Location: The Colin Neblett Wildlife Management Area lies east of the village of Eagle Nest and Eagle Nest Lake in Colfax County. This WMA straddles both the north and south sides of US 64.

Total Acreage: 33,116 acres.

Purchase: The Colin Neblett was purchased in 1950-1951.

Description: This property provides hunting and fishing access and habitat for deer, elk, and other wildlife species. It is one of the largest properties owned by the Department. The Colin Neblett consists of tree covered mountains bisected by the Cimarron River canyon.

For More Information: More information about hunting, fishing and other activities, may be found on the Department’s website: www.wildlife.state.nm.us/.

GAIN Activities
- Wildlife Viewing
- Photographing
- Access
- Hiking
- Skiing/Snowshoeing
- Horseback Riding
- Camping
- Hunting and Fishing
- Hunting
- Fishing

Facilities
- Yes
- Rest rooms
- Drinking water
- Developed camp sites
- Interpretive exhibits

Fees
- Yes

Motorized Vehicles
- Not allowed beyond the roadway and parking area.

For more information on hunting and fishing rules and seasons, please read current hunting or fishing rules and Information Booklets available on the Department’s website, at Department offices, or from license vendors statewide.

What to See, Do, and Learn

Wildlife Viewing - Wildlife watchers may see deer, elk, turkey, grouse, bear, and other wildlife. Good binoculars are important. The best time to view wildlife is at dawn or dusk.

Photographing - The Colin Neblett WMA is quite photogenic, with palisade cliffs, streams and forests. The best time to photograph wildlife is at dawn or dusk. A telephoto lens is important.

Hiking - Hiking is the best way to see wildlife on the Colin Neblett or other wildlife management areas.

Bicycling - Allowed on existing roads and trails.

Skiing/Snowshoeing - These are wonderful ways to see winter wildlife on the Colin Neblett.

Horseback Riding - Allowed on Tolby and Maverick Trails; prohibited on Clear Creek Trail.

Camping - This WMA has rest rooms, drinking water, developed campsites, and interpretive exhibits available in Cimarron Canyon State Park.

Fishing - Year-round fishing is allowed in the Cimarron River for browns and stocked rainbow trout.

Closures - The Colin Neblett backcountry, including Tolby and Maverick Trails, are closed May 15-July 31. Clear Creek Trail remains open May 15-July 31. The backcountry and ALL trails are closed during big game hunts as published in the NM Rules and Info Booklet. Only licensed deer and elk hunters may camp in a designated area in the back country, and only during their deer or elk hunt.

Hunting - Hunting is allowed for deer, elk, bear, and turkey during open seasons and to hunters with valid licenses and permits.

Fishing - Year-round fishing is allowed in the Cimarron River for browns and stocked rainbow trout.

Closures - The Colin Neblett backcountry, including Tolby and Maverick Trails, are closed May 15-July 31. Clear Creek Trail remains open May 15-July 31. The backcountry and ALL trails are closed during big game hunts as published in the NM Rules and Info Booklet. Only licensed deer and elk hunters may camp in a designated area in the back country, and only during their deer or elk hunt.

Facilities - The Colin Neblett has rest rooms, drinking water, developed campsites, and interpretive exhibits available in Cimarron Canyon State Park.

Fees - Hunters and fishermen must have appropriate licenses and permits to take part in these activities. Wildlife viewers, photographers, hikers, bicyclists, horseback riders, and skiers must have a valid permit or validation with them while in the back country of the Colin Neblett.

Individuals may also access this WMA with a valid Cimarron State Park entrance permit.

Motorized Vehicles - Not allowed beyond the roadway and parking area.