



2024 ELK HUNTING ACCESS (EHA) AGREEMENT PROGRAM APPLICATION

RETURN TO: FWP PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION
ELK HUNTING ACCESS PROGRAM
PO BOX 200701 HELENA MT 59620-0701

Please **mail** this application and required documentation to the address above or submit via the State of Montana File Transfer Service using email to: Indsportrelations@mt.gov. Applications may also be mailed to your local FWP Regional office c/o Regional Access Program Manager.

**All information below is required and must be received FWP
no later than 5:00 PM on MAY 1, 2024.**

Completion of this form does not guarantee application will be approved by the Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission.

PART A: DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

- 1) **PROPERTY NAME** in which the land is recorded (i.e. ranch name, corporate/partnership name, or individual on the deed): _____
- 2) **LANDOWNER OF RECORD OR LANDOWNER AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE CONTACT INFORMATION:**
 - a) **NAME:** _____
 - b) **MAILING ADDRESS:** _____
 - c) **PHONE:** _____
 - d) **EMAIL:** _____
- 3) **TOWNSHIP, RANGE, SECTION(S) OF PRIVATE LAND TO BE ENROLLED AND OPEN TO PUBLIC HUNTING** (include a legible map to be provided to public hunters): _____
- 4) **HUNTING DISTRICT(S) OF LANDS TO BE ENROLLED:** _____
- 5) **TOTAL NUMBER OF LANDOWNER DEEDED PRIVATE LAND ACRES TO BE ENROLLED:** _____
- 6) **TOTAL NUMBER OF PRIVATE LAND ACRES LEASED FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES TO BE ENROLLED** (if applicable) _____ Landowners may enroll private land private land leased for agricultural purposes.

Applicants must provide a copy of the lease agreement with this application. Applicants must also verify the landowner offering leased lands to be enrolled is willing to allow public access on the leased lands for free public elk hunting access. Is the landowner offering leased lands willing to allow free public elk hunting access? (check one): YES NO



For private lands leased for agricultural purposes please provide the following (if applicable):

Name of landowner of leased lands: _____

Landowner of leased lands phone: _____



PART B: DESCRIPTION OF PUBLIC HUNTING OPPORTUNITY

- 1) **MAXIMUM NUMBER OF DAYS FOR EACH PUBLIC HUNTER** (if applicable): _____ **DAYS** (Leave blank if you do not wish to limit the total number of days a public hunter has access).
- 2) **ADVANCE NOTICE REQUIREMENT FOR PUBLIC HUNTERS** (if applicable): _____ **DAYS** (Leave blank if you do not want public hunters to reach out to you in advance of obtaining access/hunting).
- 3) **HUNTING SEASON(S) PUBLIC HUNTERS WILL BE ALLOWED ACCESS** (For every permit/license issued a landowner/designee, at least one of the FWP selected public hunters must hold the equivalent license, permit, or combination of the two that is issued to the landowner/designee through this program).

Check all seasons public hunters will be allowed access:

- a) **GENERAL RIFLE SEASON (REQUIRED)**
- b) **ARCHERY SEASON**
- c) **MUZZLELOADER HERITAGE SEASON**
- d) **LATE ELK SHOULDER SEASON** (if applicable)
- e) **EARLY ELK SHOULDER SEASON** (starting 8/15- if applicable)

- 4) **PLEASE SELECT ANY RULES OR REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC HUNTERS UNDER THE TERMS OF THE PROPOSED AGREEMENT** (use an additional page if necessary):

- a) **CHECK-IN WITH LANDOWNER OR REPRESENTATIVE UPON ARRIVAL**
- b) **ACCOMPANIMENT REQUIRED WHILE HUNTING**
- c) **WALK-IN HUNTING ONLY**
- d) **MOTORIZED GAME RETRIEVAL ALLOWED**
- e) **OTHER** (please list):

- 5) **LANDOWNER/REPRESENTATIVE CONTACT SECTION:** This is the person who the public hunters will contact to coordinate public hunting access. (If identical to landowner contact information page 1 or if the property is going to be managed by the Block Management Program check this box and skip to #6). Landowners are responsible if representative/contact listed does not respond or coordinate access with willing public hunters in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

- a) **REPRESENTATIVE/CONTACT NAME:** _____
- b) **MAILING ADDRESS:** _____
- c) **PHONE NUMBER:** _____
- d) **EMAIL:** _____



6) **DOES THE LANDOWNER WISH TO SELECT UP TO ONE-THIRD OF THE PUBLIC HUNTERS REQUIRED FOR THE AGREEMENT?** Choose one: YES NO skip to #8.

LANDOWNERS WILL BE **EMAILED** AND PROVIDED A LIST OF ELIGIBLE PUBLIC HUNTER CANDIDATES FOR THE LANDOWNER TO MAKE THEIR LANDOWNER-SELECTED PUBLIC HUNTER SELECTIONS.

If a landowner elects to select up to one-third of the public hunters eligible to hunt lands enrolled, the landowner must make their selections known to FWP no later than three-weeks prior to the agreement start date (i.e., the first hunting season the landowner/designee license is valid). If a landowner fails to make their public hunter selections in the required timeframe, landowner public hunter selections will be forfeited and FWP will fill the spots with FWP selected public hunters.

DOES THE LANDOWNER ACKNOWLEDGE THIS METHODOLOGY? Check one: YES / NO go back to #6 above or describe a different process or methodology the landowner will use to select up to one-third of the public hunters. Timeline of selections provided to FWP no later than three-weeks prior to agreement start date applies. Attach additional pages if necessary.

7) **SEX OF ELK ALLOWED TO BE HUNTED BY LANDOWNER SELECTED PUBLIC HUNTER(S) ON LANDS ENROLLED:**

- a) EITHER-SEX ELK
- b) ANTLERLESS ONLY ELK
- c) COMBINATION OF EITHER-SEX & ANTLERLESS Describe: _____

8) **SEX OF ELK ALLOWED TO BE HUNTED BY FWP SELECTED PUBLIC HUNTERS ON LANDS ENROLLED: (At least one of the FWP selected public hunters must hold the equivalent license, permit, or combination of the two that is issued to the landowner or the landowner's designee.)**

- a) EITHER-SEX ELK
- b) ANTLERLESS ONLY ELK
- c) COMBINATION OF EITHER-SEX & ANTLERLESS Describe: _____

PART C: LANDOWNER/LANDOWNER DESIGNEE LICENSEE INFORMATION

Use the page that follows (Page 4) to complete the landowner and/or eligible designee information for those who wish to receive a license/permit through this program. Use additional pages as needed.

FWP may issue, at no cost to a landowner who provides free public elk hunting on the landowner's property, an either-sex or antlerless elk license, permit, or combination of the two as required in that hunting district for the landowner or the landowner's designee to hunt on the landowner's property or on private property leased by the landowner for agricultural purposes. Qualifying designees include immediate family members or employees.

"Employee" means a person who works full time for the landowner as part of an active farm or ranch operation enrolled in the program. "Immediate family member" means a spouse, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, sibling, niece, or nephew by blood, marriage, or legal adoption.



LANDOWNER/LANDOWNER DESIGNEE LICENSEE INFORMATION

Each person (landowner/landowner designee) wishing to receive a license, permit or combination of the two must fill out the form below. If there's more than one license/permit to be requested through this program, please provide copies of this page for each person. Incomplete forms will not be processed.

For every permit/license issued to a landowner or landowner's designee, at least one of the FWP selected public hunters must hold the equivalent license, permit, or combination of the two that is issued to the landowner or the landowner's designee.

ELK LICENSES AND PERMITS ISSUED THROUGH THIS PROGRAM ARE ONLY VALID ON THE PROPERTY ENROLLED IN THIS PROGRAM AND OPEN TO PUBLIC ACCESS.

1) RELATIONSHIP TO LANDOWNER:

- a) SELF
- b) IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER
- c) FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE

2) SEASONS LANDOWNER/DESIGNEE WILL USE PERMITS/LICENSES ISSUED THROUGH THIS PROGRAM

(check all that apply): Archery Season General Rifle Season Muzzleloader Heritage Season
 Late Elk Shoulder Season (if applicable) Early Elk Shoulder Season (starting 8/15- if applicable)

3) LICENSE/PERMIT TYPE (if applicable) REQUESTED: License _____ Permit _____

4) LANDOWNER LICENSE/LANDOWNER DESIGNEE APPLICANT INFORMATION

DATE OF BIRTH	MM	DD	YYYY	—	ALS	DATE OF BIRTH IS MANDATORY FOR ALL APPLICATIONS. Your ALS number is a 1 to 3 digit number that follows your date of birth. If you do not have an ALS number you will be assigned a lifetime ALS number the first time you apply for a hunting or fishing license.					
NAME											
FIRST			MI		LAST		JR., SR., ETC.		HOME PHONE		
MAILING ADDRESS							CITY		STATE		
PHYSICAL ADDRESS							CITY		STATE		
SAME AS MAILING <input type="checkbox"/>											
EMAIL ADDRESS – You must provide a valid email address to receive your license information. You will not be contacted in any other format.											
<input type="checkbox"/> Female						BLACK GRAY		BALD BROWN		<input type="checkbox"/> USA	
<input type="checkbox"/> Male						BLUE GREEN		BLACK GRAY		<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (Please list Country)	
		Feet Inches		WEIGHT		BROWN HAZEL		BLOND RED		COUNTRY	
		HEIGHT				Eye Color (Circle One)		Hair Color (Circle One)			
Last 4 digits of SOCIAL SECURITY #			HUNTER EDUCATION REQUIREMENT Any hunter who is born after January 1, 1985 must submit with all hunting license applications a copy of their certificate verifying that he/she has completed a course in hunter education from any state or province. MCA 87-2-105					DEPARTMENT USE ONLY			
X											
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT REQUIRED											
I am the applicant or have their permission to submit this on their behalf. All statements on this form are true & correct. I understand that if I subscribe to any false statement in this application I am in violation of MCA 87-6-302							FWP receives requests for mailing lists. Do you want your name included on lists provided to requestors? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO NOTE: Even if you choose NO, under state law FWP is required to allow those who wish to compile their own mailing list access to department records, including name, address, gender, residency, and whether you were successful.				
STATEMENT OF RESIDENCY (MT RESIDENTS ONLY):											
If I am claiming Montana residency, I hereby declare that I have been a legal resident of the State of Montana for at least 180 consecutive days: _____ YEARS, _____ MONTHS, immediately prior to making application for this license or that I qualify for the 30 day military exemption (MCA 87-2-102). I declare all statements on this form to be true and correct and that by signing I hereby agree to the use of the information on this form for the purpose of verifying residency according to Sec. 87-2-102.											
X _____							Date: _____				



PART D: REQUIRED ADDITIONAL APPLICATION INFORMATION, FUTURE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND LANDOWNER SIGNATURE

TO BE CONSIDERED COMPLETE, ALL APPLICATIONS MUST ALSO INCLUDE:

- 1) One legible map showing the area available public hunting access opportunity for the landowner (or designee) and public hunters. **This map will be provided to public hunters selected by FWP and landowner and must be legible.**
- 2) Signatory authority documentation (if applicable). If the land in which you are proposing for this application is listed as a corporation, sole proprietorship, limited liability company, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, trust or an association, you MUST provide documentation that you have the legal authority to make this decision on behalf of the business. (i.e. articles of incorporation, partnership agreement, certificate of trust, etc.).
- 3) Copy of lease agreement for private lands leased for agricultural purposes to be enrolled in the program (if applicable).
- 4) Ownership documentation (e.g., copy of the property deed, property tax bill, or contract to purchase). If you were approved for an EHA in 2023 and there have been no changes to land ownership under your previous EHA application since 2023 (such as sale/transfer, changes to the recorded name of the land, changes to acreage, etc.), you may not need to submit supporting ownership documents for your 2024 EHA application. If you wish to use the same EHA ownership/supporting documentation from 2023, please review the following questions:

- a) Did you participate in the EHA program in 2023? YES NO → Documentation (4) required
- b) Are you applying for the same landowner/designee opportunities that you applied for in 2023? YES NO

If this application is approved by the commission, you MUST complete an end of season landowner satisfaction and harvest survey to be considered for enrollment in subsequent years.

I attest that the information provided in this application packet is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

SIGNATURE OF LANDOWNER OR LANDOWNER'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE:

Name: _____ Date: _____

PRINTED NAME OF LANDOWNER OR LANDOWNER'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE:

Name: _____ Date: _____



PART E: ELK HUNTING ACCESS AGREEMENT PROGRAM INFORMATION

- 1) FWP may issue, at no cost to a landowner who provides free public elk hunting on the landowner's property and pursuant to this section, an either-sex or antlerless elk license, permit, or combination of the two as required in that hunting district for the landowner or the landowner's designee to hunt on the landowner's property or on private property leased by the landowner for agricultural purposes.
- 2) To be eligible for a license or permit through this program, a landowner:
 - a) must own at least 640 acres of occupied elk habitat, except that smaller acreages are eligible if FWP determines that site conditions exist to accommodate successful public hunting;
 - b) must have entered into a contractual public elk hunting access agreement with FWP in that allows public access for free public elk hunting on the landowner's property throughout the regular hunting season; and
 - c) may not charge a fee or authorize a person to charge a fee for hunting access on the landowner's property.
- 3) For every three members of the public allowed to hunt under the elk hunting access agreement, FWP may issue one license, permit, or combination of the two. FWP may limit the total number of licenses and permits issued under this program.
- 4) At least one of the [FWP selected] public hunters must hold the equivalent license, permit, or combination of the two that is issued to the landowner or the landowner's designee. FWP, in consultation with the landowner, shall select the hunters.
- 5) A license or permit issued pursuant to this program:
 - a) is nontransferable and may not be sold or bartered; and
 - b) may only be used for hunting conducted on property that is opened to public access.
- 6) FWP may prioritize distribution of licenses or permits under program according to the areas FWP determines are most in need of management.
- 7) If FWP determines that a landowner or landowner's designee has not abided by the restrictions and conditions of a license or permit issued pursuant to this section, that landowner or landowner's designee is not eligible to receive another license or permit pursuant to this section during any subsequent license year.
- 8) An elk hunting access agreement must define the areas that will be open to public elk hunting, the number of public elk hunting days that will be allowed on the property, and other factors that FWP and the landowner consider necessary for the proper management of elk on the landowner's property. The agreement must include a process or methodology the landowner may use to select up to one-third of the public hunters required and reserves the right of the landowner to deny access to the landowner's property by a public hunter selected for cause, including but not limited to intoxication, violation of landowner conditions for use of the property, or previous misconduct on a landowner's property.



PART E: ELK HUNTING ACCESS AGREEMENT PROGRAM INFORMATION (continued)

- 9) Except for public hunters selected by the landowner, FWP shall select public hunters eligible to hunt on the landowner's property through a random drawing of holders of existing licenses or permits in that hunting district.
- 10) Licenses, permits, or combinations of the two issued under this program must be for wildlife management purposes and approved by the commission pursuant to its powers under 87-1-301.
- 11) The commission shall prioritize approval of an application for a license, permit, or combination of the two based on the willingness of the landowner to allow, in either the regular hunting season or a shoulder hunting season, additional cow harvest by public hunters in addition to the number of public hunters required.
- 12) Landowners interested in donating their issued license to a disabled veteran, must be first issued the license/permit or combination of the two and then are able to donate the license through the DONATE LICENSE PROGRAMS section and Donation of Hunting License to Military Veterans application at: <https://fwp.mt.gov/hunt/licensingbasics>