



STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE  
Data and Technology Services Division

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MEMORANDUM:

December 31, 2021

**To:** Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife, and Interested Publics  
**From:** Kimberly Munoz, Data and Technology Services Division Administrator  
**Title:** Commission Regulation 22-05, 2023 Heritage Tag Seasons and Quotas  
**Description:** The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations for the establishment of the 2023 Heritage Tag seasons and quotas.

Summary:

This regulation is to establish the 2023 seasons and quotas for Heritage auction tags. The Department must mail, email and post Heritage tag vendor proposal packets by March 1, 2022. The Heritage Committee will review vendor proposal packets during their May meeting and provide recommendations to the County Advisory Boards and the Commission for review and adoption at the June meeting.

Combined Heritage and Silver State tag quotas may not exceed 15 big game tags and 5 wild turkey tags per Nevada Revised Statute 502.250.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

The Department recommends no changes to the previous year’s Heritage tag species or quotas, allowing two (2) mule deer tags, two (2) pronghorn antelope tags, two (2) elk tags, two (2) Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep tags, one (1) California bighorn sheep tag, and five (5) wild turkey tags.

The Department recommends no changes to the previous year’s Heritage Tag seasons.

The Department updated the method for closing Dream Tag Bighorn Sheep hunt units based on the Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee (TAAHC) recommendations. The new process provides a quota for specialty tag holders based on the quota available for the general public in each hunt unit. Upon the collection of the unit of kill during the harvest check in process, the Department will notify specialty tag bighorn sheep holders of any unit closures. The Department is recommending grouping Nelson and California bighorn sheep into one standard for closing unit groups opposed to what was presented and approved at the last TAAHC meeting. The approved unit closures from the TAAHC are as follows:

Desert BHS Unit Group Quota	California BHS Unit Group Quota	Maximum Specialty Tag Quota
1	1	0
5	6	1
10	12	2
15	18	3
20		4

>20		5
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Clarification language has been added notifying the public that portions of land that do not fall within the boundaries of NTTR and NAS Fallon are open to the public.

**Recommendation:**

The Department recommends that the Commission review and adopt the proposed regulation as presented.

**CR 22-05**  
**2023 Wildlife Heritage Tag Seasons and Quotas**

The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, under the authority of Section 501.181, 502.140, 502.250 and 503.140 of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS), does hereby adopt the following regulation for the management of wildlife resources in the State of Nevada.

**2023 Wildlife Heritage Tags**

**Hunting Hours:** Big game mammals and wild turkey may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset as listed on government sunrise-sunset tables.

**Take Limit:** One animal allowed per tag.

**Legal Weapon:** Any legal firearm or bow as described in NRS 503.150 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 503.141, 503.142, 503.143 and 503.144 may be used throughout the big game season. Additionally, any legal weapon or shotgun or bow as described in NAC 503.187 may be used throughout the wild turkey season.

**Unit Closures:** *The Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee and Commission directive on unit closures is associated with the setting of the annual bighorn sheep quotas and the following table that identifies the maximum number of specialty tags for every unit group that has an open season. Some unit groups may be set to zero (0) if they are not able to sustain additional ram harvest beyond the general draw's tag quota.*

<i>BHS Unit Group Quota</i>	<i>Maximum Specialty Tag Quota</i>
<i>1-2</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>3-6</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>7-12</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>13-20</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>&gt;20</i>	<i>4</i>

*Upon the collection of the unit of kill during the harvest check in process, the Department will notify specialty tag bighorn sheep holders of any unit closures by cell or satellite phone, satellite communicator, email, or other forms of electronic notification the Department may adopt to advise of bighorn sheep unit group closures due to specialty tag harvest limits being reached.*

<b>Species</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Unit Group</b>	<b>Season</b>	<b>Quota</b>	<b>Organization</b>
<b>Mule Deer</b>	Any mule deer	Any hunt unit assigned an antlered mule deer season.	August 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 in compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the Mule Deer hunt.	2	To be determined at June NBWC meeting
<b>Pronghorn Antelope</b>	Any pronghorn antelope	Any hunt unit assigned a pronghorn antelope with horns longer than ears season.	August 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 in compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the Pronghorn Antelope hunt.	2	To be determined at June NBWC meeting
<b>Rocky Mountain Elk</b>	Any elk with at least one antler	Any hunt unit assigned an antlered elk season except for unit 091.	August 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 in compliance with the dates set for each	2	To be determined at June NBWC meeting

			hunt unit group for the Rocky Mountain Elk hunt.		
<b>Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Heritage Tag*</b>	Any ram	Any hunt unit assigned a Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep season.	July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, in compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the Nelson (Desert) bighorn sheep any ram hunt.	2	To be determined at June NBWC meeting
<b>California Bighorn Sheep Heritage Tag*</b>	Any ram	Any hunt unit assigned a California bighorn sheep season.	July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 in compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the California bighorn sheep any ram hunt.	1	To be determined at June NBWC meeting
<b>Wild Turkey</b>	Any wild turkey	Any hunt unit assigned a wild turkey season.	March 21, 2023 through May 3, 2023 in compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the Wild Turkey hunt.	5	To be determined at June NBWC meeting
<b>Total</b>				<b>14</b>	

\* There are portions of hunt unit 181 in Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon where public access is **restricted**. To hunt Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep in the NAS portions of this unit, the tag holder is required to attend a NAS hunter safety briefing. *Those portions of hunt unit 181 that do not fall within the boundaries of NAS Fallon are open to the public.*

Portions of Hunt units 252, 280, 281, 282 are within the Nevada Test and Training Range (NTTR) where public access is **restricted**. Hunters and everyone in their respective hunting parties must comply with all Nevada hunting requirements and all NTTR safety and security requirements including the following: 1) consent to and pass a criminal history background check; 2) be at least 14 years old on opening day of the respective hunting season; 3) attend the Nellis Air Force Base hunter safety briefing; and 4) within the NTTR portion of unit 252 limit party size to 5 including tag holder. Additional party members may complete background check and safety briefing, but only maximum of 5 party members including tag holder may be present within the NTTR portion of unit 252 at any given time. *Those portions of hunt units 252, 280, 281, and 282 that do not fall within the boundaries of NTTR are open to the public.*

Hunters and members of their parties who fail to comply with these requirements may be denied access to the NTTR. Hunters and members of their parties may not access the NTTR after a tag is filled and animal has been removed and in possession of tag holder. No pets are allowed on NTTR. It is the hunter's responsibility to meet and/or comply with all NTTR eligibility requirements. In some units there may be adjustments to season dates to accommodate Department of Defense operations. The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners hereby delegates authority to the Nevada Department of Wildlife to adjust season dates to accommodate Department of Defense operations so long as there is no change to the overall length of the season.

Bighorn Sheep tag holders will be notified by the Department of Wildlife of the date, time and location of the Indoctrination classes. Attendance at one Bighorn Sheep Indoctrination Class is mandatory for tag holders or their representative guides or sub-guides. A person represented by a guide or sub-guide at the Indoctrination class may only hunt under the direct supervision of the guide or sub-guide who attended the class on their behalf. Tags will only be issued upon completion of an Indoctrination class. Although attendance is mandatory, tag holders, guides, and sub-guides who can prove they have attended previous Bighorn seminars are exempt from attending future seminars.

*The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners hereby delegates authority to the Nevada Department of Wildlife to adjust season dates to accommodate Department of Defense operations so long as there is no change to the overall length of the season.*