



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

6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Ste. 120 · Reno, Nevada 89511
(775) 688-1500 Fax (775) 688-1987

MEMORANDUM

JANUARY 5, 2023

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

From: Mike Scott, Administrator, Game Division

Title: **Commission Regulation 23-05, Black Bear Season**

Purpose: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt 2023 hunting season dates, open management unit, or unit-groups, hunting hours, special regulations, animal sex, legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and dates and times for indoctrination courses for black bears.

Summary

This regulation will set the 2023 hunting season dates, open management unit, or unit-groups, hunting hours, special regulations, animal sex, legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and dates and times for indoctrination courses for black bears.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

This regulation includes hunting season dates, open management units, hunting hours, special regulations, animal sex, legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and dates and times for indoctrination courses for black bear. The proposed season extends from September 15 to December 1 based on prior seasons approved by the Commission.

The hunt area is subdivided into three separate hunt unit groups to manage harvest with season running concurrently, each with separate harvest limits for males and females. There will be three separate hunt application numbers for residents and non-residents, with tags valid for one hunt area. Portions of the hunting area may be closed as individual harvest limits are met, but all tags will remain valid in the remaining open areas until all harvest limits are met or the season closing date is reached.

In 2022, a total of 16 bears (11 males, 5 females) were harvested during the 2022 hunt. The harvest limit for males was reached 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 females and 2 females harvested respectively. This marks the first year since the inception of

the Nevada Black Bear hunt that the season has been closed due to harvest limits being reached. The three-year averages for mean age of males (6.2) and females (7.2) in the harvest indicate light harvest, and the proportion of females (30.2%) indicates stable harvest.

Recommendation

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

CR 23-05
2023 BLACK BEAR SEASON DRAFT

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

Unit Group	2023 Season
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)
Hunt units 201, 202, 204 and 206	Sept 15 - Dec 1 (or until harvest limits are met)
Hunt unit 291 and 203	Sept 15 - Dec 1 (or until harvest limits are met)

- 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 course 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. An in-person Black bear indoctrination course is scheduled for Saturday August 5 from 1 pm to 4pm at the Nevada Department of Wildlife’s conference room, 1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada. A Virtual Zoom Indoctrination Course is scheduled for Saturday, August 19, 2023, from 1 pm to 4 pm. The Virtual Zoom Indoctrination Course will be recorded 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. 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.