

Wildlife Management Division Rule Development

Pronghorn Rule
19.31.15 NMAC

December 9, 2010

NM State Game Commission Meeting

Clovis, NM

Pronghorn Management

Sustainable Use

- Spring 2010 – Department developed a Pronghorn Management Plan
- Fall 2010 – New surveys and modeling to estimate population numbers and composition (bucks:does:fawns)
- Hunting opportunity (licenses and authorizations) based on managing herds at specific buck to doe ratios

Pronghorn Rule Proposal

General

- Adopt a 4-year rule (2011-14 seasons)
- Establish legal shooting hours as ½ hour before sunrise through ½ hour after sunset
- Include crossbows in the definition of “legal weapon types”

Pronghorn Rule Cont'd

- Adjust management of pronghorn to Game Management Units (GMU)
- GMUs managed as:
 - Optimal Opportunity – Hunting opportunity for bucks in excess of 20 bucks:100 does
 - Quality Hunting – Hunting opportunity for bucks in excess of 40 bucks:100 does
- Open Lesser Prairie Chicken Complex to pronghorn hunting
- Muzzleloader and rifle licenses valid on assigned ranch only

Pronghorn Hunt Lengths (Days)

Hunt	Current Length	Proposed Length
Rifle	2 or 3	3
Muzzleloader	2, 3 or 4	4
Archery	5 or 9	9
Mobility Impaired	2 or 3	3

Pronghorn Rule Summary

- Establishes license numbers and hunt codes
- Increased youth hunting licenses
- M1 and Archery licenses allocated via public draw
- License numbers based on sustainable harvest objectives as outlined in the Department's Pronghorn Management Plan