
Regulations for season dates, structures, and restrictions were adopted by the F&W Commission on February 13, 2019, under the authority granted in MCA 87-1-301 and are valid March 1, 2019 through February 29, 2020. The F&W Commission reserves the authority to amend the seasons, limits and regulations herein if deed necessary for wildlife management purposes. Statutes and other information, including other agencies’ restrictions, are provided as a courtesy and do not fall under commission authority. Martha Williams, Director.

Discrimination Prohibited – State and Federal laws, Title VI of Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, or disability. Anyone believing he or she has been discriminated against (as described above) in any FWP program, activity, or facility may write to FWP Human Resources, 1420 East Sixth Avenue, PO Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701 or the office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Discrimination Prohibited – State and Federal laws, Title VI of Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, or disability. Anyone believing he or she has been discriminated against (as described above) in any FWP program, activity, or facility may write to FWP Human Resources, 1420 East Sixth Avenue, PO Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701 or the office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Updates & Reminders

• See license chart for Black Bear License purchase stipulations.

• 48 hour reporting requirement for black bear hunting in Bear Management Units (BMUs) 510, 520 & 700.

• Laws and Regulations are on pages 11-14.

Youth Hunter:

• An Apprentice Hunter is a resident or nonresident, 10 years of age or older, certified at an FWP office. This allows the apprentice to hunt some species, while accompanied by a mentor, without first completing a hunter education course. The Apprentice Hunter may not purchase a mountain lion, black bear or wolf license or apply for a bighorn sheep license or a hunting license or permit with a limited quota. The Apprentice Hunter may not purchase an elk license if he/she is under 15 years of age. Other restrictions apply. See our website for details at: fwp.mt.gov/hunting/licenses/all/apprenticeHunter/default.html

• A resident or nonresident youth 12 years of age or older may hunt any game species for which their license is valid. Those who will reach 12 years of age by January 16, 2020 may hunt any game species, for which their license is valid, after August 15 of the 2019 license year. Proof of hunter education must be presented at the time of purchase.

License Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>License</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Stipulations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Base Hunting</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>Required prerequisite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation</td>
<td>$8</td>
<td>$10 Required prerequisite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Bear</td>
<td>$19</td>
<td>Spring and Fall License Purchase Restrictions:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$350</td>
<td>• Spring Season: A Black Bear License purchased after April 14 may not be used until 24 hours after the license is issued.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Fall Season: A Black Bear License purchased after August 31 may not be used until 24 hours after the license is issued.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bow and Arrow (Archery)</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>A Bow and Arrow License, plus the proper hunting license is required during black bear Archery Only Season or to archery hunt black bear in an Arch-Equip only area or hunting district.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Bear Identification Test Certificate Required</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>A hunter must take and pass a &quot;black bear identification test&quot; before purchasing a black bear hunting license. A hunter must present a certificate of completion issued by FWP at the time of purchase. The test is available online at: fwp.mt.gov/education/hunter/bearID/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Licensing – General

• A hunter may purchase only one Black Bear License per year. A Black Bear License purchased after April 14 for the spring season or after August 31 for the fall season may not be used until 24 hours after the license is issued.

• The licenses listed in the license chart are available at FWP offices, the FWP website at fwp.mt.gov, and FWP license providers.

• Replacements of lost, stolen or destroyed licenses 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 third replacement requires warden approval. 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 license.
  – 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.

• Montana is a member of the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact. Under the compact, member states recognize suspensions of hunting, fishing or trapping privileges. It is unlawful 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.

Hunter Education for Firearm and Archery

• 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 education 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.

• Montana law requires members of the armed forces and their dependents stationed in Montana to present a Montana hunter education certificate or similar certificate from any state or province when purchasing any Montana hunting license.

• Duplicates – Montana certificates of completion for the Montana hunter education and archery hunter education courses may be obtained from FWP’s website at fwp.mt.gov/education/hunter.

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.

State School Trust Lands Recreational Use License

• The Conservation License allows hunters, anglers and trappers access to all lawfully accessible State School Trust lands (contact DNRC at 406-444-2074).

Licensing – Residency

It is unlawful 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.

Armed Forces

• A member of the regular armed forces of the United States, a member’s spouse or dependent who resides in the member’s 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 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 education course from any state or province.

Nonresident

• Nonresident unmarried minors are considered a resident for purpose of obtaining hunting and fishing licenses if the minor’s parents, legal guardian, or parent with joint custody, sole custody, or visitation rights is a legal resident of Montana.
Resident
• To be a legal Montana resident and eligible to purchase any Montana resident fishing, hunting, and trapping license, 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.
• 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.
• 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.
  – imprisonment in the state prison for a term of five years.

Montana is Bear Country

Be Bear Aware!
Black bear hunters must be able to tell the difference between a grizzly and a black bear because grizzly bears cannot be legally hunted in Montana.

• Learn how to identify bears.
• Be absolutely sure of your target.
• If in doubt, don’t shoot.

Look for a combination of characteristics

Black bear

GRIZZLY BEAR

– Tall pointed ears
– No shoulder hump
– Straight face profile
– Short claws

BLACK BEAR

– Short rounded ears
– Shoulder hump
– Dished face profile
– Long claws


Carry Bear Spray and Know How To Use It!

– Hunting puts you at risk of encountering a bear. Calling game and using scents may attract bears.
– If you hunt alone, let someone know about your plans. If you feel uneasy hunting alone, hunt with a partner.
– Bears are opportunists and change their behavior to take advantage of new food sources. Always assume that grizzlies are in the area and make sure your camps, cabins, and homes are bear proof, and that bear attractants are unavailable or contained.
– Mentally rehearse a worst-case scenario with encountering a bear. “If the mind has never been there before, the body does not know how to respond.” The following is a list of recommended responses to minimize the likelihood of attack or chances of human injury:

  – Make certain you have bear spray at the ready and know how to use it. In sudden grizzly encounters, bear spray has proven effective. Bears sprayed in the face at close range often stop attacking.

  – Always maintain a safe distance from bears.
  – Report encounters with Grizzly Bears to FWP at 1-800-TIP-MONT, U.S. Forest Service, or one of the nearest FWP bear management specialists listed below:
    – Kevin Frey, Bozeman, MT 406-994-3553
    – Kylie Kembel, Red Lodge, MT 406-850-1131
    – Mike Madel, Choteau, MT 406-466-5100
    – Wesley Sarmento, Conrad, MT 406-450-1097
    – Tim Manley, Kalispell, MT 406-250-1265
    – Kim Annis, Libby, MT 406-293-4161 x207
    – James Jonkel, Missoula, MT 406-542-5508
  – In an actual emergency, phone 9-1-1. Seeing a grizzly is not necessarily a reportable encounter or an emergency. Report encounters where the bear displayed aggressive or defensive behavior toward people, livestock or pets.

General Distribution of Bears in Montana

See pages 8-9 for a map of the Black Bear Management units (BMUs).

Black Bear Management Unit Map

Hunter with a Disability

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
29 McGill Hall, U of M | Missoula, MT 59803
(406) 243-5751 | montech.ruralinstitute.umt.edu/
Black Bear Specific Regulations

- It is unlawful to harvest/take black bear cubs. Cubs are defined as bears less than one year old.
- It is unlawful to harvest/take a female black bear with cubs.
- It is unlawful to bait bears or to hunt bears with dogs. No scents may be used to attract black bears.
- It is unlawful to hunt or attempt to hunt by the aid of or with the use of any bait, salt lick, trap, snare or set gun.
- See pages 11-14 for additional hunting rules and regulations.

Mandatory Reporting Requirements

Within ten (10) days of harvesting a black bear the successful hunter must present to a Montana FWP official the complete bear hide and skull for the purpose of inspection, tagging and possible removal of a tooth (for aging). The hide and skull must be presented in a condition that allows full inspection and tooth collection (i.e. unfrozen). On the reporting date, successful hunters are required to provide FWP personnel with hunter’s name, telephone number, ALS number, Bear Management Unit (BMU) and County. The FWP hide tag affixed during inspection must thereafter remain attached to the hide until tanned.

Harvest Reporting ................. 1-877-FWP-WILD or 1-877-397-9453
OR 406-444-0356 OR through the MyFWP portal at fwp.mt.gov
Quota Status/Closure...............800-385-7826 or 406-444-1989
OR on the FWP website.................. fwp.mt.gov

The toll-free line and FWP website are updated daily by 1 p.m. MST.
NOTE: There is a mandatory 48 hour reporting requirement for black bear hunting in Bear Management Units (BMUs) 510, 520 and 700. When the quota is reached or approached in each of these districts, the black bear season in that district will close. For Quota Status call 1-800-385-7826 or (406) 444-1989.

Black Bear Archery Only Season

- Archery Only Season – September 7 - September 14, 2019
- In Bear Management Units (BMUs) with a quota, black bear harvest during the Archery Only Season may not exceed 20 percent of the BMU’s total quota OR one black bear in those BMUs with a total harvest of less than five black bears.

Black Bear Management Unit Regulations

--- BMU 106 Mission-Swan-Flathead Ranges ---
Check Restricted Area Descriptions (p 6): BNSF right-of-way from Marías Pass to the Java Creek Bridge is closed
- Apr 15 - May 31 - Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sep 07 - Sep 14 - Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sep 15 - Dec 1 - Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 107 Bob Marshall Wilderness ---
- Apr 15 - May 31 - Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sep 07 - Sep 14 - Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sep 15 - Dec 1 - Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 108 Lower Clark Fork ---
- Apr 15 - May 31 - Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sep 07 - Sep 14 - Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sep 15 - Dec 1 - Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 200 Middle Clark Fork ---
- Apr 15 - Jun 15 - Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sep 07 - Sep 14 - Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sep 15 - Dec 1 - Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 216 Sapphire-Flint Creek ---
Check Restricted Area Descriptions (p 6): Grant Kohrs Ranch near Deer Lodge is closed to all hunting; Lee Metcalf Refuge Legal description, map, and regulations available from the Lee Metcalf Refuge, 406-777-5552
- Apr 15 - Jun 15 - Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sep 07 - Sep 14 - Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sep 15 - Dec 1 - Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 240 West Bitterroot ---
- Apr 15 - Jun 15 - Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sep 07 - Sep 14 - Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sep 15 - Dec 1 - Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 280 Upper Blackfoot ---
- Apr 15 - Jun 15 - Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sep 07 - Sep 14 - Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sep 15 - Dec 1 - Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 290 Lower Blackfoot-Garnet Range ---
Check Restricted Area Descriptions (p 6): Seeley Lake Game Preserve is closed to all hunting; East Ovando Archery-only Area
- Apr 15 - Jun 15 - Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sep 07 - Sep 14 - Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sep 15 - Dec 1 - Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 300 Helena-North ---
Check Restricted Area Descriptions (p 6): Helena Valley Weapons Restriction Area
- Apr 15 - May 31 - Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sep 07 - Sep 14 - Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sep 15 - Dec 1 - Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 301 Helena-South ---
Check Restricted Area Descriptions (p 6): Townsend Weapons Restriction Area
- Apr 15 - May 31 - Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sep 07 - Sep 14 - Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sep 15 - Dec 1 - Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 309 Gallatin Valley Weapons Restriction Area ---
Black bear hunting is restricted to ArchEquip, shotgun, traditional handgun, muzzleloader, or crossbow only. EXCEPT on some private lands which are excluded from the weapons restrictions. Map available from FWP Region 3, Bozeman Office 406-994-4042, or on the web at: fwp.mt.gov/hunting/planahunt/default.html.
- Apr 15 - Jun 15 - Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sep 07 - Dec 1 - Either-sex Black Bear.

--- BMU 316 Big Hole ---
Check Restricted Area Descriptions (p 6): Poinsette Slough FWS south of Dillon, restricted to ArchEquip, shotgun, traditional handgun, muzzleloader or crossbow only.
- Apr 15 - Jun 15 - Either-sex Black Bear.
- Sep 07 - Sep 14 - Either-sex Black Bear. Archery Only Season.
- Sep 15 - Dec 1 - Either-sex Black Bear.

Turn In Poachers. Enough is Enough! Make the call: 1-800-TIP-MONT (1-800-847-6668)
Any person harvesting a Black Bear in this BMU must personally call the Harvest Reporting Line at 1-877-FWP-WILD (397-9453) or (406) 444-0356 within 48 hours of the kill.

When the quota is reached or approached, the black bear season in this district will close upon 48 hours notice. For Quota Status call 1-800-385-7826 or (406) 444-1989.

- Sep 07 - Sep 14 - Either-sex Black Bear. Archery only quota not more than 20% of Fall harvest subquota. Archery Only Season.
- Sep 15 - Dec 1 - Either-sex Black Bear. Harvest quota = 8.

**Restricted Areas**

**Weapons Restrictions**

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:

- **Archery**: See legal archery equipment in the “Lawful Methods for Hunting Game Animals” section on page 11.

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

- **Muzzleloader**: Must not be capable of being shouldered; must have a barrel length of less than 10 ½ inches; and must chamber only a straight wall cartridge, not originally developed for rifles.

- **Shotgun**: Must be a shouldered, breech-loaded or muzzle-loaded firearm with a smooth bore and/or rifled barrel and/or rifled choke designed to fire shot or slugs.

**Restricted Area Descriptions**

Restricted area descriptions include closed and/or weapons restricted areas. It is your responsibility to know that you are in a legal hunting area.

**BMU 309 Gallatin Valley Weapons Restriction Area**: Black bear hunting is restricted to ArchEqp, shotgun, traditional handgun, muzzleloader, or crossbow only, EXCEPT the Sourdough Exclusion Zone of BMU 309 which is excluded from these weapons restrictions. See BMU Legal description on page 10. Map available from FWP Region 3, Bozeman Office 406-994-4042, or on the web at fwp.mt.gov/hunting/planahunt/default.html.

**BNSF right-of-way from Marias Pass to the Java Creek Bridge**: The BNSF right-of-way from Marias Pass to the Java Creek Bridge is closed to hunting.

**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**: 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 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 Restricted Area**: Area is restricted to archery, shotgun, crossbows, and muzzleloaders.
Helena Valley Weapons Restriction Area: 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 Scobey Road, then northerly and westerly along said boundary to the eastern boundary of the Sun River, then northerly on said boundary to the continental divide of the Rocky Mountains, then easterly on said boundary to the intersection of the continental divide of the Rocky Mountains with the east bank of the North Fork of the Sun River, then northerly along said boundary to the eastern boundary of the Sun River Game Preserve to its head or source, then southeasterly to the crest of the Continental Divide of the Rocky Mountains, then along said crest southwesterly and southerly to 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.

Yellowstone River Islands: Restricted to ArchEquip Only. Islands in the Yellowstone River between the East Park Street Bridge at Livingston and one mile downstream of US Highway 89 Bridge.
100 Purcell Mountains: That portion of Lincoln County lying within the following described boundary: Beginning where the Kootenai River meets the Idaho border, then northerly along said border to the Canadian border, then easterly along said border to the east shore of Lake Kooconansu, then southerly along said shore to Libby Dam and the east shore of the Kootenai River, then southerly and westerly along said shore of the Kootenai River to the Idaho border, the point of beginning.

102 North Salish Mountains: Those portions of Flathead and Flathead Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning where the east shore of Lake Kooconansu meets the Canadian border, then southerly along said road to USFS Road 36 (Wolf Creek Road), then easterly along said road to USFS Road 316 (Fishtrap Road), then northerly along said road to USFS Road 4422 (Elk Creek Road), then northerly along said road to USFS Road 543 (Little Bitterroot Lake Road), then southerly along said road to the Thompson River, then southerly along said road to USFS Road 113 (Brush Creek Divide Road), then easterly along said road to the divide between Brush Creek and Sheppard Creek, then southerly along said divide through Tepee Mt., Sanders Mtn., Grubb Mtn., and将继续沿着河流到Lake Koocanusa, then northerly along said road to USFS Road 516 (Fishtrap Road), then northerly along said road to USFS Road 4422 (Elk Creek Road), then northerly along said road to US Highway 2, then northerly along said highway to Highway 37 at Libby, then north on said highway to the Kootenai River, the point of beginning.

106 Mission-Swan-Flathead Ranges: Those portions of Lake, Flathead and Missoula Counties lying with the following described boundary: Beginning at Somers Rest Area and US Highway 93 on the northwest shore of Flathead Lake, then northerly along said highway to its junction with US Highway 93, then westerly along said highway to Flathead Lake, the point of beginning.

107 Bob Marshall Wilderness: Those portions of Flathead, Lewis and Clark, Missoula and Powell Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning on the Continental Divide at Big Lodge Mt. and USFS Trail 179 (Lodgepole Creek Trail), then down said trail to USFS Trail 154 (Morrison Creek Trail), then south on said trail to USFS Trail 155, then northerly along said trail to USFS Trail 81 (Miner Creek Trail), then southerly on said trail to USFS Trail 43 near Whitcomb Peak, then southeasterly on said trail to USFS Trail 83, then easterly along said trail to USFS Trail 89 (Silvertip Creek Trail), then southerly along said trail to USFS Trail 338, then northerly along said trail to the Swan Divide to the Clearwater-Swan Divide (Lolo National Forest boundary) at Wolverine Peak, then northeasterly along said border to the Flathead-Swan Divide Reservation boundary, then northerly along said boundary to the east shore of Flathead Lake, then north and west along said shore to Somers Rest Area and US Highway 93, the point of beginning.

108 Lower Clark Fork: That portion of Sanders County lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of State Route 200 and the Flathead Indian Reservation boundary (Section 6, R24W, T18N, 2-1/4), then southerly along said boundary to the Sanders County line, then westerly along said line to the Clark Fork Divide, then westerly along said divide to USFS Trail 242, then northerly along said trail to the Cascade Campground along the Clark Fork River, then northerly along said river to USFS Road 1714, then northerly along said road to USFS Road 7592, then north and westerly along said road to USFS Trail 404, then westerly along said trail through Combest Peak to the Sanders-Mineral County line, then westerly along said line to the Idaho border, then continuing northerly along said border to State Route 83, then southeasterly along said route to the Flathead Indian Reservation boundary, the point of beginning.

200 Middle Clark Fork: Those portions of Mineral and Missoula Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at Lolo and the junction of US Highway 93 and State Route 12, then westerly along US Highway 12 to Lolo Pass and the Montana-Idaho border, then northerly along said border, crossing Interstate 90 at Lookout Pass and continuing along said border to the Mineral-Sanders County line, then in an easterly direction along said county line (C-C Divide) to USFS Trail 404 near Combest Peak, then easterly on said trail to the Miller Creek Loop USFS Road 7592, then easterly along said road to its junction with USFS Trail 1714, then southerly along said trail to Cascade Campground along the Clark Fork River, then south across said river along USFS Trail 242 to USFS Road 97, then easterly on said road to Ninemile-Siegel Creek Divide (Siegeltown), then easterly along said road to USFS Trail 43 near Whitcomb Peak, then southeasterly on said trail to USFS Trail 83, then easterly along said trail to USFS Trail 89 (Silvertip Creek Trail), then southerly along said trail to USFS Trail 338, then northerly along said trail to the Swan Divide to the Clearwater-Swan Divide (Lolo National Forest boundary) at Wolverine Peak, then northeasterly along said border to the Flathead-Swan Divide Reservation boundary, then northerly along said boundary to the east shore of Flathead Lake, then north and west along said shore to Somers Rest Area and US Highway 93, the point of beginning.

216 Sapphire-Flint Creek: Those portions of Missoula, Ravalli, Grant and Missoula Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at Lolo, then north along US Highway 93 to its intersection with Blue Mountain Road, then northerly along said road to Big Flat Road, then easterly along said road to Harper’s Bridge across the Clark Fork River, then northerly down the west bank of said river to the first Interstate 90 bridge west of the Ninemile Interchange, then southerly along Interstate 90 to its intersection with State Route 1 east of Anaconda, then west along said route to its junction with State Route 274 (Mill Creek Road), then in a southeasterly direction along said route to the Continental Divide, then southerly along said divide to the Montana-Idaho border, then westerly along said border to US Highway 93 at Lost Trail Pass, then north along said highway to Lolo, the point of beginning.

240 West Bitterroot: Those portions of Missoula and Ravalli Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning on US Highway 93 to the Montana-Idaho border at Lost Trail Pass, then in a southerly and northerly direction along said border to the Montana-Idaho border to US Highway 93, then westerly along said border to US Highway 93 at Lost Trail Pass, then north along said highway to Lolo, the point of beginning.

280 Upper Blackfoot: Those portions of Missoula, Powell, and Lewis and Clark Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of State Route 85 and State Route 200 (Clearwater Junction), then in an easterly direction along State Route 200 to its junction at State Route 141, then northeast along said route to its junction at US Highway 12, then east along US Highway 12 to the Continental Divide at MacDonald Pass, then north along the Continental Divide to Harpers Bridge, then northwest along said divide to Divide Peak and the Flathead-Blackfoot Divide, then westerly and northerly along said divide to Wolverine Peak and the Swan-Clearwater River Divide, then southeasterly along said divide to USFS Trail 80, then south along said route to its junction with State Route 200 (Clearwater Junction), the point of beginning.

290 Lower Blackfoot-Garnet Range: Those portions of Missoula, Granite and Powell Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at Missoula, then northerly along said road to US Highway 12, then north along said highway to the Flathead Indian Reservation boundary near Evora, then east and north along said boundary to the Swan-Clearwater River Divide and USFS Trail 308, then northeasterly along said trail and divide to State Route 83, then south along said route to its junction with...
Turn In Poachers. Enough is Enough! Make the call: 1-800-TIP-MONT (1-800-847-6668)
Grizzly bears may be found in areas outside of this general distribution area.
**300 Helena-North**: Those portions of Lewis and Clark, Powell and Broadwater Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of US Highway 12 at Interstate 15 east of Helena, then easterly along said highway to its junction with Interstate 90 at Garrison, then southeasterly along said highway to its junction with Interstate 200, then northerly along said highway to Route 200, then easterly along said highway to the Continental Divide at Rogers Pass, then south along the Continental Divide to US Highway 12 at McDonald Pass, then easterly along said highway to Interstate 15 east of Helena, the point of beginning.

**301 Helena-South**: Those portions of Lewis and Clark, Jefferson, Silver Bow, Powell and Broadwater Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of US Highway 12 and Interstate 15 east of Helena, then easterly along US Highway 12 to State Route 284 (Canyon Ferry Road), then northeast along said road to Canyon Ferry Dam and the Missouri River, then north along the Missouri River (west shore of Hauser and Holter Lakes) to Interstate 15, then south along said interstate to US Highway 287, then northerly along said highway to State Route 200, then southeasterly along said road to the Continental Divide at Rogers Pass, then south along the Continental Divide to US Highway 12 at MacDonald Pass, then easterly along said highway to Interstate 15 east of Helena, the point of beginning.

**309 Gallatin Valley Weapons Restraint Area**: That portion of Gallatin county beginning at the intersection of Cottonwood Road and Enders Road, continuing southeast from that intersection along Cottonwood Road, north to South 19th, then east on South 19th to Nash Road, then east on Nash Road to South Sourdough Canyon Road, then south on Sourdough Canyon Road, to the national forest boundary, then east along said boundary to boundary of State Lands Sections 4, 3, 34, 35 and 1 to Bear Canyon Road, then northerly along Bear Creek Road to 8th Avenue Interchange with Interstate 90, then northerly to Rocky Creek, northwesterly along Rocky Creek to L Street, then north on L Street to Story Mill Road, then north on Story Mill Road to Deer Creek Drive, northeasterly along Deer Creek Drive to Lookfar Way, northeasterly on Lookfar Way to Rolling Hills Drive, north on Rolling Hills Drive to Sypes Canyon Road, northwestedly on Sypes Canyon Road to Summer Cuttoff Road, then Saddle Mountain Road, then east on Saddle Mountain Road to Bostwick Road, then north along Bostwick Road to Baseline East Road, then west on Baseline East Road to Walker Road, then north on Walker Road to Penwell Bridge Road, then west on Penwell Bridge Road to WS Davis Road to Hamilton Road, then west and south on Hamilton Road to its intersection with Weaver Road at Highway 290, then west on Weaver Road to Highway 10, then northerly on Highway 10 to Heeb Road, then south and southwesterly on Amsterdam Road, east on Amsterdam Road, to Linney Road, south on Linney Road to Cameron Bridge Road, then east on Cameron Bridge Road to River Road, then south on River Road to Highway 287 (Canyon Ferry Road), then north along said road to Sypes Canyon Road, then south up west most channel of the Gallatin River to Gallatin Gateway Bridge, then east on Gallatin Gateway Road to US Highway 191, then south on US Highway 191 to Cottonwood Road, to point of beginning.

**316 Big Hole**: Those portions of Silver Bow, Bearhead, and Madison Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at Dillon, then southerly on Interstate 15 to its junction with State Route 324 at Clark Canyon Dam, then westerly along said route to its junction with Medicine Lodge-Big Sheep Road, then southerly along said road to the Nicholla Deadman Road (Forest Development Road D567), then northerly along said road to the Continental Divide, to the Montana-Idaho border at Medicine Lodge Pass (Old Bannock Pass), then southerly and northeasterly along said border and the Continental Divide, to the Bridge near Three Forks, then northerly and westerly along said road to the Montana-Idaho border, follow the Continental Divide northerly and northeasterly as it follows the Beaverhead and Deer Lodge County line, then continue along the Continental Divide-W. Evans and Grassy Mtn. to its intersection with Route 274, then northerly along said road to Route 101, then easterly along said route to Interstate 90, then easterly along said interstate to Interstate 15, then southerly on said interstate to Dillon.

**317 Ruby-Centennial**: Those portions of Silver Bow, Beaverhead, Madison and Jefferson Counties lying within the following boundary: Beginning at the junction of Interstate 90 and Interstate 15 near Rocker (west of Butte), then southerly along said interstate to its junction with State Route 324 at Clark Canyon Dam, then westerly along said route to the Medicine Lodge-Big Sheep Road, then southerly along said road to its junction with the Nicholla-Deadman Road (Forest Development Road D567 and D565), then southerly along said road to the Montana-Idaho border at Medicine Lodge Pass (Old Bannock Pass), then northeasterly along said border to its junction with Route 87 at Reynolds Pass, then northerly along said route to Interstate 90, then westerly along said interstate to its intersection with US Highway 287, then northerly along said highway to its junction with Interstate 90 near Three Forks, then westerly along said interstate to its junction with Interstate 15, the point of beginning.

**319 Bridger Mountains**: Those portions of Gallatin, Madison, Park, Carbon and Sweetgrass Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the intersection of Interstate 90 and the Jefferson River, by Three Forks, then northerly down the Jefferson River to the headwaters of the Missouri River, then northerly down said river to Sixteen Mile Creek, then easterly along Sixteen Mile Creek to its junction with the Dry Creek and Ringling-Maudlow Road at Maudlow, then easterly and northerly along the Ringling-Maudlow Road to Ringling, then southerly and northerly along the Interstate 90-Maudlow Road to the Bear Canyon Interchange with Interstate 90, then northerly along Interstate 90, then westerly along said interstate to the Bear Canyon Interchange with Interstate 90, then northerly to Rocky Creek, northwesterly along Rocky Creek to L Street, then north on L Street to Story Mill Road, then north on Story Mill Road to Deer Creek Drive, northeast on Deer Creek Drive to Lookfar Way, north on Lookfar Way to Rolling Hills Drive, north on Rolling Hills Drive to Sypes Canyon Road, northwestedly on Sypes Canyon Road to Summer Cuttoff Road, then Saddle Mountain Road, then east on Saddle Mountain Road to Bostwick Road, then north along Bostwick Road to Baseline East Road, then west on Baseline East Road to Walker Road, then north on Walker Road to Penwell Bridge Road, then west on Penwell Bridge Road to WS Davis Road to Hamilton Road, then west and south on Hamilton Road to its intersection with Weaver Road at Highway 290, then west on Weaver Road to Highway 10, then northerly on Highway 10 to Heeb Road, then south and southwesterly on Amsterdam Road, east on Amsterdam Road, to Linney Road, south on Linney Road to Cameron Bridge Road, then east on Cameron Bridge Road to River Road, then south on River Road to Highway 287 (Canyon Ferry Road), then north along said road to Millers Bridge, then south up west most channel of the Gallatin River to Gallatin Gateway Bridge, then east on Gallatin Gateway Road to US Highway 191, then south on US Highway 191 to Cottonwood Road, to point of beginning.

**341 Madison- mnistowne-Gallatin**: Those portions of Gallatin, Madison, Park, Carbon and Sweetgrass Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of the Montana-Wyoming border and the Custer-Gallatin National Forest boundary, southeast of Albin Lake, then northerly and westerly along said boundary to the Stillwater County Line, then west along said line to the Custer-Gallatin National Forest boundary near Timberline Mountains, then northerly along said boundary to the Slough Creek-Boulder River Divide, near Columbine Pass, then southeasterly along the Boulder River-Slough Creek Divide and northeasterly along the Boulder River-Buffalo Fork Divide and the Boulder River Divide to the Hellroaring-Mill Creek Divide, near Crow Mountain, then northerly along the Mill Creek-Boulder River Divide to Mt. Coven, then northerly along the Yellowstone River-West Boulder River Divide to Elephant Head Mountains, then northerly down Mission Creek to Interstate 90 east of Livingston, then westerly and northerly along said interstate to the Bear Canyon Interchange, then southerly on Bear Canyon Road to the boundary of State Route 1, then northerly along said route to its intersection with State Route 1, then west along the boundary of State Lands Sections 3, 34, 3, and 4 to the National Forest boundary, then west and south along said boundary to Sourdough Canyon Road, then north along Sourdough Canyon Road to Highway 290, then west along South 19th, west and south on South 19th to its intersection with Cottonwood Road, then west on Cottonwood Road to its intersection with US Highway 191, then northerly along said highway to Gallatin Gateway Road, then west along Gallatin Gateway Road to the Gallatin Gateway Bridge, then north down the westermost channel of the Gallatin River to Sheds Bridge, then on Highway 84 to River Road, then north on River Road to Cameron Bridge to Linney Road, then on Cameron Bridge to River Road, then west along Linney Road to Amsterdam Road, then west on Amsterdam Road to Heeb Road, then north on Heeb Road to Route 274, then northerly along said route to Interstate 90, then westerly along Interstate 90 to its intersection with US Highway 287 by Three Forks, then southerly along said highway to its intersection with Highway 87, then northerly along said highway to the Montana-Idaho border (Continental Divide), then easterly along said border to the Yellowstone National Park boundary, then northerly and easterly along said boundary to the Montana-Wyoming border west of Silver Gate, then easterly along said border to the Custer Gallatin National Forest Boundary, then southerly.

**Deckard Flats - Eagle Creek portion of BMU 341**: As posted, subject to closure of all hunting on 24 hour notice.

**411 Snowies Complex**: Those portions of Judith Basin, Fergus, Petroleum, Mussellshell, Golden Valley and Wheatland Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at Stanford at the intersection of US Highway 87 (State Route 200) with Interstate 15 northeasterly along US Highway 80 to its intersection with US Highway 81, then easterly along US Highway 81 to Denton and approximately one mile further east to its junction with Bear Springs County Road, then north and east along said road to Bear River at the Anderson Bridge to Winifred and its intersection with Route 236, then south along said route to Hilger and its intersection with US Highway 191, the east along said highway to its intersection with Route 19 at Bohemian Corner, then south along said route to US Highway 87 near Grassrange, then east along said highway (State Route 200) to its intersection with Route 244 at Winnet, then southwest along said route to its intersection with US Highway 87 near Harloton, then north along said highway to its intersection with US Highway 87 (State Route 200) at Edies Corner, then west along said highway to Stanford and its intersection with US Highway 80, the point of beginning.

**420 Little Belts/Castle/Highwoods Mountains**: Those portions of Teton, Cascade, Judith Basin, Chouteau, Beaverhead, Powell, and Broadwater Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at White Sulphur Springs, then northwest along State Route 360 (Fort Logan-Millegan Road) to its junction with the Smith River, then downstream (northerly) along the Smith River to Ulm, then at Ulm and its junction with Interstate 15 northeasterly along said interstate thru Great Falls, continuing northerly along Interstate 15 to its intersection with the Teton...
River, then easterly along said river to its confluence with the Missouri River near Loma, then downstream (easterly) along said river to the mouth of the Judith River near the PN Bridge, then upstream (southerly) along said river to the west shore of the Missouri River near the Montana-Wyoming Border, then westerly along said river to the mouth of the Judith River near the PN Bridge, then upstream (northerly) along said river to the confluence with US Highway 191 at Eddies Corner, then southerly along said river to Harlowton and its junction with US Highway 12, then westerly along said river to its junction with US Highway 287 near Toston, then northerly along said river to its junction with US Highway 89 north of Ringling, then northerly along said highway to its intersection with Route 360 at White Sulphur Springs, then west along said interstate to Ulm, the point of beginning.

440 Big Belt Mountains: Those portions of Cascade, Lewis and Clark, Broadwater, Meagher and Gallatin Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at Ulm and the junction of Interstate 15 and Route 330, then southerly along said route to the Smith River, then southerly up said river to Route 360 (Fort Logan - Milligan Road), then southerly along said route to White Sulphur Springs and US Highway 89, then southerly along said highway to its junction with US Highway 287 near Toston, then north along US Highway 287 to the Missouri River bridge near Toston, then north along said highway to the Missouri River bridge north of Townsend, then north along the east bank of the Missouri River and east shore of Canyon Ferry Lake to Canyon Ferry Dam, then northerly along the west bank of the Missouri River (west shore of Hauser and Holter Lakes) to Interstate 15, then northeasterly along said interstate to Ulm, the point of beginning.

450 Rocky Mountain East Front: Those portions of Lewis and Clark, Teton, Pondera and Glacier Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of State Route 200 and the Continental Divide at Rogers Pass, then northerly along said divide to its junction with Glacier National Park and Summit (Montana Pass), then northeasterly along said boundary to the Blackfeet Indian Reservation boundary, then easterly and northerly along said boundary to the Canada border, then easterly along said boundary to Interstate 15, then southerly along Interstate 15 to State Route 287, then northerly along said Route to State Route 200 (Bowman’s Corner), then westerly along said route to Rogers Pass and the Continental Divide, the point of beginning.

510 Pryor Mountain: Those portions of Big Horn, Carbon and Yellowstone Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of State Route 72 and the Wyoming border, then north along said route to its junction with US Highway 200, then northerly along said highway to the Bridger-Bowlder Road, then westerly along said road to the Bowler-Sage Creek Road, then northerly and westerly along said road to the Crow Reservation Boundary, then westerly and southerly along said boundary to the west shore of Yellowstone Reservoir (Bighorn Lake) then southerly along the west shore of said lake to the Wyoming border, then west along said border to its junction with State Route 72, the point of beginning.

520 Beartooth Face: Those portions of Carbon, Park, Stillwater and Sweet Grass Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning on Interstate 90 at Big Timber, then east along said interstate to its intersection with State Route 78 at Columbus, then south along said route to State Route 422, then easterly and southerly along said route to US Highway 212 near Joliet, then northerly and easterly along said highway to its junction with US Highway 310 at Rockvale, then southerly along said highway to its intersection with State Route 72 about one mile south of Bridger, then southerly along said route to the Montana-Wyoming Border, then westerly along said border to the Custer-Gallatin National Forest Boundary, then northerly along said boundary to the Custer Gynle Reservoir, then westerly along said boundary to the Park-Stillwater County line, then north and west along said line to the Custer-Gallatin National Forest Boundary near Timberline Mountain, then northerly along said boundary to the Billings Tailwater and the Missouri River Bridge near Crow Creek, then northerly along said river to the Fort Peck Reservoir, then southerly along said river to the Missouri River and east shore of the Fort Peck Reservoir, then southerly along said river to the Missouri River and east shore of the Fort Peck Reservoir, then southerly along said river to the Missouri River and east shore of the Fort Peck Reservoir, then northerly and westerly along said boundary to its junction with Interstate 90 and US Highway 89, then north and west along said route to its junction with Interstate 90 and US Highway 89, then northerly along said boundary to the Missouri River and east shore of the Fort Peck Reservoir, then southerly along said river to the Missouri River and east shore of the Fort Peck Reservoir, then northerly along said route to its junction with Interstate 90, then westerly along said interstate to Big Timber, the point of beginning.

580 Crazy Mountain: Those portions of Bighorn, Carbon, Golden Valley, Meagher, Musselshell, Park, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Wheatland and Yellowstone Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of Interstate 90 and US Highway 89 east of Livingston, then northerly along US Highway 89 to State Route 294, then northerly and westerly along said road to US Highway 12, then easterly along said highway to Melstone, then southeast along the Melstone-Custer Road to Interstate 94 near Custer, then east along said interstate to the east shore of the Bighorn River, then southerly along said river to the Missouri River Bridge near Toston, then northerly along said highway to its junction with US Highway 212, then northerly and southerly along said road to the Bowler-Bridge Road, then westerly along said road to its junction with US Highway 310, then northerly along said highway to its junction with US Highway 212, then northerly and southerly along said highway to State Route 421 near Joliet, then westerly and northerly along said route to its junction with MT Route 547 (Bear Springs Road) near Mosby, then northerly along said route to State Route 294, then southwesterly along said route to Stanford and its junction with US highways 87 and 212, then easterly along said road to its junction with US highways 87 and 212, then southerly along said highway to its junction with US Highway 87, then northerly along said highway to the Musselshell River, then north along said route to the Musselshell River Bridge near Mosby on State Route 200, then west along said highway to the Montana-Wyoming Border, then south along said route to its intersection with State Route 200, then west along said route to its junction with US Route 87, then northerly along said highway to its junction with US Highway 12, then easterly along said highway to Big Timber, the point of beginning.

Lawful Methods for Hunting Game Animals

- Firearms, including rifles, handguns, shotguns with 0, 0, or slugs, and muzzleloaders; archery equipment; and crossbows are lawful for taking game animals. All other methods of take are prohibited.
- Rifles scopes; with illuminated reticles, built-in range finding capabilities, and “red dot” scopes are lawful for the taking of game animals.
- Archery Equipment
- It is unlawful to use any chemical or explosive device attached to an arrow to aid in the taking of game animals.
- The following criteria define Archery Equipment. It is unlawful to possess, while hunting 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 game animals 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 hold the arrow.
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 (PTM) 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 as advertised by the manufacturer.

**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 and be at least 7/8 inches at the widest point. 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.

- Arrows equipped with lighted nocks are allowed.

**Unlawful Methods of Hunting Game Animals**

In order to carry or use a firearm for any reason, a youth under 14 years of age must be accompanied by a person having charge or custody of the youth, 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, MCA 45-8-344.

**Artificial Light**

It is unlawful for anyone to take or attempt to take any game animal or game bird with the aid of projected artificial light. Use of rifle scopes that project an artificial light to illuminate the target or project infra-red light visible only with specialized optics to illuminate the target are unlawful for the taking of game animals.

**Balting**

- It is unlawful 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.
- Balting shall mean the placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of food sources or salt so as to constitute a lure or attraction.

**Dogs**

It is unlawful for a person to use dogs to chase game animals. Dogs may be utilized to recover or locate wounded game animals but handlers shall maintain physical control of the dog at all times by means of a maximum 50-foot lead attached to the dog’s collar or harness.

**Motion-Tracking Devices**

It is unlawful for a person, while hunting, to possess any electronic motion-tracking device or mechanism that is designed to track the motion of a game animal and relay information on the animal’s movement to the hunter. **Exception:** A radio-tracking collar attached to a dog that is used by a hunter engaged in lawful hunting activities is not considered an unlawful motion-tracking device.

**Motorized Vehicles**

It is unlawful for anyone to:

- Hunt or attempt to hunt any game animal from any self propelled (motorized) or drawn vehicle. To be lawful, a hunter must have two feet on the ground and his/her body outside of the vehicle. Holders of the 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). All Federally approved travel plans on public lands in Montana have been adopted by the F&W Commission. Contact the appropriate land management agencies for travel plan information.

- Use a motor-driven vehicle on a road or trail on state land if that road or trail is posted as closed by the land management agency. This restriction applies only to state land and not to federal land.

- Use a motor-driven vehicle other than on a road or trail designated for travel by a landowner unless permission has been given by that landowner.

- Use a powerboat, sailboat, or any boat under sail or any floating device towed by a powerboat, sailboat, or any boat under sail for the purpose of killing, capturing, taking, pursuing, concentrating, driving, or stirring up any game animal.

**Night Vision Equipment and Thermal Imaging Equipment**

Enhanced penalties apply for use of night vision equipment to unlawfully take a game animal.

**Public Roadways**

It is unlawful for anyone to hunt or attempt to hunt any game animal on, from, or across any public highway or the shoulder, berm, barrow pit or right-of-way of any public highway (the entire width between the boundary lines of every publicly maintained way when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.

**Recorded Animal Sounds**

It is unlawful to use any recorded or electrically amplified bird or animal calls or sounds or imitations of bird or animal calls or sounds to assist in the hunting, killing, or capturing of any wildlife except by predators, wolves, and those birds not protected by State or Federal law.

**Two-way Communication**

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

- hunt game animals, or
- avoid game checking stations or FWP enforcement personnel, or to facilitate unlawful activity.

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

**Unmanned Aerial Vehicles**

It is unlawful for a person to use an UAV/drone for the purposes of concentrating, pursuing, driving, rallying, or stirring up any game animal. A UAV/drone may not be used to locate game animals for the purposes of: hunting those animals during the same hunting day after being airborne, or providing information for another person for the purpose of hunting those animals within the same hunting day after being airborne. UAV/drones are not allowed to film a hunt.
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 unlawfully killed. Carcasses and parts of elk, deer, antelope and moose killed in vehicular collisions may be taken and possessed but only with a Vehicle-Killed Wildlife Salvage Permit. No other game animals may be salvaged by this permit. It is unlawful to possess a bighorn sheep head/horn picked up in the wild.

Check Stations

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

Furbearer Traps

• No scents other than glandular may be used
• Hunters may not create a scent station
• Intentionally interfere with the lawful taking
• Natural or artificial glandular scents may be used by licensed hunters to attract game animals. Traps and trapped animals are the property of the trap owner.
• Hunters may not shoot trapped animals.

Glandular Scents

• Natural or artificial glandular scents may be used by licensed hunters to attract game animals by spraying or pouring the scent on the ground or other objects. **Exception:** Natural or artificial glandular scents may not be used to hunt black bears.
• 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 game animals, but other scents may be used to mask human odor.

Hunter Harassment

It is unlawful to:
• Intentionally interfere with the lawful taking of a wild animal.
• Disturb an individual engaged in the lawful taking of a wild animal with intent to prevent the taking of the animal.

Hunting Hours

Authorized hunting hours for the taking of 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 15.

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 (firearm) season 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.

Incidental Harvest Resulting in an Unlawfully Taken Animal

If you or a member of your hunting party shoots an animal that results in an unlawfully taken animal, you should notify an FWP game warden or 1-800-TIP-MONT (1-800-847-6668) immediately and follow their instructions.

• Hunters should field dress the animal but 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.

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 unlawful 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.

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 holder of a Montana resident or nonresident hunting license or camping permit convicted of littering campgrounds, public or private lands, streams, or lakes, while hunting, fishing, or camping shall forfeit any current Montana hunting, fishing, or trapping license and the privilege to hunt, fish, camp, or trap in Montana for a period of one year.

Marked or Radio-Collared Animals

It is lawful to shoot 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.

Off–Highway Vehicles (OHVs)

Residents – OHVs (ATV, UTV, Dirtbike) must be registered and display a current Off-Highway decal to be used for off-road recreation on public lands (trails, frozen lakes, reservoirs). To be used on roads (County, Forest Service, etc.), an OHV must have a license plate and street-legal modifications. Register your OHV with the County Treasurer.

Nonresidents – OHVs from another state must purchase a nonresident permit to operate ( anywhere) in Montana. Idaho and North Dakota residents are exempt. Permits are good for one calendar year, cost $27 and can be purchased from local vendors (stateparks.mt.gov, OHV Program), at FWP offices or online at app.mt.gov/als. Contact Montana State Parks OHV Program at 406-444-3750 or smcarthur@mt.gov with questions.

Outfitters and Guides

• A person may not act as an outfitter or guide or advertise or otherwise represent to the public that the person is an outfitter or guide without first securing a license.
• It is unlawful to engage in outfitting/guiding while not licensed.
• It is unlawful to hire an outfitter or guide not licensed by the Department of Labor and Industry. For information, call 406-841-2300.

Predators and Nongame Hunting

Predators and nongame species 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 dog.

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.

Feral swine cause extensive damage to domestic and native habitats, wildlife, and livestock throughout much of the United States. To prevent the introduction of feral swine into Montana, the 2015 Legislature has prohibited the transportation, possession, and hunting of feral swine. If you see or know of any feral swine in Montana please contact the Montana Department of Livestock at 406-444-2976.

Simulated Wildlife

It is unlawful to discharge a firearm or other hunting implement at a simulated wildlife decoy in violation of any state statute, ARM, or F&W Commission rule regulating the hunting of the wildlife being simulated.

Transport of Wildlife

• An individual other than the license holder may transport lawfully taken, properly tagged game animals that comply with the “Evidence of Sex Requirements.”
• It is unlawful to ship, possess, transport, or take out of state unlawfully killed game animals.
• It is a violation of the Federal Lacey Act to transport an unlawfully taken game animal across state boundaries.
• If you are transporting lawfully taken wildlife (including parts and/or products of live or dead animals) between the United States...
and any foreign country, you must complete a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service declaration form. For further information contact the USFWS Wildlife inspector at 406-335-4350 or www.fws.gov.

• Questions concerning carcass transport may be directed to FWP Enforcement at 406-444-2452 or to your home state’s wildlife division.

Hunter Access

Hunters, it is your responsibility to know where you are, to know who owns the land, and to know what access restrictions apply. FWP’s website at fwp.mt.gov/hunting/hunterAccess for information on FWP’s Block Management Program.

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 website at myfwp.mt.gov/fishMT/explore for site specific information, opportunities and restrictions.

Montana State Parks

Some 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 website at stateparks.mt.gov for site specific information regarding hunting opportunities and restrictions.

Private Land Access – Montana law requires permission for all hunting on private land.

• Even if the land is not posted, hunters must have permission from the land owner, lessee, or their agent before hunting on private property, regardless of whether the land is posted or not.
• Access to public land through private land requires permission of the private land owner, lessee, or their agent.
• Retrieval of all wildlife through private land requires permission of the private landowner, lessee, or their agent.

Public Land Access

• 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.
• It is unlawful to post, place signs or mark state or federal land other than that done by a state or federal land agency.

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 hunting. See Restricted Area Descriptions.

State School Trust Lands

• A 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 School Trust Lands overnight.
• 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)

FWP’s Wildlife Management Areas are generally open to hunting during the game animal 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 noon on 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 113 for contact numbers) or visit the FWP website at: fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/wma/

Stream Access Law

The Stream Access Law does not allow for the hunting of game animals between the ordinary high water marks of streams and rivers without landowner permission.

Tribal Land

Please contact the appropriate Tribal government for information.

Procedures to Follow After Harvesting an Animal

Evidence of Game Animal’s Sex and Species

• It is unlawful to destroy evidence of the sex of a game animal so as to make the determination of the sex of the game animal uncertain.
• FWP recommends proof of sex accompany the carcass from the field to the point of processing.

License Validation and Tagging

• A hunter must cut out the proper month and day of the kill from the appropriate license and attach it to the animal before the carcass is removed from the site of the kill, or before the hunter leaves the site of the kill.

• 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 cut out and removed.
  – The properly validated license must remain with the meat (including cold storage) until consumed.

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 game animals (excluding mountain lions), all of the four quarters above the hock, including loin and backstrap are considered suitable for food.

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:

Archery

See legal archery equipment in the “Lawful Methods of Hunting” section on page 11.

Crossbows

Legal in weapon restrictions areas unless exception noted in specific hunting district regulations.

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.
• Sabots or other similar power and range-enhancing manufactured loads that enclose the projectile from the rifling or bore of the firearm are prohibited. “Skirts” or gas checks on the base of a projectile are acceptable.

Traditional Handguns

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

Shotgun

Must be 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.
These tables, including adjustments for daylight savings time, are the official sunrise-sunset tables adopted by the Montana Fish & Wildlife Commission for hunting in Montana. Authorized hunting hours for the taking of black bear begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset each day of the hunting season. (Do not use other sources).

### ZONE 1: INCLUDES:  
Flathead, Granite, Lake, Lincoln, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli and Sanders Counties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Zone 1</th>
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### ZONE 3: INCLUDES:  
Big Horn, Blaine, Carbon, Fergus, Gold Valley, Judith Basin, Musselshell, Petroleum, Phillips, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Wheatland and Yellowstone Counties

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2019-2020 Sunrise-Sunset Tables For Determining Hunting Hours

Visit fwp.mt.gov
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks State Headquarters
1420 East 6th Avenue, PO Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701 .................................................406-444-2535

Harvest Reporting ....1-877-FWP-WILD or 1-877-397-9453 or 406-444-0356 or the MyFWP portal at fwp.mt.gov
Quota Status .................. 1-800-385-7826 or 406-444-1989
Hunter Education ................406-444-9948
Wildlife ..................................406-444-2612
Enforcement ..........................406-444-2452
Montana State Parks ..........406-444-3750
Deer, elk, antelope, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, and all special drawings ..........406-444-2950
Resident and nonresident licensing for fishing, upland game birds, migratory birds, black bear, and mountain lion .................406-444-2535
Hearing Impaired (use Montana Relay) ....7-1-1 or 1-800-253-4091

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Regional Headquarters

REGION 1
490 N Meridian Rd
Kalispell, MT 59901
406-752-5501

REGION 2
3201 Spurgin Rd
Missoula, MT 59804
406-542-5500

REGION 3
1400 South 19th Ave
Bozeman, MT 59718-5496
406-994-4042

REGION 4
4600 Giant Springs Rd
Great Falls, MT 59405
406-454-5840

REGION 5
2300 Lake Elmo Dr
Billings, MT 59105
406-247-2940

REGION 6
1 Airport Rd,
Glasgow, MT 59230
406-228-3700

REGION 7
352 I-94 Business Loop
PO Box 1630
Miles City, MT 59301
406-234-0900

LEWISTOWN Area Res Office
(LARO)
333 Airport Road, Ste. 1
Lewistown, MT 59457
406-538-4658

HELENA Area Res Office
(HARO)
930 Custer Ave W
Helena, MT 59601
406-495-3260

BUTTE Area Res Office
(BARO)
1820 Meadowlark Ln
Butte, MT 59701
406-494-1953

HAVRE Area Res Office
(HVARO)
2165 Hwy 2 East
Havre, MT 59501
406-265-6177

Montana State Parks .......................................406-444-3750

Deer, elk, antelope, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, and all special drawings ..........406-444-2950
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Hearing Impaired (use Montana Relay) ....7-1-1 or 1-800-253-4091

Contacts Outside Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Montana State Agencies
Agriculture ..........................406-444-3144
Guides & Outfitters .................406-444-2300
Livestock .............................406-444-7323
State Lands (DNRC) .................406-444-2074
Tourism ..................................406-444-2870

Federal Agencies
US Department of Interior (USDI) .........406-202-2010
USDI Fish & Wildlife Service .............406-449-5225
USDA Forest Service .................406-449-5225

Federal Agencies (cont.)
USDI Bureau of Land Management ........406-899-5000
National Weather Service ...............406-329-4840 (Missoula)
Tribal Lands
Blackfeet Reservation .................406-538-7276
Crow Reservation ..................406-638-2179
Flathead Reservation ...............406-883-2888 ext 7200
Fort Belknap ..........................406-863-3200
Fort Peck Reservation ...............406-768-5305
Northern Cheyenne Reservation ....406-477-6526
Rocky Boy Reservation ...............406-395-4207

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