



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

Operations Division

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#23 - #28

MEMORANDUM

Date: February 11, 2017

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

From: Robert Haughian, Administrator, Operations Division

Title: Informational Sheet associated with CR 17-06 through CR 17-11

Description: Informational paper associated with Commission Regulations for the 2018 Heritage tags, 2017 Partnership in Wildlife tags, 2017 Silver State tags and 2017 Dream tag species, seasons, units and quotas. This document also addresses the 2017 big game tag application eligibility and deadline regulations.

Presenter: Maureen Hullinger, Management Analyst III, Operations Division

This support document is to assist you when reviewing Commission Regulation (CR) 17-06 through CR 17-11. You can refer to this document for some basic information and/or changes regarding each CR to be discussed.

During your review of these recommendations for the Heritage Tags and Silver State Tags remember NRS stipulates that the quotas for Heritage Tags and Silver State Tags (SST) cannot exceed 14 big game tags and 5 turkey tags. So keep this limit in mind during your discussion.

CR 17-06 2018 Heritage Tags

- This regulation is to establish the Heritage Auction tags for **2018**.
 - Pursuant to Commission Policy P-10 the Department must mail, email and post on the Department website the vendor proposal packets by March 1.
 - The Heritage Committee will review vendor proposals during their May committee meeting and provide recommendations to the CABs and Commission for the June Commission meeting.
 - No changes are recommended to the species, seasons and quotas.
 - No changes are recommended in the special regulation requirements on page 2.
- ❖ **New recommendations regarding unit closures for Bighorn Sheep. The unit language is in the format recommended by the Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee (TAAHC) after public input and presentation to CABs and Commission.**

Nelson (Desert) BHS Heritage Tag	2018 Recommended Closure
Nelson (Desert) BHS Heritage Tag No. 1	The hunt unit where Desert Heritage Tag No. 1 was filled in the prior year if the tag quota for the prior year for that hunt unit is less ten (10).
Nelson (Desert) BHS Heritage Tag No. 2	The hunt unit where Desert Heritage Tag No. 2 was filled in the prior year if the tag quota for the prior year for that hunt unit is less than ten (10).

- For California Bighorn sheep the Department is continuing to recommend the closure of Unit 041 due to the limited number of mature rams in this new unit.

California BHS Heritage Tag	2018 Recommended Closure
California BHS Heritage Tag	The hunt unit where California Heritage Tag was filled in the prior year if the tag quota for the prior year for that unit is less than seven (7) and Unit 041.

CR 17-07 2017 Dream Tags

- NRS stipulates the species and quota, therefore those items and cannot be changed.
- The season recommendations are the same as last year.
- Unit closure recommendations for elk are the same as last year with Unit 091 being closed.

❖ **New recommendations regarding unit closures for Bighorn Sheep. The closed units are determined using the format recommended by the TAAHC after public input and presentation to CABs and Commission.**

- Desert Bighorn Sheep has unit closures based on the TAAHC format recommendation regarding specialty sheep tags.

Nelson (Desert) BHS Dream Tag	2017 Recommended Closure
Those hunt units where any Desert specialty tags were filled in the prior year and the tag quotas for the hunt units for the prior year is less than ten (10).	2016 Heritage Tags – Unit 268, Quota 30 2016 SST tag- Unit 263, Quota 6 2016 PIW tag– Unit 253, Quota 9 2016 Dream tag – Unit 267, Quota 8 Units 253, 263, 267 closed

- In regards to California Bighorn Sheep, the Department continues to recommend the closure of Unit 041. The recommendation for closure is due to a limited number of mature rams in this new unit.

California BHS Dream Tag	2017 Recommended Closure
Those hunt units where any California specialty tags were filled in the prior year and the tag quota for the prior year for the hunt unit is less than seven (7).	2016 Heritage tag– Unit 032, Quota 11 2016 PIW tag– Unit 031, Quota 3 2016 Dream tag– Unit 031, Quota 3 Units 031, 041 closed

CR 17-08 2017 Partnership in Wildlife (PIW) Tags

- Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) stipulates that the quotas cannot exceed the following:
 - Mule deer resident – 22, nonresident – 3.
 - Antelope resident only – 5
 - Elk resident only – 3
 - Mountain Goat resident only – 1
 - Bighorn Sheep resident only – 4
- The species, quota, and season recommendations are the same as last year, with the maximum allowed by NAC for mule deer, antelope and elk. Only 2 sheep tags are recommended, 1 for Desert Bighorn and 1 for California Bighorn. No Mountain Goat tags are recommended at this time.
- Unit closure recommendations for elk are the same as last year with Unit 091 being closed.

- ❖ **New recommendations regarding unit closures for Bighorn Sheep. The closed units are determined using the format recommended by the TAAHC after public input and presentation to CABs and Commission.**
 - Desert Bighorn Sheep has unit closures listed based on the TAAHC format recommendation regarding specialty tags.

Nelson (Desert) BHS PIW Tag	2017 Recommended Closure
Those hunt units where any Desert specialty tags were filled in the prior year and the tag quota for the prior year for the hunt unit is less than ten (10).	2016 Heritage tags– Unit 268, Quota 30 2016 SST tag - Unit 263, Quota 6 2016 PIW tag – Unit 253, Quota 9 2016 Dream tag – Unit 267, Quota 8 Units 253, 263, 267 closed

- In regard to California Bighorn Sheep the Department continues to recommend the closure of Unit 041. The recommendation for closure is due to a limited number of mature rams in this new unit.

California BHS PIW Tag	2017 Recommended Closure
Those hunt units where any California specialty tags were filled in the prior year and the tag quota for the prior year for the hunt unit is less than seven (7).	2016 Heritage tag – Unit 032, Quota 11 2016 PIW tag – Unit 031, Quota 3 2016 Dream tag – Unit 031, Quota 3 Units 031, 041 closed

CR 17-09 2017 Silver State Tags

- As noted earlier, authority for Silver State tags and Heritage Tag quotas are pursuant to NRS and cannot exceed 14 big game tags and 5 wild turkey tags. The **2017** Heritage tags were approved last year, of which there were 9 Big Game tags. (2 deer, 2 elk, 2 antelope, 2 Desert BHS and 1 Calif. BHS).
- The species, seasons, quota recommendations for Silver State tags are the same as last year.
- Unit closure recommendations for elk are the same as last year with Unit 091 being closed.
- ❖ **New recommendations regarding unit closures for Bighorn Sheep. The closed unit is determined using the format recommended by the TAAHC after public input presentation to CABs and Commission.**
 - Desert Bighorn Sheep has a unit closure listed based on the TAAHC format recommendation regarding specialty tag.

Nelson (Desert) BHS Silver State Tag	2017 Recommended Closure
The hunt unit where Desert Silver State Tag was filled in the prior year if the tag quota for the prior for that hunt unit is less than ten (10).	2016 SST tag - Unit 263, Quota 6 Unit 263 closed

CR 17-10 Application Deadlines

- There are no recommended changes to the application deadline format.
- Online and paper applications will continue to be accepted.

CR 17-11 Application Eligibility for Draw applications

- **Silver State** Tag application eligibility is stipulated in NAC. There are no changes regarding the application eligibility for Silver State tags.
- **Antelope** - No change to the antelope application eligibility. Applicants will have to choose one category of antelope hunt (horns longer than ears or horns shorter hunt) and can only obtain one tag through the draw.
- **Elk** –This year the elk application eligibility has some change recommendations:
 - ❖ **New recommendations** – At the November TAAHC meeting several public requests regarding application eligibility were addressed and approved to come forward for consideration by the CABs and Commission. The public requested the ability to apply for an antlered elk hunt and spike elk hunt or bonus points.
 - Eligible applicants will be able to apply for both Antlered elk and Spike elk during the same application period but only obtain one male elk tag.
 - Eligible applicants could apply for the hunts or a bonus point in either or both antlered elk or spike elk hunts.
 - Note – Draw numbers are randomly issued across all species and applications. Once one tag (antlered elk or spike) is drawn the other application becomes ineligible for a tag. The ineligible application would then earn a point for the following year for being unsuccessful. Due to the random nature of the draw an applicant could draw the spike elk first and the bull elk application would become ineligible/unsuccessful.
 - Elk applicants in an antlered elk waiting period would still be able to apply for the spike elk hunt or bonus point.
 - Management hunts and seasons are being recommended by the Department again this year but only as a deer option.
 - ❖ **New recommendation** – Antlerless Elk management hunts would be available to nonresidents on a few hunter choices.
 - ❖ **New recommendation** – Antlerless Elk management hunts would be available on the Junior hunt on a few hunter choices.(See season tables regarding recommendations on antlerless elk management Hunts 4481, 4476, 4411 and the new 4407).
 - Applicants will be allowed to apply for more than one antlerless elk hunt but can only obtain one antlerless elk tag.
 - Obtaining an elk tag would still be restricted to one antlered or spike tag and one antlerless elk tag.
- **Bighorn Sheep** –Bighorn sheep application eligibility has change recommendations:
 - ❖ **New recommendations** – At the November TAAHC committee meeting there were several public requests for consideration regarding application eligibility. These were addressed and approved to come forward for consideration by the CABs and Commission. The public requested the ability, if eligible to apply for ram and ewe hunts or bonus points
 - Sheep hunt application eligibility for applying for ram/ewe hunts is recommended to be changed to “**AND**”. Applicants if eligible will be able to apply for both ram and ewe for a subspecies.
 - Eligible applicants can apply for both ram and ewe hunts in a subspecies or bonus points.

- New language – **Except as otherwise provided in regulation a person MAY OBTAIN only one bighorn sheep tag for a subspecies.** This is to restrict how many tags in a subspecies an applicant may obtain in the draw.
 - Note –Draw numbers are randomly issued across all species and applications. Once one tag, ram or ewe, is drawn for a subspecies the other application becomes ineligible for a tag. The ineligible application would then earn a point for the following year for being unsuccessful. Due to the random nature of the draw an applicant could draw the ewe hunt for a subspecies first and the application for the ram hunt for that subspecies would become ineligible/unsuccessful.
 - An eligible person in a waiting period for a ram subspecies can apply for any subspecies of ewe hunt if they are eligible.
 - An eligible person can apply for all subspecies of ewe bighorn sheep and possibly draw each.
 - An eligible person could obtain a ram and ewe tag in different subspecies.
- **Mt Goat** – No change to Mt Goat application eligibility from last year.
 - **Black bear** – No change to Black Bear application eligibility from last year.
 - **Mule Deer** –
 - No change to Mule Deer application eligibility from last year.
 - Applicants can only apply for one category of mule deer, (buck or doe or junior).
 - Applicants can only obtain one mule deer tag through a big game tag draw.
 - Again this year an exception is for the Antlerless Depredation Hunt 1101. A resident applicant may obtain an Antlerless Depredation hunt 1101 tag in addition to a 1331, 1341, 1371, 1181 or 1107 tag if the applicant applies for the hunt 1101 in a separate draw.
 - **Other tags** – Heritage tags, antelope and deer landowner damage compensation, elk incentive tags and antlerless elk landowner tags are tags that a person can obtain in addition to the draw tags.