

Mountain Lion Master List

December 20, 2021

Specific proposed changes for 2022–2023 as adopted by the Fish and Wildlife Commission at their December 14, 2021 meeting identified below. All season components except calendar year rotation are open for public comment but are proposed to remain unchanged from 2021.

Statewide

Mountain lion management units (LMUs, specific LMUs may be managed separately or a similar approach may be used statewide) may be managed under:

- 1) A straight quota system that would close when the quota is met, or
- 2) A hybrid system that uses a permit for the early portion of the season and then uses a quota for the remainder of the season if the quota has not been met during the permit season.

Up to 40 D-4 nonresident hound licenses may be issued that are valid during the mountain lion hunting season, with no more than two D-4 hound licenses issued within the groupings of LMUs used in prior seasons.

Region 1

HD (LMU) 121 &123: Boundary change - Adjust boundary near Belknap, Montana. The current legal description references a USFS trail that no longer exists. Therefore, the description for that portion of the boundary will be changed to follow Sievers Ridge to its termination with Mosquito Creek road.

Region 3

HD 300: Rename HD 300 to HD 303 to match deer and elk HDs.

New HD 301 Spanish Peak Portion – was “HD 311 Spanish Peaks Portion” but renamed to reflect deer and elk proposed HD changes.

- Retain same quota and same boundaries and legal description. Current quota is 7 with no female subquota.
- Reason: this special portion was created over a bighorn sheep winter range to use hunting as a tool to prevent lions from exploiting this small sheep herd’s discrete winter range.

Existing HD 301 (east half)

No change to lion district, but deer/elk HD 301 had a boundary change. No change to quota. Current quota is 8 with female subquota of 4.

Reason for change: although the deer and elk district is proposed to expand to a larger scale, there is a need for lion management at the smaller scale. Lions in the east half of proposed HD 301 may be more likely to enter Bozeman as urban conflict animals. Higher quotas in this area may prevent conflict problems.

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New HD 360 replaces HD 301 (west half), 310, 311, 360, 361

To more closely match new proposed deer and elk HDs combine west half of HD 301, 310, 311, 360, 361, and 362 (old deer/elk HD 362 that was combined with HD 360) and the northeast portion of HD 333 that is east of State Highway 359, south of Interstate 90, and west of U.S. Highway 287. This portion of HD 333 has been added to HD 311 in the proposed deer and elk HD adjustments. In the proposed deer and elk HD adjustments, HD 362 will be combined into HD 360. New HD will be named 360.

Retain same quota. Current quota is 10 with female subquota of 3.

HD 302, 328 & 329: Boundary change- Add portions of HD 328 to both HD 302 & 329 resulting in two new HDs to be named HD 329 and HD 302. See boundary changes master list. LMU changes to include HDs 300, new 302, and new 329.

HD 319 & 341: Boundary change- Combine HD 319 and HD 341. New HD will be named HD 319. See deer and elk boundary changes master list. Increase Total Quota from 4 to 5. Keep female Subquota at 2. LMU will just be HD 319 (after incorporation of 341).

HD 312, 390 & 393: Boundary change – Add HD 390 into an LMU with HDs 312 and 393. See boundary changes master list. New LMU will include HDs 312, 390 and 393.

Quota changed to a total of 13 and a female subquota of 6. NOTE: The current quota for HDs 312 and 393 is 9 with a subquota of 4 females. The current quota for HDs 390 and 391 is 11 with a female subquota of 5.

HD 390, 391, & 392: Boundary change – Combine HDs 391 & 392 into a single LMU. Remove HD 390 from 390 & 391 LMU. See boundary changes master list.

Quota for new LMU (HDs 391 & 392) is a total of 11 (range 8-14) with a female subquota of 4. NOTE: The current quota for HDs 390 and 391 is 11 with a female subquota of 5. The current quota for HD 392 is 4 with a female subquota of 1.

NOTE: The above two proposed quota changes involving HDs 312, 390, 391, 392 and 393 sum to a total of 24 (female subquota of 10); current quotas in all five HDs sum to a total of 24 (female subquota of 10).

HD 322, 323, 325, 325, 326, 327, & 330: Boundary change – Combine HDs into a single mountain lion HD and a single LMU named HD 322. See boundary changes master list.

Quota for new LMU is a total of 12 with a female subquota of 4. NOTE: combined quota in HDs 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, and 330 is currently 12 with a female subquota of 4. This change combines two LMUs.

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HD 320 & 333: Boundary change – Combine HDs 320 and 333 to exclude the northeast portion of HD 333 east of State Highway 359, south of Interstate 90, and west of U. S. Highway 287. Excluded portion is proposed to be added to HD 311. New HD will be named HD 320. See boundary changes master list.

Quota for new LMU (HD 320) is a total of 4 with a female subquota of 1. NOTE: quota is currently 4 with a female subquota of 1.

HD 350 & 370: Boundary change- Combine HD 350 and HD 370. New HD will be named HD 350. See boundary changes master list. HD 350 and 370 are already in the same LMU. No change to quota.

HD 380: Boundary change – Add the southeast portion of HD 380 to HD 390. HD 390 is being added to the LMU with HDs 312 and 393. See boundary changes master list.

Region 4

HD 413 & 432: Boundary Change – Combine HD 413 and 432 into one Lion Management Unit called HD 413. Maintain the existing quota of 5 males and 5 females. See boundary changes master list. See quota adjustments below.

HD 421: Boundary Change – Remove HD 421 from Lion Management Unit of HDs 404, 421, 444 and 450. Add HD 421 to new Lion Management Unit with HDs 421 and 423. See boundary changes master list. See quota adjustments below.

HD 423: Boundary Change – Remove HD 423 from Lion Management Unit with HDs 422, 423, 424, 425 and 442. Add HD 423 to new Lion Management Unit with HDs 421 and 423. See boundary changes master list. See quota adjustments below.

HDs 445, 455: Add HD 446 to Lion Management Unit with 445 and 455. Maintain quota at 6 males 8 females. See quota adjustments below.

HD 446: Boundary Change – Remove HD 446 from Lion Management Unit with HDs 416, 446, 451, 452, and 454. Add HD 446 to Lion Management Unit with HDs 445 and 455. See boundary changes master list. See quota adjustments below.

HD 450: Boundary change – Remove HD 450 from Lion management unit of HDs 404, 421, 444 and 450. Add HD 450 to Lion Management Unit with HDs 422, 424, 425, 442, and 450. See boundary changes master list. See quota adjustments below.

HDs 404, 416, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 442, 444, 445, 446, 450, 451, 452, 454 & 455: Quotas for Lion Management Units based on boundary adjustments above.

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Quota for Lion Management Unit 404 & 444 is 2 males and 2 females.

Quota for Lion Management Unit 422, 424, 425, 442 & 450 is 5 males and 3 females.

Quota for Lion Management Unit 421 and 423 is 3 male and 3 females.

Quota for Lion Management Unit 445, 446, and 455 is 6 males and 8 females.

Quota for Lion Management Unit 416, 451, 452, and 454 is 6 males and 7 females.

Quota for Lion Management Unit 413 is 5 males and 5 females.

NOTE: proposed quotas for HDs 404, 416, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 442, 444, 445, 446, 450, 451, 452, 454, and 455 sum to a total of 29 males and 28 females; current combined quotas for the same HDs sum to 24 males and 23 females

Region 5

HD 510, 560, 520: Boundary change – HDs are proposed to be adjusted, renamed, and combined into a single Lion Management Unit. The northern portion of HD 560 and a portion of 520 will be combined and named HD 525. HD 510 and a portion of 520 will be combined and named 555, the southern portion of HD 560 will be renamed HD 565. See boundary changes master list.

HDs 525, 555, and 565 (new proposed names) will be combined into a single Lion Management Unit with a quota of 6 males, 9 females.

HD 500, 511, 530 & 570: Boundary Change – HD 500 and HD 570 will be combined and named HD 515.

HD 511 and HD 530 will be combined and named HD 535. See boundary changes master list.

HDs 502, 515, 535, 575, and 590 (new proposed names) will be included in a single Lion Management Unit with a total quota of 27.