

***Proposed Shooting Preserve  
Application (19.35.3, NMAC), and  
Sections 17-3-35 through 17-3-42,  
NMSA, 1978***

Agenda item 9

Presented by Leon Redman, NMDGF

# Regulated Shooting Preserve Act

Sections 17-3-35 through 17-3-42, NMSA 1978

- The state game commission may issue licenses authorizing the establishment and operation of regulated propagated game bird shooting preserves on private lands when in the judgment of the commission such areas will not conflict with any reasonable prior interest.

# Captive Wildlife Uses - Shooting Preserves

## 19.35.3 NMAC

- A regulated shooting preserve shall contain not less than 30 acres and not more than the number of contiguous deeded acres owned or controlled by the applicant.
- The shooting preserve shall be posted... after the State Game Commission has approved the application and before the permit can be issued.
- Where possible and reasonable, regulated shooting preserves should be fenced.

# Captive Wildlife Uses - Shooting Preserves

## 19.35.3 NMAC

- The shooting preserve season shall be in the period September 1 through March 31...
- Except for legally propagated game birds, all protected game found on shooting preserves may be harvested only in accordance with the regulations of the State Game Commission concerning seasons and bag and possession limits.
- Legally propagated game birds are limited to the following: pheasants, quail, chukars, and mallards.

# Captive Wildlife Uses - Shooting Preserves

## 19.35.3 NMAC

- The shooting preserve operator will keep a record of the total number and species of birds released and submit a year-end report to the Department.
- The shooting preserve, all birds, and all records shall be made available for inspection at any time.

# Shooting Preserves in New Mexico

- There are 19 currently approved Shooting Preserves in 12 counties
- These preserves range from 640 to 190,080 acres in size
- Among those active, the earliest approved was in 1966
- All preserve licenses expire annually on 31 March

# Riverview Ranch Shooting Preserve

- Mr. Ernest Lopez plans on releasing propagated
  - Pheasants, 1,000
  - Chukars, 360
  - Bobwhite quail, 1,000
- Game species that occur naturally on the property
  - Turkey, Pheasant, Deer







# Impacts on indigenous species

- We anticipate that propagated birds will not become established in this area.
- Normally pheasant, chukars, and bobwhite quail occupy different micro-habitat types in those areas. However, some competition between the pheasant, chukars, and bobwhite quail may exist for common food sources, nesting habitat and roost sites.



# Riverview Ranch Shooting Preserve

- Conservation officers have inspected and found the property to be in suitable temporary holding habitat for propagated game birds.
- This shooting preserve, if approved, would provide increased hunter opportunity to this area.
- The landowners that adjoin the Riverview Ranch Shooting Preserve were contacted in reference to the proposed shooting preserve. None of the adjoining landowners had any objections to the shooting preserve.

