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## Laws and Regulations

These regulations contain information to safely and legally participate in Montana's Antelope, Deer, and Elk, hunting opportunities.



Hunters who hunt legally and responsibly keep Montana's hunting traditions alive.

Don't risk losing the privilege of hunting in Montana.

**Be Safe**  
**Be Legal**  
**Be Responsible!**

## Hunter Land Access

Hunters, it is your responsibility to know where you are, to know who owns the land, and to know what access restrictions apply.

## Fishing Access Sites

Many of Montana's fishing access sites (FAS) offer hunting opportunities, however certain restrictions may apply such as no-hunting safety zones and/or restrictions on the type of hunting weapon or firearm that may be used. Refer to the Fishing Access Site web page at [fwp.mt.gov/recreation/visitFwpSite.html](http://fwp.mt.gov/recreation/visitFwpSite.html) for site specific information opportunities and restrictions.

## Montana State Parks

Many of Montana's state parks provide hunting opportunities, however certain restrictions may apply such as no-hunting safety zones and/or restrictions on the type of hunting weapon or firearm that may be used. Contact the specific park and/or refer to the Montana State Park web page at [fwp.mt.gov/parks/visit](http://fwp.mt.gov/parks/visit) for site specific information regarding hunting opportunities and restrictions.

## Private Land

- Montana law requires permission for all hunting on private land.
- Even if the land is not posted, hunters must have permission from the landowner, lessee, or their agent before hunting on private property.
- Access to public lands through private land requires permission of the private landowner, lessee, or their agent.
- See page 118 for information on FWP's Block Management Program.

## Public Land

- Public lands closed to hunting include:
  - National Parks and other areas administered by the National Park Service.
  - National Wildlife Refuge lands except those areas designated open to public hunting.
- For hunting opportunities on federal lands such as U.S. Forest Service or U.S. Bureau of Land Management, inquire at the local federal office.

## Off Road Travel and Game Retrieval

- While hunting on private property, a person may not drive off established roads or trails without landowner permission.
- Off road travel on public land, including game retrieval, is prohibited unless designated as open. Consult appropriate land agency or land map for specifics.
- All federally approved travel plans on public lands in Montana are hereby adopted by the FWP Commission.

## Railroad Access

Railroads and railroad right-of-ways are private property and may not be hunted without permission, nor should they be used as access to other lands (private or public) without explicit permission from the railroad.

## State Game Preserves

State game preserves may or may not be open to limited hunting. See Areas Closed or Limited to Hunting Methods for Big Game.

## State School Trust Lands

- A \$2 fee paid when you purchase your conservation license provides hunters, anglers and trappers access to legally accessible State School Trust Lands.
- Overnight (2 night) camping is allowed within 200 feet of a legal access point.
- Horses may not be kept on state land overnight.
- Motorized travel is only allowed on public roads or on roads designated as open.
- Game retrieval is by foot or horse only.
- No open fires are allowed except in designated campground fire pits.
- Firearms may not be discharged within one-quarter mile of an inhabited dwelling or outbuilding without permission of the inhabitant.
- Additional information is available from FWP or contact DNRC at 406-444-2074.

## State Wildlife Management Areas (WMA)

Wildlife Management Areas are generally open to hunting during the big game hunting season. WMAs with big game winter range are closed to

public entry, unless otherwise posted, from the day following the end of the general deer-elk season or December 1, whichever is later, to May 15 each year, as posted.

**Exception:** There are several exceptions to these guidelines. For WMA specific information, please call the Regional office (see page 119 for contact numbers) or visit the FWP website at:

[fwp.mt.gov/habitat/wildlifeManagementAreas](http://fwp.mt.gov/habitat/wildlifeManagementAreas)

## Stream Access

Big game hunting between the ordinary high water marks of streams and rivers is illegal without landowner permission.

## Tribal Land

Big Game hunting by Non-Tribal members on Indian Reservations is prohibited by the State of Montana unless it is provided for in a cooperative agreement between the Tribal Government and the State of Montana. Check with local Tribal Government before attempting to hunt on an Indian Reservation. See "Contacts Outside FWP" for contact information.

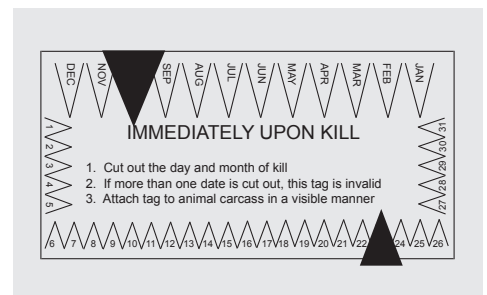
## License and Permit Possession

- Licenses and permits must be carried on your person at all times while in the field hunting.
- Licenses and permits must be produced if requested by FWP Enforcement personnel.

## License Validation After Harvest

## License Validation and Tagging

- Immediately after killing a game animal, a hunter must cut out the proper month and day of the kill from the appropriate license and attach it to the animal in a secure and visible manner.
- To properly validate a license (sometimes referred to as a tag):
  - The triangles denoting the month and day the animal was killed must be completely removed. Tearing, slicing or punching the tag is not legal.
- The properly validated license must remain with the meat (including cold storage) until consumed. If quartered, the license should remain with the largest portion of the carcass.



## Evidence Required of Game Animal's Sex and Species

- It is illegal to possess or transport the carcass of any big game animal unless evidence of the animal's sex and species remains naturally attached to its carcass or a portion of the carcass.
- Evidence of an animal's sex and species must remain naturally attached until the carcass:
  - Is at the final place of storage; or
  - Cut and wrapped in serving size; or
  - Is at commercial meat processing facility; or
  - Is at licensed taxidermist
- If the head or antlers are removed, evidence of sex in the form of testicles, penis, scrotum, udder or vulva must remain naturally attached. For example, boned out or quartered animals need evidence of sex naturally attached to a portion of the meat.

## Methods & Means of Hunting

### Firearms

#### General Season

- There is no rifle or handgun caliber limitation for the taking of big game animals.
- Muzzleloaders, shotguns, archery equipment, and crossbows are legal.
- The possession of firearms with silencers while afield is illegal.

### Archery & Crossbow Equipment

Archery Only Season and in areas limited to archery equipment only:

- It is unlawful to use any chemical or explosive device attached to an arrow to aid in the taking of wildlife.
- Lawful Archery Equipment: It is illegal to possess, while hunting big game during any Archery Only Season and in archery equipment only areas, archery equipment that does not meet the following criteria.
  - Hunting Bow: A hunting bow for big game shall be a longbow, flatbow, recurve bow, compound bow, or any combination of these designs.
  - The bow must be a device for launching an arrow, which derives its propulsive energy solely from the bending and recovery of two limbs (includes bows with split limbs).
  - The bow must be hand drawn by a single and direct uninterrupted pulling action of the shooter. The bowstring must be moved from brace height to the full draw position by the muscle power of the shooter's body. The energy used to propel the arrow

shall not be derived from any other source such as hydraulic, pneumatic, mechanical, or similar devices. These limitations shall not exclude the mechanical leverage advantage provided by eccentric wheels or cams, so long as the available energy stored in the bent limbs of the bow is the sole result of a single, continuous, and direct pulling effort by the shooter.

- The bow must be hand-held. One hand shall hold the bow and the other hand draw the bowstring. The bowstring must be moved and/or held at all points in the draw cycle entirely by muscle power of the shooter until release. The bowstring must be released as a direct and conscious action of the shooter, either relaxing the tension of the fingers or triggering the release action of a hand-held release aid.

- Exception: Physically disabled bowhunters certified by FWP with the Permit To Modify Archery Equipment (PTMAE) are exempted from the requirement of holding or shooting the bow with their hands.

- A bow is considered legal if it is at least 28 inches in total length.
- The nominal percent of let-off for hunting bows shall be a maximum of 80 percent. It is recognized that variations in draw length and/or draw weight can affect the percent of let-off on compound bows. For these reasons minor variations in let-off are acceptable.
- Arrow: An arrow is a projectile at least 20 inches in overall length. The length of the arrow is measured from the rearward point of the nock to the tip of the broadhead.
- A broadhead is mounted on the fore end.
- The arrow shall weigh no less than 300 grains with the broadhead attached.
- Arrows must have broadheads with at least two cutting edges. Expandable broadheads are legal as long as when expanded they are at least 7/8 inches at the widest point, and weigh no less than 70 grains.

• The following are not considered a hunting bow or legal archery equipment during the Archery Only Season or in an ArchEquip Only area or hunting district:

- Crossbow.
- Any device with a gun-type stock or incorporating any device or mechanism that holds the bowstring at partial or full draw without the shooter's muscle power.

- Any bow for which a portion of the bow's riser (handle) or any track, trough, channel, or other device that attaches directly to the bow's riser contacts, supports, and/or guides the arrow from a point rearward of the bow's brace height. This is not intended to restrict the use of standard overdraw systems.
- Electronic or battery-powered devices attached to a hunting bow.
- A bow sight or arrow which uses artificial light, luminous chemicals such as tritium, or electronics.

## Weapons Restriction Areas

Weapons restrictions are in effect in some hunting districts. Such restrictions are stated in the license/permit description and/or with a specific date range.

The following equipment restrictions apply to Weapons Restriction Areas:

### • Muzzleloader

- must not be capable of being loaded from the breech of the barrel;
- may not be loaded with any pre-prepared paper or metallic cartridges;
- must be charged with black powder, pyrodex, or an equivalent;
- must be ignited by a percussion, flintlock, matchlock, or wheellock mechanism;
- must be a minimum of .45 caliber;
- may have no more than two barrels; and
- must only use plain lead projectiles, not sabots or similar projectiles.

### • Traditional Handgun

- is not capable of being shoulder mounted;
- have a barrel length of less than 10 ½ inches;
- chambers only a straight wall cartridge, not originally developed for rifles.

### • Shotgun

- A shouldered, breech-loaded or muzzle-loaded firearm with a smooth bore and/or rifled barrel and/or rifled choke device designed to fire shot or slugs.

### • Archery

- See legal archery equipment in the "Methods and Means of Hunting" section.

### • Crossbows

- Legal in weapons restriction areas unless exception noted in specific hunting district regulations.

## Prohibited Methods of Hunting

### Airplane Spotting

Aircraft may not be used to locate big game animals for the purpose of:

- hunting those animals during the same hunting day after a person has been airborne
- providing information to another person for the purpose of hunting those animals within the same hunting day after being airborne.

### Artificial Light

It is illegal for anyone to take or attempt to take any game animal or game bird with the aid of projected artificial light.

### Baiting

- It is illegal for anyone to hunt or attempt to hunt by the aid of or with the use of any bait, salt lick, trap, snare or set gun.
- Baiting shall mean the placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of food sources or salt so as to constitute a lure or attraction.

### Dogs

Montana law states that a person may not use dogs to hunt or chase game animals. Dogs may be utilized to recover or locate wounded big game.

### Game Calls

It is illegal to use a recorded or electrically amplified game call to hunt big game.

### Motion-Tracking Devices and/or Camera Devices

It is illegal for a person to possess or use in the field any electronic or camera device whose purpose is to scout the location of game animals or relay the information on a game animal's location or movement during any Commission-adopted hunting season.

### Motorized Vehicles

It is illegal for anyone to:

- Hunt or attempt to hunt any game animal or game bird: from any self propelled (motorized) or drawn vehicle. Even if the vehicle is not moving, hunters must be off or out of the vehicle. Holders of Permit To Hunt From A Vehicle are the exception to this.
- Use a motorized vehicle or aircraft to concentrate, drive, rally, stir-up, corral, or harass game animals.
- Operate, on public lands, a motorized wheeled vehicle off legal routes (including game retrieval). Contact the appropriate land management agencies for travel plan information.

### Night Vision Equipment

It is illegal to use night vision equipment or electronically enhanced light gathering optics for locating or hunting game.

## Public Roadways

It is illegal for anyone to hunt or attempt to hunt any game animal or game bird: on, from, or across any public highway or the shoulder, berm, barrow pit or right-of-way of any public highway.

## Two-way Communication

Two-way electronic communication (radios, cell phones, text messages, etc.) may not be used to:

- hunt game animals or upland game birds, migratory birds or furbearers as defined in Montana law ("Hunt" means to "pursue, shoot, wound, kill, chase, lure, possess or capture."), OR
- avoid game checking stations, FWP enforcement personnel, or to facilitate illegal activity.

The rule does not prohibit the possession or use of two-way communication for safety or other legitimate purposes.

## Waste of Game

- Hunters, or persons in possession of a game animal or game animal parts, are prohibited from wasting or rendering unfit for human consumption, any part of a game animal that is defined as "suitable for food."
- For big game animals (excluding mountain lions) all of the four quarters above the hock, including loin and backstrap are considered suitable for food.

## General Regulations

It is illegal to:

- "Party" hunt. Each hunter must shoot and tag his/her own animal.
- Use a license issued to another person.
- Carry or have physical control over a valid and unused hunting license or permit issued to another person while in any location where the species to be hunted occurs. Exception: a person may carry or have control over a license or permit issued to that person's spouse or any minor when the spouse or minor is hunting with that person.
- Alter a license or permit for any reason.
- Post state or federal land other than that done by a state or federal land agency.
- Interfere/hinder with the lawful taking of a game animal.

## Antler/Horn/Skull Possession

Individuals may possess, transport, sell, or purchase naturally shed antlers, or the antlers with a skull or portion of a skull attached from a game animal that has died from natural causes and that has not been illegally or accidentally killed. Road-killed animals have not died from natural causes. **It is illegal to possess a bighorn sheep head/horn picked up in the wild.**

## Check Stations

All hunters and anglers are required by law to stop as directed at all designated check stations on their way to and from hunting and fishing areas, even if they have no game or fish to be checked.

## Glandular Scents

- Natural or artificial glandular scents may be used by licensed hunters to attract game animals or game birds by spraying or pouring the scent on the ground or other objects.
- Hunters may not create a scent station where the scent continues to be dispensed without the hunter's direct action, such as an automatic device, which drips or otherwise continues to dispense scent.
- No scents other than glandular may be used for attracting animals, but other scents may be used to mask human odor.

## Hunter Orange Requirement

### Firearm Hunters

- Any person hunting or accompanying a hunter as an outfitter or guide must wear a minimum of 400 square inches of hunter orange (fluorescent) material above the waist, visible at all times (see exception below).

### Archery Hunters

- A licensed bowhunter pursuing deer, elk and/or antelope during the Archery Only Season or in an archery only hunting district is not required to meet the hunter orange requirement even if there is a concurrent firearm season in that hunting district or portion of district. However, bowhunters hunting during any portion of the general season (firearm) for deer, elk, antelope, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, black bear, and/or mountain lion must always wear a minimum of 400 square inches of hunter orange (fluorescent) above the waist, visible at all times.

## Hunting Hours

Authorized hunting hours for the taking of big game animals begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset each day of the hunting season. See the official Sunrise-Sunset Tables listed on page 123.

## Incidental Harvest Resulting In An Illegally Taken Animal

- If you or a member of your hunting party shoots an animal that results in an illegally taken animal, you should notify an FWP game warden or 1-800-TIP-MONT (1-800-847-6668) immediately and follow their instructions.
- Do NOT transport the animal until you've received instructions.

## Inspection of Wildlife

Wildlife taken must be shown to FWP Enforcement personnel for inspection when requested.

## Kill Site Verification

As a condition of hunting in Montana, if requested to do so by an FWP warden, you are required to return to the kill site.

## Littering

A person convicted of littering while hunting, fishing, trapping or camping may lose his or her license and privileges to hunt, fish, trap, or camp within Montana for a period of one year.

## Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV):

- Examples of an OHV include but are not limited to: motorcycles, quadricycles (also known as 4-wheelers), dune buggies, amphibious vehicles, air cushion vehicles, and any other means of land transportation deriving motive power from any source other than muscle or wind.
- In order to operate an OHV on public lands, the OHV must have a valid/current registration and display an OHV decal.
- Nonresidents must register their OHV in their home state or purchase a temporary Off-Highway Vehicle Use permit from Montana FWP. The permit is \$5 and expires on December 31 of the year issued.
- OHV permits may be purchased from some FWP License Providers, some Vendors (such as a private OHV dealership), or download an application at [fwp.mt.gov/hunting/licenses/applications](http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/licenses/applications). For a complete listing of where nonresident OHV permits are available, check the FWP website at [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov).

## Outfitters and Guides

It is illegal to hire an outfitter or guide not licensed by the Department of Labor and Industry. For information, call 406-841-2373.

## Party Hunting

- Applying as a party does not allow the transfer of licenses. Each individual in the party must harvest their own game. See page 115 for party application specifics.

## Predators and Nongame Hunting

- Predators and nongame species are unprotected by federal and/or state law or regulation and can be hunted in Montana year-round without a license by both resident and nonresident hunters. A conservation license, or a state school trust lands recreational use license is required to hunt predators and nongame species on state school trust lands. Permission must be obtained to hunt predators and nongame species on private land.
- **Predators** are classified as coyote, weasel, (striped) skunk, and civet cat (spotted skunk).
- **Nongame species** are defined as any wild animal not otherwise legally classified by statute or regulation in

Montana. Examples include badger, raccoon, red fox, hares, rabbits, ground squirrels, marmots, tree squirrels, porcupines, and prairie dogs.

- **Furbearers** are protected game species that may only be taken by residents with a valid trapping license during prescribed open seasons. State classified furbearers include beaver, otter, muskrat, mink, marten, fisher, wolverine, bobcat, lynx, and swift fox.

## Restitution for Illegally Taken Wildlife

Under Montana law, a person convicted, or who was charged and forfeited bond or bail, of illegally killing, taking, or possessing game animals shall reimburse the state. The law sets the amount of restitution for a trophy animal under Montana law as:

Bighorn Sheep	\$30,000
Elk	\$8,000
Antlered Deer	\$8,000
Moose	\$6,000
Mountain Goat	\$6,000
Antelope	\$2,000
Grizzly Bear*	\$8,000

\*no authorized hunting season

- The law specifically outlines minimum standards for a trophy under this regulation, but authorizes the FWP Commission to adopt more specific criteria.
- For the purpose of assessing restitution for illegally taken trophy wildlife under Montana law, the following are considered "trophy" animals:

– Antelope:

- With at least one horn greater than 14 inches in length, as measured along the outside curve from base to tip.

– Elk:

Must meet all three criteria:

- 1) At least six points on one antler
- 2) A main beam length on each antler of at least 43 inches, and
- 3) An inside spread of at least 36 inches.

OR

- Any elk with at least one six point antler and having a gross/green Boone & Crockett score of 320 points or greater.

– Mule Deer:

Must meet all three criteria:

- 1) At least four points on one antler (excluding brow tine),
- 2) A main beam length on each side of at least 21 inches, and
- 3) A greatest inside spread across the main beams of at least 20 inches.

OR

- Any mule deer with at least one four-point antler and having a gross/green Boone & Crockett score of 160 points or greater.

– White-tailed Deer:

Must meet all three criteria:

- 1) At least four points on one antler (excluding brow tine),
- 2) A main beam length on each side of at least 20 inches, and
- 3) A greatest inside spread across the main beams of at least 16 inches.

OR

- Any white-tailed deer with at least one four-point antler and having a gross/green Boone & Crockett score of 140 points or greater.
- A "point" as defined in these regulations is at least four inches long for elk and at least one inch long for deer, measured from base to tip. Boone & Crockett measuring procedures or standards are used for criteria measurement. The official measurements for the purpose of this regulation are those that are taken at the time of confiscation or seizure of the trophy. Any Boone & Crockett measurements will be considered final when taken by an official B&C scorer, regardless of drying time. If the skullcap of antlers or horns is broken in such a manner to render an official Boone & Crockett score invalid, three official B&C scorers will estimate a score. The three scores will be averaged and the average score used to determine trophy status in accordance with Montana law.

## Simulated Wildlife

It is illegal to discharge a firearm or other hunting implement at a simulated wildlife decoy in violation of any state statute or FWP Commission rule regulating the hunting of the wildlife being simulated.

## Transport of Wildlife

- An individual other than the license holder may transport properly tagged animals that comply with the "Evidence of Sex Requirements" and that were lawfully taken by the license holder. If you have specific questions please contact FWP Enforcement at 406-444-2452.
- All shippers of fish, game or nongame birds, game animals, fur-bearing animals, the skins of fur-bearing animals or predatory animals, or parts thereof are required to label all packages offered for shipment by parcel post or common carrier (airlines or UPS, etc.). The label must be securely attached to the address of the package and shall plainly indicate the names and addresses of the consignor and consignee and the complete contents of the package. It is a violation of the Federal Lacey Act to transport an illegally taken game animal across state boundaries.
- It is illegal to ship, possess, or take out of state illegally killed game, game-birds, and/or furbearers. If you are transporting lawfully taken wildlife

(including parts and/or products of live or dead animals) between Montana and Canada or between the United States and any foreign country, whether for commercial or noncommercial purposes, you must complete a U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) Declaration form (Form 3-177). Form 3-177 is available at all United States customs ports and on the USFWS website at [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov). For further information contact the USFWS Wildlife Inspector at 406-335-4350.

- Questions concerning carcass transport may be directed to FWP Enforcement at 406-444-2452 or to your home state's wildlife division.
- It is unlawful to transport into Montana the whole carcass or certain carcass parts of white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose or elk from states or provinces with documented occurrences of CWD in wild populations or on private game farms. Those states and provinces currently include Colorado, Illinois, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, and the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan.
- Only the following carcass parts may be transported into Montana from those states:
  - Meat that is cut and wrapped.
  - Quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached.
  - Meat that has been boned out.
  - Hides with no heads attached.

- Clean (no meat or tissue attached) skull plates with antlers attached.
- Antlers with no meat or tissue attached.
- Upper canine teeth, also known as “buglers”, “whistlers” or “ivories”.
- Finished head, partial body or whole body mounts already prepared by a taxidermist.
- Keep in mind that “Evidence of Sex Requirements” must always be met when transporting any of these parts back into Montana.

### Chronic Wasting Disease

- CWD has not been detected in free-ranging deer, elk, or moose in Montana, but has been detected in captive elk on a game farm.
- As of March, 2012 and because of concerns about the introduction of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), Alaska, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming, and the provinces of Manitoba and Ontario have instituted regulations prohibiting the import of certain deer, elk, or moose carcass parts.
- Questions concerning carcass transport may be directed to FWP Enforcement at 406-444-2452 or to your home state's wildlife division.
- It is unlawful to transport into Montana the whole carcass or certain carcass parts of white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose or elk from states or provinces

with documented occurrences of CWD in wild populations or on private game farms. Those states and provinces currently include Colorado, Illinois, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, and the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan.

- Only the following carcass parts may be transported into Montana from those states:
  - Meat that is cut and wrapped.
  - Quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached.
  - Meat that has been boned out.
  - Hides with no heads attached.
  - Clean (no meat or tissue attached) skull plates with antlers attached.
  - Antlers with no meat or tissue attached.
  - Upper canine teeth, also known as “buglers”, “whistlers” or “ivories”.
  - Finished head, partial body or whole body mounts already prepared by a taxidermist.
- Keep in mind that “Evidence of Sex Requirements” must always be met when transporting any of these parts back into Montana.

### Furbearer Traps

- It is illegal to disturb traps or trapped animals. Traps and trapped animals are the property of the trap owner.
- Hunters should not shoot trapped animals.

## Areas Closed or Limited to Hunting Methods for Big Game

**Bear Creek WMA:** Refer to FS maps.

**Brinkman Game Preserve:** The S1/2 Section 7, and E1/2, NE1/4 Section 7, and S1/2 Section 8, and NW 1/4 Section 8, S1/2 Section 9, S1/2 and E1/2, NE 1/4 Section 10. All of sections 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 35, 36; all in T29N, R7E, M.P.M. Liberty County.

**Canyon Ferry Wildlife Management Area:** Closed to hunting of big game except as designated under hunting regulations. Section 28 and 33, and W 1/2 of W 1/2 Section 34, T8N, R2E, Sections 4, 8, W1/2 and W1/2 of the E1/2 Section 9, NW1/4 Section 16, Sections 17, 18, 19, 20 and N1/2 Section 30, T7N, R2E, E1/2 of E1/2 Section 11, Section 12, E1/2 of NW1/4 and E1/2 Section 13 and E1/2 of E1/2 Section 24, T7N, R1E.

**Ear Mountain WMA:** Legal description and map available from the FWP Region 4, Great Falls office 406-454-5840.

**East Ovando Archery-only Area:** Those portions of Powell County lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of State Route 200 with the North Fork of the Blackfoot River, then southwest along said river to the Ovando-Helmville Road, then northwesterly along said Road to Ovando and State Route 200, then easterly along said Route to the North Fork of the Blackfoot River, the point of beginning.

**Ennis Airport Weapons Restriction Area:** Ennis Airport WRA Boundary Description: Beginning at intersection of Airport Rd and Hwy 287, east on Airport Rd, then continuing east along south boundary of section 32 to the USFS boundary, then north to north boundary of section 29, then west on north boundaries of sections 29 and 30, then south on west boundary of section 30, then west on north boundary of section 36 to Hwy 287, then south along Hwy 287 to point of beginning.

**Flathead Weapons Restriction Area:** That portion of Flathead County lying within the following-described boundary: Beginning at the junction of State Route 35 and State Route 206, then northerly along State Route 206 to US Highway 2, then westerly along said highway onto State Route 40 to US Highway 93, then south on said Highway to Rocky Cliff Drive, then easterly to Demersville Road, then northerly along said road to Foy's Bend Lane, then easterly along said road onto Lower Valley Road to the Bonneville Power Administration powerline at Foy's Bend, then northerly along said powerline across the Flathead River to the easterly shore, then up the most easterly shore of said river to State Route 35 (Old Highway 2 bridge), then easterly along said route to its junction with State Route 206, the point of the beginning.

**Freezout Lake Wildlife Management Area.**

**Teton County:** As posted.

**Gallatin Special Management Area (Bacon Rind and Buffalo Horn Units):**

**Bacon Rind:** Those portions of Madison and Gallatin Counties lying the following boundary description: Beginning at the confluence of Buffalo Horn Creek and the Gallatin River, then up said river to Snow Flake Springs and the toe of Snow Flake Ridge, then southerly along said ridge and the Sage Creek-Monument Creek Divide, then along Sage Creek-Snowslide Creek Divide and the Sage Creek-Bacon Rind Divide in the Gallatin Madison Rivers Divide at Redstreak Peak, then southeasterly along said divide to the Yellowstone National Park boundary, then northerly along said boundary to its northwestern most intersection with the Gallatin River, then down said river to the point of beginning.

**Buffalo Horn:** Those portions of Gallatin County lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the intersection of Highway 191 and the north boundary of Yellowstone National Park, then in a northerly direction along said boundary to USFS trail 57 at Dailey Pass, then in a northwesterly direction along said trail to the headwaters of the South Fork of Buffalo Horn, then down said creek to

a posted line that goes along the south side of Cow Flats to its intersection with Buffalo Horn Creek, then down said creek to the Gallatin River, then up said river to Snowflake Springs and the toe of Snowflake Ridge to its intersection with USFS Trail 151, then southeasterly along said trail to Lodgepole Creek-Monument Creek Divide, then easterly along said divide to Yellowstone National Park boundary, then north along said boundary to the point of beginning.

**Gates of the Mountains Game Preserve:** Beginning in Section 2, T12N, R3W at the southeast corner of Upper Holter Lake, then proceeding westerly along the northern shoreline of Upper Holter Lake in the Gates of the Mountains area located in Lewis and Clark County, then northerly along Stoney Point Beacon Road, then northerly along the powerline to said beacon, then along Bulldozer Road to the point of the ridge in Section 23, T13 N, R3W, then northerly to the Missouri River, then easterly across said river and lake to the USFS boundary to the wilderness boundary, then south along wilderness boundary to the southeast corner of Section 1, T12N, R3W, then west back to Upper Holter Lake, the point of beginning. Intending hereby to include in said game preserve all the territory adjacent of the Gates of the Mountains area, shall be called and known as the Gates of the Mountains Game Preserve.

**Grant Kohrs Ranch near Deer Lodge:** Closed to all hunting.

**Helena Valley Regulating Reservoir:** The Bureau of Reclamation Regulating Reservoir located in Sections 4, 5, 8, 9, 16 and 17, T10N, R2W in Lewis and Clark County of the Helena Valley as posted. (This area will be open to hunting until the opening of the waterfowl season, then it will be closed to all hunting.)

**Kuhns Wildlife Management Area:** Legal description and map available from FWP Region 1, Kalispell office 406-752-5501.

**Lake Bowdoin Migratory Waterfowl Refuge:** Closed to hunting of big game.

**Lake Helena Wildlife Management Area:** Closed to all big game hunting except as designated under hunting regulations. Portions of the north half of Section 22 Township 11 North, Range 3 West.

**Lee Metcalf Refuge:** Legal description, map and regulations available from the Lee Metcalf Refuge, 406-777-5552.

**Libby Big Game Archery Only Hunting Area:** That Portion of Lincoln County lying within the following-described boundary: Beginning at the junction of U.S. Highway 2 and Port Blvd. (the old Stimpson mill site entrance) on the south edge of Libby, then heading east on Port Blvd. to the Champion Haul Road, across Libby Creek on said road to National Forest Road —4813, then southerly on Road —4813 to National Forest Road —533, the Swede Mountain Road, then southerly along said road to the Farm-To-Market Road, then northerly along the Farm-to-Market Road to U.S. Highway 2, then northerly along U.S. Highway 2 to Port Blvd., the point of beginning.

**Lincoln Closed Area:** Closed to all big game hunting. Section 24, T14N, R9W, shall be closed to big game hunting. This comprises the area around the town of Lincoln.

**McLean Game Preserve:** SW1/4, S1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NE1/4 of Section 5, T28N, R3W; S1/2, S1/2NE1/4, W1/2NW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4 of Section 6, T28N, R3W; N1/2N1/2 of Section 7, T28N, R3W; NW1/4NW1/4 of Section 8, T28N, R3W; N1/2 of Section 1, T28N, R4W, Pondera County.

**Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge:** Portions open to big game hunting.

**Milk River Wildlife Management Area:** Hunting by archery, shotgun, traditional handgun or muzzleloader only as posted and as described under current regulations.

**Prickly Pear Valley Weapons Restriction Area:** Those portions of Lewis and Clark and Jefferson Counties lying within the following-described boundary: Beginning at the north end of the split median of Interstate 15, on the north boundary of Section 31, T12N, R3W, then southerly along Interstate 15 for approximately two miles to the north boundary of Section 5, T11N, R3W, then east along the north boundary of Sections 5 and 4 to Collins Drive, then south along Collins Drive to its junction with Snowdrift Road, then easterly along Snowdrift Road until Snowdrift Road becomes Mountain Meadows Road, then easterly along Mountain Meadows Road to a junction with Countryside Road, then southeasterly along Countryside Road to Hauser Lake, then southerly along the western shore of said lake and across the entrance of the Causeway Arm, then southerly along the south shore of the Causeway Arm to the Causeway and Lake Helena Drive, then southerly along said drive to US Highway 12-287, then westerly along US Highway 12-287 to Route 518 at East Helena, then southerly along said route to the junction with Interstate 15, then across Interstate 15 to Montana City and the Jackson Creek Road, then westerly along the Jackson Creek Road to its junction with the Clark Gulch Road, then west along said route to its junction with the Holmes Gulch Road then westerly along said route to the national forest boundary, then northerly along the national forest boundary along the west edge of Sections 7 and 6, T9N, R3W, then west along the south boundary of Section 36, then north along the west boundary of Section 36, then west along the south boundary of Section 26, then north along the west boundary of Section 26 to LeGrande Cannon Boulevard, then in a westerly and northerly direction along LeGrande Cannon Boulevard to US Highway 12, then across US Highway 12 onto County Route 602 (also known as Williams Street and then the Birdseye Road), then northerly along said route to State Highway 279, then easterly along State Highway 279 to its junction with Lone Mountain Road, then northerly along said road for two miles to the junction with Woodland Hills Road, then east on said road to Green Meadow Road, then north on said road to the southwest corner of Section 36, then east along the south boundary of Section 36, then north along the east boundary of Section 36, then east along the north boundary of Section 31 to its intersection with Interstate 15, the point of beginning.

**Rookery Wildlife Management Area (as posted):** Hunting by archery, shotgun, traditional handgun or muzzleloader only as posted and as described under current regulations.

**Seeley Lake Game Preserve:** Closed to all hunting. That portion of Missoula County lying within the following-described boundary: Beginning at a point where US Forest Service land and private land meet next to Boy Scout Road in Section 20, T17N, R15W, then east on the boundary between

US Forest Service and private land, then north on same boundary to the section line between Sections 17 and 20, then east on said section line and east on north line of Section 21, T17N, R15W to State Route 83, then south on State Route 83 to Riverview Drive in Section 3, T16N, R15W, then west on Riverview Drive to Snowmass Drive in Section 9, T16N, R15W, then north on Snowmass Drive to section line between Sections 4 and 5, T16N, R15W, then north on said section line to Clearwater River, then north along west shore of Clearwater River to Boy Scout Road in Section 33, T17N, R15W, then west and north on said road to where USFS land and private land meet next to Boy Scout Road in Section 20, T17N, R15W, the point of beginning.

**Sun River Game Preserve:** Beginning at a point on the crest of the Continental Divide of the Rocky Mountains, due south of the head or source of the South Fork of the Sun River, in what will be, when surveyed, Section 8, T18N of R10W, Montana meridian, then due north from the crest of the Continental Divide to the head of the south fork of the Sun River, then northerly along the east bank of the South Fork of the Sun River (the eastern boundary of the Sun River Game Preserve) to its confluence with the North Fork of the Sun River, then northerly along the east bank of the North Fork of the Sun River (the eastern boundary of the Sun River Game Preserve) to its head or source, then due north to the crest of the Continental Divide of the Rocky Mountains, then along said crest southwesterly and southerly (the western boundary of the Sun River Game Preserve) to the place of beginning. Intending hereby to include in said game preserve all that territory lying between the South Fork of the Sun River and the North Fork of the Sun River on the east and the Continental Divide of the Rocky Mountains on the west.

**Teton-Spring Creek Cooperative Hunting Area (TSCA), Teton County:** All in T24N, R5W legally described as: Sections 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, and W1/2 of Section 13.

**Townsend Weapon Restriction Area:** Beginning at the intersection of US Highway 12 and Route 284 then northerly along said route to its intersection with Riley Road, then west along said road to the Canyon Ferry Wildlife Management Area boundary fence as signed, then northerly and westerly along said boundary fence to the end of said boundary fence in Section 28, T8N, R2E, near Canyon Ferry Reservoir, then westerly across said reservoir to Hahn Road, then westerly along said road to US Highway 287, then south along said highway to its intersection with the Kimber Gulch Road, then westerly along said road to its intersection with the railroad tracks, then southerly along said railroad tracks to their intersection with Springville Lane, then westerly and southerly along said lane to its intersection with the Indian Creek Road, then southerly along the west boundary of Sections 25 and 36 in T7N, R1E to the SW corner of Section 36, then easterly along the southern boundary of Section 36 and easterly along the southern boundary of Section 31 in T7N, R2E to its intersection with US Highway 287, then southeasterly along said highway to its intersection with Lower Deep Creek Road, then easterly along said road to its intersection with Jack Farm Road, then northwesterly along said road to its intersection with Cemetery Road, then east and north along said road to its intersection with US Highway 12, then east along said highway to its intersection with Route 284, the point of beginning.



## Deer Drawing Statistics

The statistics on this page are from the 2011 Drawings. The final license/permit quotas may differ from the quotas reflected in the 2011 printed regulations. The quotas listed in the printed regulations are the "proposed" quotas as adopted at the February FWP Commission meeting. The FWP Commission final-adopted quotas in July are based on winter and spring survey efforts and are the final quotas used to complete the actual drawing. These statistics reflect combined resident and nonresident first choice districts. These statistics do not reflect the use of bonus points, landowner preference, or the nonresident limit of up to 10% of the quota. For more detailed statistics on resident/nonresident numbers, landowner drawing statistics, 2nd and 3rd choice numbers and district specific bonus point information, visit our website at [fwp.mt.gov/Hunt Planner](http://fwp.mt.gov/Hunt Planner).

**Key:**

**LPT = License/Permit Type.** The first three digits most often represent the hunting district number.

**Apps = Total number of resident and nonresident 1st choice applicants.**

**Suc = Total number of 1st choice applicants that were successful.**

**% Suc = Percentage of 1st choice applicants that were successful.**

### Deer Permits – 2011 Drawing Statistics

LPT	Apps	Suc	% Suc
130-50	219	10	4.57
202-50	251	150	59.76
204-40	247	247	100
210-50	605	100	16.53
212-40	264	264	100
213-40	174	174	100
214-40	77	77	100
240-40	102	102	100
250-50	139	85	61.15
261-50	1072	25	2.33
270-50	5274	45	0.85
281-40	285	285	100
291-50	968	100	10.33
291-51	108	25	23.15
292-40	674	674	100
300-50	841	30	3.57
302-40	120	120	100
312-50	968	75	7.75
318-40	208	208	100
319-40	178	178	100
324-50	592	25	4.22
329-40	59	59	100
335-40	383	383	100
339-40	294	294	100
343-40	490	490	100
380-40	1294	1294	100
390-40	109	109	100
391-40	471	471	100
392-40	725	725	100
441-50	1017	50	4.92
455-70	840	30	3.57
510-40	262	262	100
530-50	615	500	81.30
630-20	9	9	100
652-50	943	100	10.60

### Deer B Licenses – 2011 Drawing Statistics

LPT	Apps	Suc	% Suc	LPT	Apps	Suc	% Suc	LPT	Apps	Suc	% Suc
100-00	244	25	10.25	300-00	106	96	90.57	416-01	72	72	100
100-01	34	5	14.71	301-00	13	13	100	417-00	75	25	33.33
101-00	150	25	16.67	309-00	11	11	100	418-00	16	15	93.75
102-00	195	25	12.82	311-00	72	50	69.44	419-00	27	5	18.52
103-00	189	25	13.23	311-01	204	204	100	421-00	88	75	85.23
103-01	70	5	7.14	312-00	182	100	54.95	422-00	15	15	100
104-00	134	25	18.66	313-00	18	18	100	423-00	64	50	78.13
104-01	28	5	17.86	313-01	95	95	100	424-00	2	2	100
109-00	107	25	23.36	313-02	15	15	100	425-00	4	4	100
110-00	153	25	16.34	314-00	119	119	100	426-00	106	5	4.72
120-00	194	25	12.89	315-00	183	183	100	432-00	52	25	48.08
121-00	545	100	18.35	315-01	90	90	100	441-00	112	112	100
121-01	23	5	21.74	317-00	46	46	100	442-00	7	7	100
122-00	166	25	15.06	319-00	94	25	26.60	444-00	99	98	98.99
122-01	27	5	18.52	320-00	107	50	46.73	445-00	349	100	28.65
123-00	63	25	39.68	322-00	58	50	86.21	445-01	167	167	100
123-01	14	5	35.71	324-00	33	33	100	447-00	200	25	12.50
124-00	154	100	64.94	325-00	145	100	68.97	448-00	13	13	100
130-00	227	25	11.01	325-01	38	38	100	450-00	32	29	90.63
132-00	79	25	31.65	326-00	56	56	100	471-00	43	25	58.14
200-00	29	5	17.24	326-01	2	2	100	500-00	239	200	83.68
200-01	15	5	33.33	330-00	80	75	93.75	502-00	316	300	94.94
201-00	127	5	3.94	330-01	37	37	100	510-00	97	97	100
201-01	9	5	55.56	331-00	440	250	56.82	511-00	55	49	89.09
202-00	56	5	8.93	331-01	36	25	69.44	520-00	99	99	100
202-01	21	5	23.81	333-00	50	47	94.00	530-00	116	100	86.21
203-00	73	5	6.85	333-01	65	50	76.92	530-01	63	50	79.37
204-00	119	100	84.03	335-00	260	100	38.46	560-00	67	67	100
210-00	187	25	13.37	339-00	241	200	82.99	570-00	136	100	73.53
212-00	267	50	18.73	340-00	317	75	23.66	575-00	485	250	51.55
213-00	90	5	5.56	341-00	28	28	100	580-00	130	119	91.54
214-00	41	5	12.20	343-00	340	200	58.82	590-00	459	350	76.25
215-00	265	50	18.87	380-00	724	150	20.72	597-00	279	279	100
260-20	572	300	52.45	380-01	253	150	59.29	598-00	265	265	100
260-30	936	500	53.42	391-00	185	50	27.03	599-00	545	545	100
261-01	103	100	97.09	392-00	295	50	16.95	600-00	303	303	100
270-00	150	25	16.67	393-00	201	200	99.50	611-00	65	64	98.46
270-01	76	25	32.89	400-00	355	355	100	620-00	438	300	68.49
270-02	70	25	35.71	400-01	109	109	100	630-00	187	100	53.48
281-00	186	50	26.88	401-00	377	377	100	630-01	8	8	100
281-01	49	25	51.02	404-00	260	260	100	640-00	50	50	100
282-00	381	25	6.56	404-01	91	91	100	641-00	8	8	100
283-00	195	50	25.64	405-00	181	181	100	650-00	135	100	74.07
283-01	46	25	54.35	406-00	65	65	100	651-00	137	136	99.27
285-00	336	50	14.88	410-00	109	5	4.59	652-00	45	25	55.56
285-01	40	25	62.50	411-00	259	100	38.61	670-00	196	191	97.45
290-00	134	50	37.31	411-01	212	212	100	680-00	140	140	100
291-00	279	100	35.84	412-00	179	100	55.87	690-00	405	403	99.51
292-00	247	50	20.24	413-00	156	25	16.03	699-00	243	243	100
293-00	104	50	48.08	416-00	15	14	93.33	797-00	1406	500	35.56

## Elk Drawing Statistics

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**Suc = Total number of 1st choice applicants that were successful.**

**% Suc = Percentage of 1st choice applicants that were successful.**

### Elk Permits – 2011 Drawing Statistics

LPT	Apps	Suc	% Suc
250-20	290	25	8.62
282-20	89	1	1.12
283-20	235	5	2.13
302-50	487	487	100
310-20	628	5	0.80
310-50	333	333	100
339-20	1168	60	5.14
380-20	10378	80	0.77
401-15	93	93	100
401-20	483	30	6.21
410-15	1986	1641	82.63
410-20	4162	55	1.32
411-15	654	534	81.65
411-20	1171	200	17.08
412-20	370	60	16.22
417-20	871	100	11.48
420-15	325	325	100
420-20	795	80	10.06
426-20	164	20	12.20
441-20	558	30	5.38
445-20	559	50	8.94
447-20	1221	75	6.14
450-20	50	5	10.00
455-20	871	75	8.61
500-15	54	54	100
500-20	155	10	6.45
502-15	71	71	100
502-20	72	5	6.94
520-20	388	25	6.44
570-20	270	35	12.96
575-20	102	10	9.80
580-15	71	58	81.69
580-21	141	15	10.64
580-22	150	25	16.67
590-15	298	210	70.47
590-20	817	200	24.48
590-21	276	80	28.99
620-15	1636	1260	77.02
620-20	872	60	6.88
621-20	1415	50	3.53
622-00	414	100	24.15
622-20	1511	60	3.97
631-20	734	30	4.09
631-21	270	200	74.07
632-20	488	10	2.05
632-21	210	100	47.62
690-20	1239	30	2.42
690-21	392	25	6.38
798-15	446	312	69.96
798-20	2203	250	11.35
799-15	452	361	79.87
799-20	2006	175	8.72

### Elk B Licenses – 2011 Drawing Statistics

LPT	Apps	Suc	% Suc	LPT	Apps	Suc	% Suc	LPT	Apps	Suc	% Suc
004-80	1591	1591	100.00	283-80	238	50	21.01	401-80	287	150	52.26
100-80	296	25	8.45	283-81	45	45	100.00	410-80	1799	300	16.68
101-80	118	20	16.95	283-82	117	75	64.10	410-81	217	217	100.00
101-81	45	5	11.11	285-80	199	25	12.56	411-80	212	212	100.00
103-80	540	25	4.63	285-81	193	50	25.91	412-80	107	107	100.00
104-80	293	25	8.53	291-80	419	400	95.47	416-80	39	39	100.00
109-80	166	20	12.05	292-80	610	75	12.30	417-80	126	126	100.00
110-80	116	5	4.31	293-80	246	25	10.16	417-81	162	162	100.00
120-80	113	5	4.42	298-80	183	183	100.00	422-80	36	36	100.00
121-80	855	100	11.70	300-80	533	450	84.43	425-80	50	25	50.00
121-81	35	5	14.29	302-80	410	350	85.37	425-81	32	30	93.75
122-80	311	25	8.04	312-80	115	100	86.96	425-82	63	35	55.56
123-80	141	25	17.73	313-80	117	15	12.82	425-83	163	35	21.47
124-80	117	25	21.37	313-81	57	15	26.32	426-80	49	40	81.63
130-80	137	5	3.65	314-80	257	200	77.82	441-80	252	252	100.00
132-80	49	5	10.20	318-80	464	100	21.55	442-80	81	81	100.00
140-80	98	5	5.10	320-80	231	25	10.82	447-80	214	200	93.46
200-80	33	5	15.15	321-80	176	100	56.82	448-80	388	150	38.66
201-80	186	75	40.32	323-80	172	80	46.51	450-80	27	27	100.00
201-81	15	5	33.33	328-80	238	150	63.03	455-80	289	100	34.60
202-80	44	5	11.36	329-80	450	250	55.56	520-80	189	75	39.68
203-80	115	5	4.35	331-80	693	350	50.51	520-81	220	170	77.27
204-80	113	30	26.55	332-80	523	75	14.34	540-80	68	50	73.53
210-80	715	600	83.92	334-80	288	125	43.40	560-80	73	73	100.00
211-80	259	259	100.00	335-80	467	200	42.83	580-80	217	217	100.00
212-80	552	400	72.46	339-80	533	500	93.81	590-80	153	65	42.48
212-81	90	75	83.33	340-80	778	300	38.56	590-81	53	35	66.04
213-80	445	200	44.94	343-80	541	300	55.45	620-80	317	300	94.64
214-80	148	100	67.57	361-80	183	50	27.32	621-80	197	100	50.76
215-80	605	400	66.12	370-80	535	350	65.42	621-81	750	250	33.33
215-81	409	400	97.80	380-80	1778	250	14.06	622-80	1152	500	43.40
216-80	124	124	100.00	380-81	358	150	41.90	631-80	422	100	23.70
250-80	62	5	8.06	380-82	394	125	31.73	631-81	73	25	34.25
260-80	31	5	16.13	390-80	102	102	100.00	632-80	202	30	14.85
261-80	98	50	51.02	391-80	462	250	54.11	690-80	54	25	46.30
270-80	104	5	4.81	392-80	267	175	65.54	690-81	508	300	59.06
270-81	183	15	8.20	392-81	692	250	36.13	700-80	1112	700	62.95
281-80	473	75	15.86	398-80	332	332	100.00	798-81	50	50	100.00
282-80	595	25	4.20					799-80	663	200	30.17

## Obtain A License Or Permit

- Only one license or permit of any type may be purchased each year, unless otherwise specified and allowed in the regulations, such as a hunter may purchase more than one deer B license.
- Many licenses or permits may be purchased from license providers or online licensing. Some licenses and permits are available only through a drawing.
- Refer to the Licenses Available Chart for a complete list of resident and nonresident licenses and application or purchase deadlines.

## Online Licensing

- You may apply for permits and/or licenses and purchase many general hunting licenses from FWP Online Licensing between approximately 5:15 a.m. and 11:45 p.m., MST, 7 days a week within applicable sales dates.
- Go to <https://app.mt.gov/Als/Index> and follow the instructions.
- Online purchases must be made by using a MasterCard or Visa credit card.
- Montana residents must have purchased a conservation license through the automated licensing system (ALS) in a previous license year and have an ALS number to buy licenses online. See Residency.
- Don't wait until the last minute to buy your hunting license online as carcass tags are mailed to you within 10 days of your purchase.
- All online license purchases and applications are final and cannot be changed or withdrawn.

## Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact (IWVC)

Montana is a member of the IWVC. Under the compact, member states recognize suspensions of hunting, fishing or trapping privileges. It is illegal for a violator whose privilege to hunt, fish or trap is suspended to obtain or attempt to obtain a license, tag or permit in a member state. For more information, call 406-444-2452.

## Residency

- It is illegal to swear to or to affirm a false statement in order to obtain an original or duplicate resident hunting and/or fishing license OR to assist an unqualified applicant in obtaining a resident license.

## Resident

- To be a legal Montana resident and eligible to purchase any Montana resident fishing, hunting, and trapping licenses, as per MCA 87-2-102, you must:
  - have been physically living in Montana

for at least 180 consecutive days immediately prior to purchasing a resident license;

- register your vehicle(s) in Montana;
- be registered to vote in Montana if you're registered to vote at all;
- not possess current (or have applied for any) resident hunting, fishing, or trapping privileges in another state or country;
- file Montana state income tax returns as a resident, if you are required to file.
- Once you have established your residency, you must continue to meet all these requirements and physically reside in Montana as your principal or primary place of abode for not less than 120 days per year (days need not be consecutive).
- A person is NOT considered a resident for the purposes of this section if the person:
  - claims residence in any other state or country for any purpose; or
  - is an absentee property owner paying property tax on property in Montana.
- To purchase an annual resident conservation license you will be required to show a valid Montana Driver's License (MDL), a valid Montana Identification Card (MIC) or a valid Tribal Identification Card.
- If your MDL or MIC has been issued for less than six months, you may be required to show additional proof of residency. An out-of-state driver's license is NOT an acceptable form of ID for resident license purchases. Contact your local FWP office for specifics.

## Nonresident

- Montana's nonresident guests are eligible to purchase or apply for most Montana fishing, hunting, and trapping licenses. By state law, nonresidents are limited to, but not guaranteed, 10 percent of the license and/or permit quota for a district. The Licenses Available Chart provides details.
- Nonresident unmarried minors, at least 12 (by Jan 16, 2013) but not older than 17 years of age, can hunt in Montana as a resident if the minor's parents, legal guardian, or parent with joint custody, sole custody, or visitation rights is a legal resident of Montana. See "Youth Hunter" chart for details on youth 11 years of age.

## Armed Forces

- A member of the regular armed forces of the United States, a member's dependent who resides in the member's Montana household, or a member of the armed forces of a foreign government attached to the regular armed forces of the United States is considered a

resident for Montana hunting, fishing and trapping licenses if:

- the member was a resident of Montana under the provisions listed under residency at the time the member entered the armed forces and continues to meet these residency criteria; or,
- the member is currently stationed in and assigned to active duty in Montana, has resided in Montana for a least 30 days, and presents official assignment orders and a certificate verifying successful completion of an approved hunter safety course from any state or province.

## Prerequisites

### Conservation License

- Each new license year, a new Conservation License is required to purchase any fishing, trapping or hunting license(s), or to apply for licenses/permits. Most licenses can be purchased from any FWP License Provider beginning late February.
- In compliance with the Federal Welfare Reform Laws, Montana law requires each resident and nonresident hunter, including youth, to provide the last four digits of his/her Social Security number when purchasing a Conservation License or obtaining a Conservation License through a drawing.

### Hunting Access Enhancement Fee (HAEF)

This is an annual fee and will be charged at the time the hunter purchases his/her first hunting license (including upland and migratory bird).

## Game Damage Hunt Roster Rules

- The game damage hunt roster is a randomized list of hunters' names. If FWP identifies a need to implement a game damage hunt, the game damage hunt roster will be used to select hunters. Selected hunters will be contacted by FWP.
- Sign up for the game damage hunt roster is from June 15 – July 15, 2012, and only on the FWP website.

## 12-hour Closure

- In Administrative Region 4, elk HD 424 and HD 442 may be subject to 12-hour closure for the antlerless portion of the general brow-tined bull or antlerless elk season,
- If the antlerless quota is reached, the general season will revert to only the brow-tined bull regulation until the end of the general season.
- Contact Region 4 Headquarters for updates.

## Hunter Education

### Hunter Education Requirements

If you were born after January 1, 1985, you are required to show proof of completing a Montana hunter safety and education course or an approved hunter safety course from any other state or province prior to applying for or purchasing a hunting license, whether the hunting license is for the rifle or archery season.

### Bowhunter Education Requirements

To purchase a Montana bow and arrow license, a hunter must:

- provide a certificate of completing the National Bowhunter Education Foundation course, or
- provide any prior year's bowhunting/archery stamp, tag, permit, or license from any state or province. If you can no longer produce this license, for a \$5 fee you may sign an affidavit stating that you previously held such a license. The affidavit is available at all FWP License Providers. The affidavit entitles you to purchase a current year's Montana bow and arrow license.

### Duplicate Certificates

Bowhunter or Hunter Education certificates of completion for the Montana hunter education and/or bowhunter education courses may be obtained from FWP's website at [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov).

## License and Permit Types

### Bow and Arrow License

A bow and arrow license, plus the proper hunting license is required during: (1) the deer, elk and/or antelope Archery Only Season; or (2) to archery hunt in an Arch-Equip only area or hunting district.

### Conservation License

Prerequisite for all resident and nonresident licenses. Includes the state lands recreation license (for hunting, fishing and trapping purposes).

### Deer License

#### General Deer License

- The general deer license is Montana's license valid for one deer. Hunters may hold only one general deer license. It can be used for deer as indicated under the "General Deer License" heading on the deer and elk hunting district pages of these regulations.
- Residents may purchase only one deer and/or one elk general license each year. Licenses may be purchased from license providers or online licensing beginning mid January. Each license year, a new Conservation License is required in order to purchase any fishing, trapping or hunting license(s), or to apply for any license or permit.

- Resident hunters may purchase a general Deer license over the counter at FWP offices and other license vendors. Residents may also buy a sportsman's license, which includes a general deer license. Some disabled, youth, and senior hunters may qualify for discounted licenses.
- Nonresidents cannot buy their general deer license over the counter. They must obtain what's known as a "deer combination" license, which includes a general deer license as well as several other licenses. Montana makes 4,600 General Drawing and 2,000 land owner sponsored licenses available each year. Demand is greater than supply, so to get a deer combination license, you need to apply in a random lottery drawing by March 15 for either a:
  - Big game (deer and elk) combination license, which is also good for fishing and upland bird hunting, or a
  - Deer combination license, which is also good for fishing and upland bird hunting.
  - You can apply for only one of these licenses each year.

#### Deer B License

- Valid for one deer during a specific time period, or for a certain species and sex, and in a particular hunting district or group of districts. May be offered through a drawing or over-the-counter.
- A deer B license is usually a license for antlerless mule deer or white-tailed deer, depending on the license type and hunting district.
- The deer B license allows you to kill a deer in addition to the deer you could harvest with your general deer license.
- There is no particular order in which the general deer and deer B licenses must be purchased or used.
- Most deer B licenses are available through the **June 1** drawing but some are available for purchase at License Providers, including FWP Online Licensing.
- A hunter may possess a total of seven deer B licenses in any combination.
- A hunter may purchase only one single-region deer B license for white-tailed deer per year.
- The single-region deer B license for white-tailed deer is in addition to other deer B licenses a person may obtain through a drawing or purchase at License Providers. You must designate the region in which you will use the single-region deer B license for white-tailed deer at the time of purchase. Check the hunting district in which you will hunt for specific regulations and valid dates for the single-region license.

### Single-Region Deer B Licenses for Mule Deer

- Check the hunting district in which you will hunt for specific regulations and valid dates for the single-region license.
- The following resident only Single-Region Mule Deer B License opportunities are offered for the 2012 hunting season.

#### Single-Region Resident Only

#### Mule Deer B Licenses

R 7	<b>007-13.</b> All Region 7 HDs. Not valid on CMR refuge. <b>007-14.</b> 2nd MD B License. All Region 7 HDs. Not valid on CMR refuge.
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### Single-Region Deer B Licenses for White-tailed Deer

- A hunter may purchase only one single-region deer B license for white-tailed deer per year.
- The single-region deer B license for white-tailed deer is in addition to other deer B licenses a person may obtain through a drawing or purchase at License Providers. You must designate the region in which you will use the single-region deer B license for white-tailed deer at the time of purchase.
- Licenses are available beginning August 6 from License Providers, including FWP Online Licensing.
- Check the hunting district in which you will hunt for specific regulations and valid dates for the single-region license.
- The following Single-Region White-tailed Deer B License opportunities for residents and/or nonresidents are offered for the 2012 hunting season.

#### Single-Region Resident/Nonresident

#### White-tailed Deer B Licenses

R3	<b>003-10.</b> All Region 3 HDs, except Canyon Ferry WMA and Lake Helena WMA
R4	<b>004-10.</b> All Region 4 HDs, except HD 455.
R5	<b>005-10.</b> All Region 5 HDs.
R6	<b>006-10.</b> All Region 6 HDs.
R7	<b>007-10.</b> All Region 7 HDs.

#### Single-Region Resident Only

#### White-tailed Deer B Licenses

R 7	<b>007-11.</b> 2nd WT B License. All Region 7 HDs.
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## Deer Permit

- Permits are valid for hunting the specified sex-age class during the time period(s) listed.
- Hunters who receive a deer permit must use it with a current general deer license. A deer permit does not allow you to take a second deer.
- Hunters who receive a deer permit valid for taking an antlered buck mule deer (with their general deer license) are restricted to taking an antlered buck mule deer only in the district or portion of district specified on the permit. They may not hunt antlered buck mule deer anywhere else in Montana even if the General Season or Archery Only Season is open to mule deer buck hunting with a general deer license. This applies to all deer permit areas, whether limited or unlimited, for antlered buck mule deer.
- Deer permits are available through the **March 15** drawing to Residents and Nonresidents. Be sure to check individual hunting district regulations for specific deer permit details. By state law, nonresidents are limited to, but not guaranteed, 10 percent of the license/permit quota.
- Residents must hold a general deer license before using a deer permit.
- Nonresidents must hold a Big Game Elk/Deer or Deer Combination License before applying for a deer permit.
- The following White-tailed and Mule Deer Permit opportunities are offered for the 2012 hunting season.

### Permits Resident/Nonresident

#### White-tailed Deer

R4	455-70
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#### Mule Deer

R1	130-50
R2	202-50, 204-40, 210-50, 212-40, 213-40, 214-40, 215-40, 240-40, 240-50, 250-50, 250-51, 261-50, 270-50, 281-40, 291-50, 291-51 (youth only), 292-40
R3	300-50, 302-40, 312-50, 318-40, 319-40, 324-50, 329-40, 335-40, 339-40, 343-40, 380-40, 390-40, 391-40, 392-40
R4	441-50, 455-70
R5	510-40, 530-50
R6	652-50

## Elk License

### General Elk License

- A general elk license is the basic license for hunting elk. Montana's general elk-hunting license is valid for one elk. Hunters may hold only one general elk license. It can be used only according to the specific regulations of the hunting district in which you hunt.
- Resident hunters may purchase this license over the counter at FWP offices and other license vendors for \$20 plus the required conservation license (\$8) and hunter access enhancement fee (\$2). Residents may also buy a sportsman's license (prices vary), which includes a general elk license. Some disabled, youth, and senior hunters may qualify for discounted licenses.
- Nonresidents cannot buy their general elk license over the counter. They must obtain what's known as an "elk combination" license, which includes a general elk license as well as several other licenses. Montana makes 17,000 of these General Drawing licenses available each year. Demand is greater than supply, so to get a combination license, you need to apply in a random lottery drawing by March 15 for either a:
  - Big game (deer and elk) combination license, which is also good for fishing and upland bird hunting, or a
  - Elk combination license, which is also good for fishing and upland bird hunting.
- You can apply for only one of these licenses each year.

### Elk B License

- The elk B license is valid for taking an antlerless elk during a specific time period and in a particular hunting district or group of districts.
- The elk B licenses are designed to control elk numbers and many are only valid on private land.
- A limited elk B license is obtained only through the drawing and has an application deadline date of June 1.
- Unlimited elk B licenses have no limit on the number of licenses sold and are available from License Providers, including FWP Online Licensing. See individual hunting districts for details.
- The only prerequisite for the elk B license is a conservation license.
- Each hunter may possess only one elk B license per license year in addition to a general elk license.
- Elk B license hunting opportunities may be restricted to portions of individual hunting districts. See individual hunting districts for specific details.
- The following limited and unlimited Elk B License opportunities are offered for the 2012 hunting season.

### Limited Elk B Licenses

R1	100-80, 101-80, 101-81, 101-82, 103-80, 104-80, 109-80, 109-82, 110-80, 120-80, 121-80, 121-81, 121-82, 122-80, 123-80, 124-80, 130-80, 132-80, 140-80
R2	200-80, 200-81, 201-80, 201-81, 204-80, 210-80, 211-80, 212-80, 212-81, 213-80, 214-80, 215-80, 215-81, 216-80, 240-80, 250-80, 260-80, 261-80, 270-80, 270-81, 282-80, 283-82, 283-83, 283-84, 285-80, 285-81, 291-80, 292-80, 293-80, 298-80
R3	300-80, 302-80, 312-80, 314-80, 317-80, 318-80, 319-80, 320-80, 321-80, 323-80, 328-80, 329-80, 331-80, 332-80, 334-80, 335-80, 340-80, 343-80, 361-80, 370-80, 380-80, 380-81, 380-82, 390-80, 391-80, 392-80, 392-81, 398-81, 398-82, 398-83, 398-84, 398-85
R4	004-80, 401-80, 410-80, 410-81, 411-80, 412-80, 416-80, 417-80, 417-81, 422-80, 425-80, 425-81, 425-82, 425-83, 425-84, 425-85, 426-80, 441-80, 442-80, 447-80, 448-80, 450-80, 455-80
R5	500-80, 520-80, 520-81, 540-80, 560-80, 580-80, 590-80, 590-81
R6	620-80, 621-80, 621-81, 622-80, 631-80, 631-81, 632-80, 690-80, 690-81
R7	700-80, 798-81, 799-80

### Unlimited Elk B Licenses

R2	<b>002-80</b> Archery Only is valid in hunting districts 201 (portion), 260, 283, 290, 292 and 298. <b>283-84</b> valid in HD 283. <b>290-80</b> is valid in HD 290
R3	<b>315-80</b> valid in hunting districts 315, 393

## Elk Permit

- Elk permits, allotted by drawings, allow you to hunt in a restricted area or time period or to harvest a bull where bull harvest restrictions exist for hunters who have only a general elk license.
- Permits are not a second license for killing an additional elk. Rather, you must use them with your general elk license.
- Elk permits are available through the **March 15** drawing to Residents and Nonresidents. Be sure to check individual hunting district regulations for specific deer permit details. By state law, nonresidents are limited to, but not guaranteed, 10 percent of the license/permit quota.
- Learn about the hunting district you wish to hunt before applying for a permit. For instance, don't put in for a backcountry area if you aren't willing

and prepared to backpack in. And don't apply in hunting districts that are mostly private land if you aren't certain you can get permission.

- Residents must hold a general elk license before applying for an elk permit.
- Nonresidents must hold a Big Game Elk/Deer or Big Game Elk Combination License before applying for an elk permit.
- In all or a portion of each of the following hunting districts a hunter is required to have successfully drawn a special permit before hunting a bull elk or brow-tined bull elk in all or a portion of the fall hunting seasons. See individual hunting districts for specific regulations.
- The following limited and unlimited Bull Elk Permit opportunities are offered for the 2012 hunting season.

#### Limited Bull Elk Permits

R2	250-20, 282-20 (youth only), 283-20
R3	310-20, 310-50, 313-20 (youth only), 339-20, 380-20
R4	401-15, 401-20, 410-15, 410-20, 411-15, 411-20, 412-20, 417-20, 420-15, 420-20, 426-20, 441-20, 445-20, 447-20, 450-20, 455-20
R5	411-15, 500-15, 500-20, 502-15, 502-20, 520-20, 570-20, 575-20, 580-15, 580-21, 580-22, 590-15, 590-20, 590-21
R6	620-15, 620-20, 621-20, 622-20, 631-20, 631-21, 632-20, 632-21, 690-20, 690-21
R7	590-15, 590-20, 798-15, 798-20, 799-15, 799-20

#### Unlimited Bull Elk Permits

R2	270-40
R3	302-50, 310-50, 313-40

#### Over-the-Counter (OTC) B License

- Certain deer and elk B licenses with unlimited quotas are available for purchase over-the-counter from License Providers beginning August 6.
- The following over-the-counter Deer B License and Elk B License opportunities are offered for the 2012 hunting season. See individual hunting district regulations for specifics.

#### OTC Deer B Licenses

R1	170-10
R2	212-10, 260-10
R3	003-10, 309-10, 312-10, 317-10, 320-10, 322-10, 333-10, 340-10, 360-10, 388-10
R4	004-10
R5	005-10
R6	006-10
R7	007-10, 007-11, 007-13, 007-14

#### OTC Elk B Licenses

R2	002-80 (archery only), 283-84, 290-80
R3	315-80

#### Replacements

Replacements of lost, stolen or destroyed licenses or permits may be purchased at FWP offices and FWP License Providers. A second duplicate license for the same species within a two-year period may only be purchased at an FWP office. A person may not replace a license requiring a carcass tag a third time for the same species within a two-year period. A fee of \$5 per license will be charged for each duplicate license.

#### It is unlawful to:

- Swear or affirm to a false statement in order to obtain a duplicate.
- Possess an original as well as a duplicate license(s). If the original is found, it must be returned to FWP at any regional office.
- Allow a license of any type to be used by another person.

#### SuperTag Lottery

Open to residents and nonresidents.

Species	Deadline to Purchase SuperTag Chances (\$5 each)
Antelope	<b>July 5</b>
Bighorn Sheep	
Bison	
Deer	
Elk	
Moose	
Mountain Goat	
Mountain Lion	

- Resident and nonresident hunters can buy an unlimited number of \$5 chances to win a Montana hunting license for antelope, bighorn sheep, bison, deer, elk, moose, mountain goat and mountain lion.
- An individual may be successful in winning one or a combination of these SuperTags per year.
- Each SuperTag license allows one to hunt in any Montana hunting district valid for that species.
- Moose, bighorn sheep and mountain goat 7-year waiting period does not apply to SuperTags.
- Chances are sold electronically at all FWP License Providers or via the online licenses at [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov).
- Proceeds from the sale of SuperTag chances will enhance public hunting access and boost FWP enforcement efforts.
- For more information visit FWP's website at [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov).

#### Availability of Licenses & Permits

Purchase your fishing license, hunting licenses(s) and apply for drawings online

<https://app.mt.gov/AIs/Index>

#### Deadlines and Cost

- A complete list of licenses, cost and deadlines for drawing applications is available on pages 120-121 in the Licenses & Permits Availability Chart.
- Applications, as well as some general licenses, and many licenses and permits awarded through a drawing, have a purchase or application deadline.
- Applications are available at FWP License Providers or may be downloaded from the FWP website. Nonresidents may call 406-444-2950 to request an application through the mail.
- You may have your application entered directly into the system at an FWP office or you may mail in your application. If the application is mailed, it must be postmarked no later than the deadline date. The postmark must be an official U.S. Postal Service mark. A postage meter postmark will not be accepted.
- FWP encourages hunters to apply online for permits/licenses awarded through a drawing as safeguards will not accept incomplete applications. Also, your information is retained for future purchases or license applications.

#### Drawing Applications

- Drawing applications are available from FWP's website at [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov) and from License Providers.
- Applications for deer and elk permits must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service on or before **March 15**. Applications for deer B, elk B, antelope and/or antelope B licenses must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service on or before **June 1**. Hunters may apply online no later than **March 15** for deer and elk permits or **June 1** for deer B, elk B, antelope and antelope B licenses.
- Both resident and nonresident hunters are eligible to apply for most of the licenses awarded through the drawings. By state law, nonresidents are limited to, but not guaranteed, 10 percent of the license and/or permit quota.
- Drawings are based upon the final quotas adopted by the FWP Commission which may differ from the quotas listed in the printed hunting district regulations.
- For specific license/permit opportunities please refer to the hunting district regulations where you will find a complete list of all available hunting opportunities for each hunting district.

## Party Applications

- Applicants may apply as a “party.” If you apply as a party, each party member must list the identical license/permit choices in the identical order on his/her application. If one or more party member does not pay the bonus point fee, but the other members pay the fee, those who have not paid the fee will be taken out of the party. It is unlawful to loan or transfer a license to another or to use a license issued to another.
- Either everyone in the party is successful in obtaining a license or everyone is unsuccessful. A party of individuals is assigned one random number in the computer. If that number is drawn, each member of the party receives a permit/license.
- The success rate for applying as a party versus as an individual is about the same. However, if a resident applies with a nonresident in a party, the whole party is considered “nonresident” because of the 10 percent quota limit on nonresident licenses and/or permits.
- The maximum number of applicants in a party is 5 members.

## Licenses and Permits Through A Drawing

- You may apply for a permit and/or license that allows you to hunt in an otherwise restricted area or time period. You may also decide to participate in the bonus point system.
- Residents must hold a general deer license before using a deer permit.
- Residents must hold a general elk license before applying for an elk permit.
- Nonresidents must hold a Big Game Elk/Deer or Deer Combination License before applying for a deer permit.
- Nonresidents must hold a Big Game Elk/Deer or Big Game Elk Combination License before applying for an elk permit.
- Nonresident holders of a Landowner-Sponsored Deer Combination License are reminded that the license (including deer B licenses) entitles them to hunt deer only on the deeded lands of the sponsoring landowner. This license may not be used on leased or public land. However, the license is valid statewide for fishing and hunting upland game birds.
- Nonresident holders of a Landowner-Sponsored Deer Combination License may apply for a deer permit or deer B license only in the hunting district where they are authorized to hunt deer.

## Bonus & Preference Point System

Bonus Points can increase your chances to draw a buck mule deer or bull elk permit.

- Bonus points essentially offer you additional drawing chances.
- For instance, a person with 2 bonus points will have two chances to have his/her application drawn.
- In addition, beginning this year, existing bonus points will be mathematically “squared” prior to the drawing.
- That means if you already have 3 “base” bonus points those will be “squared” and you’ll then have 9 bonus points going into the 2012 drawing.
- If you’re unsuccessful, you’ll be awarded an additional base bonus point for next year’s drawing.
- If you wish to participate in the Bonus Point program for Deer/Elk permits, make sure to check “YES” on the Bonus Point questions and include the \$2 Bonus Point fee for residents or the \$20 Bonus Point fee for nonresidents.
- All “base” bonus points accumulate over time until you obtain a permit or you fail to participate in the bonus point system.
- An applicant may skip 2 consecutive years of participating without forfeiting accumulated points, but if an applicant misses the third year, all accumulated points for that species are lost.
- All nonresidents who are unsuccessful in the nonresident combination license drawing are mailed a form that must be returned if they wish to accumulate bonus points for deer and elk permits. If you should have, but did not receive this form and wish to participate in the bonus point system, please contact FWP at 406-444-2950.

Preference Points increase the likelihood of obtaining a combination license and only apply towards combination license packages.

- Preference points essentially move you ahead in line.
- For instance, a person with three preference points is in front of the person with two, and so on.
- Beginning this year, 75 percent of all combination licenses awarded via the drawing will be issued to hunters with preference points.
- All preference points accumulate over time until you obtain a combination license.
- If you wish to participate in the Preference Point program for your combination license, make sure to check “YES” on the Preference Point question and include the \$50 Preference Point fee.
- Preference points are lost if they are not used for 2 consecutive years.

## Landowner Preference

- Montana landowners (resident and nonresident) may qualify for preference in the license/permit drawings for deer, elk, and antelope.
- In order to claim landowner preference for deer B, deer permit, and/or antelope drawings, a landowner must own or be contracting to purchase at least 160 contiguous acres of land within the hunting district applied for. If the license/permit is only valid for a portion of the hunting district, the landowner must own land within that portion and the land must be used primarily for agricultural purposes.
- In order to claim landowner preference for the elk B license and/or elk permit drawings, a landowner must own or be contracting to purchase at least 640 contiguous acres of land within a district regularly used by elk for one or more seasonal activities. If the license/permit is only valid for a portion of the hunting district, a landowner must own land within that portion to claim preference.
- A landowner may designate his/her preference to a member of his/her immediate family (blood or marriage related) or a ranch manager (paid employee who has state, federal, or FICA taxes withheld from pay). Only one person may use designated preference in a partnership or corporation.
- Nonresidents owning land in Montana should contact FWP Headquarters in Helena at 406-444-2950 for details on how to apply for landowner preference. See the Licenses Available Chart for prerequisite license requirements and deadlines to apply.

## Drawing Results

License	Drawing Results	Refunds Mailed
Nonresident Combination	Mid-April	End of April
Deer & Elk Permits	Mid-April	End of April
<b>SuperTags for:</b> Antelope, Bighorn Sheep, Bison, Deer, Elk, Moose, Mountain Goat, Mountain Lion	After July 16	NA
Antelope, Deer, Elk Licenses	Mid-July	End of August
Check for drawing results at <a href="http://fwp.mt.gov">fwp.mt.gov</a>		

### Fees and Refunds

- In addition to the cost of each permit or license, there is a \$5 nonrefundable drawing fee for each license or permit you apply for. The \$5 fee covers the cost of printing and processing the application.
- In some situations, FWP may refund resident or nonresident – in full or in part – fees for licenses and/or drawings.
- The appropriate documentation (death certificate, medical statement, etc.) must accompany the unused license(s) and a signed request form certifying the license(s) has not been used. Nonresident license holders should call 406-444-2950 for information.
- Situations include:

Reason	Deadline	Refund
Death of licensee	12/31/12	100%
Death of family member	12/31/12	90%
Medical emergency	12/31/12	90%

### Call Licensing at 406-444-2950

- If you do not receive your license or refund within 2-3 weeks of time from refund dates. Note: the license fee is refunded if an applicant is unsuccessful in the drawings, unless there is a valid obligation owed to the State of Montana or if the refund is less than \$5.
- For information on drawings for big game hunting.
- For surplus license (any left over licenses or permits from the drawings) information and applications (available by the end of August).

### License Discount Opportunities

- Montana resident members of the Montana National Guard, Federal Reserve or Active Duty, who participated after September 11, 2001 in a contingency operation outside the state for two months and have been released from active duty or discharged, are entitled to a free conservation license OR a sportsman without bear license for a fee of \$2. These licenses will be issued only at FWP offices. DD 214 and supporting documentation is required.
  - To take advantage of this opportunity you must obtain the license in the year you returned from military service, or in the following year.
- A veteran with certain combat connected injuries may be entitled to half-priced licenses for deer and antelope. Up to 50 licenses will be issued annually. Contact FWP License Bureau Chief for details at 406-444-2663.

- Nonresidents who hold a current upland game bird license, big game combination, elk combination or deer combination license may purchase a nonresident turkey license for \$55.
- Nonresident Youth Big Game Combination Licenses will be sold for \$474.50 beginning March 1 to nonresident youth who have an adult immediate family member sponsor (applicant's natural or adoptive parent, grandparent, brother or sister who is 18 years of age or older) who possesses a current resident deer or elk license or a nonresident big game, elk combination or nonresident deer combination license. The youth must be accompanied by the sponsor while hunting. Applications are available from FWP's website at [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov) and will be processed at the FWP headquarters in Helena. For further details and an application, contact Licensing at 406-444-2950.
- Nonresident children of residents may be entitled to reduced rate licenses for up to six years from the date they received their diploma or GED. To qualify the child must have: 1) been born and raised in Montana; 2) attended and completed high school or attained a GED in Montana; and 3) the parent(s) still reside in Montana. Licenses will be issued at FWP offices with verification of Birth Certificate, Montana high school diploma or GED, and proof that natural or adoptive parent is still a current Montana resident. Any nonresident youth hunting with this license must be accompanied by a licensed resident family member while hunting in the field.
- Nonresident students enrolled as a full-time student (12 or more credits) in a postsecondary educational institution in Montana or Nonresident full time students in another state who graduated from MT High School and their parent is a MT resident are now eligible for discounted hunting licenses. The new nonresident college student big game combination license will cost \$70.00 and includes Conservation, fishing, upland bird, deer and elk.
  - Application for the nonresident college student big game combination license may be made after the second Monday in September at any FWP Regional office or Department Headquarters in Helena. To qualify, the applicant shall present a valid student identification card and copy of paid tuition as current full-time enrollment at a post secondary education institution in Montana. Payment of the \$10 Hunting Access Enhancement Fee is also required.

### Youth Elk Hunts

- Youth 12 (by Jan 16, 2013) -15 years of age may hunt elk as listed in the specific hunting district regulations without applying for an elk permit through the drawing in the following hunting districts. Be sure to check specific hunting district regulations as youth hunting opportunities in some of the districts listed below may not include either-sex or antlered bull elk.

Resident and Nonresident	
Youth Opportunities	
R 2	204, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 240, 261, 270, 280, 281, 283, 291, 292, 293
R 3	300, 301, 310, 311, 314, 316, 317, 318, 319, 321, 328, 329, 331, 332, 334, 335, 340, 341, 343, 350, 360, 361, 362, 370, 380, 391, 392
R 4	401, 403, 412, 415, 417, 426, 441, 447
R 5	520, 560

### Youth Elk Permits and Elk B Licenses

- Elk permits and elk B licenses only for youth 12 (by Jan 16, 2013) -15 years of age to hunt elk as listed in the specific hunting district regulations are offered in hunting districts listed below.
- To qualify, the applicant must:
  - be 12 (by Jan 16, 2013) -15 years of age at time of application.
  - show proof of successfully completing hunter education.
  - be accompanied, while hunting, by an adult and/or guardian who is at least 18 years of age.
- Youth that are 15 years of age at the start of the general season, October 20, are eligible to hunt in the youth areas even if they turn 16 years of age during the season.

Youth Resident/Nonresident	
Permits	
R2	282-20
R3	313-20
B Licenses	
R6	621-80, 631-81, 690-80



Youth Hunter		
Age	Available To	Opportunities and Requirements
11	Resident & Nonresident	A youth 11 years of age who will reach 12 years of age by January 16, 2013 and can show proof of having completed an approved hunter education course at the time of purchase/application, may: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After August 15, 2012, hunt any game species for which their license is valid during an open season.</li> <li>• Purchase a hunting license, except spring turkey and spring black bear.</li> <li>• Apply for any drawing, except spring turkey.</li> </ul>
11-13	Resident & Nonresident	In order to carry or use a firearm in public, a youth under 14 years of age must be accompanied by a person having charge or custody of the child, or be under the supervision of a qualified firearms safety instructor or an adult 18 years of age or older who has been authorized by the youth's parent or guardian, as per Montana law.
12-15	Resident & Nonresident	<b>Youth Statewide Two-Day Deer Hunt –</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The FWP Commission is allowing two additional days to provide a hunting opportunity to encourage youth participation in deer hunting.</li> <li>• Legally licensed hunters 12 through 15 years of age may hunt deer during the Statewide Two-day Youth Only Deer Season – October 18-19. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– During these two days, youth hunters with a general or deer B license may take those deer species and sex otherwise available on their general or deer B license the first day of the general firearm season in the specific hunting district the youth is hunting.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A nonhunting adult at least 18 years of age must accompany the youth hunter in the field.</li> <li>• Shooting hours, hunter safety requirements and all other regulations that apply to the regular deer firearm season shall apply to this youth two-day deer season.</li> </ul>
12-17	Resident Only	A youth who has successfully completed a hunter safety and education course, and is purchasing his/her first Montana hunting license, is entitled to receive a Resident Youth Combination Sports License free-of-charge.
14	Resident Only	A youth 14 years of age who purchases a discounted general deer or elk license, may use the license throughout the season, even if he/she turns 15 before or during the season.
12-17	Nonresident Only	Nonresident Youth Big Game Combination Licenses will be sold for \$474.50 beginning March 1 to nonresident youth who have an adult immediate family member sponsor (applicant's natural or adoptive parent, grandparent, brother or sister who is 18 years of age or older) who possesses a current resident deer or elk license or a nonresident big game, elk combination or nonresident deer combination license. The youth must be accompanied by the sponsor while hunting. Applications are available from FWP's website and will be processed at the FWP headquarters in Helena. For further details and an application, contact Licensing at 406-444-2950.

**Pass it on.**

Share your passion for hunting by becoming a Montana hunter or bowhunter education instructor. It's a great way to give back and be part of the community of volunteer instructors.

Contact your nearest FWP office for more information on how to become an instructor or contact program coordinator Wayne Cooperider at (406) 444-9947 or wacooperider@mt.gov

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Be safe and enjoy your hunting season!

### Hunters with a Disability

- Certification for "special considerations" are lifetime certifications and do not need to be renewed annually.
- For applications, detailed eligibility requirements, and information on licenses and permits for hunters with disabilities contact any FWP office or on the FWP website. See addresses and phone numbers on page 119.

### Resident With a Disability Conservation License

- Residents certified as permanently and substantially disabled, as defined by FWP rules, may purchase a conservation license for \$8 which includes fishing, upland game bird (excluding turkey), state waterfowl license, and state lands recreational use license for hunting, fishing and trapping purposes.
- The license holder may also purchase a general deer and general elk license at a discounted price. Applications for a Resident With a Disability Conservation License are available at all FWP offices and on the FWP website.
- The certification is valid for the life of the holder or until changed by the Montana Legislature.

**Permit To Hunt From a Vehicle (PTHFV)**

- Residents and nonresidents certified as permanently and substantially non-ambulatory, as defined by FWP rules, may apply for a PTHFV.
- Specific PTHFV field regulations apply. A copy of these regulations will be provided at the time of certification. Noncompliance may result in loss of this privilege.

**Permit To Modify Archery Equipment (PTMAE)**

- Residents and nonresidents certified as permanently and substantially disabled, as defined by FWP rules, may apply for a PTMAE. The PTMAE allows a person with a disability to use archery tackle that supports the bow, and draws, holds, and releases the string to accommodate the individual disability.
- Arrows are not exempt, and must meet requirements for the Archery Only Season.
- This permit does not entitle the holder to use a crossbow during the Archery Only Season.
- The permit only allows modification of legal archery tackle and must be used with a valid bow and arrow license and appropriate hunting license.

**Certain Combat Disabled Veterans**

- A veteran with certain combat-connected injuries may be entitled to half-priced licenses for deer and antelope. Up to 50 licenses will be issued annually. Contact FWP License Bureau for details at 406-444-2663.

**Free license for terminally ill youth**

- Montana law allows terminally ill resident or nonresident youth under 17 years of age to receive a free one-time deer and elk license.
- The youth must be accompanied by a licensed outfitter or an adult who has a license to hunt in Montana.
- Minimum age and hunter education requirements may be waived for this license. For information call the License Section at 406-444-2950.

**B Licenses and/or Permits for Hunters with a Disability**

- Applicants must apply on FWP-provided forms available at FWP offices or FWP website. For more information contact FWP at 406-444-2950.
- Deer:**
  - Deer permit 630-20 (HD 630).
    - Applicants must be a Resident with a Disability Conservation License and apply on or before **March 15**
- Elk:**
  - Elk B license 121-81 (HD 121).
    - Applicants must have a Permit to Hunt From a Vehicle, valid conservation and elk licenses and apply on or before **June 1**.

**Antelope:**

- Individuals who are permanently, physically disabled and nonambulatory as defined in ARM 12.3.106, may apply for an antelope license. A total of 25 antelope licenses are issued through the June 1 drawing. These licenses are offered in those antelope hunting districts which have a total quota of 50 or more antelope licenses. Applicants must apply on FWP-provided forms available at all FWP offices. Applications must be postmarked on or before **June 1**.

**Visually Challenged Individuals**

A copy of the big game regulations is available in an alternative format upon request. Call 406-444-2535 for details.

**General Information****Block Management**

The Block Management Program is a public hunting access program in which FWP enters into contractual agreements with private landowners (and sometimes public land management agencies) about how free public hunting access will be permitted and managed on enrolled lands. Through the contractual agreement, private landowners agree to allow public hunting on enrolled lands under specified conditions, and FWP agrees to assist the landowner by enforcing the ranch rules adopted through the Block Management contract. Each FWP region annually publishes a regional Hunting Access Guide by August 15th that lists the Block Management Areas (BMAs) enrolled for that year and explains how to gain access to them. For general information about the program, contact FWP at (406) 444-2602.

**Brucellosis Test Kits**

- FWP's cooperative effort among hunters, landowners and outfitters to track brucellosis in elk in some southwestern Montana hunting districts will continue.
- Blood sampling kits and instructions are available at local trailheads, U.S. Forest Service offices, sporting goods stores, the Cameron hunter check station, and FWP Region 3 Headquarters at 1400 S. 19th Avenue in Bozeman.

**Common Sense Precautions When Field-Dressing Big Game**

- To minimize risk of disease or parasite transmission to humans, follow these proper ways to handle wild meat:
  - Wear rubber (latex) gloves when field dressing game.
  - Minimize contact with animal fluids, brain and spinal tissues.
  - Wash hands and instruments thoroughly after field dressing or processing.
- Cook all meat until well done before consuming.
- To minimize risk of disease or parasite transmission to your domestic dog, prevent consumption of big game viscera.

**Harvest Survey**

Montana FWP conducts an annual telephone survey to gather hunting and harvest information from Montana hunters. Telephone interviewers call mid-week evenings and weekends to speak to hunters one-on-one to get the most accurate information possible. Wildlife managers use the results to evaluate hunting seasons and set quotas, season dates and other regulations.

**Marked or Radio-Collared Animals**

It is legal to shoot big game animals that have radio collars, neck bands, ear tags and/or other markers, but markers and radio collars must be returned to FWP. Please report the killing of a marked animal to the local FWP Office.

**Tapeworm: Protect your Pets**

Domestic dogs can pick up a parasite (*Echinococcus granulosus*) by eating carcasses or organs from infected deer, elk or moose. The domestic dog can then pass it to humans in its feces. If your dog does have access to carcasses, talk to your veterinarian about an appropriate deworming strategy.

**Weed Control and Weed-Free Hay**

Montana requires use of certified weed-free hay, grain, straw, mulch, cubes, and pelletized feed on federal lands.

If you or someone you know has a disability and/or is aging, and is in need of assistive technology (AT) or adaptive equipment to help you participate in outdoor recreation, please contact:



MonTech at the University of Montana Rural Institute  
700 SW Higgins Ave – Ste 250  
Missoula MT 59803  
877-243-5511.  
<http://montech.ruralinstitute.umd.edu/>