



A Message from the Director

We regularly say thank you to license buyers for providing the funds for fishing and wildlife management in New Mexico. You may not realize exactly how much your contribution to wildlife conservation means, how far those dollars reach and the impact of your dollar for all wildlife species in New Mexico.

Thanks to the sale of hunting, fishing and trapping licenses, as well as related stamps, the Department is able to fund a vast list of projects. These projects include big game surveys, terrestrial and aquatic habitat enhancement projects, conservation and law enforcement efforts, Wildlife Management Area purchases and maintenance, education programs, wildlife migration efforts, hatchery operations and fish stockings and the conservation of Species of Greatest Conservation Need as listed in the State Wildlife Action Plan. There are many other projects that would fill this book tenfold.

The Game Protection Fund totals nearly \$39 million annually, with almost \$25 million of that coming from license and stamp sales. An average of \$14 million comes from federal and other grants, with \$1,062,689 coming from penalties assessed on wildlife law enforcement, interest earned and other revenue sources in fiscal year 2020. The fund is also supplemented by additional revenue from the Sikes Act Fund, Trail Safety Fund, Share with Wildlife, Habitat Management Fund, Depredations Fund and the Big Game Enhancement Fund, giving the Department a total annual budget of just over \$43 million.

What I am saying is THANK YOU to New Mexico License buyers for your support, not only to this agency and the work that we do, but more importantly thank you for supporting wildlife and wildspaces for game and non-game species throughout our great state. We truly could not do our jobs without you.

Thank you for your continued support for wildlife conservation in New Mexico..

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael B. Sloane". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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