

**44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION,
2000**

INTRODUCED BY
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A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE STATE GAME COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH WITH THE
FEDERAL LAND AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AGENCIES CARRYING
CAPACITIES AND HERD SIZE FOR ELK IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, wildlife is an important and desirable asset to
all New Mexicans; and

WHEREAS, carrying capacity is the sustainable quantity
and quality of forage available and not allocated to other
uses; and

WHEREAS, overpopulation of elk can damage the
agricultural and rural economy, the health of the herd and
other wildlife and established local cultures of New Mexico;
and

WHEREAS, rangeland, agricultural land and riparian areas
are being degraded and damaged by overpopulations of elk

underscored material = new
~~[bracketed material]~~ = delete

1 throughout New Mexico; and

2 WHEREAS, herd management should be conducted in areas
3 where elk depredation and riparian damage cannot be
4 controlled in any other way;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
6 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state game commission with the
7 federal land and wildlife management agencies be requested to
8 develop a strategic elk management plan that is based on elk
9 quantity, quality of habitat and the established carrying
10 capacity and includes provisions for all management options
11 to manage and contain the elk herd population when necessary;
12 and
13

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state game commission
15 strategic elk management plan be developed through a process,
16 including private landowners and sportsmen; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
18 transmitted to the state game commission and the regional
19 directors of the United States forest service, fish and
20 wildlife service and bureau of land management.
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