

#1

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, October 31, 2023 6:28:48 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, October 31, 2023 6:39:18 AM
Time Spent: 00:10:30
IP Address: 192.230.167.210

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Michael John Gilson
City/Town:	Carter
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	mikegilsonmon@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

Regarding 900-00 archery only, increase the quota, after 20 years of archery hunting antelope as a resident of Montana I was unable to draw a tag. I believe the majority of the resident archers enjoy the pursuit of antelope bucks taking few and having little impact of population, i would like to continue this tradition, I do understand the quota system from the unlimited license of the past to reduce non-resident pressure but could you bump up the quota so us residents can still hunt-thanks for your consideration

#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, November 02, 2023 12:41:59 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, November 02, 2023 1:35:50 PM
Time Spent: 00:53:50
IP Address: 166.7.67.149

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name: Aaron Minney
City/Town: Boulder
State/Province: MT
Email Address: minney98512@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

I support changes to Antelope seasons due to recent low survey numbers.

#3

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, November 13, 2023 12:49:34 PM
Last Modified: Monday, November 13, 2023 1:14:54 PM
Time Spent: 00:25:20
IP Address: 71.33.150.141

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Michael Schumann
City/Town:	HIGHLANDS RANCH
State/Province:	CO
Email Address:	schumann.mps@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

I am in favor and support the proposal for HD 500

#4

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 8:15:55 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 8:33:08 PM
Time Spent: 00:17:13
IP Address: 98.97.115.243

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name: Nycole Wildermuth
City/Town: Corvallis
State/Province: MT
Email Address: newildermuth@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

I love antelope. They are my favorite!

#5

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 1:49:30 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 2:13:55 PM
Time Spent: 00:24:24
IP Address: 98.97.114.61

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Mark Fuller
City/Town:	coram
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	fullerfishing@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

Dear Commissioners, I am writing in support of proposed changes to tag allocation in region 4. If antelope population numbers are declining then there needs to be a decrease in the amount of tags allocated to the hunting public. Thanks.

#6

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, November 16, 2023 8:02:55 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, November 16, 2023 8:12:36 PM
Time Spent: 00:09:41
IP Address: 174.231.95.214

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Sal Scrano
City/Town:	Forsyth
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	sscrano@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

In regards to the proposal presented at the region 7 meeting that divides region 7 into two separate antelope hunting districts using the Yellowstone River as a boundary, I feel it is a good idea. I think it would help to even out the distribution of hunters and could have the effect of improving the quality of hunting.

#7

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, November 17, 2023 10:27:00 AM
Last Modified: Friday, November 17, 2023 10:34:30 AM
Time Spent: 00:07:30
IP Address: 174.45.138.235

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Stan Buchholz
City/Town:	Billings, MT 59102
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	smbuchholz@peoplepc.com

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

Way to many antelope doe tags being issued especially in the last 15 years. We seem to keep comparing current harvest numbers etc. to the last 10 years which were the worst on record. We need to se the bar a lot higher. Region 7 is a good example. For 30 years or more prior to the last 10 years or so there were 13,000 either sex tags issued plus many more doe tags. We are now up to 7,500 but this number is still way to high. I feel the numbers are so low that we will never get back to the good old days. I blame this squarely on FWP mis-management.

#8

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Saturday, November 18, 2023 10:57:09 PM
Last Modified: Saturday, November 18, 2023 11:15:14 PM
Time Spent: 00:18:05
IP Address: 174.45.153.32

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Eric J Bashore
City/Town:	Billings
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	ejbpik@msn.com

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

Montana FWP:

For antelope Hunting District 516 I think the antelope 516-20 permit quota should be reduced well below 700, given the dramatic decline in the antelope population for this hunting district. Also, for antelope Hunting District 516 I don't think any antelope 516-30 doe/fawn permits should be issued for the same reason.

Sincerely,
Eric J. Bashore
(Billings, MT)

#9

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Sunday, November 19, 2023 7:10:45 PM
Last Modified: Sunday, November 19, 2023 11:51:01 PM
Time Spent: 04:40:15
IP Address: 71.15.211.118

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name: **charles r murtagh**
City/Town: **Bozeman**
State/Province: **MT**
Email Address: **chuckmurtagh@gmail.com**

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

the rifle season should last until the same closing day of deer and elk...hunter are out every year with unfilled tags while hunting elk and deer and miss chances to fill their antelope tags...

#10

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, November 20, 2023 7:09:25 PM
Last Modified: Monday, November 20, 2023 7:22:38 PM
Time Spent: 00:13:12
IP Address: 72.250.136.106

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Dmitri sifers
City/Town:	sidney
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	sifers@midrivers.com

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

leave 700 as is working fine. And has for many years

#11

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, November 20, 2023 7:38:08 PM
Last Modified: Monday, November 20, 2023 7:46:21 PM
Time Spent: 00:08:13
IP Address: 63.153.4.177

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name: James Herrly
City/Town: Belgrade
State/Province: MT
Email Address: lensx800@yahoo.com

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

I would like to suggest splitting the antelope district 480. Use the highway going east to Bohemian corner as the dividing line. I have a place to hunt on the Southside. Be nice if I didn't have to wait 6 years to draw a permit thanks

#12

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, November 20, 2023 9:35:15 PM
Last Modified: Monday, November 20, 2023 9:49:31 PM
Time Spent: 00:14:15
IP Address: 216.166.174.27

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name: Troy Paulson
City/Town: Bozeman
State/Province: MT
Email Address: troy.paulson@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

I am in favor of Commissioner Lane's amendment to split region 7 into a north and south unit. There is a big difference between the north west and south east portion of the region and biologists should have the ability to manage them separately.

Thank you,
Troy

#13

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 11:45:35 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 12:02:16 PM
Time Spent: 00:16:40
IP Address: 72.174.242.125

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name:	MOGA
City/Town:	Helena
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	moga@mt.net

Antelope Season and Regulations

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

F. Region 7 Antelope

Proposal: Splitting Antelope Hunting District 007-20 into two districts

Proposed Change:

Create North and South Antelope Hunting Districts from what is currently HD 007-20 along the Yellowstone River.

MOGA Position: SUPPORT

Currently all six of the HDs in Region 7 (700, 701, 702, 703, 704, & 705), totaling over 35,000 square miles, make up a single antelope hunting district HD 007-20. Our proposal divides this single district into two districts of equal size using the Yellowstone River, a naturally occurring North/South boundary.

1) Resource Status /To what extent does this proposal address a conservation issue?

The department does not anticipate any biological effects by eliminating the Region-wide license structure and dividing the Region into two distinct antelope hunting districts split along the Yellowstone River. Quota levels will be recommended conservatively to evaluate the effect of changes in hunter distribution and number on antelope population numbers and harvest.

2) Hunting Opportunity/To what extent does the proposal address hunter opportunity?

This is a simple and responsible change designed to increase management and regulatory effectiveness, optimizes hunter distribution and opportunity across the landscape and is easily enforced due to a simple naturally occurring boundary.

3) Hunter Distribution/To what extent does the proposal address hunter distribution and crowding.

A growing concern within the Montana hunting community is hunter distribution and crowding. This proposal specifically addresses that concern by purposefully spreading hunters across the landscape across two hunting districts rather than one. Habitat conditions and status of antelope populations vary greatly across a 35,000 square mile area and by separating the district into two management units the Commission will be able to implement management prescriptions responsive more precisely to different conditions and abundance levels and address hunter distribution in a way not being considered under the current situation.

Because the Yellowstone River is a clear and naturally occurring boundary enforcement concerns are minimized. Spreading hunter effort and more precise antelope management is occurring in all other regions within the state; Region 3 has 21 Antelope HDs, Region 4 has 13 Antelope HDs, Region 5 has 9 Antelope HDs and Region 6 has 7 Antelope HDs.

4) Economic Impacts to Local and Regional Economies. Will the proposal have a positive or negative impact on local and regional economies?

Passage of this proposal will likely have little impact on local economies. However, the Department response related to permit issuance will. They have offered conflicting statements:

- “The department does not anticipate any biological effects by eliminating the Region-wide license
- structure and dividing the Region into two distinct antelope hunting districts
- Effects of the change are likely to be primarily social.

But then go on to say: Quota levels will be recommended conservatively to evaluate the effect of changes in hunter distribution and number on antelope population numbers and harvest.”

Antelope Season and Regulations

There needs to rationale for “conservative quotas” and frankly any reduction in opportunity. Unnecessary reductions in permit issuance over historical levels will affect hunter opportunity and will have a negative impact economically.

5) Diversity of Hunting Opportunity. To what extent does the proposal add to or remove diverse hunting opportunities/experiences. See Above.

6) Landowner Concerns. To what extent does the proposal address a stated landowner concern or issue?

Landowners we have discussed this proposal favor it because it prevents the “Goldrush mentality”, where hunters descend on the area of the state with most abundant antelope which stresses landowners and results in crowding.

#14

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 12:53:59 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 12:59:51 PM
Time Spent: 00:05:51
IP Address: 209.107.181.14

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name: Nathan Peterson
City/Town: Princeton
State/Province: MN
Email Address: bowmannate2000@yahoo.com

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

I believe the proposal by commissioner Lane to split region 7 is a step in the right direction that will help spread out hunting pressure as well as help FWP manage population goals more effectively.

I think further breakdown could help even more, but this is a good place to start.

#15

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 2:46:58 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 2:59:34 PM
Time Spent: 00:12:36
IP Address: 185.207.249.195

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Justin Schaaf
City/Town:	Glasgow
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	jschaaf71@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

I support the amendment submitted by Commissioner Lane. Although, Habitat, hunter use, and population levels aren't the same from Haxby to Alzada and they shouldn't be managed as such.

#16

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 3:35:52 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 3:38:56 PM
Time Spent: 00:03:04
IP Address: 63.153.104.201

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name: Michael McVeigh
City/Town: Helena
State/Province: MT
Email Address: m-m.mcveigh@netzero.net

Antelope Season and Regulations

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

I am totally against this proposal of eliminating the current region wide antelope hunting license in Region 7 into two separate (North and South) districts!

First off, are the wildlife biologist for Region 7 acceptable with this proposal without fear of reprisal if they don't agree?

Second, is this proposal a method of eliminating the number of hunters in Region 7 by having 2 separate antelope hunting districts, where the hunter must pick between the two districts to apply for a antelope license.

Third, by eliminating the current region wide antelope hunting license in Region 7 and going to 2 antelope hunting districts instead, I think would generate a heavier work load for the wildlife biologist and wardens, because they would have a larger geographical area to cover. They would also have to monitor hunters to make sure they were in the right district. Is FWP going to hire more wildlife biologist(s) for Region 7 with this proposal?

What about all the wildlife data for antelope that has been collected for the current 6 antelope hunting districts? Would they have to start over if they go to 2 separate antelope hunting districts? What about the data that has been collected for antelope hunting district 703, where the Yellowstone River splits this hunting district in half?

What about Fort Keogh BMA 306, the Yellowstone River splits this BMA in half. What are plans for other landowners who would have the same issue? I think this proposal would result in some landowners (ranchers) dropping out of the Block Management Program.

What are you talking about with the game damage assistance? The statement in the department response doesn't make sense. Damage control hunts should be for the entire region.

By eliminating the current region wide antelope hunting license in Region 7, would eliminate the opportunities for hunter to hunt the entire region whether on public or private lands, thus eliminating the number of hunters going to Region 7. As it is right now, hunters are more than willing to travel to eastern Montana (Region 7) when they know they have the opportunity to hunt the entire region.

By eliminating hunter numbers in Region 7, has anyone given any thought on how this is going to affect the communities in Region 7? Fewer hunters means less income for the businesses in Region 7.

I am totally against this proposal!!

#17

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 6:16:52 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 6:19:38 PM
Time Spent: 00:02:46
IP Address: 72.250.138.167

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name: Brian Gibson
City/Town: BAKER
State/Province: MT
Email Address: brijguy@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

Seperate 700 districts into individual units. 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705 all seperate units

#18

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 6:47:48 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 6:53:54 PM
Time Spent: 00:06:06
IP Address: 64.89.209.41

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name: **John Ensign**

City/Town: **Miles City**

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

The proposed amendment to split R7 antelope districts that was just posted yesterday 11/20/23 (2 days to comment?) but no associated justification or reasoning to validate such a change. I have 2 main comments concerning the process:

1) Whereas this proposal may be appropriate it is hard to provide meaningful, constructive comment when there is no justification for the change provided. Why is this being proposed? What issues or problems is it meant to address? How does this proposal address those?

2) With the biennial season setting process and public comment running now for months is this 11th hour proposal with 2 days to comment considered proper and adequate public vetting? This is not a small adjustment to season setting but a major change that would directly impact wholly 1/3 of the state's antelope hunters and almost half of the state's nonresident hunters. While this proposal may be supported by the public, is a last minute, 2 day period sufficient time for the proper public weigh in, discussion and vetting?

What is the justification?

Is it to address biological or population issues?

Are populations in certain areas depressed as a result of the current hunting system? Antelope populations in parts of the region have been depressed recently as the result of extreme drought and winter mortality but across the region this year seem to be recovering nicely from these extreme environmental factors. Harvest, at current levels, plays little role in population recovery. In areas with high numbers the regional response by adding doe licenses in certain areas has been effective.

Is it to address social or crowding issues?

The current system allows hunter numbers adjust quickly to areas with high antelope numbers and away from areas where numbers are depressed. The proposal would limit restrict hunter (and landowner) opportunity and flexibility to adjust hunter pressure to perceived antelope numbers. With the region being functionally 75% private landowners have the innate ability to restrict or increase hunter access as they see appropriate to their situation. The proposal would only limit that ability.

Is it to address perceived overcrowding on public lands?

With the bulk of accessible public lands located on the southern portion of the region splitting the region into north & south will do little to reduce crowding and in fact may exacerbate crowding if hunters are restricted to hunting only southern areas.

#19

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 7:26:36 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 8:09:43 PM
Time Spent: 00:43:07
IP Address: 216.228.40.65

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name: **John Kuntz**
City/Town: **Miles city**
State/Province: **MT**
Email Address: **eastmtag@midrivers.com**

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

splitting region 7 is a bad thought after thinking about it i see no biological reason for this unless there are some that have not been made public.I would wonder if this is solely driven by outfitter greed? I think this amendment should be killed ! A definite NO

#20

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 9:24:43 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 9:27:36 PM
Time Spent: 00:02:53
IP Address: 47.37.12.199

Page 1

Q1

Contact information:

Name: Grant Petersen
City/Town: Dillon
State/Province: MT
Email Address: rngfromthetns@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on the Antelope Season and Regulations

I support changing Region 7 into multiple areas for antelope so management can occur at the local level
