



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Wildlife Bureau
PO Box 200701
Helena MT 59620-0701
June 15, 2012

Dear Interested Person:

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks is requesting public comment on proposed 2012 Deer Quotas Outside the Biennial Quota Ranges, 2012 Antelope Quotas Outside the Biennial Quota Ranges, 2012 Bison Quotas and 2012-2013 Furbearer Seasons and 2012 Furbearer Quotas. Additional information is below. For review and comparison, hunting regulations may be found on the Hunting home page at the fwp.mt.gov website.

2012 Deer Quotas Outside the Biennial Quota Ranges – Proposed

Below are proposed changes for 2012 deer quotas that are outside biennial quota ranges. All other deer quotas are proposed to be unchanged from the 2012 regulation booklet or adjusted within current biennial quota ranges.

MULE DEER

797-00: Decrease B licenses from 500 to 100

WHITE-TAILED DEER

311-00: Increase B licenses from 50 to 100

2012 Antelope Quotas Outside the Biennial Quota Ranges – Proposed

Below are proposed changes for 2012 antelope quotas that are outside biennial quota ranges. All other antelope quotas are proposed to be unchanged from the 2012 regulation booklet or adjusted within current biennial quota ranges.

700-00: Decrease Either Sex licenses from 6,500 to 3,000

700-10: Decrease Dow/Fawn licenses from 500 to 100

2012 Bison Quotas – Proposed

No changes are proposed from 2011 bison quotas.

2012-13 Furbearer Seasons and 2012 Quotas – Proposed

Furbearer season structure is defined by FWP Commission rule every two years. Furbearer quotas are set annually. Proposed season structure for 2012 and 2013 and annual quotas for 2012 are included below. All other season elements and quotas are proposed unchanged from 2011.

- Close furbearer trapping in the Bass Creek Special Recreation Area in Region 2.
- Clarify language regarding snares under **Public Land Trailheads**. Clarify language to prohibit snares within 1000 feet of public land trailheads.
- Replace otter carcass collection with skull collection only. Otter skulls will continue to be collected to provide teeth for aging used in population analysis.

- Remove the **Special Marten Regulation** intended to minimize incidental take of lynx. Retain the special regulation restricting the use of larger body grip traps in the fisher and wolverine regulations. Smaller marten sets do not represent potential for incidental take of lynx.
- Modify bobcat quotas in Regions 2 and 6: Region 2 increase from 100 to 180; Region 6 decrease from 125 to 90.

COMMENT PERIOD DEADLINES AND FINAL ADOPTION MEETINGS

The deadline for public comment on the proposed 2012 Deer Quotas Outside the Biennial Quota Ranges and 2012 Antelope Quotas Outside the Biennial Quota Ranges is 5:00 PM Monday, July 9, 2012. Final adoption on these items will be made at the July 12, 2012 FWP Commission meeting.

The deadline for public comment on the proposed 2012 Bison Quotas and 2012-2013 Furbearer Seasons and 2012 Furbearer Quotas is 5:00 PM Monday, July 9, 2012. Final adoption on these items will be made at the August 2, 2012 FWP Commission meeting.

TO MAKE COMMENT

For further clarification, you may call the Wildlife Bureau office at 406-444-2612. To submit comments electronically, this letter with the imbedded links below can be found under “Opportunity for Public Comment” on the Hunting home page at the fwp.mt.gov website. Written comments can be sent to: FWP – Wildlife Bureau, Attn: Public Comment, POB 200701, Helena MT 59620-0701. **Please note comment deadline.**

Imbedded Links to Submit Public Comment

2012 Deer Quotas Outside the Biennial Quota Ranges – Proposed

(The deadline for public comment on this item is 5:00 PM Monday, July 9, 2012.)

<http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/publicComments/2012proposedDeerAntelopeQuotaRange.html>

2012 Antelope Quotas Outside the Biennial Quota Ranges – Proposed *(The deadline for public comment on this item is 5:00 PM Monday, July 9, 2012.)*

<http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/publicComments/2012proposedDeerAntelopeQuotaRange.html>

2012 Bison Quotas – Proposed *(The deadline for public comment on this item is 5:00 PM Monday, July 9, 2012.)*

<http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/publicComments/2012proposedBisonQuotas.html>

2012-13 Furbearer Seasons and 2012 Quotas – Proposed *(The deadline for public comment on this item is 5:00 PM Monday, July 9, 2012.)*

<http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/publicComments/2012proposedFurbearerSeasonsQuotas.html>