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SENATE BILL 82

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015

INTRODUCED BY

Howie C. Morales

AN ACT

RELATING TO WILDLIFE; PROHIBITING THE USE OF DRONES IN HUNTING;
PROVIDING PENALTIES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of Chapter 17 NMSA 1978 is
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] USE OF DRONES IN HUNTING PROHIBITED--
PENALTIES.--

A. A person shall not use a drone to:

(1) pursue, harass, drive or rally a protected
species;

(2) spot or locate a protected species or to
relay the location of a protected species to another person by
any means of communication or signaling device; or

(3) obtain information regarding the location

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

1 of a protected species, which information is used to hunt for
2 or take, or assist in the hunting for or taking of, the
3 protected species.

4 B. A person who violates the provisions of this
5 section shall be sentenced in accordance with the provisions of
6 Section 17-2-10 NMSA 1978.

7 C. If a person who violates the provisions of this
8 section possesses a license, certificate or permit that was
9 issued by the state game commission, that license, certificate
10 or permit shall be subject to revocation by the commission
11 pursuant to Sections 17-1-14 and 17-3-34 NMSA 1978.

12 D. As used in this section:

13 (1) "drone" means a device used or designed
14 for navigation or flight in the air that is unmanned and guided
15 remotely or by a computer or control system that is on board
16 the drone; and

17 (2) "protected species" means all animals
18 defined as protected wildlife species and game fish pursuant to
19 Section 17-2-3 NMSA 1978, fur-bearing animals pursuant to
20 Section 17-5-2 NMSA 1978 and endangered species or subspecies
21 as provided in state game commission regulation.

22 E. The director of the department of game and fish
23 may exempt a person from the provisions of this section for the
24 purpose of wildlife management."

25 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
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[bracketed material] = delete

1 provisions of this act is July 1, 2015.

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