New Mexico Register / Volume XXXII, Issue 17 / September 14, 2021 STATE GAME COMMISSION MEETING AND RULE MAKING NOTICE

The New Mexico State Game Commission ("Commission") will be hosting a virtual and in-person meeting and rule hearing on Thursday October 22, 2021 beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Rd., Las Cruces, NM. Please check the Department's website at: www.wildlife.state.nm.us for potential venue changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of this meeting is to hear and consider action as appropriate on the following: presentation of proposed changes to 1) the Upland Game rule; and 2) the Furbearers rule.

Synopsis:

- 1) The proposal is to amend the Upland Game rule, 19.31.5 NMAC, which will become effective April 1, 2022. The current Upland Game rule will expire on March 31, 2022. The proposed new rule includes expanding boundaries of the Bernardo youth pheasant hunt to include adjacent WMAs in the middle Rio Grande Valley, adjusting dusky grouse and squirrel seasons to close December 31, adjusting hunt dates based on calendar dates, and removing language duplicated in 19.31.10 NMAC Hunting and Fishing-Manner and Method and 19.31.3 NMAC Hunting and Fishing Licenses and Application.
- 2) The proposal is to amend the Furbearers rule, 19.32.2 NMAC, which will become effective April 1, 2022. The current Furbearer rule will expire on March 31, 2024. Senate Bill 32, the Wildlife Conservation and Public Safety Act (17-11-1 to 5 NMSA 1978), passed the 2021 Legislative session and was signed into law. The proposed amendment will conform with new statutory changes.

A full text of changes for both rules will be available on the Department's website at: www.wildlife.state.nm.us.

Interested persons may submit comments on the proposed changes to the Upland Game rule at DGF-Gamebird@state.nm.us, or the Furbearer rule at DGF-Furberarer-Rules@state.nm.us; individuals may also submit written comments to the physical address below. Comments are due by 8:00 a.m. on October 21, 2021. The final proposed rules will be voted on by the Commission during a public meeting on October 22, 2021. Interested persons may also provide data, views or arguments, orally or in writing, at the public rule hearing to be held on October 22, 2021.

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 www.wildlife.state.nm.us/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 www.wildlife.state.nm.us 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 5 UPLAND GAME

19.31.5.1 ISSUING AGENCY: New Mexico department of game and fish.

[19.31.5.1 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.5.1 NMAC, 4/1/2022]

19.31.5.2 SCOPE: Sportspersons interested in upland game management and hunting. Additional requirements may be found in Chapter 17 NMSA 1978 and Title 19 NMAC. [19.31.5.2 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.5.2 NMAC, 4/1/2022]

- **19.31.5.3 STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** Sections 17-1-14 and 17-1-26 NMSA 1978 provide that the New Mexico state game 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. [19.31.5.3 NMAC Rp, 19.31.5.3 NMAC, 4/1/2022]
- **19.31.5.4 DURATION:** April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2026. [19.31.5.4 NMAC Rp, 19.31.5.4 NMAC, 4/1/2022]
- **19.31.5.5 EFFECTIVE DATE:** April 1, 2022 unless a later date is cited at the end of a section. [19.31.5.5 NMAC Rp, 19.31.5.5 NMAC, 4/1/2022]
- **19.31.5.6 OBJECTIVE:** Establishing seasons on dusky grouse, Eurasian collared-dove, pheasant, Gambel's quail, Montezuma quail, northern bobwhite, scaled quail, tree squirrels, and setting falconry seasons. [19.31.5.6 NMAC Rp, 19.31.5.6 NMAC, 4/1/2022]

19.31.5.7 DEFINITIONS:

- **A.** "Department" shall mean the New Mexico department of game and fish.
- **B.** "Falconry" shall mean hunting game mammals or game birds using raptors.
- **C.** "Possession limit" shall mean the number of game mammals or game birds in a person's possession regardless of the location stored.
- **D.** "Tree squirrels" shall mean squirrels in the genera *Sciurus* and *Tamiasciurus*, including Abert's squirrel, red squirrel, Arizona gray squirrel, fox squirrel and eastern gray squirrel.
- **E.** "Wildlife management areas" or "WMAs" shall mean those areas as described in 19.34.5 NMAC, Wildlife Management Areas.

[19.31.5.7 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.5.7 NMAC, 4/1/2022]

19.31.5.8 MANNER AND METHODS FOR UPLAND GAME:

- **A. Season and hours:** Upland game may be hunted or taken only during open seasons and only during the period from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset, unless otherwise allowed or restricted by rule.
- (1) On Bernardo, Casa Colorada, La Joya, and W.S. Huey WMAs, hunting hours shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to 1:00 p.m.
- (2) For the special permit pheasant hunts on W.S. Huey WMA, hunting hours shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

B. State WMAs open, species that can be hunted, and days open for hunting:

- (1) The W.S. Huey WMA shall be open for quail hunting on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays during established quail seasons.
- (2) Bernardo, Casa Colorada, La Joya, and W.S. Huey WMAs shall be open to pheasant hunting by special draw permit only.
- (3) The Edward Sargent, W. A. Humphries, Rio Chama, Urraca, Colin Neblett, and Elliot S. Barker WMAs shall be open for upland game hunting during established tree squirrel and dusky grouse seasons.
- (4) The Water canyon, Marquez, prairie-chicken areas, and Socorro-Escondida WMAs shall be open for upland game hunting during established quail seasons.

- (5) Eurasian collared-dove hunting shall be open during established mourning and white-winged dove seasons as defined in 19.31.6 NMAC Migratory Game Bird, and during established quail, tree squirrel, and dusky grouse seasons.
- C. All Eurasian collared-dove must have an identifiable feathered wing attached until the bird has arrived at the person's residence, processor, or place of final storage. [19.31.5.8 NMAC Rp, 19.31.5.9 NMAC, 4/1/2022]

19.31.5.9 UPLAND GAME HUNTING SEASONS: Hunting seasons shall be as indicated below.

SPECIES OPEN AREAS		DATES	DAILY BAG (POSSESSION) LIMITS
Eurasian collared-dove	Statewide	April 1 - March 31	no bag or possession limit
dusky grouse	Statewide	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31 annually	3 (6 in possession)
pheasant	Statewide	Dec. 8-11, 2022 Dec. 7-10, 2023 Dec. 12-15, 2024 Dec. 11-14, 2025	3 males (6 in possession)
quail Statewide		Nov. 15 - Feb. 15 annually	15, singly or in aggregate; no more than 5 shall be Montezuma quail (possession shall be 30 singly or in aggregate - no more than 10 shall be Montezuma quail)
tree squirrel	Statewide	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31 annually	8, singly or in aggregate (possession shall be 16 singly or in aggregate)

[19.31.5.9 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.5.10 NMAC, 4/1/2022]

19.31.5.10 HUNT CODES AND PERMIT NUMBERS FOR SPECIAL DRAW PHEASANT HUNTS:

HUNT LOCATION	2022 SEASON	2023 SEASON	2024 SEASON	2025 SEASON	HUNT CODE	NO. OF PERMITS	BAG LIMIT
youth-only Bernardo, Casa Colorada, and La Joya WMAs	Oct. 15	Oct. 21	Oct. 19	Oct. 18	PHE-0-001	20	3 males
youth-only W.S. Huey WMA	Dec. 3	Dec. 2	Dec. 7	Dec. 6	PHE-0-002	40	3 males
W.S. Huey WMA	Dec. 10	Dec. 9	Dec. 14	Dec. 13	PHE-0-003	40	3 males

[19.31.5.10 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.5.12 NMAC, 4/1/2022]

19.31.5.11 FALCONRY SEASONS:

- **A. Open areas and season dates:** The season for dusky grouse, pheasants, quail and tree squirrels shall be statewide and shall be open September 1 through February 28 annually. For Eurasian collared-dove, all areas statewide are open year round, except as prohibited by rule.
- **B.** Daily bag and possession limits: Daily bag limits for dusky grouse, pheasant, and quail shall be three birds (in the aggregate) and three tree squirrels (in the aggregate). Possession limits shall be: dusky grouse-six; pheasant-six; quail-30 (singly or in the aggregate); tree squirrels-16 (singly or in the aggregate). There is no bag or possession limit for Eurasian collared-dove.

[19.31.5.11 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.5.13 NMAC, 4/1/2022]

HISTORY OF 19.31.5 NMAC:

Pre-NMAC Regulatory Filing History: The material in this Part was derived from that previously filed with the State Records Center & 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. 486, Establishing 1967 Seasons On Quail, Pheasants, Prairie Chickens, and Lesser Sandhill (Little Brown) Crane And Additional Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, filed 9/22/1967; 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. 493, Establishing 1968 Seasons On Mourning And White-Winged Doves, Band-Tailed Pigeons, And Sora And Virginia Rails, filed 8/9/1968; Regulation No. 494, Establishing 1968 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Wilson's Snipe, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Scaled, Gambel's, And Bobwhite Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 10/2/1968; Regulation 504, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, Dusky Grouse, Chickaree And Tassel-Eared Squirrel, And Barbary Sheep, filed 6/4/1969; Regulation No. 505, Establishing 1969 Seasons On Teal, Band-Tailed Pigeons, Sora And Virginia Rails, Mourning And White-Winged Doves, And Wilson's Snipe, filed 8/26/1969; Regulation No. 508, Establishing 1969 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Scaled, Gambel's And Bobwhite Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/19/1969; 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. 516 Establishing 1970 Seasons On Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 8/24/1970; 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. 524, Establishing 1971 Seasons On Band-Tailed Pigeons And Mourning And White-winged Doves, filed 8/13/1971; Regulation No. 526, Establishing 1971 Seasons On Blue-Winged, Green-winged And Cinnamon Teal, filed 8/13/71; Regulation No. 527, Establishing 1971 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl And Lesser Sandhill Cranes, filed 9/10/71; Regulation No 529, Establishing 1971 Seasons On Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/24/1971; 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. 538, Establishing 1972 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal And On Band-tailed Pigeons And Mourning And White-winged Doves, filed 8/15/1972; Regulation No. 540, Establishing 1972 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, And Wilson's Swipe, filed 9/26/1972; Regulation No. 541, Establishing 1972 Seasons On Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/26/72; filed; 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. 548, Establishing 1973 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons And Mourning And White-winged Doves, filed 8/20/1973; Regulation No. 549, Establishing 1973 Seasons On Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 8/20/1973; Regulation No. 551, Establishing 1973 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl And Lesser Sandhill Crane, filed 8/20/73; 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. 559, Establishing 1974 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, And Mourning And White-winged Doves, filed 7/2/1974; Regulation No. 560, Establishing 1974 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 8/21/1974; 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. 569, Establishing 1975 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, And Mourning And White-winged Doves, filed 7/31/1975; Regulation No. 570, Establishing 1975 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Common Snipe, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/5/1975; 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. 577, Establishing 1976 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, and Mourning and White-winged Doves, filed 8/3/1976; Regulation No. 578, Establishing 1976 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Common Snipe, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 8/31/1976; Regulation No. 587, Establishing 1977 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, And Mourning And White-winged Doves, Squirrel And Grouse, filed 7/29/1977; Regulation No. 588, Establishing 1977 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Common Snipe, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/6/1977; Regulation No. 593, Establishing 1978 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, And Mourning And Whitewinged Doves, Squirrel, Grouse, Rail, Snipe And Falconry Seasons, filed 8/30/1978; Regulation No. 594, Establishing 1978 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/11/1978; Regulation No. 600, Establishing 1979 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, Mourning And White-winged Doves, Squirrel, Grouse, Rail, Snipe, And Falconry Seasons, filed 7/27/1979; Regulation No. 601, Establishing 1979 Seasons on Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser

Sandhill Crane, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens Regulation No. 605, Establishing 1980 Seasons On Bluewinged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, Mourning And White-winged Doves, Squirrel, Grouse, Rail, Snipe, And Falconry Seasons, filed 7/29/1980; Regulation No. 606, Establishing 1980 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/3/80; Regulation No. 610, Establishing 1981 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, And Mourning And White-winged Doves, Squirrel, Grouse, Rail, Snipe, And Falconry Seasons, filed 8/19/81; Regulation No. 611, Establishing 1981 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/4/1981; Regulation No. 615, Establishing 1982 Seasons On Blue-winged, Greenwinged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, Mourning And White-winged Doves, Squirrel, Grouse, Rail, Snipe, Sandhill Crane, And Falconry Seasons, filed 7/28/82; Regulation No. 616, Establishing 1982 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/3/1982; Regulation No. 625, Establishing 1983 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, Mourning And Whitewinged Doves, Squirrel, Grouse, Rail, Snipe, Sandhill Crane, And Falconry Seasons, filed 7/29/1983; Regulation No. 630, Establishing 1984 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, Mourning And White-winged Doves, Squirrel, Grouse, Rail, Snipe, Sandhill Crane, Quail, Pheasant, Prairie Chicken, And Falconry Seasons, filed 8/2/1984; Regulation No. 637, Establishing 1985 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, Mourning And White-winged Doves, Squirrel, Grouse, Rail, Snipe, Sandhill Crane, Quail, Pheasant, Prairie Chicken, And Falconry Seasons, filed 8/26/1985; Regulation No. 642, Establishing 1986-87 Seasons On Grouse, Squirrel, Quail, Pheasant, Prairie Chicken, And Setting Falconry Seasons, filed 8/1/1986; Regulation No. 652, Establishing 1987-88 Seasons On Blue Grouse, Ring-necked Pheasants (And All Other Races Of Pheasants), Lesser Prairie Chickens, Montezuma Quail, Northern Bobwhite, Scaled Quail, Gambel's Quail, Abert's Squirrels, Red Squirrels And Setting Falconry Seasons, filed 8/24/1987; Regulation No. 661, Establishing 1988-1989 Seasons On Blue Grouse, Ring-necked Pheasants (And All Other Races Of Pheasants), Lesser Prairie Chickens, Montezuma Quail, Northern Bobwhite, Scaled Quail, Gambel's Quail, Abert's Squirrels, Red Squirrels And Setting Falconry Seasons, filed 6/28/1988; Regulation No. 668, Establishing 1989-1990 Seasons On Pheasants..., Blue Grouse, Lesser Prairie Chicken, Quail (...Shall Mean Montezuma Quail, Northern Bobwhite, Scaled Quail, And Gambel's Quail), Abert's Squirrel, Red Squirrel And Setting Falconry Seasons, filed 9/1/1989; Regulation No. 678, Establishing 1990-1991 Seasons On Pheasants..., Blue Grouse, Lesser Prairie Chicken, Quail..., Dove..., Band-tailed Pigeon, Sandhill Crane, Albert's And Red Squirrel And Setting Falconry Seasons, filed 7/26/1990; Regulation No. 686, Establishing 1991-92 Seasons On Pheasants..., Blue Grouse, Lesser Prairie Chicken, Quail..., Dove..., Band-tailed Pigeon, Sandhill Crane, Abert's And Red Squirrel And Setting Falconry Seasons, filed 8/6/1991; Regulation No. 699, Establishing 1992-1993 Seasons On Teal..., Pheasants..., Blue Grouse, Lesser Prairie Chicken, Quail..., Dove..., Band-tailed Pigeon, Sandhill Crane, Abert's And Red Squirrel And Setting Falconry Seasons, filed 8/19/1992; Regulation No. 703, Establishing 1993-1994 Seasons On Teal..., Pheasants..., Blue Grouse, Lesser Prairie Chicken, Quail..., Dove..., Band-tailed Pigeon, Sandhill Crane, Abert's And Red Squirrel And Setting Falconry Seasons, filed 3/11/1993; Regulation No. 706, Establishing 1994-1995, 1995-1996, 1996-1997 Seasons On Blue-winged Teal, Green-winged Teal, Cinnamon Teal, Pheasants, Blue Grouse, Lesser Prairie Chicken, Montezuma Quail, and Northern Bobwhite, filed 7/28/1994.

NMAC History:

- 19 NMAC 31.5, Upland Game, filed 7/18/1995.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 8/15/2000.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/24/2002.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 8/12/2003.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/30/2004.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 8/8/2005.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/18/2006.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/26/2007.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/30/2008.

History of Repealed Material:

- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 8/15/2000 duration expired 3/31/2002.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/24/2002 duration expired 3/31/2003.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 8/12/2003 duration expired 3/31/2004.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/30/2004 duration expired 3/31/2005.

19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 8/8/2005 - duration expired 3/31/2006.

19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/18/2006 - duration expired 3/31/2007. 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/26/2007 - duration expired 3/31/2008.

19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/30/2008 - duration expired 3/31/2010.

19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 8/2/2010 - duration expired 3/31/2014.

19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 4/1/2014 - duration expired 3/31/2018.

TITLE 19 NATURAL RESOURCES AND WILDLIFE

CHAPTER 31 HUNTING AND FISHING

PART 5 UPLAND GAME

19.31.5.1 ISSUING AGENCY: New Mexico **Dd**epartment of **Gg**ame and **Ff**ish. [19.31.5.1 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.5.1 NMAC, 4/1/2022]

19.31.5.2 SCOPE: Hunters of upland game Sportsperson interested in upland game management and hunting. Additional requirements may be found in Chapter 17 NMSA 1978 and Chapters 30 and 32 through 36 of Title 19 NMAC.

[19.31.5.2 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.5.2 NMAC, 4/1/2022]

- 19.31.5.3 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Sections 17-1-14 and 17-1-26 NMSA 1978 provide that the New Mexico state game 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. [19.31.5.3 NMAC Rp, 19.31.5.3 NMAC, 4/1/2022]
- **19.31.5.4 DURATION:** April 1, 2018/2022 through March 31, 2022/2026. [19.31.5.4 NMAC Rp, 19.31.5.4 NMAC, 4/1/2022]
- **19.31.5.5 EFFECTIVE DATE:** April 1, 2018 2022 unless a later date is cited at the end of a section. [19.31.5.5 NMAC Rp, 19.31.5.5 NMAC, 4/1/2022]
- **19.31.5.6 OBJECTIVE:** Establishing seasons on dusky grouse, Eurasian collared-dove, pheasant, Gambel's quail, Montezuma quail, northern bobwhite, scaled quail, Abert's squirrel, red squirrel, Arizona gray squirrel, fox squirrel, eastern gray tree squirrels, and setting falconry seasons.

 [19.31.5.6 NMAC Rp, 19.31.5.6 NMAC, 4/1/2022]

19.31.5.7 DEFINITIONS:

- A. "Aggregate" shall mean the sum of individual game taken comprised of several species as allowed by the bag limit or possession limit.
 - B. "Arrows" shall mean only those arrows or bolts having broadheads with steel cutting edges.
 - C. "Bag limit" shall mean the number of upland game animals a licensed hunter is allowed per day.
- D. "Baiting" shall mean the placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of any salt, grain, seent or other feed on or over areas where hunters are attempting to take upland game birds or mammals.
- E. "Bow" shall mean compound, recurve, long bow, or crossbow. Sights on bows shall not project light, however, illuminated pins/reticles and scopes of any magnification are allowed.
- F. "Crossbows" shall mean a device with a bow limb or band of flexible material that is attached horizontally to a stock and has a mechanism to hold the string in a cocked position. Sights on crossbows shall not project light, however, illuminated pins/reticles and scopes of any magnification are allowed.
 - **AG.** "**Department**" shall mean the New Mexico department of game and fish.
- H. "Department offices" shall mean department offices in Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Raton, Las Cruces, or Roswell.
 - I. "Director" shall mean the director of the New Mexico department of game and fish.
 - J. "Established road" is defined as follows:
- (1) a road, built or maintained by equipment, which shows no evidence of ever being closed to vehicular traffic by such means as berms, ripping, scarification, reseeding, fencing, gates, barricades or posted closures;
- (2) a two track road completely void of vegetation in the tracks which shows use prior to hunting seasons for other purposes such as recreation, mining, logging, and ranching and shows no evidence of ever being closed to vehicular traffic by such means as berms, ripping, scarification, reseeding, fencing, gates, barricades or posted closures.
 - **BK.** "Falconry" shall mean hunting upland game game mammals or game birds using raptors.
 - L. "License year" shall mean the period from April 1 through March 31.

- M. "Modern firearms" shall mean center fire firearms, not to include any fully automatic firearms.

 Legal shotguns shall be only those shotguns capable of being fired from the shoulder.
- N. "Muzzle-loader or muzzle-loading firearms" shall mean those rifles and shotguns in which the charge and projectile are loaded through the muzzle. Only blackpowder, Pyrodex® or equivalent blackpowder substitute may be used. Use of smokeless powder is prohibited. Legal muzzle-loader shotguns shall be only those shotguns capable of being fired from the shoulder.
- O. "Non-toxic shot" shall mean that non-toxic shot approved for use by the U. S. fish and wildlife service.
- P. "Pellet Gun" shall mean a handgun or rifle that propels a single .177 caliber or larger pellet by means of compressed air or other gas.
- Q. "Permanent mobility limitation" shall mean an individual that permanently has: restricted movement in both arms, or is restricted to the use of a walker, wheelchair, or two crutches to walk, or has a combination of disabilities that cause comparable substantial functional limitations.
- <u>CR.</u> "Possession limit" shall mean twice the daily bag limit one can have in their ownership, except where otherwise defined, the number of game mammals or game birds in a person's possession regardless of the location stored.
 - S. "Protected species" shall mean any of the following animals:
- (1) all animals defined as protected wildlife species and game fish under Section 17-2-3

 NMSA 1978:
- (2) all animals listed as endangered species or subspecies as stated in regulation(s) set by the state game commission.
 - T. "Retention" or "retain" shall mean the holding of in captivity.
- U. "State game commission owned properties" shall mean all department owned or managed waterfowl management areas, wildlife management areas, Sandhills Prairie conservation area and lesser prairie chicken areas.
- V. "Unlimited" shall mean there is no set limit on the number of permits or licenses established for the described hunt areas.
- W. "Waterfowl management area (WMA)" shall mean Bernardo, Casa Colorada, Charette lake, Jackson lake, La Joya, McAllister lake, Salt lake, Tucumcari, and W.S. Huey state game commission owned or managed waterfowl management areas.
- D. "Tree squirrels" shall mean squirrels in the genera *Sciurus* and *Tamiasciurus*, including Abert's squirrel, red squirrel, Arizona gray squirrel, fox squirrel and eastern gray squirrel.
- E.X. "Wildlife management areas" or "WMAs" shall mean Big Hatchet, Colin Neblett, E.S. Barker, Humphries, Marquez, Rio Chama, Sargent, Socorro Escondida, and Water canyon wildlife management areas, the Sandhills Prairie conservation area, and state game commission owned lesser prairie-chicken areas. those areas as described in 19.34.5 NMAC, Wildlife Management Areas.
- **Y.** "Youth" shall mean those less than 18 years of age except where otherwise defined. [19.31.5.7 NMAC Rp, 19.31.5.7 NMAC, 4/1/2022]

19.31.5.8 LICENSEAND APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- A. License: It shall be unlawful to hunt dusky grouse, pheasant, quail, Eurasian collared-dove, and tree squirrels without having purchased a valid license for the current license year.
- (1) For pheasant hunting on Bernardo and W.S. Huey WMAs.: in addition to a valid license, a special permit obtained by drawing shall be required.
- (2) For pheasant hunting on private lands in Valencia county.: in addition to a valid license, a Valencia county landowner pheasant permit shall be required.
- B. Valid dates of license or permit: All permits or licenses shall be valid only for the dates, legal sporting arms, bag limit and area specified by the hunt code printed on the permit or license.
- C. Applications: Applications for upland game special permits shall be submitted via the department website.
 - (1) No more than four persons may apply per application.
- (2) It shall be unlawful to submit more than one application per species per year, unless otherwise specifically allowed by rule. Those submitting more than one application per species will result in the rejection of all applications for that species.
 - (3) Applications may be rejected if such applications do not supply adequate information.

- (4) Applicants may apply for a first, second and third choice of seasons if applicable. A maximum of one permit per species hunt code will be awarded to successful applicants unless otherwise specifically allowed by rule.
- All applications must be submitted via the department website unless otherwise specifically allowed by rule. Persons desiring a Valencia county landowner pheasant hunt permit must obtain an application from registered landowners. Applications must be submitted in person to only the northwest area (Albuquerque) office. Applications for the Valencia county landowner pheasant hunt permits may be submitted up to the day prior to the hunt.
- (6) The application deadline for the Bernardo and W.S. Huey WMAs pheasant hunts shall be on date(s) set by the state game commission.
- (7) If applications for permits exceed the number of available permits, permits shall be allotted by means of a random public drawing.
- (8) If any permits remain after the drawing, those permits may be sold online via a secondary sale. original deadline, the director may authorize a new deadline. A person who is not awarded a permit for which he applied may submit a new application for a permit if such permits remain available.
- D. Youth hunts: Only applicants who have not reached their 18th birthday by the opening day of the hunt are eligible to apply for or participate in a youth only hunt.

 [19.31.5.8 NMAC Rp, 19.31.5.8 NMAC, 4/1/2022]

19.31.5.98 MANNER AND METHODS FOR UPLAND GAME:

- A. Season and hours: Upland game may be hunted or taken only during open seasons and only during the period from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset, unless otherwise specifically allowed or restricted by rule.
- (1) On wildlife management areas, the lesser prairie chicken areas, and the Sandhills Prairie conservation area hunting hours shall be from one half hour before sunrise to one half hour after sunset.
- (12) On waterfowl management areas (WMAs), Bernardo, Casa Colorada, La Joya, and W.S. Huey WMAs, hunting hours shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to 1:00 p.m. For the special permit pheasant hunts on W.S. Huey WMA, hunting hours shall be from one half hour before sunrise to 4 p.m.
- (2) For the special permit pheasant hunts on W.S. Huey WMA, hunting hours shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.
- B. Bag limit: It is unlawful for any person to hunt for or take more than one daily bag limit allowed by regulation.
- C. Seizure: Any conservation officer or other officer authorized to enforce game laws and regulations shall seize the carcasses of any upland game that are illegally obtained.
- D. Use of bait: It shall be unlawful for anyone to take or attempt to take any upland game, other than quail on private property, by use of bait. It shall be lawful to take quail from areas where quail feeders occur on private property.
- E. Live animals: It shall be unlawful to use live animals as a blind or decoy in taking or attempting to take any upland game.
- F. Use of calling devices: It shall be unlawful to use any electrically or mechanically recorded calling device in taking or attempting to take any upland game.
 - G. Killing out-of-season: It shall be unlawful to kill any upland game out of season.
 - H. Legal sporting arms and ammunition:
 - (1) The following are legal sporting arms for pheasants, and quail:
 - (a) shotguns firing shot, including muzzle loading shotguns;
 - (b) bows and arrows; and
 - (c) crossbows.
- (2) The following are legal sporting arms for dusky grouse, Eurasian collared dove, Abert's squirrels, Arizona gray squirrels, fox squirrels, eastern gray squirrels and red squirrels:
 - (a) shotguns firing shot, including muzzle loading shotguns;
 - (b) rimfire firearms;
 - (c) muzzle loading firearms;
 - (d) bows and arrows:
 - (e) crossbows; and
 - (f) pellet guns.

Non toxic shot is required for hunting on all state game commission owned lands. It shall be unlawful for any person hunting with a shotgun or muzzleloader on state game commission owned properties, to hunt with or be in possession of lead shot, or shotgun shells loaded with lead shot. I. Drugs and explosives: It shall be unlawful to use any form of drug on an arrow or use arrows J. Proof of species or sex: (1) One foot shall remain attached to each quail taken until the bird has arrived at the personal abode of the possessor or storage facility. (2) The head or a leg of each pheasant taken must remain attached to the bird until the bird has arrived at the personal abode of the possessor or storage facility. Release of wildlife: It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to release, intentionally or otherwise, or cause to be released in this state any upland game, without first obtaining a permit from the department of game and fish. Lands and waters owned, administered, controlled, or managed by the state game BL. commission:-State WMAs open, species that can be hunted, and days open for hunting: (1) Posting of signs: The state game commission may prohibit, modify, condition, or otherwise control the use of areas under its control by posting of signs as may be required in any particular area. (2) Violating provisions of posted signs: It shall be unlawful to violate the provisions of posted signs on areas under the control of the state game commission. (3) Trespass on state game commission owned lands: It shall be unlawful to hunt upland game, camp, or trespass upon state game commission owned lands unless allowed under regulation. State waterfowl management areas and wildlife management areas open, species that can be hunted, and days open for hunting: Use of vehicles will be restricted to designated areas. The W.S. Huey WMA shall be open for quail hunting on Mondays, (1)——(a) Wednesdays, and Saturdays during established quail seasons. The W.S. Huey WMA shall be open to pheasant hunting by special permit only. Bernardo, Casa Colorada, La Joya, and W.S. Huey WMAs shall be open to pheasant **(2)** hunting by special draw permit only. (3) (b) The Edward Sargent, W. A. Humphries, Rio Chama, Urraca, Colin Neblett, and Elliot S. Barker wildlife management areas WMAs shall be open for hunting upland game hunting during established tree squirrel and dusky grouse seasons. The Water canyon, Marquez, prairie-chicken areas, and Socorro-Escondida (4) (c) wildlife management areas WMAs, and the Sandhills Prairie conservation area shall be open for hunting upland game hunting during established quail seasons. (d) The Big Hatchet mountain wildlife management area shall be open for quail hunting during established quail seasons. (e) The state game commission owned lesser prairie chicken areas shall be open for quail hunting during established quail seasons. Eurasian collared-dove hunting shall be open during established mourning and white-**(5)** winged dove seasons as defined in 19.31.6. 11 NMAC, Migratory Game Bird Species, Open Areas, Season Dates, and Daily Bag Limits, and during open established quail, <mark>tree</mark> squirrel, and dusky grouse seasons in open areas, as defined above. All Eurasian collared-dove must have an identifiable feathered wing attached until the bird has arrived at the person's residence, processor, or place of final storage. The Sandia ranger district of the Cibola national forest shall be open to archery only hunting for upland game during established seasons. Areas closed to unland game hunting: The following areas shall remain closed to hunting. except as permitted by regulation: (1) all state game commission owned or managed properties; Rio Grande wild and scenic river area; sub unit 6B (Valles Caldera national preserve): Sugarite canyon state park; and (4) Valle Vidal area.

19.31.5 NMAC 4

[19.31.5.8 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.5.9 NMAC, 4/1/2022]

19.31.5. 1402 UPLAND GAME HUNTING SEASONS: Hunting seasons shall be as indicated below, listing the species, open areas, eligibility requirements or restrictions, season dates, and daily bag and possession limits. All Eurasian collared dove in possession must have an identifiable feathered wing attached until the bird has arrived at the person's residence, processor, or place of final storage.

SPECIES	OPEN AREAS	SEASON OPEN	DAILY BAG (POSSESSION) LIMITS
Eurasian collared dove	Statewide	April 1 March 31	No bag or possession limit
dusky grouse	Statewide	Sept. 1 Dec. 31, 2018 Sept. 1 Dec. 31, 2019 Sept. 1 Dec. 31, 2020 Sept. 1 Dec. 31, 2021	3 (6 in possession)
pheasant	statewide, excluding Valencia county	Dec. 6 9, 2018, Dec. 12 15, 2019, Dec. 10 13, 2020, Dec. 9 12, 2021	3 (males) (6 in possession)
youth only pheasant hunt (special draw permit required)	Bernardo WMA	Oct. 20, 2018, Oct. 19, 2019, Oct. 17, 2020, and Oct. 16, 2021	3 (males)
youth only pheasant hunt (special draw permit required)	W.S. Huey WMA	Dec. 1, 2018, Dec. 7, 2019, Dec. 5, 2020, and Dec. 4, 2021	3 (males)
pheasant (special draw permit required)	W.S. Huey WMA	Dec. 8, 2018, Dec. 14, 2019, Dec. 12, 2020, and Dec. 11, 2021	3 (males)
pheasant (Valencia Co.) (landowner permit required)	<mark>Valencia county</mark> private lands	Dec. 8, 2018, Dec. 14, 2019, Dec. 12, 2020, and Dec. 11, 2021	3 (males)
quail: Gambel's, scaled, northern bobwhite and Montezuma (Mearn's)	Statewide	Nov. 15 Feb. 15, 2019 Nov. 15 Feb. 15, 2020 Nov. 15 Feb. 15, 202 1 Nov. 15 Feb. 15, 2022	15 (singly or in aggregate; no more than 5 shall be Mearn's, possession shall be 30 singly or in aggregate—no more than 10 shall be Mearn's)
squirrel: Abert's, Arizona gray, fox, eastern gray and red squirrel	Statewide	Sept. 1 Dec. 31, 2018 Sept. 1 Dec. 31, 2019 Sept. 1 Dec. 31, 2020 Sept. 1 Dec. 31, 2021	8 (singly or in aggregate, possession shall be 16 singly or in aggregate)

<u>SPECIES</u>	OPEN AREAS	DATES	DAILY BAG (POSSESSION) LIMITS	
Eurasian collared-dove	<u>Statewide</u>	April 1 - March 31	no bag or possession limit	

dusky grouse	<u>Statewide</u>	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31 annually	3 (6 in possession)
<mark>pheasant</mark>	<u>Statewide</u>	Dec. 8-11, 2022 Dec. 7-10, 2023 Dec. 12-15, 2024 Dec. 11-14, 2025	3 males (6 in possession)
<u>quail</u>	<u>Statewide</u>	Nov. 15 - Feb. 15 annually	15, singly or in aggregate; no more than 5 shall be Montezuma quail (possession shall be 30 singly or in aggregate - no more than 10 shall be Montezuma quail)
tree squirrel	<u>Statewide</u>	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31 annually	8, singly or in aggregate (possession shall be 16 singly or in aggregate)

[19.31.5.9 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.5.10 NMAC, 4/1/2022]

19.31.5.11 [RESERVED]

19.31.5.<mark>1210</mark> HUNT CODES AND PERMIT NUMBERS FOR BERNARDO WMA AND W.S. HUEY WMA PHEASANT HUNTS AND THE VALENCIA COUNTY LANDOWNER SPECIAL DRAW PHEASANT HUNTS:

Hunters may possess a Valencia county landowner permit in addition to another special permit pheasant hunt.

Special permit pheasant hunts will be allocated by season as follows:

	2018	2019	2020	2021		no. of
hunt location	<mark>season</mark>	season	<mark>Season</mark>	<mark>season</mark>	hunt code	permits
youth only Bernardo WMA	10/20	10/19	10/17	10/16	PHE 0 001	20
youth only W.S. Huey WMA	12/01	12/07	12/05	12/04	PHE 0 002	<mark>40</mark>
W.S. Huey WMA	12/08	12/14	12/12	12/11	PHE 0 005	<mark>40</mark>
Valencia county landowner permits	12/08	12/14	12/12	12/11	PHE 0 006	Unlimited

	2022	2023	2024	2025	HUNT	NO. OF	BAG
HUNT LOCATION	SEASON	SEASON	SEASON	SEASON	CODE	PERMITS	LIMIT
youth-only Bernardo, Casa	Oct. 15	Oct. 21	Oct. 19	Oct. 18	PHE-0-001	<u>20</u>	3 males
Colorada, and La Joya WMAs							
youth-only W.S. Huey WMA	Dec. 3	Dec. 2	Dec. 7	Dec. 6	PHE-0-002	<u>40</u>	3 males
W.S. Huey WMA	Dec. 10	Dec. 9	Dec. 14	Dec. 13	PHE-0-003	<u>40</u>	3 males

[19.31.5.10 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.5.12 NMAC, 4/1/2022]

19.31.5.1311 FALCONRY SEASONS:

A. Open areas and season dates: The season for dusky grouse, pheasants, quail, Abert's squirrel, Arizona gray squirrel, fox squirrel, eastern gray squirrel, and red and tree squirrels shall be statewide and shall be open September 1 through February 28 annually. For Eurasian collared-dove, all areas statewide are open year round, except as prohibited by rule.

B. Daily bag and possession limits: Daily bag limits for dusky grouse, pheasant, and quail shall be three birds (in the aggregate) and three tree squirrels (in the aggregate). Possession limits shall be: dusky grouse-six; pheasant-six; quail-30 (singly or in the aggregate); Abert's, Arizona gray, fox, eastern gray and red squirrel tree

squirrels -16 (singly or in the aggregate). There is no bag or possession limit for Eurasian collared-dove. All Eurasian collared dove in possession must have an identifiable feathered wing attached until the bird has arrived at the person's residence, processor, or place of final storage.

C. Provisions for possession: The falconry hunter shall not retain nor possess any protected mammal taken by a raptor except Abert's, Arizona gray, eastern gray, fox and red squirrels legally taken during open falconry season. The falconry hunter shall not retain nor possess any protected birds taken by a raptor except those upland game species listed herein that were legally taken during the open falconry season.

[19.31.5.11 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.5.13 NMAC, 4/1/2022]

HISTORY OF 19.31.5 NMAC:

Pre-NMAC Regulatory Filing History: The material in this Part was derived from that previously filed with the State Records Center & 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. 486, Establishing 1967 Seasons On Quail, Pheasants, Prairie Chickens, and Lesser Sandhill (Little Brown) Crane And Additional Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, filed 9/22/1967; 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. 493, Establishing 1968 Seasons On Mourning And White-Winged Doves, Band-Tailed Pigeons, And Sora And Virginia Rails, filed 8/9/1968; Regulation No. 494, Establishing 1968 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Wilson's Snipe, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Scaled, Gambel's, And Bobwhite Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 10/2/1968; Regulation 504, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, Dusky Grouse, Chickaree And Tassel-Eared Squirrel, And Barbary Sheep, filed 6/4/1969; Regulation No. 505, Establishing 1969 Seasons On Teal, Band-Tailed Pigeons, Sora And Virginia Rails, Mourning And White-Winged Doves, And Wilson's Snipe, filed 8/26/1969; Regulation No. 508, Establishing 1969 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Scaled, Gambel's And Bobwhite Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/19/1969; 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. 516 Establishing 1970 Seasons On Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 8/24/1970; 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. 524, Establishing 1971 Seasons On Band-Tailed Pigeons And Mourning And White-winged Doves, filed 8/13/1971; Regulation No. 526, Establishing 1971 Seasons On Blue-Winged, Green-winged And Cinnamon Teal, filed 8/13/71; Regulation No. 527, Establishing 1971 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl And Lesser Sandhill Cranes, filed 9/10/71; Regulation No 529, Establishing 1971 Seasons On Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/24/1971; 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. 538, Establishing 1972 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal And On Band-tailed Pigeons And Mourning And White-winged Doves, filed 8/15/1972; Regulation No. 540, Establishing 1972 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, And Wilson's Swipe, filed 9/26/1972; Regulation No. 541, Establishing 1972 Seasons On Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/26/72; filed; 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. 548, Establishing 1973 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons And Mourning And White-winged Doves, filed 8/20/1973; Regulation No. 549, Establishing 1973 Seasons On Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 8/20/1973; Regulation No. 551, Establishing 1973 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl And Lesser Sandhill Crane, filed 8/20/73; 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. 559, Establishing 1974 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, And Mourning And White-winged Doves, filed 7/2/1974; Regulation No. 560, Establishing 1974 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 8/21/1974; 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. 569, Establishing 1975 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, And Mourning And White-winged Doves, filed 7/31/1975; Regulation No. 570, Establishing 1975 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Common Snipe, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/5/1975; 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. 577, Establishing 1976 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And

Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, and Mourning and White-winged Doves, filed 8/3/1976; Regulation No. 578, Establishing 1976 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Common Snipe, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 8/31/1976; Regulation No. 587, Establishing 1977 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, And Mourning And White-winged Doves, Squirrel And Grouse, filed 7/29/1977; Regulation No. 588, Establishing 1977 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane. Common Snipe, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/6/1977; Regulation No. 593, Establishing 1978 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, And Mourning And Whitewinged Doves, Squirrel, Grouse, Rail, Snipe And Falconry Seasons, filed 8/30/1978; Regulation No. 594. Establishing 1978 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/11/1978; Regulation No. 600, Establishing 1979 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, Mourning And White-winged Doves, Squirrel, Grouse, Rail, Snipe, And Falconry Seasons, filed 7/27/1979; Regulation No. 601, Establishing 1979 Seasons on Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens Regulation No. 605, Establishing 1980 Seasons On Bluewinged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, Mourning And White-winged Doves, Squirrel, Grouse, Rail, Snipe, And Falconry Seasons, filed 7/29/1980; Regulation No. 606, Establishing 1980 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/3/80; Regulation No. 610, Establishing 1981 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, And Mourning And White-winged Doves, Squirrel, Grouse, Rail, Snipe, And Falconry Seasons, filed 8/19/81; Regulation No. 611, Establishing 1981 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Lesser Sandhill Crane, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/4/1981; Regulation No. 615, Establishing 1982 Seasons On Blue-winged, Greenwinged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, Mourning And White-winged Doves, Squirrel, Grouse, Rail, Snipe, Sandhill Crane, And Falconry Seasons, filed 7/28/82; Regulation No. 616, Establishing 1982 Seasons On Migratory Waterfowl, Quail, Pheasants, And Prairie Chickens, filed 9/3/1982; Regulation No. 625, Establishing 1983 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, Mourning And Whitewinged Doves, Squirrel, Grouse, Rail, Snipe, Sandhill Crane, And Falconry Seasons, filed 7/29/1983; Regulation No. 630, Establishing 1984 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, Mourning And White-winged Doves, Squirrel, Grouse, Rail, Snipe, Sandhill Crane, Quail, Pheasant, Prairie Chicken, And Falconry Seasons, filed 8/2/1984; Regulation No. 637, Establishing 1985 Seasons On Blue-winged, Green-winged, And Cinnamon Teal, Band-tailed Pigeons, Mourning And White-winged Doves, Squirrel, Grouse, Rail, Snipe, Sandhill Crane, Quail, Pheasant, Prairie Chicken, And Falconry Seasons, filed 8/26/1985; Regulation No. 642, Establishing 1986-87 Seasons On Grouse, Squirrel, Quail, Pheasant, Prairie Chicken, And Setting Falconry Seasons, filed 8/1/1986; Regulation No. 652, Establishing 1987-88 Seasons On Blue Grouse, Ring-necked Pheasants (And All Other Races Of Pheasants), Lesser Prairie Chickens, Montezuma Quail, Northern Bobwhite, Scaled Quail, Gambel's Quail, Abert's Squirrels, Red Squirrels And Setting Falconry Seasons, filed 8/24/1987; Regulation No. 661, Establishing 1988-1989 Seasons On Blue Grouse, Ring-necked Pheasants (And All Other Races Of Pheasants), Lesser Prairie Chickens, Montezuma Quail, Northern Bobwhite, Scaled Quail, Gambel's Quail, Abert's Squirrels, Red Squirrels And Setting Falconry Seasons, filed 6/28/1988; Regulation No. 668, Establishing 1989-1990 Seasons On Pheasants..., Blue Grouse, Lesser Prairie Chicken, Quail (...Shall Mean Montezuma Quail, Northern Bobwhite, Scaled Quail, And Gambel's Quail), Abert's Squirrel, Red Squirrel And Setting Falconry Seasons, filed 9/1/1989; Regulation No. 678, Establishing 1990-1991 Seasons On Pheasants..., Blue Grouse, Lesser Prairie Chicken, Quail..., Dove..., Band-tailed Pigeon, Sandhill Crane, Albert's And Red Squirrel And Setting Falconry Seasons, filed 7/26/1990; Regulation No. 686, Establishing 1991-92 Seasons On Pheasants..., Blue Grouse, Lesser Prairie Chicken, Quail..., Dove..., Band-tailed Pigeon, Sandhill Crane, Abert's And Red Squirrel And Setting Falconry Seasons, filed 8/6/1991; Regulation No. 699, Establishing 1992-1993 Seasons On Teal..., Pheasants..., Blue Grouse, Lesser Prairie Chicken, Quail..., Dove..., Band-tailed Pigeon, Sandhill Crane, Abert's And Red Squirrel And Setting Falconry Seasons, filed 8/19/1992; Regulation No. 703, Establishing 1993-1994 Seasons On Teal.... Pheasants.... Blue Grouse, Lesser Prairie Chicken, Quail.... Dove.... Band-tailed Pigeon, Sandhill Crane, Abert's And Red Squirrel And Setting Falconry Seasons, filed 3/11/1993; Regulation No. 706, Establishing 1994-1995, 1995-1996, 1996-1997 Seasons On Blue-winged Teal, Green-winged Teal, Cinnamon Teal, Pheasants, Blue Grouse, Lesser Prairie Chicken, Montezuma Quail, and Northern Bobwhite. filed 7/28/1994.

NMAC History:

19 NMAC 31.5, Upland Game, filed 7/18/1995. 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 8/15/2000. 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/24/2002.

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19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 8/12/2003.
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- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/30/2004.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 8/8/2005.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/18/2006.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/26/2007.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/30/2008.

History of Repealed Material:

- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 8/15/2000 duration expired 3/31/2002.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/24/2002 duration expired 3/31/2003.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 8/12/2003 duration expired 3/31/2004.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/30/2004 duration expired 3/31/2005.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 8/8/2005 duration expired 3/31/2006.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/18/2006 duration expired 3/31/2007.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/26/2007 duration expired 3/31/2008.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 7/30/2008 duration expired 3/31/2010.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 8/2/2010 duration expired 3/31/2014.
- 19.31.5 NMAC, Upland Game, filed 4/1/2014 duration expired 3/31/2018.

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 § 3-digit DFA code. Example: 123

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

Check type of rule action: **New** (brand new rule <u>or</u> replacement rule), **Amendment**, **Repeal** (repeal and do not replace <u>or</u> 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: 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 TransmittalForm



Volume:		Issue:		Publication date:		Number of pa	iges:	(ALD Use Only Sequence No	<i>y</i>)
Issuing a	gency nam	e and ad	dress:					304401100111	Agency DFA code:
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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

nature: (BLACK ink only OR Digital Signature)	Date si	gned:
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uing authority (If delegated, authority letter must be on file with ALD): me:	Check if authority has bee	en delegate

Upland Game 19.31.5 NMAC

October 22, 2021 New Mexico State Game Commission Meeting Las Cruces, NM



Amend: Upland Game 19.31.5 NMAC

- Expand boundaries of Bernardo youth pheasant hunt.
- Adjust dusky grouse and squirrel seasons to close December 31
- Adjust hunt dates according to calendar
- Remove Manner and Method and Application language

Public Comment

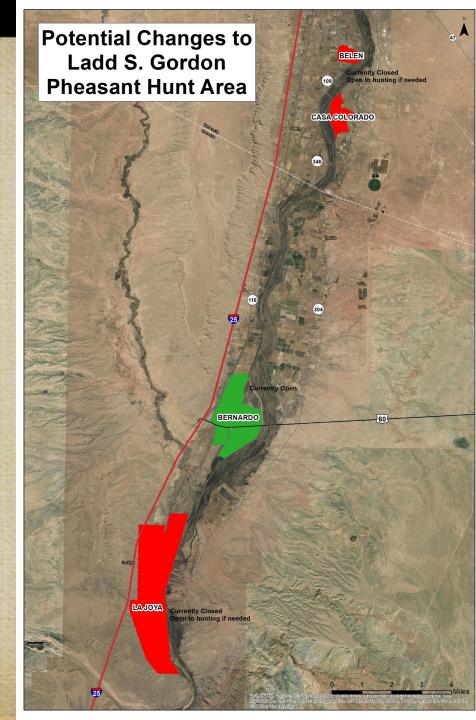
- 12 emails received
- Public meeting held via Zoom on August 3rd: 4 members of the public attended
- Comments received:
 - Support for increased squirrel season (8)
 - Support for increased Dusky Grouse season (3)
 - Close quail season earlier (2), open earlier (1)
 - Gould's turkey comments
 - Crow season comments



Amend:
Upland Game
19.31.5 NMAC

Expand boundaries of Bernardo Youth Pheasant Hunt





Amend: Upland Game 19.31.5 NMAC

Close Squirrel and Dusky Grouse on Dec 31

ACCOUNT AND	Species	Species Zone Current		Proposed
ATTENNEY CONTRACTOR	Dusky Grouse		Open: Sept.1	Open: Sept. 1
5	Tree Squirrels (All Species)	Statewide	Close: Nov. 30	Close: Dec. 31

Questions?





Updated Seasons based on Calendar

Species		2022	2023	2024	2025
Middle Rio Grande Va WMAs Youth-only Pheasant Hunt	alley	Oct.15	Oct. 21	Oct. 19	Oct. 18
W.S. Huey WMA Yout Pheasant Hunt	h-only	Dec. 3	Dec. 2	Dec. 7	Dec. 6
W.S. Huey WMA Phea	asant	Dec. 10	Dec. 9	Dec. 14	Dec. 13
Valencia county land permitted- Pheasant		Dec. 10	Dec. 9	Dec. 14	Dec. 13

Jepartment of New Mexico

Amend: Upland Game 19.31.5 NMAC

Updated Seasons based on Calendar

Species	Zone	Open	Close
		Dec. 8, 2022	Dec. 11, 2022
	Statewide	Dec. 7, 2023	Dec. 10, 2023
Pheasant		Dec. 12, 2024	Dec. 15, 2024
		Dec. 11, 2025	Dec. 14, 2025

"Move to repeal and replace 19.31.5 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."



PROPOSED UPLAND GAME RULE SUMMARY, 2022-2026

The upland game rule is amended every four years as part of the upland game rule development cycle. The current 4-year rule expires April 1, 2022. 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:

- Expand boundaries of Bernardo youth pheasant hunt to include adjacent WMAs in the middle Rio Grande Valley
- Adjust dusky grouse and squirrel seasons to close December 31
- Adjust hunt dates based on calendar dates
- Remove language duplicated in 19.31.10 NMAC Hunting and Fishing- Manner and Method and 19.31.3 NMAC Hunting and Fishing Licenses and Application

Proposed Dates for 2022-2026:

Species	Zone	Open	Close
Dusky Grouse	Statewide	Sept. 1	Dec. 31
Squirrel: Abert's, Arizona gray, fox, eastern gray, red squirrel	Statewide	Sept. 1	Dec. 31

Species	Zone	Open	Close
Pheasant	Statewide (excluding Valencia County)	Dec. 8, 2022	Dec. 11, 2022
		Dec. 7, 2023	Dec. 10, 2023
		Dec. 12, 2024	Dec. 15, 2024
		Dec. 11, 2025	Dec. 14, 2025

Species	2022	2023	2024	2025
Middle Rio Grande Valley WMAs Youth-only Pheasant Hunt	Oct.15	Oct. 21	Oct. 19	Oct. 18
W.S. Huey WMA Youth-only Pheasant Hunt	Dec. 3	Dec. 2	Dec. 7	Dec. 6
W.S. Huey WMA Pheasant Hunt	Dec. 10	Dec. 9	Dec. 14	Dec. 13
Valencia County Pheasant Hunt- Landowner Permits	Dec. 10	Dec. 9	Dec. 14	Dec. 13

If you would like to comment on the proposal, send email to: DGF-Gamebird@state.nm.us



Technical Information for Upland Game Rule Development



Survey and Harvest Data

Upland game management in New Mexico is centered on monitoring harvest and population trends, and status reports from hunters and field staff.

Population Monitoring

Upland species population trends often follow weather patterns, with populations increasing in years with good environmental conditions, and declining during bad years (Campbell et al 1973).

The Department does not have a long-term monitoring data set for upland species in the state. For quail, a call count and fall breeding productivity survey have been initiated by the Department in recent years. Call counts and roadside surveys are common methods used for assessing quail population trends (Rollins et al. 2005). These techniques can be used to monitor trends at ecoregional scales. Data from the two years of the Department's spring call count survey can be found in Table 1. Data from three years of fall roadside brood surveys can be found in Table 2.

Table 1. Data from the Department's spring call count survey.

		and great asslands		desert lands	Chihuahuan desert scrub		
	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>	
Total Stops	128	128	280	320	189	189	
Stops with Birds	76	40	159	139	86	37	
Total Calls	909	139	2219	938	925	233	
Avg Calls per Stops with Birds	12.0	3.5	14.0	6.7	10.8	6.3	
Total Birds	196	61	410	238	211	58	
Average Calls per Bird	4.6	2.3	5.4	3.9	4.4	4.0	

Table 2. Data from the Department's fall road side brood survey.

Habitat Type	Detections 2018	Birds/ Mile 2018	Detections 2019	Birds/ Mile 2019	Detections 2020	Birds/ Mile 2020
Plains and great basin grasslands	44	1.2	34	1.2	20	0.8
Semi-desert grasslands	37	1.0	33	1.2	86	3.2
Chihuahuan desert scrub	25	0.4	19	0.8	25	2.0

The Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) can be used to understand broadscale changes in bird populations and distribution. The BBS is an annual survey, where surveyors collect bird observation data along established roadside routes during the breeding season when birds are most

vocal (Sauer et al. 2013). BBS data can be used to summarize population change and relative species abundance (Sauer et al. 2013). BBS population trends for northern bobwhite, scaled quail, and Gambel's quail in New Mexico can be found in Figure 1. Because routes are lacking in Montezuma quail and dusky grouse range, these species populations trends can not be modeled with BBS data.

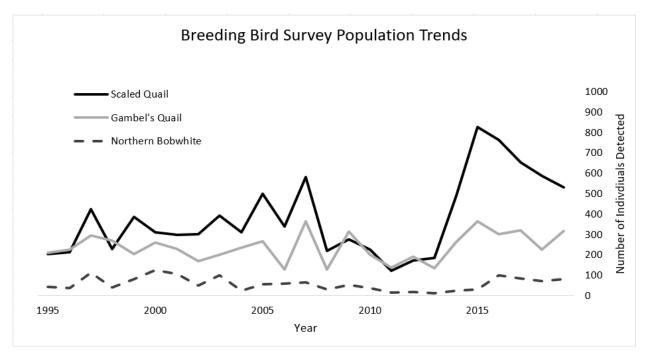


Figure 1. BBS trend data for northern bobwhite, scaled quail, and Gambel's quail in New Mexico.

There is not a similar monitoring program for small mammals. In New Mexico, small mammal monitoring centers on harvest monitoring and field reports from hunters, citizens, and Department personnel.

Harvest monitoring

Upland game harvest management focuses on harvest limits that provide sufficient opportunity while leaving ample individuals on the landscape for the following breeding season (Peterson 2001). Previous research on small game harvest suggested low rates of harvest have little to no effect on annual population survival (Errington and Hamerstrom 1935), but more recent studies have shown that hunting mortality does increase population mortality rates for the year (Pollock et al. 1989, Brennan et al. 2014). It is unlikely that harvest mortality brings about signification reduction in small game numbers due to their high reproductive potential and large areas of inaccessible and refuge habitat in New Mexico. In addition, small game 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 (Guthery et al. 2004).

Submission of a harvest report is voluntary. License holders are able make submissions through the Department's online Harvest Reporting System or by phone. For licenses holders who submit a report, information is collected on if they hunted, what species was harvested, the number harvested, and the county of harvest. Hunters may report hunting in multiple counties. Harvest information of upland game in New Mexico from 2015 to the present can be found in Table 3.

Table 3. Voluntary harvest report information for upland game in New Mexico from 2015 to the present.

Species	Reports Filed 2015-16	Reported Harvest 2015-16	Reports Filed 2016-17	Reported Harvest 2016-17	Reports Filed 2017-18	Reported Harvest 2017-18	Reports Filed 2018-19	Reported Harvest 2018-19	Reports Filed 2019-20	Reported Harvest 2019-20	Reports Filed 2020-21	Reported Harvest 2020-21
Scaled Quail	1,987	41,633	1,508	27,793	1,431	24,911	988	13,943	1,013	14,161	1,087	13,271
Gambel's Quail	527	5,280	447	4,124	487	5,014	324	2,505	370	3,306	637	6,782
Northern Bobwhite	210	2,824	152	1,838	151	1,894	100	1039	104	1,392	88	790
Montezuma Quail	65	506	31	147	28	117	22	99	34	164	26	144
Unknown Quail*			204	2,886	159	2,177	106	1,315	103	1,336	102	974
Pheasant	35	70	40	72	41	89	28	57	33	58	29	53
Dusky Grouse	374	1,186	346	1,091	273	805	235	652	249	724	373	1,100
Collared- Dove	548	12,858	471	14,843	451	10,915	397	8,179	337	5,177	381	5,594
Gray Squirrel	19	80	21	90	26	101	11	26	14	35	28	107
Abert's Squirrel	120	547	140	761	148	723	81	361	103	476	144	534
Red Squirrel	44	288	34	192	37	153	20	136	41	208	71	533
Fox Squirrel	1	5	2	10	3	8	1	4	1	2	1	1
Unknown Squirrel*	86	357	83	308	84	275	64	189	97	347	100	372

^{*}Some harvest reports were made outside of species ranges. These reports are categorized as unknown species

Literature Cited

Brennan, L. A., F. Hernandez, E. D. Grahmann, F. C. Bryant, M. J. Schnupp, D. S. Delaney, and R. Howard. 2014. Quail harvest guidelines for south Texas: Concepts, philosophy, and applications. Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, Texas A&M University-Kingsville. Wildlife Technical Publication No. 3.

Campbell, H., D. K. Martin, P. E. Ferkovich, and B. K. Harris. 1973. Effects of hunting and some other environmental factors on scaled quail in New Mexico. Wildlife Monographs 34: 3-49.

Errington, P., L., and F. N. Hamerstrom, Jr. Bobwhite winter survival on experimentally shot and unshot areas. Iowa State College, Journal of Science 9:625-639.

Guthery, F. S., M. J. Peterson, J. J. Lusk, M. J. Rabe, S. J. DeMaso, M. Sams, R. D Applegate, and T. V. Dailey. 2004. Multistate analysis of fixed, liberal regulations in quail harvest management. Journal of Wildlife Management. 68: 1104-1113.

Sauer, J. R., W. A. Link, J. E. Fallon, K. L. Pardieck, D. J. Ziolkowski, Jr. 2013. The Northern American Breeding Bird Survey 1966-2011: Summary analysis and species accounts. North American Fauna. 79: 2-32. Peterson, M. J. 2001. Northern bobwhite and scaled quail abundance and hunting regulation: A Texas example. Journal of Wildlife Management 65: 825-837.

Pollock, K. H., C. T. Moor, W. R. Davidson, F. E. Kellogg, and G. L. Doster. 1989. Survival rates of bobwhite quail based on band recovery analyses. Journal of Wildlife Management. 53:1-6.

Rollins, D., J. Brooks, N. Wilkins, and D. Ranson, Jr. 2005. Counting Quail. AgriLife Communications. B-6173.

From: dsheft82@pvtn.net

Sent: Wednesday, June 16, 2021 12:44 AM

To: DGF-Gamebird

Subject: [EXT] Upland Game Rule

Need to establish crow season within the federal framework. Populations continue to increase and are even displacing ravens in this area. Support extension of squirrel season. Look at changing quail season to Nov. 1-Jan.31 season. Aligns more with neighboring states of Arizona and Texas and provides additional opportunity before migrating raptors impact local populations. Also relieves pressure on remaining breeding birds that survive until February on public lands. Only reason ever given for waiting until November 15 was to allow late hatchlings to increase in size.

Hunters can make decision whether to shoot or not shoot if worried about small birds.

David Heft P.O. Box 13 Mayhill, New Mexico 88339

From: Jude Smith < jrsmith1187@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, July 16, 2021 1:43 PM

To: DGF-Gamebird

Cc: D Smith; Davis Smith; Lyndall Favor

Subject: Upland Game Rule

I would strongly suggest reducing number of days quail can be hunted in the state. I would propose ending the season between Jan 21 and Feb 1. Research has shown birds harvested in February would have likely entered into the breeding population in the spring vs those in the fall. More hens in the late winter or early spring could increase to a degree quail in the upcoming fall.

In private land states landowners can theoretically control harvest by not allowing hunting on their lands during the late winter. However, in public land states there is no control on harvest or season except through the state season. This may reduce hens going into the spring. Harvest limits are fine at 15 as the average hunter never attains this except in exceptional years.

Quail are born to die, so as managers you need to give them the upper hand when possible.

Jude R Smith.

From: Michael Goen <mgoen89@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, July 16, 2021 1:57 PM

To: DGF-Gamebird

Subject: Comment on Upland Game Rule Proposal 2022-26

Hello,

I am writing to provide my comment on the proposed upland game rule changes for 2022-26. The changes related to the pheasant seasons I don't believe will affect me, so I have no comment on those. I do, however, wholeheartedly support the extension of the squirrel and grouse seasons *provided* that the population, mortality, and harvest data gathered by department staff suggest that this extension will not be detrimental to these species. I assume that if the data suggested this change would harm those populations, it would not have been proposed.

I hunted squirrels and grouse from the beginning of September to the end of November in 2020, and switched to rabbits for December and January. I would love to see the season extended for grouse and squirrels, and would absolutely take advantage of the opportunity.

Thank you

Mike Goen

From: Sean Walsh <spwalsh8@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, July 16, 2021 4:22 PM

To: DGF-Gamebird

Subject: Comments on Proposed Changes Upland Game Rule 2022-2026

Hi,

I support the changes to the upland game rule, specifically the change that adjusts the season end date to December 31st.

Thank you, Sean Walsh NMDGF License #4033501

From: Jebb Norton < jebbnorton@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, July 16, 2021 7:20 PM

To: DGF-Gamebird

Subject: Upland game change comments

Hello,

In case I cannot make the virtual meeting, I fully support the Lengthening of Seasons for dusky grouse and Squirrel. If anything, the seasons could start earlier or end even later. This will be greatly helpful for me as an upland hunter since their seasons overlap so much with big game seasons. I appreciate these changes, assume they are based on sound science, and Support them.

Thank you. Jebb Norton

From: tom carroll <pendroyslim@outlook.com>

Sent: Friday, July 16, 2021 5:38 PM

To: DGF-Gamebird

Subject: Gould's

Don't know why you can't issue a few dozen tags... they are absolutely thriving EVERYWHERE down in the bootheel! I know they are a pet obsession of Casey's but come on - what's the point of reestablishment if, after exceeding threshold, you can't offer a little "opportunity"?

I have been calling turkeys all over the west for 40 years - started with Rio Grande's in San Louis Obispo when I was in college there - I have seen this same build up and inevitable crash due to some freaky-deaky weather event or disease or Merriams in southeastern Montana on the Ashland District of the Custer Forest were absolutely ridiculous in the early nineties - then they all but disappeared before making moderate comebacks. I asked my rancher friend, Harry Goodwin, who always wintered a big flock, what happened to the turkeys? His rather succinct answer was simply this - "There were too damn many turkeys!"

From: jason amaro <amaro_jason@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2021 12:50 PM

To: DGF-Gamebird

Subject: [EXT] Extending Squirrel Season

Good Afternoon

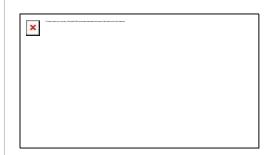
Thank you for taking the time to read this email, my name is Jason Amaro and I an avid sportsman. During a recent Game Commission meeting, Commissioner Jeremy Vesbach requested that the Dept investigate the possibility of extending the current Squirrel Season to give hunters more opportunity to get outside. I fully support this idea and I hope that the Dept considers the request. I would love to see the squirrel season to at least be open during the youth big-game hunts so early career hunters would have a small game opportunity if there big-game hunting is slow.

Again, thank you for all you do, if you need help pushing this issue or would like more feedback, please let me know

Jason

PS Here is a little video I did on Squirrel Hunting in NM.

https://youtu.be/Lo4MMUbuLfE



Squirrel Hunting Opportunities in New Mexico

Small game, in the case squirrel hunting is a great opportunity to get out there and have some fun.

youtu.be

From: Jimmy Torrez <jimmygtorrez@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 12:01 PM

To: DGF-Gamebird

Subject: [EXT] Please extend Squirrel season.

Please extend Squirrel season.

From: Rob Blacknall <rb8187@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 21, 2021 12:08 PM

To: DGF-Gamebird Subject: [EXT] Squirrel season

As a new Mexico hunter and outdoorsman, I wanted to express that I am in favor for extending the state squirrel season provided it can be done with scientific evidence that it will be sustainable for the game population. Extending the season would help further open the door for new hunters, such as my wife, to practice and develop outdoor skills on smaller game without drawing a tag.

From: jeff.young.elk <jeff.young.elk@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, June 18, 2021 9:17 PM

To: DGF-Gamebird

Subject: [EXT] Please increase length of squirrel season

Thanks

Jeff Young Director

New Mexico Sportsmen's and Conservationist Alliance

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S®6 active, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone





New Mexico State Game Commission New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

AGENDA NEW MEXICO STATE GAME COMMISSION

This agenda is available on the NMDGF Website http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/commission/meeting-agendas/

Friday, October 22, 2021 New Mexico State University Fulton Center, Third Floor, 1815 Wells St, Las Cruces, NM 88003 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL MEETING LOCATION
http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/commission/webcast/

<u>TIME</u> 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

The following are approximate times. The meeting will be adjourned upon completion of the Agenda. Any items not discussed at this meeting will be considered for the next meeting's Agenda. The Agenda is subject to change up to 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting date and time as deemed necessary by the New Mexico State Game Commission Chair (NMSGC Chair). To inquire about Agenda changes, please contact the Office of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (DGF) at (505) 476-8000. 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 Tristanna Bickford at (505) 476-8027 at least 3 working days before the meeting date. Public documents, including the Agenda and Minutes can be provided in various accessible forms. Please contact Ms. Bickford if a summary or other type of accessible form is needed.

Public testimony and comment: All those interested in participating and providing comments are encouraged to pre-register to attend the meeting on the Zoom Webinar platform. When you register, you will be asked if you wish to provide public comment. This will assist the NMSGC Chair to manage more effective public communication. Comments may be allowed on each item at the NMSGC Chair's discretion. Those who desire to address the Commission and who claim to represent an organization must provide the following information: the number of members in the organization, frequency of the organization's meeting and either a signed statement from that organization's president that states the organization has discussed the topic and approved the position that the representative is presenting, or proof that they are a registered lobbyist for the organization. No props or costumes will be permitted.

AT THEIR DISCRETION, THE COMMISSION MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY AGENDA ITEM.

No.	Presented by	Discussion
1.	Sharon Salazar Hickey, NMSGC Chair	Meeting Called to Order
2.	Michael Sloane, DGF Director	Roll Call

3.	Sharon Salazar Hickey, NMSGC Chair	Approval of Agenda (Action Item)
4.	Sharon Salazar Hickey, NMSGC Chair	Consent Agenda (Action Items A- D) A. Approval of minutes from October 1, 2021 Virtual Special meeting B. Revocations C. Wildlife Depredation Report D. Special Hunts Deadline
5.	Sharon Salazar Hickey, NMSGC Chair	David Soules Memoriam
6.	Sharon Salazar Hickey, NMSGC Chair	General Public Comments – Comments are limited to 3 minutes per speaker.
7.	Lance Cherry, DGF	Off Highway Vehicle Program Overview
8.	Stewart Liley, DGF	Furbearer Rule Hearing 19.32.2 NMAC
9.	Stewart Liley, DGF	Upland Game Bird Rule Hearing 19.31.5 NMAC
10.	Kirk Patten, DGF	Fisheries Rule Hearing 19.31.4 NMAC
11.	Robert Griego, DGF	Initial Discussion of Hunting and Fishing Revocation Rule 19.31.2 NMAC
12.	Stewart Liley, DGF	Open Gate Program Overview
13.	Sharon Salazar Hickey, NMSGC Chair	General Public Comments- Comments are limited to 3 minutes per speaker

Executive Session (Closed to the Public) – Commissioners will vote on whether to adjourn into Executive Session.

- A. Pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(7) NMSA 1978, Attorney-Client Privilege, Litigation Update (Discussion)
 - Michael Sloane, Dept. of Game and Fish v. NM State Game Commission (D-101-CV-2020-00621) First Judicial District Court
 - Adobe Whitewater Club of NM, NM Wildlife Federation, and NM Chapter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers v. State Game Commission and Chama Troutstalkers, LLC; Rio Dulce Ranch; Z&T Cattle Company, LLC; River Bend Ranch; Chama III, LLC; Fenn Farm; Three Rivers Cattle Ltd., Co.; Flying H. Ranch Inc.; Spur Lake Cattle Co.; Ballard Ranch; Dwayne and Cressie Brown; Cotham Ranch; Wapiti River Ranch; Mulcock Ranch; Wilbanks Cattle Co., 130 Ranch; WCT Ranch; The NM Farm and Livestock Bureau; Chama Peak Land Alliance; NM Cattle Growers' Ass'n; NM Council of Outfitters and Guides; and Upper Pecos Watershed Ass'n (S-1-SC-38195) Supreme

14.

NMSGC

Court

- 3. Rancho Del Oso Pardo, Inc., River Bend Ranch, LLC, and Chama III, LLC, dba Canones Creek Ranch, Fenn Farm and Three Rivers Cattle, Ltd. Co v. New Mexico Department of Game and Fish; Director Michael Sloane, Director of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, in his individual and official capacity; and New Mexico Game Commission, et. al. (1:20-CV-00427-SCY-KK) U.S. District Court, District New Mexico
- B. Pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(8) NMSA 1978
 Purchase, Acquisition or Disposal (Discussion/Action)
 - 1. McKinley and Sandoval Counties
 - 2. Rio Arriba County
 - 3. Santa Fe County
 - 4. Chaves County
- C. Pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(2) NMSA 1978 Personnel Matters
- 15. Sharon Salazar Hickey, NMSGC Chair

Adjourn (Action Item)

So this hearing will please come to order. My name is Sharon Salazar Hickey, Chair to the Commission. I will be serving as the hearing officer and be advised by the Commission's counsel from the Office of Attorney General, who is online.

The purpose of this hearing is for the Commission to receive public comment on repeal and place in replacing the Upland Game Bird Rule, Title 19, Chapter 31, Part 5 of the New Mexico Administrative Code, which will become effective on April 1st, 2022.

These hearings are being conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Game & Fish Act and the State Rules Act. These hearings are being audiotaped and video recorded. Anyone interested in a copy of the audiotape and video recording should contact Tristanna Bickford with the Game & Fish Department.

Public notice of this hearing was advertised in the New Mexico Register, the New Mexico Sunshine Portal, and the Department's website. Copies of the proposed amendments have been available on the Department's website. Those wishing to comment here today must have registered to submit public comments on the Zoom webinar platform.

The rule hearing will be conducted in the following manner: Staff will present pre-filed exhibits. Exhibits admitted into evidence are available for review by the



public on the Department's website.

After all exhibits are entered, we will proceed to the presentation of the proposed rule, after which testimony will be taken from the audience.

Participants are asked to raise their hand in the Zoom webinar platform and wait until they are called upon to speak. In order to ensure that the hearing is accurately recorded, only one person at a time shall be allowed to speak.

Any person recognized to speak is asked to do two things. First, identify yourself by name and who you are affiliated with for the record each time you are recognized. And second, speak loudly and clearly to accurately record your comments.

After a person has offered comment, they will stand for questions from the hearing officer. The audience may also ask questions of anyone offering comments after being recognized by me, the hearing officer.

These hearings are not subject to judicial rules of evidence. However, in the interest of efficiency, I reserve the right to limit any testimony deemed irrelevant, redundant, and unduly repetitious.

The Commission may discuss the proposed new rule after the public comment portion of the hearing. Final Commission action, including adoption of the rule, may

occur after the conclusion of the presentation and public comment period of each hearing. So the hearing is now open.

Are there any exhibits for the proposed amendments to 19.31.5 for the record -- 19.31.5 for the record?

MR. LILEY: Madam Chair, I wish to enter six exhibits into the record. Exhibit No. 1, the notice of the rule making. Exhibit No. 2, the proposed rule that was posted on the website. Exhibit 3, the presentation I'll be giving today.

Exhibit 4, the summary of the proposed changes that were posted on the website. Exhibit 5, the technical information we relied upon to development the rule. And Exhibit 6, the 12 public comments received during the public -- or during the rule making process.

MS. SALAZAR HICKEY: Stewart, thank you. Can you please introduce the proposed amendments to 19.31.5?

MR. LILEY: Madam Chair, Members of the Commission, as you all have seen, this is, again, the finalization of this rule. The major amendments that we are proposing is expanding the boundaries of the Bernardo Youth Pheasant Hunt.

Right now it's restricted to one area of the farms on -- at Bernardo. There's a larger complex we would like to extend it to, to allow for more room for the youth



hunters on there.

And one of the bigger ones that we discussed at the previous meetings is expanding the grouse and squirrel seasons from a close date of the end of November to December 31st, and then, again, like all of our rules, where we adjust the hunt dates according to calendar day shifts.

And the removing the manner and method language, that's what we've done in all of our rules, that now lives in the Manner and Method Rule, so this is a cleanup that the last rule that we had manner and method directly in the rule.

So with that, like I said, we had 12 emails received or 12 public comments, and what you'll see there, the majority of those comments that relate to this rule are in support of the proposed changes that we had. There was other comments that aren't pertinent to this rule, but there were other comments received.

Here's a picture of that expanded youth area that we would allow Bernardos that are in green, and those other properties are commission properties that we would allow those to be able to hunt if we want to during the pheasant hunt season for the youth. So it just expands the areas of which we could hunt in there.

And with that, I would take any questions you all may

1	have.
2	MS. SALAZAR HICKEY: Thank you, Stewart.
3	Would anyone like to comment on the proposed
4	amendments to 19.31.5?
5	Are there any exhibits from the public that need to be
6	entered into the record at this time?
7	Okay. Very good. I do not see any coming forward.
8	Those that registered and participated in hearing will
9	be included on the attendance sheet. At this time, the
10	attendance sheet will be marked as and admitted as
11	Exhibit 7.
12	The comments submitted and testimony heard during this
13	rule hearing will be reviewed by the Commission and
14	discussed during the open session of today's meeting. The
15	Commission will vote on proposed amendments at this time.
16	I would like to thank everyone present for their
17	participation today.
18	Let the record show that this rule making hearing was
19	adjourned at 1:26 p.m. today, on Friday, October 22nd.
20	Very good. Commissioners, let's have some discussion.
21	Vice-Chair?
22	No? Very good.
23	Commissioners?
24	No. Very good.
25	Well, then Vice-Chair, do you have a motion?



1	MR. VESBACH: We do. I would move to repeal and
2	replace 19.31.5 NMAC as presented by the Department and
3	allow the Department to make minor corrections to comply
4	with filing this rule with state records and archives.
5	MS. SALAZAR HICKEY: Do I have a second?
6	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.
7	MS. SALAZAR HICKEY: Thank you, Commissioners.
8	Director, can we please have a roll call vote? I
9	believe we do have a commissioner online, so we do need a
10	roll call vote.
11	MR. SLOANE: Commissioner Salazar-Henry.
12	MS. SALAZAR-HENRY: Yes.
13	MR. SLOANE: Commissioner Lopez.
14	MR. LOPEZ: Yes.
15	MR. SLOANE: Commissioner Bates.
16	MS. SALAZAR HICKEY: Commissioner Bates? He's the
17	thumbs up. I see him. Thank you, Commissioner Bates.
18	MR. SLOANE: Vice-Chair Vesbach.
19	MR. VESBACH: Yes.
20	MR. SLOANE: Chair Salazar Hickey.
21	MS. SALAZAR HICKEY: Yes.
22	MR. SLOANE: Motion passes unanimously.
23	MS. SALAZAR HICKEY: Wonderful. That was very good.
24	Thank you.



I think, Commissioners, that concludes item -- agenda

item number 9 on the Upland Game Bird Rule.

If we could, let's now proceed to agenda item number 10. This is the Fisheries Rule Hearing 19.31.4. And I see we have a member of the Department of Game & Fish present, so let me begin.

This hearing will please come to order. My name is Sharon Salazar Hickey, Chair to the Commission. I will be serving as the hearing officer and be advised by the Commission's counsel from the Office of the Attorney General.

The purpose of this hearing is for the Commission to receive public comment on repealing and replacing the Fisheries Rule, Title 19, Chapter 31, Part 4 amending Hunting, Fishing Manner and Method of Taking Rule, Title 19, Chapter 21, Part 10 and repealing and replacing commercial use of Fish Rule, Title 19, Chapter 31, Part 9 of the New Mexico Administrative Code, which will become effective on April 1st, 2022.

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These hearings are not subject to judicial rules of



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Yes	Jennifer Jennifer		jenniferc.m	1 Wildlife V	Santa F	e US		87506 NM		
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Yes	Gail Crame G	Gail	Cramer	nugail@ho 4088 US Hi Mayhill	US	88339 NM
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Yes	Madeleine N	∕ladeleine	Carey	mcarey@w 301 N Guac Santa Fe	US	87501 NM
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Yes	Chief Matt W	Vunder		Matthew.Wunder@state.nm.us		
Yes	John Marts Jo	ohn	Martsh	d.martsh@7816 Alam Albuquerqu	US	87120 NM
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Yes	Jessica Johi Je	essica	Johnson	jessica@ap 1111 Pasec Santa Fe	US	87501 NM
Yes	Christophe C	Christophe	Smith	csmith@wi 301 N. Gua Santa Fe	US	87501 NM
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