

Bea Segura, New Mexico

I am 33 years old, born and raised in New Mexico. I grew up living with my mom, brother, and sister in the city of Albuquerque. My mom's family is mostly non-hunters but support wildlife conservation. There are several hunters in my dad's family, and some of which also raise various farm animals for natural food sources and harvesting. I was never exposed much to the hunting culture growing up and was very rarely exposed to firearms. However, I shared the interest of fishing with my dad growing up before he passed away when I was 23. Growing up I was always told that hunting was too dangerous for girls, and they were not allowed on the hunting trips, so I never found the interest to learn about it and stuck with fishing instead until just recently.

I currently co-parent with the dad of two amazing kids, my son, 10, and daughter, 9. Over the last year I moved into my own home with just me and my kids. I started finding new hobbies and new interests and recently learned to shoot a traditional bow and participated in a bow shoot this last year. A friend, who is now my mentor, started showing me how to track and hunt turkeys with my bow. Over the last several years I've acquired some really bad food allergies to preservatives, and it's been a challenge for me to find natural foods, so when I started learning more about bow hunting, I started getting very motivated to take home my first turkey. I then grew more interest about bow hunting and started asking my mentor more questions about hunting bigger game to bring home natural meat for me and my family.

I was so fortunate to participate in the WSF Women Hunt™ New Hunter Course delivered by the FTW Ranch in Texas in October 2021. This opportunity has changed my life and has prepared me for my new journey to spread the awareness of wildlife conservation and ethical hunting to others that were like myself that had no exposure to the hunting culture but are interested to take that leap and learn how to provide and prepare food for our families. I plan to share my experience and spread the awareness and knowledge about hunting to other women, children, and anyone else interested to ask questions. I feel that there are people out there that are in the position I was in wanting to eat natural and provide food for our families. I want to be a role model for my kids and inspire them to chase their dreams and be independent human beings that can provide for themselves. Most importantly, I want to teach my kids the ethical ways and reasons for respecting the culture of hunting and how we, and the next generations to come, can continue to support wildlife conservation.