

MANNER AND METHOD RULE PROPOSED CHANGES SUMMARY

Date of update: 9/28/2026

** Please check back regularly for updates and additional information as decisions are finalized.*

AMENDMENTS TO CONFORM WITH OTHER CHANGES TO OTHER RULES

The Manner and Method Rule is being amended to conform with changes made in other NMAC rules or to codify changes that were agreed upon during those rule development processes. Proposed changes include:

- 1) Changes to license purchase requirements regarding when licenses must be purchased.
- 2) Changes to the definition of “sporting arm types” to reflect changes in denotations in the hunt codes to conform to the new hunt code format.
- 3) Changes to the definition of “protected species” to reflect changes in statutory authority.
- 4) Changes to the definition of “written permission” to reflect changes to private land licenses and ranch registration.

HUNT CODE FORMAT CHANGE

We are changing our hunt codes to make them easier to understand. In the past, hunt codes only represented the species being hunted and following a series of numbers, like JAV-1-100 or ORX-1-120. Those numbers were **not descriptive or informative about the hunt itself leading to confusion for hunters and law enforcement.**

Starting in the 2027-2028 license year, hunt codes will be updated to describe the hunt. Each part of the new code tells you something: the species, where the hunt takes place, what type of hunt it is, what you can harvest, and any special conditions. This change matters because hunt codes shift every few years when hunting rules are updated. In the past, that meant a code you applied for one year might describe a completely different hunt the next **rule cycle**. The new hunt codes are designed to follow the hunt, so you can clearly identify what you are applying for before submitting your application.

UNDERSTANDING THE NEW FORMAT

OLD CODE	OLD DESCRIPTION	NEW CODE	NEW DESCRIPTION
JAV-1-100	Javelina youth hunt, statewide	JAV-STW-R1-ES-YTH	Javelina, statewide, 1 st rifle hunt, either sex, youth
ORX-1-120	Early march rifle, broken horn oryx, GMU 19 (WSMR)	ORX-19W-R9-BHO-PUB	Oryx, GMU 19 (WSMR), 9 th rifle hunt, broken horn oryx, public
ELK-2-264	1 st archery hunt, GMU 15	ELK-15-B1-ES-PUB	Elk, GMU 15, 1 st bow hunt, either sex, public hunt