 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.7 NMAC, 4/1/2023]

19.31.16.8 ADJUSTMENT OF LICENSES, PERMITS AND AUTHORIZATIONS: The director, with the verbal concurrence of the chairperson or their designee, may adjust the number of licenses, permits or authorizations for turkey up or down by no more than twenty percent to address significant changes in population levels or habitat availability. This adjustment may be applied to any or all entry hunt codes for turkey.
[19.31.16.8 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.8 NMAC, 4/1/2023]

19.31.16.9 TURKEY ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME-HUNTS: It shall be unlawful for anyone to apply for or hold a once-in-a-lifetime turkey entry permit if he or she has held a once-in-a-lifetime entry permit to hunt turkey.
[19.31.16.9 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.9 NMAC, 4/1/2023]

19.31.16.10 TURKEY HUNTING SEASONS: The ~~2023-24~~2027-28 through ~~2026-27~~2030-31 hunting seasons shall be as indicated below, listing the GMUs or areas open, eligibility requirements or restrictions, hunt dates, hunt codes, legal sporting arms, number of permits and bag limits. All WMAs, except as listed in Subsection A of 19.31.16.10 NMAC, are open to over-the-counter turkey hunting if the GMU where they are located is open to turkey hunting or are restricted to entry permit holders as listed in Subsection B of 19.31.16.10 NMAC.

A. Over-the-counter hunts: All over-the-counter turkey licenses shall be valid for any legal sporting arms, except turkey hunting in the Sandia ranger district portion of GMU 14 and Sugarite canyon state park in GMU 57 are restricted to bow and crossbow only. The number of licenses for these hunts shall be unlimited.

(1) Spring seasons:

Open GMUs or areas	hunt dates	bag limit
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Statewide except the following GMUs or areas are closed to over-the-counter turkey hunting: GMU: 2A areas east of US 550 and north of NM 173, 2B areas in the Carson national forest, 2C areas in the Carson national forest, 6B, 8, 19, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31 Bernardo WMA, Jackson lake WMA, La Joya WMA, Marquez/LBar WMA, Prairie Chicken WMAs, Red Rock WMA, Valle Vidal, W.S. Huey WMA	4/15-5/15	2 turkeys with visible beards
Statewide except as listed above, youth only	4/7-9/2023 4/12-14/2024 4/11-13/2025 4/10-12/2026 4/9-11/2027 4/7-9/2028 4/6-8/2029 4/12-14/2030	2 turkeys with visible beards

(2) **Fall seasons:**

Open GMUs or areas	hunt dates	bag limit
Statewide except the following GMUs or areas are closed to over the counter turkey hunting: GMU: 2A areas east of US 550 and north of NM 173, 2B areas in the Carson national forest, 2C areas in the Carson national forest, 6B, 8, 14, 18, 19, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 33, 38, 49, 50, 53 Bernardo WMA, Bill Evans WMA, Edward Sargent WMA, Jackson lake WMA, La Joya WMA, Lake Roberts WMA, Marquez/LBar WMA, Prairie Chicken WMAs, Red Rock WMA, Rio Chama WMA, Sugarite canyon state park, Valle Vidal, W.S. Huey WMA	bow only: 9/1-30 any legal sporting arms: 11/1-30	any 1 turkey

B. Entry permit hunts: All entry permits shall be valid for any legal sporting arms except turkey hunting in the Sandia ranger district portion of GMU 8. An entry permit authorizes the holder to hunt in the area, for the bag limit, and for the season dates listed on the permit. In addition, holders of a turkey entry permit may hunt in any open over-the-counter area during the spring season for a second turkey (if applicable) or if unsuccessful in their entry hunt area. In no circumstance may any turkey hunter take or attempt to take more than two bearded turkeys during the spring season. Holders of an entry hunt permit must also purchase a turkey hunting license prior to hunting.

Open GMUs or areas	2023-2024 2027-2028 hunt dates	2024-2025 2028-2029 hunt dates	2025-2026 2029-2030 hunt dates	2026-2027 2030-2031 hunt dates	hunt code	permits	bag limit
2B (Carson national forest) 2C (Carson national forest)	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	TUR-1-100	115	1 turkey with visible beard
2B (Carson national forest) 2C (Carson national forest), youth only	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	TUR-1-101	50	1 turkey with visible beard
2A (areas east of US 550 and north of NM 173), youth only	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	TUR-1-102	5	1 turkey with visible beard
6B Valles Caldera national preserve	4/15-4/30	4/15-4/30	4/15-4/30	4/15-4/30	TUR-1-103	20	1 turkey with visible beard
8 (bow and crossbow only in Sandia ranger district)	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	TUR-1-104	1520	2 turkeys with visible beard

9 Marquez/LBar WMA	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	TUR-1-105	15	1 turkey with visible beard
26 and 27 once-in-a-lifetime	5/1-5/30	5/1-5/30	5/1-5/30	5/1-5/30	TUR-1-106	up to \$15	1 turkey with visible beard
30 Washington ranch (private land) and Black river management area (BLM), youth only	4/28-4/30 4/23-4/25	4/26-4/28 4/28-4/30	4/25-4/27 4/27-4/29	4/24-4/26 4/26-4/28	TUR-1-107	up to 4	1 turkey with visible beard
30 Washington ranch (private land) and Black river management area (BLM), youth only	5/5-5/7 4/30-5/1	5/3-5/5 5/5-5/7	5/2-5/4 5/4-5/6	5/1-5/3 5/3-5/5	TUR-1-108	up to 4	1 turkey with visible beard
55 Valle Vidal (only the east side is open from 5/1-15)	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	4/15-5/15	TUR-1-109	20	1 turkey with visible beard

[19.31.16.10 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.9 NMAC, 4/1/2023]

19.31.16.11 TURKEY POPULATION MANAGEMENT HUNTS:

A. The director or their designee may authorize population management hunts for turkey when justified in writing by department personnel.

B. The director or their designee shall designate the sporting arms, season dates, season lengths, bag limits, hunt boundaries, specific requirements or restrictions and number of licenses to be issued.

C. In the event that an applicant is not able to hunt on the dates specified, the applicant's name shall be moved to the bottom of the list and another applicant may be contacted for the hunt.

D. In those instances where a population management hunt is warranted on deeded private lands, the landowner may suggest eligible hunters of their choice by submitting a list of prospective hunters' names to the department for licensing consideration. No more than one-half of the total number of licenses authorized shall be available to landowner-identified hunters. The balance of prospective hunters shall be identified by the department.

[19.31.16.11 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.16.10 NMAC, 4/1/2023]

19.31.16.12 GOULD'S TURKEY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM:

A. The director shall collect all proceeds generated through the auction or lottery or both, of not more than two special Gould's turkey enhancement entry permits annually, and such monies shall be deposited into the game protection fund. These monies shall be available for expenditure by the department to be used exclusively for activities, projects and programs aimed at benefitting Gould's turkeys and Gould's turkey habitat, and for costs incurred in carrying out these programs.

B. Requirements for issuance, sale and use of Gould's turkey enhancement permits:

(1) **Issuance:** The director may issue up to two Gould's turkey enhancement entry permits annually.

(2) **Sale:** The auction or lottery or both shall be conducted by an incorporated non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of wildlife, in cooperation with and overseen by the department.

(3) **Use:**

(a) The successful recipient(s) shall be allotted an authorization for a Gould's turkey enhancement entry permit, which may be transferred through sale, barter, donation or gift to other individuals qualified to obtain a license and hunt. Once an authorization is converted to a permit, the permit will be non-transferable.

(b) Individuals hunting pursuant to a Gould's turkey enhancement entry permit must obtain and have in their possession a valid turkey hunting license and any other stamps, tags or permits required by rule.

(c) Unless their hunting privileges have been revoked pursuant to law, any person is eligible to bid on and purchase a Gould's turkey enhancement entry permit.

(d) Individuals holding a Gould's turkey enhancement entry permit shall not be prohibited from hunting other subspecies of turkeys in New Mexico as allowed in 19.31.16 NMAC.

(e) The entry permit shall be valid for any legal sporting arms, and the bag limit shall be one bearded Gould's turkey.

(f) The season dates for each entry permit shall be no more than 30 consecutive days between April 1 and May 31 as specified by the entry permit each license year.

(g) The harvest of one bearded Gould's turkey shall count against the license holder's spring turkey bag limit.

(h) The hunt area for each entry permit shall be any legally accessible public lands in GMUs 26 and 27 where hunting is allowed, and private land with written permission.

(i) Gould's turkey enhancement entry permits granted through auction or lottery, as described above, shall not be considered 'once-in-a-lifetime' permits.
[19.31.16.12 NMAC -Rp , 19.31.16.11 NMAC, 4/1/2023]

HISTORY OF 19.31.16 NMAC:

Pre-NMAC History: The material in this part was derived from that previously filed with the State Records Center and Archives under:

Regulation No. 482, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, Elk, Antelope, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, And Barbary Sheep, filed 5/31/1967;

Regulation No. 487, Establishing 1967 Seasons On Javelina And Barbary Sheep, filed 12/15/1967;

Regulation No. 489, Establishing Turkey Seasons For The Spring of 1968, filed 3/1/1968;

Regulation No. 491, Establishing Big Game Seasons For 1968 For Jicarilla Reservation, filed 3/1/1968;

Regulation No. 492, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, Elk, Antelope, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, And Barbary Sheep, filed 6/6/1968;

Regulation No. 495, Establishing A Season On Bighorn Sheep, filed 10/2/1968;

Regulation No. 496, Establishing An Elk Season In The Tres Piedras Area, Elk Area P-6, filed 12/11/1968;

Regulation No. 502, Establishing Turkey Seasons For The Spring Of 1969, filed 3/5/1969;

Regulation No. 503, Establishing 1969 Deer Seasons For Bowhunting Only And Big Game Seasons For The Jicarilla Indian Reservation, filed 3/5/1969;

Regulation 504, Establishing Seasons on Deer, Bear, Turkey, Dusky Grouse, Chickaree And Tassel-Eared Squirrel, And Barbary Sheep, filed 6/4/1969;

Regulation No. 507, Establishing A Season On Bighorn Sheep, filed 8/26/1969;

Regulation No. 512, Establishing Turkey Season For The Spring Of 1970, filed 2/20/1970;

Regulation No. 513, Establishing Deer Season For Bowhunting Only In Sandia State Game Refuge, filed 2/20/1970;

Regulation No. 514, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, Elk, Antelope, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, Barbary Sheep And Bighorn Sheep, filed 6/9/1970;

Regulation No 520, Establishing Turkey Seasons For The Spring Of 1971, filed 3/9/1971;

Regulation No. 522, Establishing 1971 Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, And Elk On The Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, filed 3/9/1971;

Regulation No. 523, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep And Bighorn Sheep, filed 6/9/1971;

Regulation No. 531, Establishing A Season On Javelina, filed 12/17/1971;

Regulation No. 532, Establishing Turkey Seasons For The Spring Of 1972, filed 3/20/1972;

Regulation No. 534, Establishing 1972 Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, And Elk On The Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, filed 3/20/1972;

Regulation No. 536, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Chickaree And Tassel-Eared Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep And Bighorn Sheep, filed 6/26/1972;

Regulation No. 542, Establishing A Season On Javelina, filed 12/1/1972;

Regulation No. 545, Establishing Turkey Seasons For The Spring Of 1973, filed 2/26/1973;

Regulation No. 546, Establishing 1973 Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, And Elk On The Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, filed 2/26/1973;

Regulation No. 547, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Chickaree And Tassel-Eared Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep And Bighorn Sheep, And Javelina, filed 5/31/1973;
Regulation No. 554, Establishing Special Turkey Seasons For The Spring of 1974, filed 3/4/1974;
Regulation No. 556, Establishing 1974 Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, And Elk On The Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, filed 3/14/1974;
Regulation No. 558, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx, And Ibex, filed 5/29/1974;
Regulation No. 565, Establishing Special Turkey Seasons For The Spring Of 1975, filed 3/24/75;
Regulation No. 567, Establishing 1975 Seasons On Deer, Bear, And Turkey On The Jicarilla Apache And Navajo Indian Reservations And On Elk On The Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, filed 3/24/1975;
Regulation No. 568, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Chickaree And Tassel-Eared Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex, filed 6/25/1975;
Regulation No. 573, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex, filed 2/23/1976;
Regulation No. 583, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex, filed 2/11/1977;
Regulation No. 590, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex, filed 2/15/1978;
Regulation No. 596, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex, filed 2/23/1979;
Regulation No. 603, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1980 through March 31, 1981, filed 2/22/1980;
Regulation No. 609, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1981 through March 31, 1982, filed 3/17/1981;
Regulation No. 614, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1982 through March 31, 1983, filed 3/10/1982;
Regulation No. 622, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1983 through March 31, 1984, filed 3/9/1983;
Regulation No. 628, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1984 through March 31, 1985, filed 4/2/1984;
Regulation No. 634, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1985 Through March 31, 1986, filed 4/18/1985;
Regulation No. 640, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1986 through March 31, 1987, filed 3/25/1986;
Regulation No. 645, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1987 through March 31, 1988, filed 2/12/1987;
Regulation No. 653, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1988 through March 31, 1989, filed 12/18/1987;
Regulation No. 663, Establishing Opening Spring Turkey For The Period April 1, 1989 through March 31, 1990, filed 3/28/1989;
Regulation No. 664, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1989 through March 31, 1990, filed 3/20/1989;
Regulation No. 674, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1990 through March 31, 1991, filed 11/21/1989;
Regulation No. 683, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx, And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1991 through March 31, 1992, filed 2/8/1991;
Regulation No. 689, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx, And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1992 through March 31, 1993, filed 3/4/1992;
Regulation No. 700, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx, And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1993 through March 31, 1995, filed 3/11/1993.

History of Repealed Material:

19.31.8 NMAC, Big Game, filed 3/1/2001 - duration expired 3/31/2003.
19.31.8 NMAC, Big Game and Turkey, filed 3/3/2003 - duration expired 3/31/2005.
19.31.8 NMAC, Big Game and Turkey, filed 12/15/2004 - duration expired 3/31/2007.
19.31.16 NMAC, Turkey, filed 12/1/2006 - duration expired 3/31/2009.
19.31.16 NMAC, Turkey, filed 2/26/2009 - duration expired 3/31/2011.
19.31.16 NMAC, Turkey, filed 9/15/2010 - duration expired 3/31/2015.
19.31.16 NMAC, Turkey, filed 3/17/2015, repealed 3/31/2016.
19.31.16 NMAC, Turkey, filed 2/29/2016, duration expired 3/31/2019.
19.31.16 NMAC, Turkey, filed 7/2/2018, duration expired 3/31/2023.