

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