



Ray Powell, M.S., D.V.M.
COMMISSIONER

State of New Mexico
Commissioner of Public Lands

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August 27, 2012

Dear Agricultural Lessee:

The 2012-2013 hunting license year is upon us. As in previous years, I would like to keep you informed of the New Mexico State Land Office (NMSLO) agreement with the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF) which allows for the use of state trust lands by NMDGF licensed hunters. The agreement, referred to as the *Game and Fish Easement*, stipulates that the NMDGF has purchased licensed hunter, angler, and trapper uses upon state trust lands.

The 2012-2013 *Game and Fish Easement* is published on our website at www.nmstatelands.org under *Quick Links* in the Sportsmen's Access page and contains the following minor but important changes from the previous agreement in regard to camping and the use of ground blinds:

- **Camping:** The existing provision in the Game and Fish Easement which allows for the designation of camping where it is deemed to be a practical necessity has been modified to ensure that the Commissioner consults with the agricultural lessee and Director of the Department of Game and Fish before making a final decision.
- **Ground Blinds:** Recognizing that improvements belong to the agricultural lessee, the attachment of any ground blind to, or physically using water wells, metal, plastic, fiberglass, or rubber water tanks, or windmills to establish a blind is prohibited without the consent of the agricultural lessee.

Please also note that hunters are required to secure landowner permission to use private roads or cross private lands to reach state trust lands that are not otherwise accessible. Hunters are not allowed to hunt on state trust lands withdrawn by NMDGF unitization agreements with private landowners or on business leases specified as withdrawn from the *Game and Fish Easement*. An online map is available that delineates state trust lands including those which have been unitized or withdrawn due to business leasing. This map is located on our website under the Sportsmen's Access page and may also be accessed from the NMDGF website www.wildlife.state.nm.us.

In order to realize successful joint use of state trust lands, we need the assistance and cooperation of the various involved interests. The NMSLO and NMDGF will be working together to ensure access is available on state trust lands subject to the easement while safeguarding our lessees' interests.

Hunting on state trust lands

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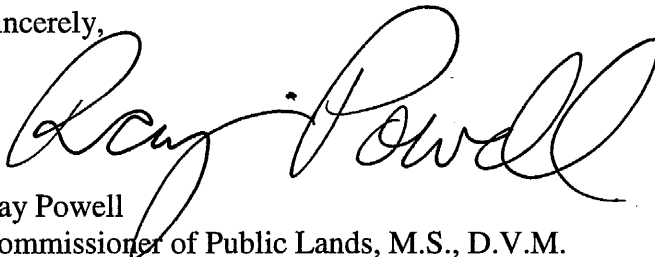
If conflicts over access or resource damage arise, NMSLO and NMDGF personnel will be available to work with you and licensed hunters to resolve problems.

I look forward to working with you to ensure hunting related conflicts are kept to a minimum. If you have questions or if any problems arise, please do not hesitate to call your local NMSLO District Resource Manager (names, phone numbers, and email addresses are provided with this letter). Also if you have any questions regarding hunting seasons, laws, or regulations please feel free to contact the NMDGF office nearest you or the Santa Fe office at (505) 476-8000.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your stewardship and your understanding in working with hunters and anglers during the hunting season. Your stewardship of the state trust is ensuring that the land will continue to provide valuable resources and revenue for New Mexico, the beneficiaries, and our future.

If you would like any information about NMSLO programs, please feel free to contact our office at (505) 827-5760 or view our website at www.nmstatelands.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ray Powell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

Ray Powell
Commissioner of Public Lands, M.S., D.V.M.