



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
Data and Technology Services Division
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MEMORANDUM:

DECEMBER 30, 2022

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 23-11, 2023 Partnership in Wildlife**

Purpose: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations for the establishment of the 2023 Partnership in Wildlife tags seasons and quotas.

Summary

This regulation is to establish the 2023 seasons and quotas for Partnership in Wildlife big game tags. Partnership in Wildlife tag quotas may not exceed 22 resident and 3 nonresident mule deer tags, 5 resident pronghorn antelope tags, 3 resident elk tags, 1 mountain goat tag, and 4 resident bighorn sheep tags per Nevada Administrative Code 502.428.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

The Department updated the method for closing Partnership in Wildlife 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 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. This process has been approved for the 2023 Heritage Tags found in Commission Regulation 22-05.

The Department recommends no change to the previous year’s Partnership in Wildlife Tag species or quotas, allowing the maximum tags for mule deer, pronghorn antelope and elk, one (1) tag for Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep, and zero (0) tags for mountain goat.

Recommendation

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

CR 23-11 2023 Partnership in Wildlife

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.

Partnership in Wildlife 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: Legal weapons are described in NRS 503.150 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 503.141, 503.142, 503.143 and 503.144. Weapon use must adhere to the weapon class seasons defined for each species, hunt unit and hunt.

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.

Hunt	Class	Unit Group	Season	Quota
Resident Mule Deer	Antlered	Any hunt unit where there is an open season for antlered mule deer.	In compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for resident mule deer antlered hunts.	22
Nonresident Mule Deer	Antlered	Any hunt unit where there is an open season for antlered mule deer.	In compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for non-resident mule deer antlered hunts.	3
Resident Pronghorn Antelope	Horns longer than ears	Any hunt unit where there is an open season for pronghorn antelope with horns longer than ears.	In compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for resident pronghorn antelope horns longer than ears hunts.	5
Resident Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep*	Any ram	Any hunt unit where there is an open season for Nelson bighorn sheep.	In compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the resident Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep any ram hunt.	1
Resident Rocky Mountain Elk	Any elk with at least one antler	Any hunt unit where there is an open season for antlered elk except for unit 091.	In compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for resident elk antlered hunts. Excludes Spike and Depredation hunts.	3
Total				34

* 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.

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