



DIRECTOR AND SECRETARY
TO THE COMMISSION
Michael B. Sloane

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

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STATE WILDLIFE COMMISSION

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September 2026

Dear Estancia Valley Sandhill Crane Hunter:

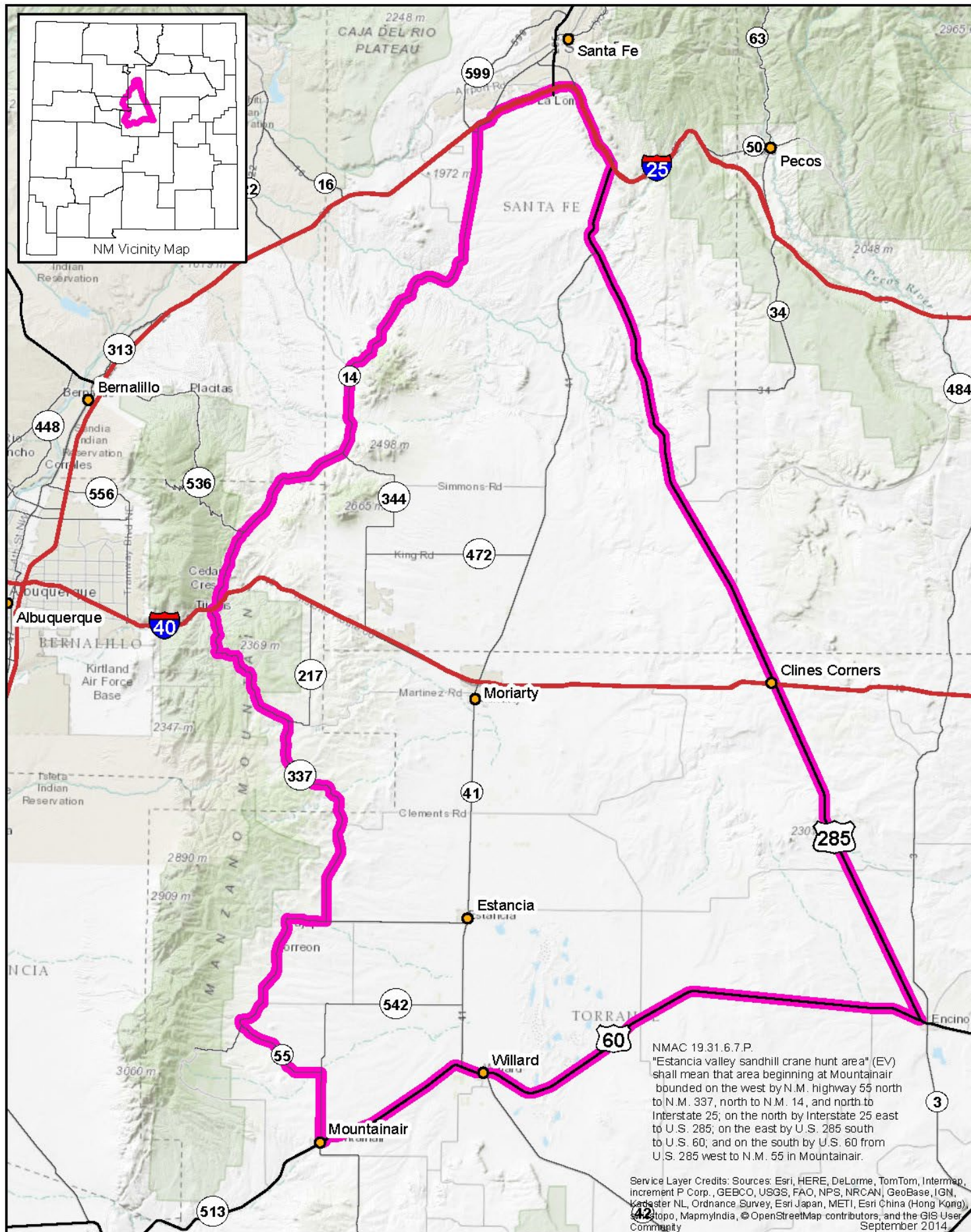
Congratulations, your application was selected for a permit to hunt sandhill cranes during the 2026 Estancia Valley (EV) New Mexico special season, SCR-0-101. Your hunt is scheduled for December 12–15 and December 17–20, 2026. The EV sandhill crane hunt area is depicted on the map accompanying this letter. The daily bag limit is three (3) cranes with six (6) in possession. Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset and only non-toxic shot may be used and in your possession.

All hunters are required to file a harvest report by December 28, 2026 via the Department's online licensing system or by calling 888-248-6866. Successful hunters are additionally required to fill out a bill measurement card for each crane harvested. The bill measurement card accompanies this letter below and these must be returned to the Department by December 28, 2026. The Department is required to monitor the number of greater sandhill cranes harvested to ensure we do not exceed a sustainable harvest. Please follow the instructions on the bill measurement card carefully so that the Department can verify the number of greater sandhill cranes that are harvested. It is critical that you submit your harvest report, as any crane or hunter without this corresponding information counts against our state's harvest allotment for greater sandhill cranes. Too many nonreporting hunters could cause crane hunts to close if it appears that New Mexico will exceed its harvest allotment.

IMPORTANT—If you harvest cranes, you must return your bill cards and file a harvest report by December 28, 2026. If you did not hunt or did not harvest any cranes, you still must file a harvest report by December 28, 2026.

A valid hunting license with a Harvest Information Program (HIP) number and a crane hunting permit issued for the correct dates and hunt location are required to participate in this hunt. Hunters 17 years of age or younger must also possess their hunter education certification card.

Migratory Game Bird Program
New Mexico Department of Wildlife



Estancia Valley Sandhill Crane Hunt Area



0 5 10 20 Miles





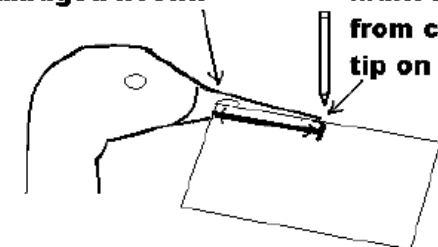
Sandhill Crane Bill Measurement Card

Please print this on card stock. Please do not bend

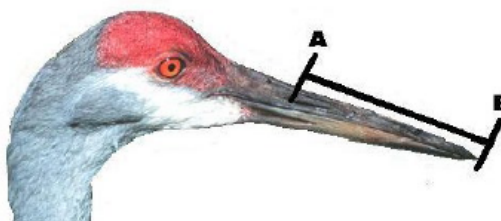
We need a straight-line measurement from the back of an undamaged nostril hole (A) to the tip of your crane's bill (B). Push any corner of this card against the back of an undamaged nostril hole (A) and draw a line on this card at the tip of the bill (B).

Place any corner of
the card into an
undamaged nostril

Mark distance
from corner to bill
tip on card



Keep card straight



1. Name of hunter _____
2. Are there brown feathers on the back of the crane's head? Yes ____ No ____
3. What color is the eye? Brown ____ Yellow or Orange ____
4. Harvest date ____/____/____

Please return by mail:

New Mexico Department of Wildlife — Sandhill Crane Surveys
One Wildlife Way
Santa Fe, NM 87507

Thank you!