

Outfitted Hunts

Licenses, applications, harvest reporting and general information: **1-888-248-6866**

Outfitted Hunts

NMDGF regulates registered outfitters. An outfitter is any person who offers him/herself for hire and accepts compensation for providing equipment and/or services for hunting activities. A New Mexico outfitter is a person who has met very specific qualifications as set forth in law.

New Mexico's draw quota system allocates big-game licenses and permits for residents and nonresidents who contract with a New Mexico outfitter and apply for a hunt. Allocations will be drawn from a pool of up to 10% of all available licenses or permits.

Landowners and their agents are exempt from registration requirements when guiding a hunter on the landowner's deeded property or pursuant to a landowner permit.

A list of registered outfitters is provided online: www.wildlife.state.nm.us under Enforcement / *Guides & Outfitters* and by telephone: (505) 476-8066. Before hiring an outfitter, hunters should research the preferred contractor(s) and obtain references.

Hunters

To apply for the 10% applicant pool, all applicants **must have a contract** with a New Mexico Outfitter **prior to applying** for the hunt. The contract must be signed and dated by all parties and designate the terms, compensation and services to be provided by the outfitter.

It is unlawful to use a New Mexico outfitter number to apply in the special drawing pool, if a valid contract with that New Mexico outfitter has not been signed. It also is unlawful to hunt with a license obtained by applying for the special drawing pool designated for New Mexico outfitters, without having already signed a valid contract with that New Mexico outfitter.

Any applicant, who receives a valid license by applying with a New Mexico Outfitter's number,

must be accompanied in the field by that outfitter or their registered guide for at least two days. Those who apply using an outfitter's number and choose to hunt on their own may be prosecuted for hunting without a valid license.

New Mexico Outfitters

The requirements for becoming a New Mexico Outfitter vary, depending on whether the applicant is doing business as a corporate entity (i.e. a corporation, limited liability company, etc.) or as a noncorporate entity (an individual or unincorporated sole proprietor).

In order for a corporate entity to become a New Mexico Outfitter, the applicant must:

1. have a valid New Mexico state, county or municipal business registration;
2. be authorized to do and must do outfitting business under the laws of this state;
3. have paid property taxes or rent on real property in New Mexico, paid gross receipts taxes and paid at least one other tax administered by the taxation and revenue department in each of the three years immediately preceding the submission of its application;
4. have majority ownership by a person who has resided in New Mexico during the three-year period immediately preceding the submission of its application;
5. employ New Mexico residents as at least eighty percent of its total personnel; and
6. have either leased property for ten years or purchased property greater than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) in value in New Mexico;
7. be identical in every way to the previously certified business that meets all criteria, if it has changed its name from that of a previously certified business;
8. possess all required federal or state land use permits for the hunt; and
9. operate as a hunting guide service that accompanies each client for at least two days in the area where the license is valid.

In order for a noncorporate entity to become a New Mexico Outfitter, the applicant must:

1. have a valid New Mexico state, county or municipal business registration;
2. be authorized to do and must do outfitting business under the laws of this state;
3. be identical in every way to the previously certified business that meets all criteria, if it has changed its name from that of a previously certified business;
4. possess all required federal or state land use permits for the hunt; and
5. operate as a hunting guide service that accompanies each client for at least two days in the area where the license is valid.

To apply or obtain more information, email: DFG-Guide-Outfitter@state.nm.us or telephone: (505) 476-8066.