TITLE 19  NATURAL RESOURCES AND WILDLIFE
CHAPTER 31  HUNTING AND FISHING
PART 15  PRONGHORN ANTELOPE

19.31.15.1  ISSUING AGENCY:  New Mexico department of game and fish.

19.31.15.2  SCOPE:  Sportspersons interested in pronghorn antelope hunting and management. Additional requirements may be found in Chapter 17, NMSA 1978, and Chapters 30, 31, 32 and 33 of Title 19 NMAC.

19.31.15.3  STATUTORY AUTHORITY:  Sections 17-1-14 and 17-1-26 NMSA 1978 provide that the New Mexico state game commission has the authority to establish rules and regulations that it may deem necessary to carry out the purpose of Chapter 17, NMSA 1978 and all other acts pertaining to protected mammals, birds and fish.

19.31.15.4  DURATION:  April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2027.

19.31.15.5  EFFECTIVE DATE:  April 1, 2023, unless a later date is cited at the end of a section.

19.31.15.6  OBJECTIVE:  Establishing open hunting seasons and regulations, rules, and procedures governing the distribution and issuance of pronghorn licenses by the department.

19.31.15.7  DEFINITIONS:
A.  “Department” shall mean the New Mexico department of game and fish.
B.  “Director” shall mean the director of the New Mexico department of game and fish.
C.  “Either sex” or “ES” shall mean any one pronghorn.
D.  “Female or immature pronghorn” or “F-IM” shall mean any female pronghorn or any pronghorn with both horns shorter than its ears.
E.  “Game management unit” or “GMU” shall mean those areas as described in 19.30.4 NMAC Game Management Units.
F.  “Mature buck pronghorn” or “MB” shall mean a pronghorn with at least one horn longer than its ears.
G.  “Wildlife management areas” or “WMAs” shall mean those areas as described in 19.34.5 NMAC Wildlife Management Areas.

19.31.15.8  ADJUSTMENT OF LICENSES, AUTHORIZATIONS AND HARVEST LIMITS:  The director, with the verbal concurrence of the chairperson of the New Mexico state game commission or their designee, may adjust the number of licenses, or authorizations for pronghorn up or down to address significant changes in population levels or to address critical department management needs. This adjustment may be applied to any or all of the specific hunt codes for pronghorn, and may include a limit to the number of private land-only
licenses by hunt code. The director may change or cancel all hunts on military lands to accommodate closures on those lands; if changed, the season length and bag limit shall remain the same as assigned on the original hunt code. [19.31.15.8 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.15.8 NMAC, 4/1/2023]

19.31.15.9 PRONGHORN POPULATION MANAGEMENT HUNTS:
A. The director or their designee may authorize population management hunts for pronghorn when justified in writing by department personnel.
B. The director or their designee shall designate the sporting arms, season dates, season lengths, bag limits, hunt boundaries, specific requirements or restrictions, and number of licenses or permits to be issued.
C. In the event that an applicant is not able to hunt on the dates specified, the applicant’s name shall be moved to the bottom of the list and another applicant may be contacted for the hunt.
D. In those instances where a population management hunt is warranted on deeded private lands, the landowner may suggest eligible hunters of their choice by submitting a list of prospective hunter’s names to the department for licensing consideration. No more than one-half of the total number of licenses authorized shall be available to landowner identified hunters. The balance of prospective hunters shall be identified by the department. [19.31.15.9 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.15.11 NMAC, 4/1/2023]

19.31.15.10 SPECIAL PRONGHORN HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES
A. Pronghorn conservation recognition program: Private landowners who are conducting and maintaining substantial habitat improvements and/or land management practices on their deeded lands that directly and significantly benefit pronghorn may be considered for special recognition. Only those projects as determined by the department to be relevant and beneficial to pronghorn will be considered. Landowners must submit an application and once approved, develop a pronghorn conservation and management plan in cooperation with the department. Upon approval of the plan the landowner may be granted alternative season dates as approved by the department. Landowners receiving special recognition are required to submit an update as directed by the department to be considered for continued participation. The hunt code for any unique season approved pursuant to this program shall be ANT-1-600.
B. Ranch-wide agreements: Properties consisting of deeded and leased public lands deemed by the department to have pronghorn hunting opportunities may enter into an agreement with the department to create a pronghorn hunting ranch. The boundaries would include both the deeded and leased public lands. The department will negotiate with the landowner the number of private licenses to be issued to landowners with ranch-wide agreements. These private licenses shall have access to the deeded and leased public land within the hunting ranch boundary during the respective pronghorn hunt. The landowner shall allow access to the deeded and leased public land to all legally licensed public draw hunters pursuant to Subsection A of Section 19.31.15.11 NMAC for the respective game management unit. Any ranch entered into such an agreement shall be issued one authorization valid for a free pronghorn license pursuant to 17-3-14 NMSA 1978. [19.31.15.10 NMAC - N, 4/1/2023]

19.31.15.11 PRONGHORN HUNTS:
Numbers of licenses are evaluated annually based upon population dynamics, weather conditions, sustainable harvest, and department management objectives.
A. Public land pronghorn hunts: Pronghorn draw hunts, listing the open GMUs or areas, eligibility requirements or restrictions, hunt dates, hunt codes, sporting arms type, number of licenses and bag limit shall be as indicated below. Pronghorn draw hunt licenses are valid on all open public lands and any private land the licensee has written permission to hunt within the GMU or area. All WMAs are open to pronghorn hunts in respective GMUs listed in this section unless specifically closed by rule.
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<th>Open GMUs or areas</th>
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<th>2024-2025 hunt dates</th>
<th>2025-2026 hunt dates</th>
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19.31.15 NMAC
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<td>10/5-10/7</td>
<td>10/4-10/6</td>
<td>10/3-10/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50, 52: youth only</td>
<td>8/5-8/7</td>
<td>8/3-8/5</td>
<td>8/2-8/4</td>
<td>8/1-8/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50, 52</td>
<td>8/8-8/16</td>
<td>8/6-8/14</td>
<td>8/5-8/13</td>
<td>8/4-8/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50, 52</td>
<td>8/26-8/28</td>
<td>8/24-8/26</td>
<td>8/23-8/25</td>
<td>8/22-8/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>8/12-8/20</td>
<td>8/10-8/18</td>
<td>8/9-8/17</td>
<td>8/15-8/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>8/26-8/28</td>
<td>8/24-8/26</td>
<td>8/23-8/25</td>
<td>8/29-8/31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>10/7-10/9</td>
<td>10/5-10/7</td>
<td>10/4-10/6</td>
<td>10/3-10/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56: youth only</td>
<td>10/14-10/16</td>
<td>10/12-10/14</td>
<td>10/11-10/13</td>
<td>10/10-10/12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### B. Private land-only pronghorn hunts:
Private land-only pronghorn licenses shall be restricted to the hunt dates, eligibility requirements or restrictions, sporting arms type, and bag limit that corresponds to the draw hunt code listed in Subsection A of Section 19.31.15.11 NMAC for the GMU where the private landowner’s property lies. Private land-only pronghorn licenses shall be unlimited, except the any legal sporting arms hunt in GMUs 4, 14, and 52 shall be limited to 15 licenses, or as otherwise provided in 19.31.15.8 NMAC, and available from any license vendor and the department’s web site. These licenses are not valid for ranch-wide agreement properties as described in Subsection B of Section 19.31.15.10 NMAC. Private land-only pronghorn licenses are valid only on deeded private property where the licensee has written permission to hunt, and within the GMU or area allowed by hunt code, except ranch-wide agreement properties. Private land-only pronghorn licenses are not restricted to only one ranch or property. In those GMUs where there is no pronghorn draw hunt (GMUs 4, 14, 46, 48, 54, and 55), hunt dates, eligibility requirements or restrictions, sporting arms type, and bag limit will be:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GMU</th>
<th>2023-2024 hunt dates</th>
<th>2024-2025 hunt dates</th>
<th>2025-2026 hunt dates</th>
<th>2026-2027 hunt dates</th>
<th>hunt code</th>
<th>licenses</th>
<th>bag limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>57: youth only</td>
<td>8/26-8/28</td>
<td>8/24-8/26</td>
<td>8/23-8/25</td>
<td>8/29-8/31</td>
<td>ANT-1-244</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>ES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57: youth only</td>
<td>10/14-10/16</td>
<td>10/12-10/14</td>
<td>10/11-10/13</td>
<td>10/10-10/12</td>
<td>ANT-1-246</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>F-IM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58: youth only</td>
<td>8/26-8/28</td>
<td>8/24-8/26</td>
<td>8/23-8/25</td>
<td>8/29-8/31</td>
<td>ANT-1-248</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>ES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>10/7-10/9</td>
<td>10/5-10/7</td>
<td>10/4-10/6</td>
<td>10/3-10/5</td>
<td>ANT-1-252</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>MB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58: youth only</td>
<td>10/14-10/16</td>
<td>10/12-10/14</td>
<td>10/11-10/13</td>
<td>10/10-10/12</td>
<td>ANT-1-253</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>F-IM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>10/7-10/9</td>
<td>10/5-10/7</td>
<td>10/4-10/6</td>
<td>10/3-10/5</td>
<td>ANT-1-259</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>MB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59: youth only</td>
<td>10/14-10/16</td>
<td>10/12-10/14</td>
<td>10/11-10/13</td>
<td>10/10-10/12</td>
<td>ANT-1-260</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>F-IM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 19.31.15 NMAC
to 15 authorizations for hunting by injured service men and women on Melrose Air Force Range. The director shall negotiate hunts to maintain appropriate harvest within the exterior boundaries of participating ranches.

The material in this part was derived from that previously filed with the State Records Center.

C. **Private land-only F-IM pronghorn hunts:** The department will work with interested landowners with sufficient pronghorn populations to authorize F-IM hunts on private deeded land. Sporting arms type, hunt dates, eligibility requirements or restrictions and authorization numbers for private deeded land F-IM hunts will be negotiated to maintain appropriate harvest within the exterior boundaries of participating ranches.

D. **Pronghorn hunt for injured service men and women:** The department may annually issue up to 15 authorizations for hunting by injured service men and women on Melrose Air Force Range. The director shall determine the procedures for issuing the authorizations, and the dates for each hunt.

Pre-NMAC History: The material in this part was derived from that previously filed with the State Records Center and Archives under:

Regulation No. 482, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, Elk, Antelope, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, And Barbary Sheep, filed 5/31/1967;


**HISTORY OF 19.31.15 NMAC:**

19.31.15 NMAC - Rp, 19.31.15.12 NMAC, 4/1/2023
Regulation No. 489, Establishing Turkey Seasons For The Spring of 1968, filed 3/1/1968;
Regulation No. 491, Establishing Big Game Seasons For 1968 For Jicarilla Reservation, filed 3/1/1968;
Regulation No. 492, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, Elk, Antelope, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, And Barbary Sheep, filed 6/6/1968;
Regulation No. 495, Establishing A Season On Bighorn Sheep, filed 10/2/1968;
Regulation No. 496, Establishing An Elk Season In The Tres Piedras Area, Elk Area P-6, filed 12/11/1968;
Regulation No. 503, Establishing 1969 Deer Seasons For Bowhunting Only And Big Game Seasons For The Jicarilla Indian Reservation, filed 3/5/1969;
Regulation 504, Establishing Seasons on Deer, Bear, Turkey, Dusky Grouse, Chickaree And Tassel-Eared Squirrel, And Barbary Sheep, filed 6/4/1969;
Regulation No. 507, Establishing A Season On Bighorn Sheep, filed 8/26/1969;
Regulation No. 512, Establishing Turkey Season For The Spring Of 1970, filed 2/20/1970;
Regulation No. 513, Establishing Deer Season For Bowhunting Only In Sandia State Game Refuge, filed 2/20/1970;
Regulation No. 514, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, Elk, Antelope, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, Barbary Sheep And Bighorn Sheep, filed 6/9/1970;
Regulation No 520, Establishing Turkey Seasons For The Spring Of 1971, filed 3/9/1971;
Regulation No. 522, Establishing 1971 Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, And Elk On The Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, filed 3/9/1971;
Regulation No. 523, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep And Bighorn Sheep, filed 6/9/1971;
Regulation No. 531, Establishing A Season On Javelina, filed 12/17/1971;
Regulation No. 532, Establishing Turkey Seasons For The Spring Of 1972, filed 3/20/1972;
Regulation No. 534, Establishing 1972 Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, And Elk On The Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, filed 3/20/1972;
Regulation No. 536, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Chickaree And Tassel-Eared Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep And Bighorn Sheep, filed 6/26/1972;
Regulation No. 542, Establishing A Season On Javelina, filed 12/1/1972;
Regulation No. 545, Establishing Turkey Seasons For The Spring Of 1973, filed 2/26/1973;
Regulation No. 546, Establishing 1973 Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, And Elk On The Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, filed 2/26/1973;
Regulation No. 547, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Chickaree And Tassel-Eared Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep And Bighorn Sheep, and Javelina, filed 5/31/1973;
Regulation No. 554, Establishing Special Turkey Seasons For The Spring of 1974, filed 3/4/1974;
Regulation No. 556, Establishing 1974 Seasons On Deer, Bear, Turkey, And Elk On The Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, filed 3/14/1974;
Regulation No. 558, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx, And Ibex, filed 5/29/1974;
Regulation No. 565, Establishing Special Turkey Seasons For The Spring Of 1975, filed 3/24/1975;
Regulation No. 567, Establishing 1975 Seasons On Deer, Bear, And Turkey On The Jicarilla Apache And Navajo Indian Reservations And On Elk On The Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, filed 3/24/1975;
Regulation No. 568, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Chickaree And Tassel-Eared Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex, filed 6/25/1975;
Regulation No. 573, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Dusky Grouse, Tassel-Eared And Chickaree Squirrel, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex, filed 2/23/1976;
Regulation No. 583, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex, filed 2/11/1977;
Regulation No. 590, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex, filed 2/15/1978;
Regulation No. 596, Establishing Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex, filed 2/23/1979;
Regulation No. 603, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1980 through March 31, 1981, filed 2/22/1980;
Regulation No. 622, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1983 through March 31, 1984, filed 3/9/1983;
Regulation No. 628, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1984 through March 31, 1985, filed 4/2/1984;
Regulation No. 634, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1985 Through March 31, 1986, filed 4/18/1985;
Regulation No. 645, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1987 through March 31, 1988, filed 2/12/1987;
Regulation No. 653, Establishing Open Seasons On Deer, Turkey, Bear, Cougar, Elk, Antelope, Barbary Sheep, Bighorn Sheep, Javelina, Oryx And Ibex For The Period April 1, 1988 through March 31, 1989, filed 12/18/1987;
Regulation No. 663, Establishing Opening Spring Turkey For The Period April 1, 1989 through March 31, 1990, filed 3/28/1989;

History of Repealed Material:
19.31.15 NMAC, Pronghorn Antelope, filed 2/29/2016 - duration expired 3/31/2019