

# Use of Artificial Light to Hunt Raccoons

***Amending the Artificial Light  
Permit System – (19-30-13 NMAC)***



Field Operations Division

# Hunting Raccoons at Night

- Current furbearer rule – Allows properly licensed furbearer hunters hunt raccoons at night.
- Does not allow shooting at night.
- Clean-up of rule necessary to clarify allowable take at night.





# Current Law

- 17-2-31 D NMSA 1978 [Spotlighting] — unlawful to use artificial light except by permit or authorization from the Department.
- 19.32.2.10 (10)(a) NMAC [Trapping and Furbearers] — legal shooting hours for protected furbearers are ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.



# Proposed Solution

- Amend the Artificial Light Permit System Rule to create a Department Authorization to allow properly licensed furbearer hunters to hunt raccoons at night using artificial light and specific weapon types.
- Limits on legal light sources.
- Correct minor typographical errors in the current rule.





# What's Next?

- A draft amendment has been posted.
- Continue seeking input on the proposed draft.
- Present a final draft amendment to the Commission for approval at a future Commission meeting.



# COMMENTS



Field Operations Division