



**STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
Game Division**

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MEMORANDUM

APRIL 20, 2023

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

From: Dr. Nate LaHue, DVM, Acting Administrator, Game Division

Title: **Commission Regulation 23-05, Amendment #1, 2023 Black Bear Quotas and Harvest Limits**

Purpose: The Commission will establish regulations for the numbers of tags to be issued and harvest limits for the 2023 black bear season.

Summary

This regulation will set the 2023 hunting season quotas and harvest limits for Black Bears. The season dates, open management unit groups, hunting hours, special regulations, animal sex, weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and dates and times for indoctrinations for black bears are included but were approved at the January 2023 Commission meeting.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

In 2022, a total of 16 bears (11 males, 5 females) were harvested during the hunt. Harvest limits were reached for males in Unit Group 203, 291 with 8 males harvested. Female harvest limits were reached in Unit Groups 192, 194, 195, 196 and 201, 202, 204, 206 with 3 and 2 females harvested respectively. This was the first year that the harvest limits were reached resulting in the closure of the Black Bear season after only 24 days.

The Department is recommending no changes from the 2022 Black Bear season. Black bear observations continue to increase in widespread areas around Nevada with one recent sighting in the Spring Mountains of Clark County. Additional recent sightings have documented bears in Humboldt, Elko, White Pine, Lincoln, and Clark counties. All indications are that the black bear population is stable to increasing with the black bear hunt causing minimal added mortality to the Nevada population.

Recommendation

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

CR 23-05 Amendment #1 2023 BLACK BEAR QUOTAS AND HARVEST LIMITS

The Board of Wildlife Commissioners under the authority of Section 501.181, 503.090, 503.140 and 503.245 of the Nevada Revised Statutes, does hereby adopt the following regulations for the management of black bear:

Resident and Nonresident Black Bear - Either Sex Any Legal Weapon Hunt 6151 and 6251

Unit Group	2022 Season Dates	Unit Group Harvest Limit	Unit Group Female Harvest Limit	Resident Quota	Nonresident Quota
Hunt units 192*, 194*, 195, 196 (except those portions of 192 and 194 described below in Special Regulations.)	Sept 15 - Dec 1 (or until harvest limits are met)	6	3	45	5
Hunt unit group 201, 202, 204 and 206	Sept 15 - Dec 1 (or until harvest limits are met)	6	2		
Hunt unit group 291 and 203	Sept 15 - Dec 1 (or until harvest limits are met)	8	3		

- The limit is one animal per tag.
- Hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.
- Tag holders, or their licensed guide if applicable, must call the Black Bear Harvest Information Hotline prior to hunting to determine if the hunt has been closed due to the harvest objective being reached. The number is 1-800-800-1667 and is accessible 24 hours a day.
- Attendance at one of the annual black bear indoctrination courses is mandatory for tag holders AND their representative guides and sub-guides. A person represented by a guide or sub-guide at the indoctrination must take the indoctrination course; their guide and sub-guides must also take the indoctrination course. Tags will only be issued upon completion of one indoctrination course. Black bear indoctrination courses are scheduled for Saturday August 5 and Saturday, August 19, 2023, from 1 pm to 4 pm. Both courses will be held from 1 pm to 4pm at the Nevada Department of Wildlife’s conference room, 1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada and streamed on Zoom. Courses will be recorded on Zoom and available for First Come First Serve tagholders. The Department will provide all tag holders with directions for registration prior to August 5, 2023.
- The Department phone number to call and report a harvested black bear is 775-688-BEAR. Please leave a message.

*Special Regulations

Those areas within Units 192 and 194 that are within the U.S. Forest Service Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) and those areas bounded on the west by the LTBMU boundary from the southern boundary of Township 16 North, Range 18 East, Section 13 to the Mount Rose Wilderness Area boundary (approximately located at the Relay Ridge Radio Tower), by the Mount Rose Wilderness Area boundary from the LTBMU boundary to the western boundary of Range 19 East, and by the western boundary of Range 19 East from the Mount Rose Wilderness Area boundary to USFS Road No. 41049 (Logan Meadow Lane/Thomas Creek), bounded on the north by USFS Road No. 41049 from the western boundary of Range 19 East to Timberline Drive, by Timberline Drive from its junction with USFS Road No. 41049 to State Highway 431 (Mount Rose Highway), and by State Highway 431 from its junction with Timberline Drive to its junction with U.S. Highway 395, bounded on the east by U.S. Highway 395 from its junction with State Highway 431 to the southern boundary of Township 16 North, Range 19 East, Section 14 (approximately located at the northbound Bellevue Interchange off-ramp), and bounded on the south by the southern edge of Township 16 North, Range 19 East, Sections 14 – 18, following the southern boundary of the University of Nevada, Reno Little Valley Study Area, and Township 16 North, Range 18 East, Section 13 to the LTBMU boundary.