

New Mexico State Meat Inspection Program

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Background

- + Our state meat and poultry inspection program must be “at least equal to” the USDA FSIS program.
- + We are cooperating with FSIS through the passing of our Statute (NMSA 25-2-22) and rule promulgation (NMAC 21.33.2) to maintain that status.
- + Our ultimate goal is to provide guidance to the processors throughout the state while the inspection program is starting up. We are here to help them get their applications and licenses completed, as well as provide resources when they reach out for assistance.



Current Progress

- + Our team is currently in the final rule promulgation process for the custom exempt slaughter/processing establishments, both existing and prospective.
 - + Incorporating licensing fees and annual renewal fees for both custom exempt and state inspected establishments.
 - + Developing the foundation for custom exemption license applications and establishment requirements.
- + Anticipating these rules to be presented and approved by the Board during the Fall meeting in September.



Future Milestones

- + Our program is anticipating to sign the cooperative agreement with FSIS in the *near future*.
 - + Currently, we are approximately one year ahead of schedule regarding overall program development.
- + The Director and Deputy Director will be attending an EIAO (Enforcement, Investigations, Analysis Officer) training seminar in January.
 - + This is a requirement for the inspection program and to be “at least equal to” FSIS for administrative roles in establishment assessments and enforcement.



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