



STATE OF NEVADA

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

Game Division

6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Ste 120 • Reno, Nevada 89511
(775) 688-1500 Fax (775) 688-1987

#18C

MEMORANDUM

December 23, 2019

To: Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife, and Interested Publics

From: Brian Wakeling, Administrator, Game Division 

Title: **Commission Regulation 19 - 05, Amendment #1, 2019–2020 and 2020–2021 Big Game Seasons – For Possible Action**

Description: The Commission will consider amendments to the 2020–2021 hunting seasons and dates for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat, including limits, hunting hours, special hunt eligibility, animal sex, physical characteristics and legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and legal weapon requirements, and emergency depredation hunt structure and statewide quotas. The Department is limiting amendments to those that correct errors from last year, address emerging management needs, address substantial changes in wildlife abundance, or address conflicts.

Presenter: Wildlife Staff Specialist Cody McKee

Summary:

In January 2019, the Commission adopted Commission Regulation (CR) 19 – 05 that defined big game seasons for 2019–2020 and 2020–2021. The Department is considering amendments for only those seasons where errors were introduced last year, to address emerging management needs, to address substantial changes in wildlife abundance, or to address conflicts among seasons.

The Department is recommending changes to the interstate elk hunts that are held each year to address season date changes adopted by Utah. The Resident Elk Antlered and Resident Elk Antlerless Seasons are recommended for relatively minor season date shifts.

The second proposed amendment is to eliminate the Management Elk hunts that have been options for specific mule deer seasons (Resident Elk Antlerless any legal weapon, Nonresident Elk Antlerless any legal weapon, Resident Elk Antlerless muzzleloader, Resident Elk Antlerless archery, and Resident Junior Elk Antlerless archery, muzzleloader, and any legal weapon). This recommendation will eliminate logistical tag issuance challenges through the draw process. Additionally, these seasons were established to help reduce elk populations to within objective. Almost all elk populations are currently within objective, and these seasons have provided limited added harvest. The seasons are essentially unneeded to meet management objectives currently.

Recommendation:

The Department recommends that the Commission **VOTE TO ADOPT COMMISSION REGULATION 19 - 05, AMENDMENT #1, 2020-2021 BIG GAME SEASONS AS PRESENTED.**

CR 19-05 RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS 2020-2021 BIG GAME HUNTING SEASONS

The Board of Wildlife Commissioners under the authority of sections 501.181, 502.140, 503.120 and 503.140 of the Nevada Revised Statutes, does hereby adopt the following regulation for the big game resource.

Note: The limit is one animal per tag and the hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset for all big game hunts, unless otherwise specified.

Resident Elk - Antlered Any Legal Weapon Hunt

Unit Group	2019-2020 Season	Approved 2020-2021 Season	Recommended Amendment 2020-2021 Season
091*	Sept 7 - Sept 27	Sept 5 - Sept 25	Sept 12 - Oct 2

* Interstate hunt with Utah. Nevada and Utah hunters may hunt within open units in both states. Nevada hunters hunting in Utah must abide by Utah

Resident Elk - Antlerless Any Legal Weapon Hunt

Unit Group	2019-2020 Season	Approved 2020-2021 Season	Recommended Amendment 2020-2021 Season
091 Late*	Oct 1 - Nov 1	Oct 1 - Nov 1	Oct 3 - Nov 1

* Interstate hunt with Utah. Nevada and Utah hunters may hunt within open units in both states. Nevada hunters hunting in Utah must abide by Utah regulations.

Resident Elk - Antlerless Elk Management Any Legal Weapon Hunt Option for Mule Deer Hunt

Unit Group	2019-2020 Season	Approved 2020-2021 Season	Recommended Amendment 2020-2021 Season
062, 064, 066 - 068 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	Oct 5 - Oct 20	CLOSED
072 - 077, 079 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	Oct 5 - Oct 20	CLOSED
072 - 077, 079 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	Oct 21 - Nov 5	CLOSED
101 - 103 Early*	Oct 1 - Oct 16	Oct 1 - Oct 16	CLOSED
101 - 103 Mid*	Oct 17 - Oct 30	Oct 17 - Oct 30	CLOSED
101 - 103 Late*	Oct 31 - Nov 8	Oct 31 - Nov 8	CLOSED
131 - 132	Oct 5 - Oct 20	Oct 5 - Oct 20	CLOSED
161 - 164 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	Oct 5 - Oct 20	CLOSED
161 - 164 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	Oct 21 - Nov 5	CLOSED
231	Oct 5 - Oct 31	Oct 5 - Oct 31	CLOSED

* Low elk numbers in the area; poor hunter success expected.

**Nonresident Elk - Antlerless Elk Management Any Legal Weapon Hunt
Option for Mule Deer Hunt**

Unit Group	2019-2020 Season	Approved	Recommended Amendment 2020-2021 Season
		2020-2021 Season	
072 - 077, 079 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	Oct 5 - Oct 20	CLOSED
072 - 077, 079 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	Oct 21 - Nov 5	CLOSED

**Resident Elk - Antlerless Elk Management Muzzleloader Hunt
Option for Mule Deer Hunt**

Unit Group	2019-2020 Season	Approved	Recommended Amendment 2020-2021 Season
		2020-2021 Season	
062, 064, 066 - 068	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4	CLOSED
072 - 077, 079	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4	CLOSED
101 - 103*	Sept 10 - Sept 30	Sept 10 - Sept 30	CLOSED
131, 132	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4	CLOSED
161 - 164	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4	CLOSED
231	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4	CLOSED

* Low elk numbers in the area; poor hunter success expected.

**Resident Elk - Antlerless Elk Management Archery
Option for Mule Deer Hunt**

Unit Group	2019-2020 Season	Approved	Recommended Amendment 2020-2021 Season
		2020-2021 Season	
062, 064, 066 - 068	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9	CLOSED
072 - 077, 079, Early	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9	CLOSED
072 - 077, 079, Late	Nov 10 - Nov 20	Nov 10 - Nov 20	CLOSED
101 - 103 Early*	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9	CLOSED
131, 132	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9	CLOSED
161 - 164	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9	CLOSED
231	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9	CLOSED

* Low elk numbers in the area; poor hunter success expected.

**Resident Junior Elk - Antlerless Elk Management Hunt
Option for Resident Junior Mule Deer Hunt**

Unit Group	Weapon	Approved	Recommended Amendment 2020-2021 Season
		2020-2021 Season	
072 - 077, 079	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9	CLOSED
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4	
	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Nov 2	