



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
Data and Technology Services Division

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MEMORANDUM:

JUNE 1, 2021

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

From: Management Analyst Megan Manfredi, Data and Technology Services Division Administrator

Title: **Commission Regulation 22-05 Amendment #1, 2023 Heritage Tag Vendors**

Description: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations from the Heritage Committee for the assignment of the 2023 Heritage Tags to proposed vendors for sale by auction.

Summary:

This regulation is to assign the 2023 Heritage Tags to auctioning vendors. The vendor proposal packets were received before the April 18, 2022 deadline and reviewed by the Heritage Committee at their May 5, 2022 meeting. The regulation amendment reflects the Committee's recommendations and decision to present those recommendations to the County Advisory Boards and the Commission at the June meeting.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

All tags and quotas represented in the Commission Regulation were approved in the January 28-29, 2022 Commission meeting.

Recommendation:

The Department recommends that the Commission review and adopt the proposed regulation as provided by the Heritage Committee.

CR 22-05 Amendment #1 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.

BHS Unit Group Quota	Maximum Specialty Tag Quota
1-2	0
3-6	1
7-12	2
13-20	3
>20	4

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.

Species	Class	Unit Group	Season	Quota	Organization
Mule Deer	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	Mule Deer Foundation Wildlife & Habitat Improvement of Nevada (WHIN)
Pronghorn Antelope	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	Pershing County Chukars Unlimited Wild Sheep Foundation & Fraternity of the Desert Bighorn
Rocky Mountain Elk	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 hunt unit group for the	2	Meadow Valley Wildlife Unlimited Nevada Bighorns Unlimited (NBU) - Elko

			Rocky Mountain Elk hunt.		
Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Heritage Tag*	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	Nevada Bighorns Unlimited (NBU) – Reno Wild Sheep Foundation & Fraternity of the Desert Bighorn
California Bighorn Sheep Heritage Tag*	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	Nevada Bighorns Unlimited (NBU) – Reno Las Vegas Woods & Waters
Wild Turkey	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	Wildlife & Habitat Improvement of Nevada (WHIN) Meadow Valley Wildlife Unlimited Pershing County Chukars Unlimited Safari Club International (SCI) – Las Vegas
Total				14	

* 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 in 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.

In the instance that an approved Heritage Tag vendor is unable to hold an event where a Heritage Tag is scheduled to be sold, the Board of Wildlife Commission grants authority to the Department to allocate the tag(s) to a different Commission approved Heritage Tag vendor for the corresponding year who has the ability to hold their event and offer for auction the Heritage Tags.