



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 22-06, 2022 Silver State**

Description: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations for the establishment of the 2022 Silver State Tags seasons and quotas.

Summary:

This regulation is to establish the 2022 seasons and quotas for Silver State big game tags. The 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. Nine (9) big game Heritage tags for 2021 were approved last year, leaving up to six (6) big game tags remaining for Silver State.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

The Department recommends the addition of a California bighorn sheep tag into the Silver State program. This tag was taken from the Partnership in Wildlife program and is not an additional tag created for a specialty tag programs. The total number of tags allotted to the specialty tag programs remain the same as adopted last season.

The Department recommends closing the units where the prior year's Silver State Nelson and PIW California bighorn sheep tags were harvested. The Department has recommended no changes to the seasons of all other species from the previous year. For consistency, the Department recommends continuing to use the method for closing Silver State bighorn sheep hunt units based on the previously approved Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee recommendations. These recommendations include the closure of hunt units where the Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Silver State Tag No. 1 was filled in the year prior and the harvest quota for the current year for that hunt unit is less than ten (10) or seven (7) for California Bighorn Sheep. These recommendations will continue through 2022 to mirror the approved unit group closures of the 2022 Heritage Tag.

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 22-06 2022 Silver State

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.

2022 Silver State Tags

Hunting Hours: Big game mammals 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.

Unit Closures: The Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee and Commission directive on unit closures is for the following: close units of harvest during the previous years and Nelson Bighorn Sheep tags #1 and #2 hunts will be closed for the subsequent year's hunt if the quota in that unit for the prior year is less than ten (10) for Nelson Bighorn Sheep *or seven (7) for California Bighorn Sheep*. This closure is subject to change on a yearly basis.

Hunt	Class	Unit Group	Season	Quota
Mule Deer	Any mule deer	Any hunt unit assigned an antlered mule deer season.	August 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 in compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the Mule Deer hunt.	1
Pronghorn Antelope	Any pronghorn antelope	Any hunt unit assigned a pronghorn antelope with horns longer than ears season.	August 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 in compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the Pronghorn Antelope hunt.	1
Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Silver State Tag*	Any ram	Any hunt unit assigned a Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep season except unit 263.	July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 in compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep any ram hunt.	1
California Bighorn Sheep Silver State Tag*	Any ram	Any hunt unit assigned a California bighorn sheep season except unit 031.	July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 in compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep any ram hunt.	1
Rocky Mountain Elk	Any elk with at least one antler	Any hunt unit assigned an antlered elk season except for unit 091.	August 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 in compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the Rocky Mountain Elk hunt.	1
Total				5

* 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.