



In New Mexico, we cherish our wildlife, which is deeply tied to our cultural traditions and helps sustain our \$2.4 billion outdoor recreation economy through hunting, fishing, birdwatching, and more.



Our Department of Game & Fish staff is doing a good job, but our current wildlife management system is outdated and underfunded, while our State Game Commission has been politicized.



This session, we must pass a reform package to give the Department of Game & Fish the tools, authority, and funding to build a 21st-century wildlife management system for future generations.

PASS A REFORM PACKAGE THIS SESSION

TO GIVE THE DEPARTMENT OF GAME & FISH THE...

✓ TOOLS ✓ AUTHORITY ✓ FUNDING

FOR A 21ST CENTURY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



1. UPDATE THE DEPARTMENT'S MISSION

-  Fix our patchwork of laws that leave 40% of our wildlife unprotected
-  Clarify existing statutes to avoid potential lawsuits and legal gray areas
-  Give the Department biologists the tools and authority to make wildlife management decisions using the best available science
-  Help recover native species so they don't get put on the federal threatened or endangered list
-  Improve habitats where wildlife live, breed and migrate

2. FIX THE GAME COMMISSION

-  Add checks and balances to this independent governing body
-  Ensure legislative input on Game Commission candidates
-  Make the Commission more representative of all New Mexicans and maintain a balance of urban and rural interests
-  Establish qualifications for experience and expertise
-  Ensure qualified Commissioners cannot be dismissed without cause

3. SUSTAIN OUR TRADITIONS & IMPROVE WILDLIFE CONDITIONS

-  Solve the funding crisis at the Department of Game & Fish
-  Provide modest license fee increases, which are supported by many New Mexico hunters, anglers and outfitters
-  Leverage additional federal dollars
-  Operate state fisheries, support boating access and improve outdoor recreation infrastructure
-  Ensure conservation funding is balanced more equally among hunters, anglers, wildlife watchers and non-consumptive users
- Fund additional conservation work for Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)



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