

Open Gate

Licenses, applications, harvest reporting and general information: www.wildlife.state.nm.us

Open Gate Program

Open Gate is a voluntary access program available to outdoor users and landowners statewide. Its primary purpose is to provide more opportunities to hunt, fish and trap statewide. To accomplish this, NMDGF leases lands and waters from private landowners for a variety of unique hunting, fishing and trapping opportunities.

Each property participating in Open Gate will have special rules for permitted activities agreed upon by the landowner and NMDGF. These rules will be posted on the property and are also available on the NMDGF website. Hunters, anglers and trappers can use this information to locate and learn about properties that match their interests.

It is the responsibility of the individual using the property to know and obey posted rules. Citations may be issued for violation of any rules or regulations.

Be a Respectful and Courteous Guest

- Follow all posted rules.
- Leave all gates as you found them.
- Don't block gates or roads with parked vehicles.
- Don't shoot towards livestock, buildings or equipment.
- Pick up any trash along the way.
- If you see the landowner, don't forget to offer an appreciative thank you!

Landowners Can Earn Extra Cash for a Hunting Lease

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish is interested in leasing more lands with quality habitat for hunting, fishing, and trapping. Willing landowners can sign an agreement with NMDGF and receive a per-acre payment based on opportunities provided. In addition to property leases, NMDGF will also pay for right-of-way access across the property of a landowner to allow hunters, anglers and trappers access to otherwise inaccessible tracts of State Trust or federal lands. New Mexico provides liability protection to landowners who participate in Open Gate.

Funding for the program is provided from a portion of annual Habitat Management & Access Validation sales. To learn more about the Open Gate program please visit: www.wildlife.state.nm.us or telephone: (505) 476-8043.