A Message from the Director

Hunting and fishing in New Mexico are long held traditions. Generations of New Mexicans have been able to go afield and enjoy the spectacular beauty and resources our state has to offer. The work we do at the Department of Game and Fish to protect and foster these long-standing traditions makes us proud.

This past year, the Department’s staff worked tirelessly to grow wildlife populations and improve habitat across the state. We reintroduced bighorn sheep to the Sacramento escarpment, returned Gila trout to their native habitat in Whitewater Creek near Glenwood, used prescribed fire to improve the Colin Neblett Wildlife Management Area, and improved many more acres around the state through partnerships with public and private entities. None of this could have been possible without your support — through both your license purchases and your interest and engagement in the work of the Department.

We also made significant changes in 2018 to the rules that govern license allocation and the method of take. Our goal with these changes is to make it easier for hunters and anglers go enjoy the great outdoors. Your involvement and support in the development of these changes are greatly appreciated.

It is my hope in this new license year you will take time to explore some of the new opportunities across the state. While we are aware more remains to be done, be assured we will continue to work on your behalf for the benefit of New Mexico’s wildlife and the citizens of the state.

Thank you!

Michael B. Sloane, Director — New Mexico Department of Game and Fish