



PUBLIC NOTICE

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Southwest Region (Arizona • New Mexico • Oklahoma • Texas) <http://southwest.fws.gov>

Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge Seeks Public Input on Proposed Youth and Mobility Impaired Turkey Hunt

Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge is in the process of developing alternatives for a proposed Youth and Mobility Impaired Spring Turkey Hunt and is seeking public input as part of the process.

The Rio Grande Turkey population on the Bosque del Apache NWR has been determined to be healthy enough to sustain a limited hunt of up to 8 bearded turkey per season. Currently, the (Rio Grande) turkey is considered common and can be seen throughout the year in flocks of up to 30 to 100 birds apiece.

In 2008, a Public Use Review of the refuge's Visitor Services Program was held in consultation with representatives of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. It was recommended in the review to opening refuge lands for limited hunting of turkey. The review also suggested that the refuge consider making these hunts available to non-traditional audiences.

A draft copy of the Compatibility Determination for the proposed Youth and Mobility impaired hunters Spring Rio Grande Turkey Hunt is available for public review at the following web-sites:

<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/newmex/bosque/index.html>

<http://www.friendsofthebosque.org/publicnotices.html>

The refuge will collect public Input through May 30th, 2009. The public is encouraged to provide input to refuge management by writing to:

Refuge Manager
Bosque del Apache NWR
P.O. Box 280
San Antonio, NM 87801

Or may e-mail the refuge at the following address:

shawn_gillette@fws.gov

Please put "Public Comment - Proposed Bosque Spring Turkey Hunt" in the **subject** heading.

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