



November 1, 2017

Kirk Patten  
Assistant Chief of Fisheries  
New Mexico Department of Game and Fish  
1 Wildlife Way  
Santa Fe, NM 87507

Dear Kirk:

This letter is the official response of New Mexico Trout to the proposed changes to the NM Department of Game and Fish Fisheries Rule.

New Mexico Trout wishes to commend you and your staff for clarifying and simplifying the complex rules, exceptions, and special situations that are reflected in the existing regulations. This should make it easier for anglers to comply with the rules and for G&F staff to enforce them. The table in Section 19.31.4 is much easier to read and understand than the narrative paragraph that it replaces. Explicitly stating in the table that there are no bag limits for rainbow, brown, and brook trout in stream segments that hold Rio Grande cutthroat trout should simplify management and may give RGCT a little advantage in waters where they have to compete with other trout species.

Thanks for the good work. We look forward to assisting you wherever we can.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald Loehman". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ronald E. Loehman  
Conservation Chairman  
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