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STATE GAME COMMISSION MEETING AND RULE MAKING NOTICE

The New Mexico State Game Commission ("Commission") has scheduled a regular meeting and rule hearing for Friday, November 30, 2018, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Roswell Convention and Civic Center, 912 N. Main St, Roswell, NM 88201, to hear and consider action as appropriate on the following: Presentation of proposed changes to the Elk rule.

Synopsis:

The proposal is to adopt a new Elk rule, 19.31.14 NMAC, which will become effective April 1, 2019. The current Elk rule is set to expire on March 31, 2019.

The proposed new rule adjusts seasons for calendar date shifts. Youth Encouragement hunts are limited to resident youth who put in for the draw but were unsuccessful. If hunts are undersubscribed after 14 days, licenses will also become available to resident seniors (65 years and older) who put in for the draw but were unsuccessful. Antler Point Restriction (APR) hunts are moved into the big game draw (Game Management Units (GMUs) 12, 34, 37). Boundaries in the Core Occupied Elk Range (COER)/primary management zone are being adjusted. Primary management zone is defined as that portion of land within the boundaries of a GMU, as designated by the department, upon which elk management goals and subsequent harvest objectives are based. License numbers allocated to the public-private split are being adjusted where COER boundary modifications occur and in situations where land ownership has changed. A more detailed summary, and the full text of changes, is available on the Department's website at: www.wildlife.state.nm.us.

Interested persons may submit comments on the proposed changes to the Elk rule at DGF-Elk-Rules@state.nm.us: or individuals may submit written comments to the physical address below. Comments are due by 5:00 p.m. on November 28, 2018. The final proposed rule will be voted on by the Commission during a public meeting on November 30, 2018. Interested persons may also provide data, views or arguments, orally or in writing, at the public rule hearing to be held on November 30, 2018.

Full copies of text of the proposed new rule, technical information related to proposed rule changes, and the agenda can be obtained from the Office of the Director, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, 1 Wildlife Way, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87507, or from the Department's website at www.wildlife.state.nm.us/commission/proposals-under-consideration/. This agenda is subject to change up to 72 hours prior to the meeting. Please contact the Director's Office at (505) 476-8000, or the Department's website at www.wildlife.state.nm.us for updated information.

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact the Department at (505) 476-8000 at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact the Department at 505-476-8000 if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.

Legal authority for this rulemaking can be found in the General Powers and Duties of the State Game Commission 17-1-14, et seq. NMSA 1978; Commission's Power to establish rules and regulations 17-1-26, et seq. NMSA 1978.