2019 Big Game Tag Application Seminar

Nevada Department of Wildlife
OVERVIEW

- Nevada Big Game
- Eligibility
- App Resources
  - What’s New
  - Hunt Stats
  - Bonus Points
- How to Apply
- Mistakes to Avoid
- Where to Go!!!
MULE DEER
DEER STATUS: HERD TREND

Nevada 2018 Mule Deer Harvest

- Total Deer Harvest
- Observed Buck Ratio

Statewide Deer Harvest

Bucks Per 100 Does

- 2009
- 2010
- 2011
- 2012
- 2013
- 2014
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017
- 2018
Resident Antlered Mule Deer Hunt Success

- Archery
- Muzzleloader
- ALW

Hunt Success Rate (%)

- 2016
- 2017
- 2018
PRONGHORN
BIGHORN
Bighorn Distribution in Nevada

Legend
Bighorn Distribution in Nevada
SUBSPECIES
- California
- Desert
- Rocky Mountain
ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK
ELK STATUS: HERD TREND

Population Estimate: 2003-2018
HUNTER EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

- All first time applicants for a Nevada big game tag must:
  - Take and pass Hunter Education in Nevada OR
  - Show proof of Hunter Education from another state

- If you are born after Jan 1\textsuperscript{st}, 1960 you are required to show proof of hunter education

- Pre-Register Hunter Education at least 7 days prior to the application deadline (April 29\textsuperscript{th})
### WAITING PERIOD ELIGIBILITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If drawn for:</th>
<th>Waiting Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bighorn Sheep - Ram</td>
<td>10 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bighorn Sheep - Ewe</td>
<td>2 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elk - Bull</td>
<td>7 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antelope - Buck</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Goat</td>
<td>10 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Bear - Successful</td>
<td>5 Years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHAT’S NEW IN 2019

▪ Application deadline extended (April 29, 11:00 pm).

▪ Applicants for mule deer and antelope hunts may apply for both sexes in same draw but may only receive one tag per species.

▪ Harvested bighorn sheep ewes are not required to be physically inspected at a Department office.

▪ Successful applicants for bighorn sheep ewe and mountain goat must complete a mandatory seminar before receiving their tag.
Detailed information about:

- Hunt statistics
- Draw Rates/Tag demand
- Bonus points
- And a whole lot more can all be found online!

www.ndow.org/Hunt/Resources
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MAIN DRAW</th>
<th>SECOND DRAW</th>
<th>FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application Period Opens</td>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>June 7</td>
<td>July 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Period Deadline</td>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>June 24</td>
<td>Hunt Dependent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Point Application</td>
<td>May 6</td>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results Release Date</td>
<td>May 24</td>
<td>July 12</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HOW TO APPLY ONLINE
NDOWLICENSING.COM

Get Online
Get Outside.
The 2019 Big Game Tag application period is now open!
Please call 1-855-542-6369 if you need assistance.

The Nevada Department of Wildlife Online Licensing System
- Purchase Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping licenses
- Apply for Tags
- Return Tags (click here to download form)
- Vessel Registration Renewals
- AIS Decals
- Big Game Bonus Points
- Application History
- Submit Harvest Questionnaires
- Coming soon:
  - Check eligibilities and waiting periods

TUTORIALS
Learn how to submit your harvest return card and more!

HUNT
Resident, Non-Resident, and Specialty hunting licenses:
- Purchase Now

BOAT
Vessel registration renewals:
- Renew Now

FISH
Resident, Non-Resident, and Specialty fishing licenses:
- Purchase Now
Applicants may select up to 5 different hunt choices for each species and gender (in most cases).

The order of your choices can influence whether or not you draw a tag (refer to bonus point tables).

Applications are evaluated 1st Choice first, 2nd Choice second, and so on.

We recommend ordering choices from most difficult to draw (1st Choice) to least difficult to draw (5th Choice).
APPLICATION STRATEGY: BONUS POINTS

- Applicant is awarded 1 bonus point for every unsuccessful application.

- Bonus points accumulate separately for each species and sex.
  - For example, bonus points accrue independently for bull elk vs. cow elk.

- Bonus points increase your chance of drawing but do not guarantee you will draw a tag.
An application receives 1 random number for the current year. The application receives additional numbers equal to the square of the bonus point total (if applicable). The lowest random number generated for the application is evaluated in the draw (aka, draw number).

- **Antlered Elk – Any Legal Weapon – 0 Bonus Points**
  Application receives 1 random number

- **Antelope – Horns Longer – Any Legal Weapon – 4 Bonus Points**
  Bonus points are squared: $4 \times 4 = 16$
  Add 1 number for current year app: $16 + 1 = 17$ numbers

- **Mountain Goat – 23 Bonus Points**
  Bonus point calculation: $23 \times 23 = 529 + 1 = 530$ numbers
Keep in mind, there is no order to the draw. All applications are evaluated iteratively beginning with the lowest draw number, then second lowest, then third lowest, etc. until all applications have been evaluated.

Why is this important?

- You could draw a spike elk tag over an antlered elk tag, a horns-shorter antelope tag over a horns-longer antelope tag, or an antlerless mule deer tag over an antlered mule deer tag.
Twelve applications submitted by 10 hunters with varying bonus point totals were evaluated during a simulation of the draw. Results would then be evaluated based on the order of the draw numbers regardless of species or sex. (hunter 10, then hunter 8, etc.)

```r
# A tibble: 12 x 4
# Groups: applicant [12]

  applicant bonus_pts n_draw_numbers draw_number
  <fct>      <dbl>       <dbl>        <int>
1 hunter 10 - mountain goat  25         626          2
2 hunter 8 - antlered elk   11         122          14
3 hunter 9 - antlered deer   6          37           61
4 hunter 1 - spike elk      3          10          129
5 hunter 6 - lle antelope    7          50          158
6 hunter 2 - antlered deer   5          26          160
7 hunter 5 - bighorn        15         226          233
8 hunter 3 - antlered deer   0          1           302
9 hunter 7 - antlerless elk  2          5           352
10 hunter 1 - antlered elk   3          10           874
11 hunter 6 - hse antelope   3          10          1710
12 hunter 4 - antlerless deer 0          1           2407
```

Note: the Nevada Big Game Draw is conducted by an independent organization (Kalkomey Enterprises, Inc). The draw process was replicated using an open-source statistical software package to produce the results presented above.
PARTY HUNTS

- Only a single draw number is considered in the draw.

- To determine bonus points for a party application, add all bonus points in the party and divide by party size. Round value to the nearest whole number (i.e., point averaging):

\[
\frac{5+3+1+2+7}{5} \text{ (Points)} = 3.6 \rightarrow 4 \text{ Points}
\]

- Mixed residency party applications are allowed but remaining quota must be greater than or equal to the party size by residency.

- If a party leader withdraws their application, applications for the remaining members will be converted from “party” status to “individual” status.
MISTAKES TO AVOID

- Reversing choices: Least difficult to draw as 1st Choice, most difficult to draw as 5th Choice.

- Selecting only 1 Choice on your application.

- Returning an awarded tag (for any reason) within 2 weeks of the opening date of the season.

- Failing to review your tag before hunting.
## WHERE TO APPLY FOR BIGHORN?

### Top Units for Desert Bighorn (‘16-’18):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Tags</th>
<th>Avg Score</th>
<th>Max Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>282</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>170 1/8</td>
<td>179 2/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>263</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>165 1/8</td>
<td>178 6/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>268</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>161 6/8</td>
<td>175 6/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>244</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>161 4/8</td>
<td>176 4/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>162, 163</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>153 4/8</td>
<td>173 5/8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Top Units for Trophy Cali Bighorn (‘16-’18):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Hunters</th>
<th>Avg Score</th>
<th>Max Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>051</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>158 2/8</td>
<td>177 4/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>031</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>160 1/8</td>
<td>169 4/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>041</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>156 4/8</td>
<td>172 3/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>035</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>150 5/8</td>
<td>163 1/8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Desert Hunts with best opportunity to draw a tag (draw rate is >10%):

- 213 Late
- 243
- 212 Late
WHERE TO APPLY FOR ELK?

Top Units for Trophy Elk:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Group</th>
<th>Avg. Main Beam</th>
<th>6 Pt. Plus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>078, 105 - 107, 109</td>
<td>50 in</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>091</td>
<td>47 in</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111 - 115</td>
<td>46 in</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top Hunts for Opportunity:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Group</th>
<th>Draw Rate</th>
<th>6 Pt. Plus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>072, 073, 074 Late</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>075 Late</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>161 - 164 Late</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sleeper Hunt: ALW 108, 131-132 (18% Draw Rate)
Super Sleeper: 104, 108, 121
WHERE TO APPLY?

Top Units for Quality:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Group</th>
<th>% 4 pt or Greater</th>
<th>Hunt Success</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>081</td>
<td>87 %</td>
<td>78 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>221-223 Late</td>
<td>77 %</td>
<td>62 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>241-245</td>
<td>76 %</td>
<td>60 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top Units for Opportunity:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Group</th>
<th>Draw Rate</th>
<th>Hunt Success</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>171 - 173 Early*</td>
<td>69 %</td>
<td>31 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101 - 109 Early*</td>
<td>70 %</td>
<td>42 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101 - 109 Mid*</td>
<td>83 %</td>
<td>40 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Any Legal Weapon Hunts

Mule Deer
### WHERE TO APPLY?

**Top Archery Units for Mule Deer:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Group</th>
<th>Draw Rate</th>
<th>Hunt Success</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>071-079, 091 Late</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>131 - 134</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111-113</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>071-079, 091 Early</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>121 Early</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Top Units for Quality:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Group</th>
<th>15 Inch+ Horns</th>
<th>Hunt Success</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>076-179, 081, 091</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>251</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>033</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Top Hunts for Opportunity:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Group</th>
<th>Draw Odds</th>
<th>Hunt Success</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>111-114</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>078, 105*, 121</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>041, 042 Late</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SPECIALTY TAGS

- **Silver State Tag**
  Recipient may hunt statewide with any weapon Aug 1st – Dec. 31st (same as Governor’s Tag). Anyone can apply even if they are in a waiting period. If successful, all other applications for the same species are ineligible and bonus points are accrued.

- **Partnership in Wildlife (PIW) Tag**
  You may apply for a PIW tag for a given species if you are eligible for that species. The recipient of the PIW tag may hunt any open unit and season but must use the identified weapon class. If successfully drawn, all bonus points are lost and the recipient will enter into a waiting period (if applicable).

- **Dream Tag**
  There are no eligibility restrictions in applying for Dream tags but the draw occurs in early July after all other draws. The recipient of the Dream tag may hunt any open unit and season but must use the identified weapon class. If successfully drawn, you must return any awarded tags from another draw for the same species in the same hunt year.
Top 10 Application Resources available at: www.ndow.org/Hunt/Resources

Application Deadline:

April 29th, 2019 at 11:00 pm