



BACKCOUNTRY
HUNTERS & ANGLERS
NEW MEXICO

August 25, 2021

New Mexico Backcountry Hunters & Anglers welcomes Governor Lujan Grisham's executive order supporting the laudable goal of conserving at least 30 percent of the state's lands and waters by 2030.

We look forward to working with the Governor and the state of New Mexico to establish a task force that includes representation of hunters and anglers so that we can work together to advance a forward-thinking conversation agenda. By adding specificity to these goals and building meaningful strategies to elevate consideration for fish and wildlife habitat, we can work together to address climate change and conserve intact lands and waters that promote resiliency and maintain the integrity of migration corridors.

The Land of Enchantment deserves a permanent commitment to stewardship with long-term promises for enduring conservation policies that ensure the future health of our lands and waters, fish and wildlife resources, and their natural character through science-based management which is consistent with the 30 by 30 initiative's objective to protect biodiversity. We have an obligation to the generations that follow us to protect our traditions, pass on our unique heritage and enhance opportunities for hunting, fishing, gathering wild food and maintain cultural practices that are a way of life for many New Mexicans.

Success, however, depends on our ability to forge – and grow – real partnerships with a wide array of stakeholders, including sovereign pueblo and tribal nations, federal management agencies, state and local officials, private landowners, and hunters and anglers. Strong and active collaboration will be essential, and creative thinking will be critical, beyond and in addition to acknowledging efforts already underway and building on those examples. Models of active stewardship on both private and public lands currently exist, and it's imperative that we elevate those while establishing new and innovative strategies that unite us in achieving an ambitious vision for New Mexico's future.

We thank Governor Lujan Grisham for her leadership and investment in natural resource management priorities that also generate jobs and contribute to economic recovery in New Mexico. Hunters and anglers stand ready to support and actively engage in efforts to conserve important landscapes, bolster fish and wildlife habitat and expand opportunities to access and enjoy our shared lands and waters.

Yours in Conservation,
The New Mexico Chapter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers



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