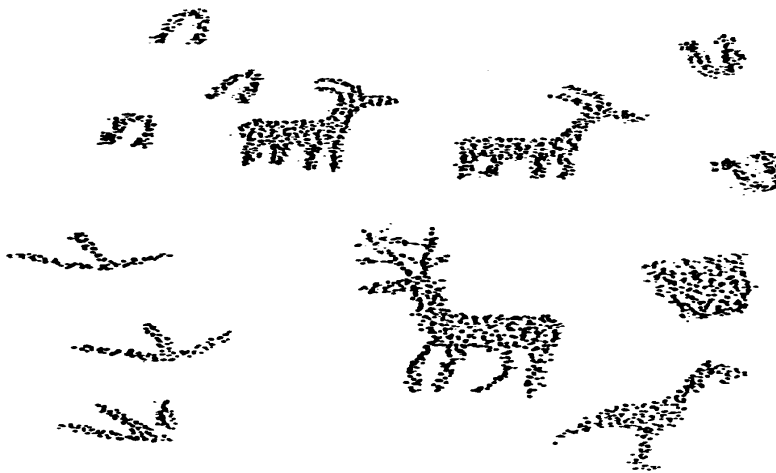


New Mexico
Habitat Stamp Program

**NORTHEAST REGION
2010-2014
HABITAT IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

Revised 4-18-2007



US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
US FOREST SERVICE
CARSON & SANTA FE NATIONAL FOREST
KIOWA NATIONAL GRASSLAND



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
TAOS RESOURCE AREA



NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH

PLAN RATIONALE

In conjunction with citizens, State Game and Fish personnel have met with their federal habitat partners in the BLM and USFS to design habitat improvement plans for each of the five HSP regions of the state.

In an attempt to focus funds and resources, the plans follow the three-step format of:

- 1. Identifying wildlife species of management concern in an area;**
- 2. Listing the species' limiting habitat factors in that area; and**
- 3. Designing management actions to alleviate the identified limiting factors.**

Each plan will be monitored annually at a Citizen Advisory Committee meeting and updated as necessary.

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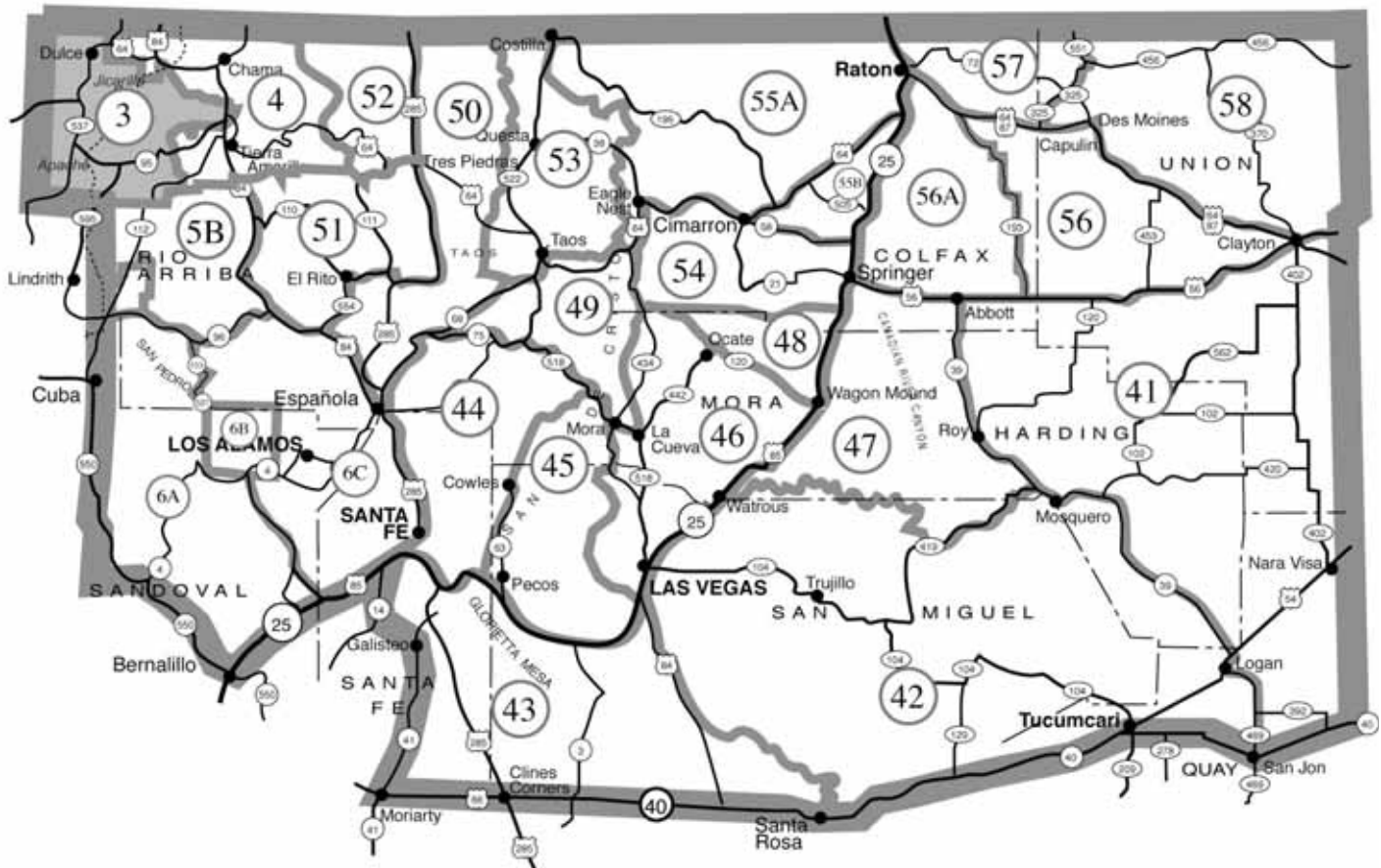
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Northeast Habitat Stamp Region



NORTHEAST REGION GAME MANAGEMENT UNITS

UNIT NUMBER	UNIT NAME
5b	BLM and SFNF in Gallina Peak area
6	All SFNF in Jemez Mountains
41, 58	All Kiowa National Grasslands
42	BLM in the La Vegas area
43	All SFNF in the Glorietta (Rowe) Mesa area
44	BLM in Chimayo valley, CNF in Camino Real RD and SFNF in Pecos Wilderness RD
45	All SFNF in Pecos Wilderness RD
47	All Kiowa National Grasslands in Mills Canyon area
49	BLM in Rio Grande valley
50	BLM in Ojo Caliente and Rio Grande valleys CNF in Tres Piedras and El Rito RDs
51	All CNF in El Rito and Canjilon RDs
52	BLM in San Antonio Mtn area and CNF in El Rito RD
53	BLM in Rio Grande valley and CNF in the Questa RD
55a	All CNF in Valle Vidal unit

CWCS Application

STATEWIDE APPLICATION

New Mexico's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (CWCS) is a planning document that identifies the challenges affecting management of those species and their associated "key" habitats with "greatest need". The key habitats addressed statewide include *riparian* (vegetation associated with perennially wet areas), *ephemeral* (vegetation associated with periodically wet areas), *aquatic* (reservoirs and streams). As such, the Habitat Stamp Program shall consider management actions statewide on the following key habitats:

1. *riparian/ephemeral*
2. *aquatic*

ECOREGIONS and THEIR ASSOCIATED KEY UPLAND HABITATS

The CWCS also addresses New Mexico's upland (or terrestrial) habitats by dividing the state into nine "ecoregions." Each ecoregion being further divided into *key terrestrial* habitats. The Northeast Habitat Stamp Program Region as it associates with the CWCS, falls primarily in the *New Mexico Mountains* and *Southern Shortgrass Prairie* ecoregions and features the following key upland habitat:

3. *Rocky Mountain Mixed Conifer*
4. *Rocky Mountain Alpine Wet Meadow*
5. *Big Sagebrush Shrubland*
6. *Shortgrass Prairie*

WILDLIFE SPECIES IN GREATEST NEED OF MANAGEMENT

For each key habitat (statewide and regional), the CWCS identifies the indicative wildlife species for that habitat type. Since, over half the vertebrate species in New Mexico rely wholly or in part on *riparian*, *ephemeral*, and *aquatic* key habitats, indicative species are numerous. Because they are so numerous, the wildlife associated with these key habitats will be managed in this plan as a suite of species.

In the Southwest HSP Region, the game species identified by the CWCS with the greatest need of management are:

<i>Common Name</i>	<i>Rocky Mtn. Mixed Conifer</i>	<i>Rocky Mtn. Alpine Wet Meadow</i>	<i>Big Sagebrush Shrubland</i>	<i>Shortgrass Prairie</i>
Band-tailed Pigeon	X	X		
Blue Grouse	X	X		
Lesser Prairie Chicken				X
Mourning Dove			X	X
Sandhill Crane				X
Scaled Quail				X
Abert's Squirrel	X			
Black Bear	X	X	X	
Mule Deer	X		X	X
Rocky Mtn. Bighorn Sheep		X		
Swift Fox				X

NORTHEAST HSP REGION Management Species per Game Unit

The Habitat Stamp Program's mission is to diversify habitats to benefit wildlife for the enjoyment of people. In fulfilling this mission, program cooperators plan habitat improvements primarily for game species, with the knowledge that the resulting diversified habitats benefit an entire suite of game and non-game wildlife as identified in the CWCS.

Game Management Unit													
	5b	6	41, 58	43	44	45	47	49	50	51	52	53	55a
Mule Deer*	E	E	E	E	E	E	F	E	E	E	E	E	E
Elk	F	F			F	F		F	F	F	F	F	F
Pronghorn			F				F		F		F		
Black Bear*	F	F			F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F
Bighorn Sheep*					F	F		F	F			F	
A. Squirrel*	F	F			F	F		F	F	F	F	F	F
Swift Fox*			F				F						
Turkey	F	F	F		F	F	E	F	F	F	F	F	F
Upland Game Birds*		F	F		F	F	F	F		F	F	F	F
LP Chicken*			F										
Riparian Spp*		F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F
Aquatic Spp*		F	F		F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F

Definitions: *Emphasis Species*: The population of wildlife that is targeted for HSP funds and project work, unless amended.

Featured Species: Those wildlife populations that frequent a unit, but are of secondary management interest of HSP cooperators.

Asterisks (*) indicates a species identified in CWCS.

NORTHEAST HSP REGION Limiting Habitat Factors

Unit 6 LIMITING FACTORS (Controllable by HSP)												
LIMITING FACTOR	Deer* (Emp)	Elk	Pron ghor n	Bear *	BH Shee p*	A. Squir rel*	Swift Fox*	Turk ey	Up. Birds *	LP. Chick en*	Ripa rian Spp*	Aqua tic Spp*
No limiting factors at this time												
Adverse human impacts during critical periods	X	X									X	
Human/wildlife conflicts		X		X								
Obstructive fencing												
Lack of water availability	X	X		X				X			X	X
Lack of quality forage	X	X		X				X				
Lack of rearing cover												X
Lack of escape cover												X
Poor riparian condition	X	X		X							X	X
Eroding soils								X			X	X
Loss of habitat due to woody encroachment	X	X		X		X		X			X	
Limited population distribution												X

Unit 41 & 58 LIMITING FACTORS (Controllable by HSP)												
LIMITING FACTOR	Deer* (Emp)	Elk	Pron ghor n	Bear *	BH Shee p*	A. Squir rel*	Swift Fox*	Turk ey	Up. Birds *	LP. Chick en*	Ripa rian Spp*	Aqua tic Spp*
No limiting factors at this time												
Adverse human impacts during critical periods			X									
Human/wildlife conflicts	X										X	
Obstructive fencing	X		X									
Lack of water availability	X		X					X	X	X	X	X
Lack of quality forage	X										X	
Lack of rearing cover	X						X		X	X	X	
Lack of escape cover							X	X		X	X	

Unit 45 LIMITING FACTORS (Controllable by HSP)												
LIMITING FACTOR	Deer* (Emp)	Elk	Pron ghor n	Bear *	BH Shee p*	A. Squir rel*	Swift Fox*	Turk ey	Up. Birds *	LP. Chick en*	Ripa rian Spp*	Aqua tic Spp*
Poor riparian condition												
Eroding soils											X	X
Loss of habitat due to woody encroachment	X								X			
Limited population distribution												

Unit 47 LIMITING FACTORS (Controllable by HSP)												
LIMITING FACTOR	Deer* (Emp)	Elk	Pron ghor n	Bear *	BH Shee p*	A. Squir rel*	Swift Fox*	Turke y (Emp)	Up. Bir ds*	LP. Chick en*	Ripa rian Spp*	Aqua tic Spp*
No limiting factors at this time												
Adverse human impacts during critical periods				X							X	
Human/wildlife conflicts												
Obstructive fencing			X									
Lack of water availability	X		X						X		X	X
Lack of quality forage	X							X				
Lack of rearing cover							X	X	X		X	
Lack of escape cover							X	X			X	
Poor riparian condition	X							X			X	
Eroding soils												
Loss of habitat due to woody encroachment	X										X	
Limited population distribution				X				X				

Unit 49 LIMITING FACTORS (Controllable by HSP)												
LIMITING FACTOR	Deer* (Emp)	Elk	Pron ghor n	Bear *	BH Shee p*	A. Squir rel*	Swift Fox*	Turk ey	Up. Birds *	LP. Chick en*	Ripa rian Spp*	Aqua tic Spp*
No limiting factors at this time												
Adverse human impacts during critical periods	X	X			X						X	X
Human/wildlife conflicts				X								
Obstructive fencing	X											
Lack of water availability	X							X				X
Lack of quality forage	X	X		X		X		X	X			
Lack of rearing cover	X			X				X				
Lack of escape cover						X						X
Poor riparian condition				X				X			X	X
Eroding soils	X											X
Loss of habitat due to woody encroachment	X	X		X		X		X	X			
Limited population distribution												

Unit 50 LIMITING FACTORS (Controllable by HSP)												
LIMITING FACTOR	Deer* (Emp)	Elk	Pron ghor n	Bear *	BH Shee p*	A. Squir rel*	Swift Fox*	Turk ey	Up. Birds *	LP. Chick en*	Ripa rian Spp*	Aqua tic Spp*
No limiting factors at this time												
Adverse human impacts during critical periods					X						X	
Human/wildlife conflicts		X		X								
Obstructive fencing		X										
Lack of water availability	X	X	X	X				X				X
Lack of quality forage	X	X	X	X		X		X				
Lack of rearing cover	X	X	X			X		X				X
Lack of escape cover						X						

Unit 52 LIMITING FACTORS (Controllable by HSP)												
LIMITING FACTOR	Deer* (Emp)	Elk	Pron ghor n	Bear *	BH Shee p*	A. Squir rel*	Swift Fox*	Turk ey	Up. Birds *	LP. Chick en*	Ripa rian Spp*	Aqua tic Spp*
No limiting factors at this time				X								
Adverse human impacts during critical periods	X	X										
Human/wildlife conflicts		X										
Obstructive fencing		X	X									
Lack of water availability	X	X	X					X				X
Lack of quality forage	X	X	X			X		X	X			
Lack of rearing cover	X	X	X			X		X	X			
Lack of escape cover						X			X			
Poor riparian condition	X	X						X			X	X
Eroding soils											X	X
Loss of habitat due to woody encroachment	X	X	X			X			X		X	
Limited population distribution								X				

Unit 53 LIMITING FACTORS (Controllable by HSP)												
LIMITING FACTOR	Deer* (Emp)	Elk	Pron ghor n	Bear *	BH Shee p*	A. Squir rel*	Swift Fox*	Turk ey	Up. Birds *	LP. Chick en*	Ripa rian Spp*	Aqua tic Spp*
No limiting factors at this time		X										
Adverse human impacts during critical periods	X				X			X			X	
Human/wildlife conflicts				X	X							
Obstructive fencing	X											
Lack of water availability	X				X			X	X			X
Lack of quality forage	X			X	X	X		X	X			
Lack of rearing cover	X					X		X	X			
Lack of escape cover					X							X

Unit 53 LIMITING FACTORS (Controllable by HSP)												
LIMITING FACTOR	Deer* (Emp)	Elk	Pron ghor n	Bear *	BH Shee p*	A. Squir rel*	Swift Fox*	Turk ey	Up. Birds *	LP. Chick en*	Ripa rian Spp*	Aqua tic Spp*
Poor riparian condition	X			X				X				X
Eroding soils	X										X	X
Loss of habitat due to woody encroachment	X			X	X	X		X	X		X	X
Limited population distribution												

Unit 55a LIMITING FACTORS (Controllable by HSP)												
LIMITING FACTOR	Deer* (Emp)	Elk	Pron ghor n	Bear *	BH Shee p*	A. Squir rel*	Swift Fox*	Turk ey	Up. Birds *	LP. Chick en*	Ripa rian Spp*	Aqua tic Spp*
No limiting factors at this time		X										
Adverse human impacts during critical periods	X											
Human/wildlife conflicts				X					X			
Obstructive fencing												
Lack of water availability				X				X	X			X
Lack of quality forage	X			X		X		X	X			
Lack of rearing cover						X		X	X			
Lack of escape cover												X
Poor riparian condition	X											X
Eroding soils											X	X
Loss of habitat due to woody encroachment							X		X		X	
Limited population distribution	X							X				

STATEWIDE HSP Project Types to Address Limiting Factors

(units of accomplishments defined)

PROJECT TYPES AND PROJECT SUB-TYPES <i>(new items in italics)</i>	Accomp. Units
PROJECT TYPE 1. Maintain integrity and safety of existing habitat improvements	
PROJECT SUB-TYPES A. Maintain existing program structures to extend their usefulness. B. <i>Maintain existing vegetative treatments to optimize benefits to wildlife.</i>	structures acres
PROJECT TYPE 2. Improve upland vegetative health and diversity.	
PROJECT SUB-TYPES A. Apply fire to improve forage quantity and/or quality. B. Apply herbicides to forage quantity and/or quality. C. Mechanically treat vegetation to improve forage quantity and/or quality. D. <i>Treat vegetation to increase woody structural diversity.</i> E. <i>Treat vegetation to reduce or create fuels.</i> F. <i>Treat woody vegetation to improve timber performance.</i>	acres
PROJECT TYPE 3. Improve functionality of riparian and ephemeral habitats.	
PROJECT SUB-TYPES A. Install barriers to protect function of springs, seasonally wet areas, or earthen tanks. B. Plant vegetation to enhance function of riparian and ephemeral habitats. C. Apply herbicides to remove or retard invasive vegetation from riparian, ephemeral habitats, or earthen tanks. D. Other E. <i>Install structures to facilitate irrigating/natural wetting of seasonally wet areas or earthen tanks.</i>	acres acres acres structures
PROJECT TYPE 4. Improve aquatic habitats.	
PROJECT SUB-TYPES A. Install barriers to fish movement to protect native fish populations. B. Install in-stream structures to diversify habitats. C. Remove sediment, stabilize impoundment, seal reservoir, or improve spillway to restore function of aquatic habitat. D. Other E. <i>Install mechanical devices to improve water quality.</i>	barriers structures acres miles devices
PROJECT TYPE 5. Increase availability and distribution of year-round water.	
PROJECT SUB-TYPES A. Install artificial structures to provide ground level water sources where free-water is lacking. B. Manipulate sites to improve free-water availability at naturally occurring water sources. C. Construct earthen tank or remove sediment, stabilize impoundment, seal reservoir, or improve spillway to provide a water source. E. Other	structures sites tank structures
PROJECT TYPE 6. Reintroduce or supplement native species into suitable habitat.	
PROJECT SUB-TYPES	animals

<p align="center">PROJECT TYPES AND PROJECT SUB-TYPES <i>(new items in italics)</i></p>	<p align="center">Accomp. Units</p>
<p>A. Augment existing population to improve performance. B. <i>Reintroduce populations extirpated from habitat.</i></p>	<p>animals</p>
<p>PROJECT TYPE 7. <i>Limit adverse impacts of man-made structures and human/wildlife interactions.</i> (formally “Road Management”)</p>	
<p>PROJECT SUB-TYPES</p> <p>A. Install barriers to limit human access and disturbance in critical habitats or migration corridors by adherence to land agencies’ travel management plans.</p> <p>B. Obliterate or realign roads to limit human access and disturbance in critical habitats or migration corridors by adherence to land agencies’ travel management plans.</p> <p>E. Other</p> <p>F. <i>Remove or modify fences to bring them into agency standards for safe passage of wildlife.</i></p> <p>G. <i>Install structures to facilitate movement of wildlife.</i></p> <p>H. <i>Attract wildlife away from or discourage use of conflict areas.</i></p> <p>I. <i>Remove feral horses or other livestock to minimize adverse interactions with wildlife.</i></p> <p>J. <i>Assist compliance efforts by funding increased patrol.</i></p>	<p>barriers</p> <p>miles</p> <p>structures miles</p> <p>structures projects animals</p> <p>hours</p>
<p>PROJECT TYPE 8. <i>Enhance beneficial uses and enjoyment of wildlife resources.</i> (formally “Fence Modifications”)</p>	
<p>PROJECT SUB-TYPES</p> <p>E. <i>Improve or install roadways or trails to improve sporting satisfaction.</i></p> <p>F. <i>Install cattleguards, fishing platforms, parking lots, toilets, or other structures to improve sporting satisfaction.</i></p> <p>G. <i>Install fencing to improve domestic grazing management practices that benefit wildlife habitat.</i></p> <p>H. <i>Provide educational opportunities concerning program work for citizen advisors, administrators, public, and media.</i></p> <p>I. <i>Install signs to inform public of program activities.</i></p>	<p>miles structures</p> <p>miles</p> <p>episodes</p> <p>signs</p>
<p>PROJECT TYPE 9. <i>Improve health and functionality of watersheds.</i></p>	
<p>PROJECT SUB-TYPES</p> <p>A. Install structures to minimize erosion.</p>	<p>structures</p>
<p>PROJECT TYPE 10. <i>Inventory/monitor wildlife populations, habitats, or project work to assess needs or achievement of HSP Strategic Project Sub-Types.</i></p>	
<p>PROJECT SUB-TYPES</p> <p>A. <i>Pre-monitor habitat improvements to obtain baseline data.</i></p> <p>B. <i>Post-monitor habitat improvements to determine effectiveness.</i></p> <p>C. <i>Monitor emphasis and secondary species populations.</i></p> <p>D. <i>Purchase equipment to promote program activities.</i></p>	<p>surveys surveys surveys items</p>
<p>PROJECT TYPE 11. <i>Provide shelter for wildlife benefit.</i> (formally “Miscellaneous”)</p>	
<p>PROJECT SUB-TYPES</p> <p>A. Install nest structures, brush piles, tree protectors, escape ramps, or other structures to improve wildlife survival and performance.</p> <p>D. <i>Remove vertical vegetation or structures to improve escape cover or use of area by wildlife.</i></p>	<p>structures</p> <p>acres</p>

NORTHEAST HSP REGION Habitat Improvement Landscape Plans

2010-2014

Landscape Scale Habitat Improvement Spatial Plans:

USFS:

Existing:

Camino/Corral Wildlife Habitat Improvement Plan

San Diego Deer Habitat Improvement Plan

Proposed:

Red Mesa Elk Habitat Improvement

Shuree Ponds

Eagle Rock/Fawn Lakes

Maquinta Elk Habitat Improvement

Ensenada Elk Habitat Improvement

BLM:

Existing:

Proposed:

N. Unit Elk Corridor Habitat Improvement

Orilla Verde Angler Enhancement