

New Mexico Avian Protection Working Group 2017 Conference



“Working Cooperatively to Resolve Avian Issues”

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Introductions

- ▶ Thank you!
 - ▶ NMAP Steering Committee Members
 - ▶ PNM Foundation
 - ▶ APLIC/EEI
 - ▶ Hawk's Aloft
 - ▶ Vendors
- ▶ NMAP Presenters
- ▶ Attendees
 - ▶ Who are you?
- ▶ Housekeeping



A Brief History ..

Born from an Idea in 2002

- ▶ Prosecutions are ugly and difficult
- ▶ Terry Thibeaux, a law enforcement officer with USFWS and Hawks Aloft, Inc., thought there must be a better way to protect birds
 - They formed the idea and approached PNM
 - Other initial partners include the New Mexico Falconers Association, NM Department of Game and Fish, and Rural Utility Service



NMAP is that Idea



- ▶ It is more powerful to collaborate than to prosecute, hence our mission
- ▶ *Working Cooperatively to Resolve Avian Issues* through
 - Education, outreach, and technical support
 - Conferences and mini-NMAPs throughout the state of New Mexico

Avian Concerns



- ▶ 100,000s – 175 million birds estimated killed annually due to power line collision or electrocution
- ▶ 25% of reported Golden Eagle mortalities over a 30–year period were caused by electrocution
- ▶ Reliability and avian protection go hand in hand
- ▶ Cost of outages easily in the tens of millions of dollars plus disruption of service
- ▶ The good news is that we know how to make lines safer for birds and avoid outages

History of NMAP



- ▶ Modeled after other successful working groups
- ▶ Helps utilities address avian mortalities from electrocution and collisions
- ▶ Representatives from PNM, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Rural Utility Service, Hawks Aloft, Inc., NM Department of Game and Fish, and NM Falconer's Association
- ▶ Open to all
- ▶ This conference is the avenue to promote education and awareness

Goals of NMAP



- ▶ Provide New Mexican and other utilities with
 - Resources and information to reduce avian mortalities
 - Context for understanding migratory bird and endangered species legislation
- ▶ Combine knowledge of individuals, corporations, government agencies, and conservation organizations to promote avian conservation
- ▶ Promote trust and create a proactive environment

Objectives of NMAP



- ▶ Provide low-cost educational workshops
- ▶ Identify potential high use areas for raptor activity
- ▶ Provide education and technical support to rural electric cooperatives
- ▶ Encourage utility companies to produce Avian Protection Plans (APP)
- ▶ Provide biological and habitat details to support APPs

New Mexico Avian Protection



- ▶ NMAP is here to help with avian issues
- ▶ Committee members include
 - Gail Garber and Lisa Morgan–Hawks Aloft
 - Delivan Roper–USFWS
 - Adam Ringia – Pueblo of Laguna
 - Dennis Rankin–RUS
 - Sharon Brown and Stephen Saletta–PNM

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- ▶ [NMAVIAN PROTECTION.ORG](http://NMAVIANPROTECTION.ORG) – Our website
- ▶ Would you, or your company like to participate in the steering committee? ..
 - Speak to Sharon Brown or Gail Garber
- ▶ All presentations will be available on the website by February 22, 2017