

# What's New

Licenses, applications, harvest reporting and general information: [www.wildlife.state.nm.us](http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us)

## Carcass and Antler/Horn Tags Required



**A separate carcass tag and antler/horn tag (if applicable) now is required for all big-game and turkey hunts.**

- A tag is required for all big-game and turkey hunts, **in addition to the printed license. DO NOT HUNT WITHOUT A VALID TAG!**
- Tags will be mailed to all successful draw hunt applicants and are available at all license vendors and NMDGF offices for over-the-counter (OTC) licenses. A tag will be provided at the time an over-the-counter license is purchased.
- Telephone or online purchases for javelina and private-land deer, elk, antelope, Barbary sheep and oryx licenses **must be made at least 14 days prior** to the start of the hunt to allow time to mail the tag(s). Tag(s) will be mailed to the address provided by the customer. Customers may obtain a duplicate tag in person at any license vendor or NMDGF office. If a duplicate tag is obtained, the original tag number will be invalidated, and the license must be reprinted. It is illegal to use an invalidated tag.
- See pages 20–21 for more information about and instructions for tagging.

## Private-land Elk and Antelope Licenses at Vendors

Private-land elk and pronghorn antelope licenses and tags are now available at license vendors in addition to NMDGF offices (pages 66 and 88).

## Early Purchase Available for 2018–19 Licenses

Licenses for the 2018–19 license year that begins April 1, will be available online, by telephone and at license vendors and NMDGF offices beginning March 22.

## Donate an Unused License

A license may be donated to NMDGF for transfer to a youth (17 years of age or younger), a resident veteran or a resident first responder who has been qualified through a nonprofit organization that promotes hunting (page 14).

## New Criminal Penalty for Felony Waste of Game

Upon conviction, a person may be sentenced to \$5,000 and 18 months in prison. Convicted felons cannot possess a firearm, may not vote and are ineligible to become outfitters or guides (page 19).

## Outfitters and Guides: New Rule Effective January 1, 2018

Outfitters and guides can review the new rule at: [www.wildlife.state.nm.us/enforcement/guide-and-outfitter-info](http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/enforcement/guide-and-outfitter-info). For general information about outfitters, guides and outfitted hunts see page 41.

## Free Mobile App Available

A free mobile app is available from the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. Powered by Pocket Ranger®, the mobile app offers easy access to maps, fishing reports, license purchases, rules and regulations, Operation Game Thief and "New Mexico Wildlife" magazine (page 143).

# Important Reminders

Licenses, applications, harvest reporting and general information: [www.wildlife.state.nm.us](http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us)

## **Purchase Licenses, Apply for Draws and Report Harvests**

Apply for draw hunts, submit harvest reports and purchase licenses online, by telephone or at New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF) offices (page 1).

Game-hunting licenses and stamps for the 2018–2019 season are unavailable through license sales and only may be purchased through the draw application process before March 22.

**Licenses and permits can be printed on standard paper, but all big-game and turkey hunters must obtain a tag(s) from the department or a license vendor prior to hunting.**

## **Mandatory Harvest Reporting. Don't Forget!**

Whether or not a hunt or harvest occurred, harvest reporting is mandatory for all Barbary sheep, deer, elk, ibex, javelina, oryx, pronghorn antelope, turkey and trapper license holders. Deadlines for species are listed on pages 4–5 and 22.

## **Information Center Extended Hours**

The NMDGF Information Center is open year-round, Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. (except holidays) to answer your questions and assist with license issues and harvest reporting.

Extended hours are March 10–March 20, Monday–Friday from 8 a.m.–8 p.m. and Saturdays from noon–5 p.m. The Information Center will close at 4:30 p.m. on March 21.

On March 31 and April 1 the Information Center will be open from 8 a.m.–1 p.m. for 2018–19 season licenses.

## **Premium Statewide Deer and Elk Draw Hunts**

Statewide memorial hunts now available by draw for deer and elk (pages 44, 49 and 72).

## **Mexican Gray Wolf: Encounters and Identification**

Know where wolf encounters may occur and how to distinguish the Mexican Gray Wolf from coyotes (pages 129 and 130).

## **50% Discounts for Resident Military and Veterans**

Residents of New Mexico who are active duty military or veterans can receive 50% discounts on licenses, permits and stamps. See pages 13, 137 and 140 for eligibility requirements and details.

## **Online Hunter Education Course (Residents only)**

New Mexico residents 11 years of age or older can earn a New Mexico hunter education number online (page 26).

# Important Dates

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

## Big-game and Turkey Application Deadlines

**Feb. 7, 2018**

Deadline to apply for turkey and bear draw permits. Applications must be completed before 5 p.m. Mountain Standard Time (MST).

**March 21, 2018**

Deadline to apply for Barbary sheep, bighorn sheep, deer, elk, ibex, javelina, oryx and pronghorn antelope draw licenses. Applications must be completed before 5 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time (MDT).

## Upland-game Application Deadline

**Aug. 22, 2018**

Deadline to apply for special-permit pheasant hunts. Applications must be made before 5 p.m. MDT.

## Important Dates to Remember for All Game

**Feb. 7** Deadline to apply for bear and turkey draw permits.

**Feb. 15** Deadline to submit 2017–18 harvest reports for deer, elk, pronghorn antelope and turkey license holders. Reports can be submitted online or by telephone. Late fees apply after this date.

**Feb. 21** Results for bear and turkey draw permits are available online: [www.wildlife.state.nm.us](http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us), and permits can be printed on standard paper. Permits are not valid unless accompanied by the appropriate license(s). Bear licenses must be purchased at least two days prior to hunting. Carcass tag required.

**Mar. 21** Deadline to apply for Draw Licenses for Barbary sheep, bighorn sheep, deer, elk, ibex, javelina, pronghorn antelope and oryx, and to apply for Private-land Only Deer License in Units 2A, 2B, 2C, 4 and 5A.

Deadline to submit late 2017–18 harvest reports for deer, elk, pronghorn antelope and turkey (\$8 late fee applies). Reporting is required for all 2017–18 license holders to be eligible for 2018–19 draw licenses.

**Failure to report for these species by this date will result in rejection of all draw applications.**

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- Mar. 22** All 2018–19 over-the-counter (OTC) license types, including Game-hunting Licenses and Game-hunting & Fishing Licenses, are available online, by telephone and at NMDGF offices and license vendors.
- April 1** 2018–19 License Year begins. 2017-18 licenses no longer valid.
- April 6** Spring youth-only turkey season begins.
- April 7** Deadline to submit 2017–18 harvest reports for Barbary sheep, ibex, javelina, oryx and trapper license holders to be eligible for big-game licenses. Results can be reported online or by telephone. **Failure to report for these species by this date will result in rejection of all applications.**
- April 15** Spring turkey season begins.
- April 25** Big-game Draw License results are available online, by telephone or at NMDGF offices.
- Aug. 22** Deadline to apply for pheasant draw hunts.
- Sept. 1** Dusky (blue) grouse and squirrel seasons begin.  
Fall bow-only turkey season begins.
- Nov. 1** Fall turkey season (any legal sporting arms) begins.
- Nov. 15** Quail season begins.
- Dec. 6** Pheasant season begins statewide, excluding Valencia County (see page 133).