

# Michael J. Perry

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## Professional Summary

Experienced executive and public servant with over 25 years in wildlife management, public lands policy, and organizational leadership. Proven ability to build collaborative partnerships with government agencies, stakeholders, and private landowners to achieve mission-critical goals. Recognized for advancing conservation initiatives, driving legislative solutions, and enhancing public access to state trust lands while balancing economic and environmental priorities.

## Core Competencies

- Strategic Leadership & Policy Development
- Wildlife & Habitat Management
- Legislative Advocacy & Public Affairs
- Interagency Collaboration & Negotiation
- Public Lands & Resource Management
- Stakeholder Engagement & Community Relations
- Program Development & Implementation
- Crisis Management & Problem Resolution

## Professional Experience

CEO | Wildlife and Habitat Prescriptions (2013 – Present)

Founded and manage a consulting firm providing habitat, watershed, and resource management solutions for private landowners and conservation groups across New Mexico.

- Implemented large-scale habitat modifications to improve native ecosystems and reduce invasive vegetation.
- Designed wildfire resiliency projects improving landscape sustainability and resource protection.
- Successfully collaborated with multiple ranches to increase wildlife utilization and land productivity.

Vice Chair County Commissioner | Chaves County, District 5 (2023 – 2026)

Lead initiatives in infrastructure, wildfire mitigation, and rural development while serving on key committees including Road, Fire, NMC Legislative, and Public Lands.

- Advocate in Washington, D.C. for Secure Rural Schools (SRS) and Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funding.
- Partnered with NM Cattle Growers on federal policy discussions addressing National Electric Corridors and wolf recovery issues.

Assistant Commissioner & District Resource Manager | New Mexico State Land Office (2016 – 2019)

Oversaw Field Operations Division managing 9M acres of state trust lands with a focus on agricultural leasing, watershed health, and access expansion.

- Directed 32 staff members across field operations, investigations, and resource management programs.
- Successfully negotiated permanent access to 60+ previously inaccessible sections of state trust land in collaboration with sportsmen's groups.
- Pioneered the implementation of GPS-based mapping for improved land access communication.

Major & Assistant Area Chief | New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (1996 – 2016)

Led Southern Field Operations and Southeast Area teams in achieving statewide wildlife conservation and enforcement objectives.

- Directed multi-agency programs balancing conservation, recreation, and enforcement goals.
- Developed and implemented public education and stakeholder engagement strategies.
- Recognized with multiple awards for excellence in wildlife law enforcement and public service.

## Education

Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Management, Minor in Criminal Justice  
New Mexico State University, 1995

## Specialized Training

- Law Enforcement Academy Graduate, 1996
- National Conservation Leadership Academy Graduate (Adaptive Leadership), 2014
- General Police Instructor Certification
- Firearms / High-Risk Certification

## Honors & Awards

- Outstanding Officers Award, NMDGF (1999)
- Award of Excellence, NMDGF (2000 & 2014)
- Wildlife Law Enforcement Award (2003)
- Five States Game Warden Association: Best Pistol, Best Rifle & All-around Game Warden (2001)
- Western Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies: Recognition for Programs (2002)
- NMDGF Southeast Area Outstanding Employee (2004)
- Led initiatives recognized for collaborative access improvements on State & Federal Lands (2014)
- Leadership roles in NM Conservation Officers Association (President 2002-2003, Vice President 2004-2005)