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 deemed 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, prohibited 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.

Licensing

• A hunter may hold only one bison license.
• Bison licenses are allotted through a random drawing.
• Hunters must have applied for a bison license by May 1, 2019.
• Successful either-sex bison license applicants:
  - will receive a letter with instructions to view online bison hunter orientation.
  - hunters wishing to use archery equipment MUST also complete a mandatory archery orientation outlined in the letter sent to successful either-sex applicants.
• Potential second choice hunters will only be contacted in the event of the hunt roster being implemented. All bison second choice applicants are given a roster number. Applicants can visit MyFWP at fwp.mt.gov to see their position on the roster. To check the status of the hunt and to see whether the hunt roster has been implemented, please call the bison hotline at 406-994-5700 during the hunt periods.
• State-issued Tribal licenses will be issued free-of-charge by Helena Headquarters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>License cost:</th>
<th>Resident</th>
<th>Nonresident</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conservation</td>
<td>$8</td>
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<td>Base Hunting License</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bison Application Nonrefundable Fee</td>
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<td>$50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bison License</td>
<td>$125</td>
<td>$1250</td>
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Bison License Quota

A total of 85 either-sex State-issued licenses will be awarded.

• Second choice only licenses - up to 200 Second Choice State-issued licenses MAY be incrementally awarded depending upon bison migration into individual hunting districts.
  - The second choice hunt roster will be created from the drawing of second choice applicants. If a roster hunt is implemented based upon bison migration, second choice licenses will be issued to hunters incrementally in sequence drawn.
• Nonresidents are limited to, but not guaranteed, 10 percent of the hunting district’s license quota.
• In addition to the 85 either-sex State-issued licenses and the potential 200 second choice State-issued licenses, Tribal treaty bison hunting may occur concurrently with state bison hunting.

1,400 copies of this public document were published at an estimated cost of $0.266 per copy, for a total cost of $373.11, which includes $373.11 for printing and $0.00 for distribution.
General Regulations AND Methods and Means of Hunting

• Hunting is restricted to individuals with licenses issued via a drawing process similar to that employed for other special licenses issued by FWP or as designated by Tribal authority. All licenses are non-transferable.
• General regulations as listed in the 2019 Deer•Elk•Antelope hunting regulations shall govern the 2019 Bison season for all license holders.
• All bison hunters must wear hunter orange as described in 2019 Deer•Elk•Antelope hunting regulations regardless of season dates.
• Please refer to the 2019 Deer•Elk•Antelope hunting regulations for a description of firearms and archery equipment.
  - The only means of taking allowed are center-fire rifles and/or archery equipment. Crossbows and muzzleloading black powder rifles are not permitted.
  - Rifles are restricted to center-fire, 150 grain or larger bullet.
  - Hunters wishing to harvest bison with archery equipment must complete the mandatory archery orientation course at:
    fwp.mt.gov

• To protect public safety and minimize traffic obstructions, no bison hunting is allowed within 100 yards of major highways.

• Hunting on national forest lands must follow restrictions in USFS order 36 CFR 26110 (d) (firearm discharges are prohibited within 150 yards of residence, building, campsite, developed recreation site, or occupied area or across a forest service road or body of water).

• Hunting hours authorized 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 official 2019 Sunrise-Sunset Tables in these regulations.

• Hunting shall be only by foot or horseback.

• 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.

• Hunters who harvest a bison shall, upon field dressing the carcass, cut open the rumen and remove and spread its vegetative contents.

• Hunters who harvest a bison near a roadway or any other facility shall remove all unutilized parts of the carcass (entrails, tissues, bones, hides, fetuses, legs, etc.) to an area at least 200 yards from any roadway, dwelling, campground, designated trail or trailhead. These unutilized parts shall be placed in a manner as to be inconspicuous to passersby.

Information and Recommendations

• Bisons can achieve a live weight of up to 2,000 pounds, and can be very difficult for the average person to field dress alone. Participants should bring several people with them, or hire an outfitter to assist with the field dressing and handling of their bison. If participants plan to field dress and load their own animal, axes, knives, saws, and block and tackle may be necessary.

• Due to the bison’s immense size and thick hide, palatable meat may spoil quickly without immediate and proper care. It is recommended that bison be skinned and quartered within five hours of the kill. The hide should not be left on the bison overnight, even if it is hanging.

Brucellosis

• Bisons in Yellowstone National Park carry bacteria that cause a disease known as brucellosis or Bang’s disease. Brucellosis in Yellowstone National Park bison is one of the primary reasons that attempts are being made to control bison in Montana.

• Brucellosis in bison is caused by a bacterium that can also infect humans. In humans, brucellosis is called undulant fever. Symptoms include intermittent fever, chills, night sweats, body aches, poor appetite and weakness. If undulant fever is treated early, it is fairly easy to cure. However, if the disease reaches a chronic stage, treatment is difficult.

• In bison, the bacteria is concentrated in the lymph nodes, reproductive organs and the udder. Cooking destroys bacteria that may be present in the meat. Thus, when thoroughly cooked, the meat is safe to eat.

Bison Hunt Legal Descriptions

The following areas are open to bison hunting for the 2019 season.

Note: No hunting within the city limits of West Yellowstone, no hunting within the fenced boundary of the West Yellowstone airport and closure area to protect eagle-nesting sites on National Forest System Lands on Horse Butte Peninsula as posted from Dec. 1 to Aug. 15.

HUNTING DISTRICT 385:

Gardiner Basin Portion - Beginning at the boundary intersection of Yellowstone National Park and the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness just east of Gardiner, then northerly and westerly along said Wilderness boundary to USFS Trail #64 near the Bear Creek campground, then northerly along said trail to the intersection with USFS Trail #62, then northwesterly along USFS Trail #62 to the watershed divide east of Monitor Peak, then northwesterly along the watershed divide over Monitor Peak to Red Mountain, then southwesterly along the watershed divide to Dome Mountain, then southwesterly in a direct line to the bison-resistant cattle guard across U.S. HWY 89 in Yankee Jim Canyon, then southerly in a direct line to crest of watershed divide between Sphinx Creek and Tom Miner Creek Basin, then southerly along the watershed divide over Black Mountain to the boundary of Yellowstone National Park at Shooting Star Mountain, then generally east along the Yellowstone National Park boundary to the boundary intersection of Yellowstone National Park and the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness just east of Gardiner, the point of beginning.

Note: Gardiner Hunting Closure - Closed to all hunting; Beginning at the junction of U.S. Hwy 89 and Little Trail Creek; then up Little Trail Creek to the posted line (approx. 1/2 mile above U.S. Hwy 89), then southeasterly along said line to the Traverine-Trail Creek Road, then easterly along said road to its intersection with the Gardiner-Jardine Road, then northwesterly along said road to Eagle Creek, then southerly along said creek to the Yellowstone National Park boundary, then northerly along said boundary to the intersection with Stevens Creek, then northeasterly in a direct line to the junction of Little Trail Creek, the point of beginning.

AND

Absaroka Beartooth Portion - (wilderness north of Yellowstone National Park including the upper portions of the Horrowing and Slough Creek drainages) - The entire Horrowing, Buffalo Fork, and Slough Creek drainages north of Yellowstone National Park.

HUNTING DISTRICT 395:

Gallatin Watershed Portion - Closed to hunting; Those portions of Gallatin and Madison Counties lying within the following described boundary: Begin at the intersection of Buck Creek and the Gallatin River, then up Buck Creek to the Madison-Gallatin Rivers divide, then south and east along said divide to the Yellowstone National Park boundary, then northerly along said boundary to its intersection with the Gallatin-Yellowstone Rivers divide, then northerly along said divide to the intersection with Stevens Creek, then northeasterly along said divide to the Hellroaring Creek divides, then northeasterly along said divide to the Gallatin River near the mouth of the West Fork of the Gallatin River, then northerly up the Gallatin River to Buck Creek, the point of beginning.

AND

Madison Watershed Portion - Those portions of Gallatin County lying within the described boundary: Beginning where the western boundary of Yellowstone National Park intersects the Montana-Idaho border, then northerly along the Yellowstone National Park boundary to the Gallatin-Madison Rivers watershed divide, then northwesterly along said divide to the headwaters of Beaver Creek, then south along Beaver Creek to its confluence with Earthquake Lake, then along the south shore of Quake Lake and Hebgen Lake to the South Fork of the Madison River, then southerly and easterly along the west shore of said river to Forest Road 478, then southwest along Forest Road 478 to Reas Pass at the border of Idaho, then south and east along the Montana-Idaho border to the point of the beginning.
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:
  - Consider every bison to be potentially infected. The results of blood tests show that about 50 percent of the bison are exposed to brucellosis.
  - Always wear protective gloves when dressing carcasses or handling viscera.
  - Minimize contact with animal fluids, brain and spinal tissues.
  - Avoid contact with milk or material from the reproductive tract.
  - Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth until you have scrubbed after handling the animal.
  - Individuals with open sores or cuts on their hands should be especially careful.
  - Discard organ meats.
  - Wash hands and instruments thoroughly after field dressing or processing.
- To minimize risk of disease or parasite transmission to your domestic dog, prevent consumption of big game viscera.

2019 Sunrise-Sunset Tables for Determining Hunting Hours

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 bison 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 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZONE 2</th>
<th>INCLUDES: Beaverhead, Broadwater, Cascade, Chouteau, Deer Lodge, Gallatin, Glacier, Hill, Jefferson, Lewis &amp; Clark, Liberty, Madison, Meagher, Park, Pondera, Powell, Silver Bow, Teton and Toole Counties.</th>
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Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Regional Headquarters

MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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

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
(406) 994-4042

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

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

Hearing Impaired (use Montana Relay)...7-1-1 or 1-800-253-4091

Bison hunt information is available by calling 1-406-994-5700.

Harvest Reporting ..........1-877-FWP-WILD (1-877-397-9453) or 406-444-0356

Hearing Impaired (use Montana Relay)...7-1-1 or 1-800-253-4091

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Map only intended as a guide - Please refer to the legal descriptions in the regulations for actual boundaries.

- Additional Resources: East and West Gallatin National Forest Maps