



In New Mexico, we cherish wildlife, which is deeply tied to cultural traditions and helps sustain our \$3.2 billion outdoor recreation economy through hunting, fishing, birdwatching, and more.



The New Mexico Department of Game & Fish staff is doing a good job, but our current wildlife management system is outdated and underfunded, while our State Game Commission has been politicized.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

WE NEED GAME & FISH REFORM TO

GIVE THE DEPARTMENT OF GAME & FISH THE...

✓ TOOLS ✓ AUTHORITY ✓ FUNDING

FOR A 21ST CENTURY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

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1. UPDATE THE DEPARTMENT'S MISSION

-  Fix our patchwork of laws that leave many wildlife unprotected
-  Give the N.M. Dept. of Game & Fish clear legislative authority to manage all wildlife in the state
-  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
-  Empower Dept. biologists to make wildlife management decisions using the best available science

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 New Mexico hunters, and anglers
-  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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