

2014 ALBERTA GUIDE TO

Hunting

REGULATIONS



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Rocky Mountain Elk
- Don Kesler photo

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2014 Deer Hunters

Your Role in CWD Surveillance

The ongoing Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance Program targets CWD risk areas in wildlife management units (WMUs) along the Alberta/Saskatchewan border, as indicated on the map. Although CWD continues to expand geographically and numerically, the risk of harvesting an infected deer remains low. In 2013, 49 of 3667 heads tested (1.34%) had CWD: 42 mule deer and 7 white-tails, of which 34 were males and 15 were females. Prevalence was 2.0% in the 2107 mule deer tested.

The zone of **MANDATORY** submission of heads from all hunter-harvested deer remains the same as 2012 and 2013. **Four other units are designated as Voluntary Deer Head Submission (WMUs 138, 142, 156, 166).**

It is **MANDATORY** to submit deer heads from WMUs

**102, 116, 118, 119, 124, 144,
148, 150, 151, 152, 160, 162, 163, 164, 200,
202, 203, 204, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 254, 256,
258, 500, 728, and 730**

Heads for testing must have a green CWD label that provides a unique identification number for each deer head submitted. Pick up labels and instructions after you shoot your deer. They are available at Fish and Wildlife offices or, during rifle seasons, at 24-hour freezers in CWD risk areas. **COMPLETELY FILL OUT BOTH SIDES OF THE GREEN LABEL, PARTICULARLY A PRECISE KILL LOCATION AND YOUR WIN NUMBER.** Heads should be kept frozen and dropped off at any Fish and Wildlife office or any of the freezers. Negative CWD test results are provided online to hunters as soon as possible.

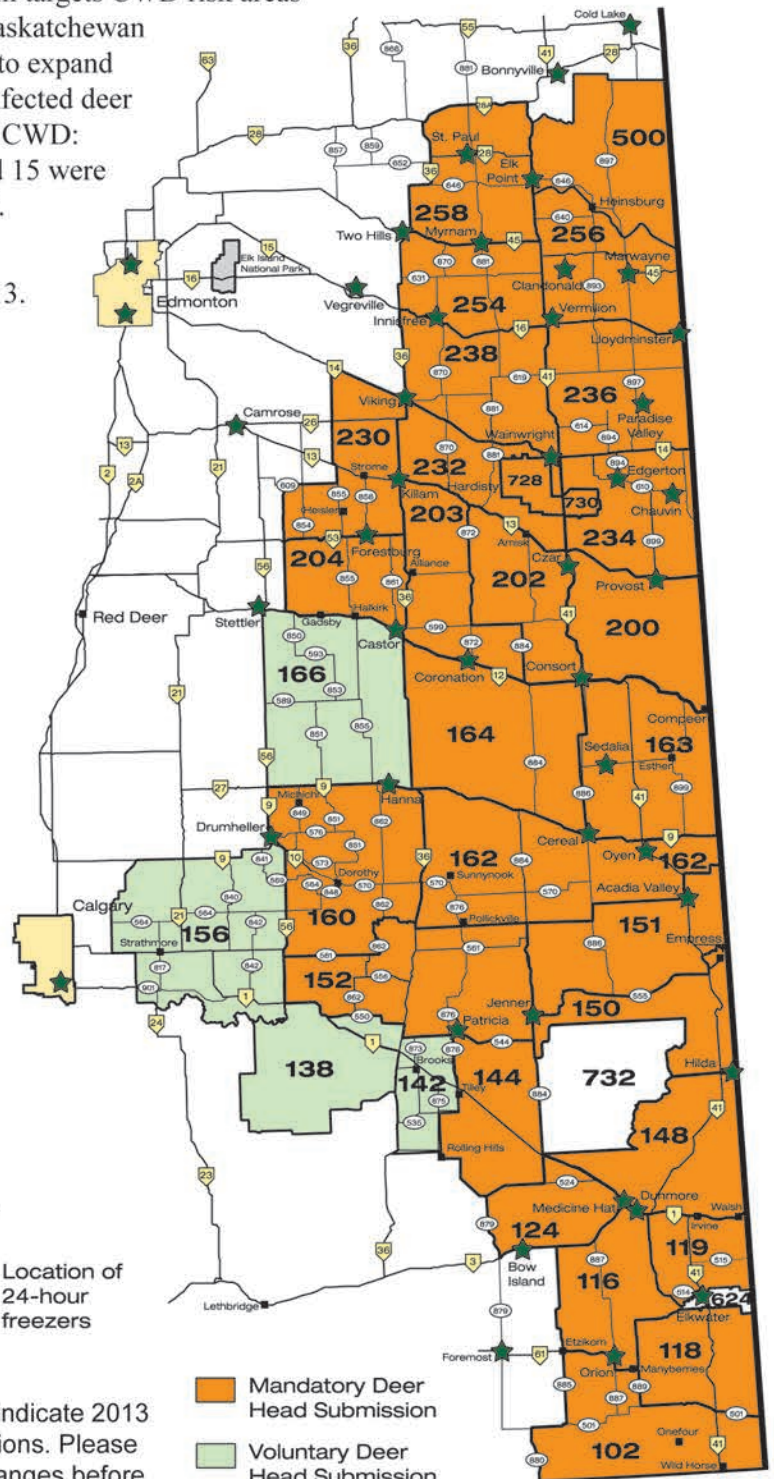
Hunting opportunities in the border areas are designed to maintain hunting pressure on deer populations and to standardize seasons and opportunities. Check the 2014 *Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations* for specific details.

For more detailed information about CWD visit the Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development, wildlife diseases website www.esrd.alberta.ca/fish-wildlife/wildlife-diseases/ or contact Dr. M. Pybus (780) 427-3462. Dial 310-0000 first for toll-free long distance calls.

★ Location of 24-hour freezers

Note: Stars indicate 2013 freezer locations. Please check for changes before 2014 seasons start.

Orange box: Mandatory Deer Head Submission
Green box: Voluntary Deer Head Submission



There is no scientific evidence to suggest that CWD can affect humans. As a precaution, the World Health Organization (WHO) advises against animals infected with any prion disease entering the food chain.



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I took the one less traveled by,
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Notice to Hunters

Fish and Wildlife of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development frequently conducts vehicle checks to assist in the management of Alberta’s fish and wildlife resources and to ensure compliance with existing legislation.



MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER



**Greetings from
Minister Robin Campbell
Minister of Environment and Sustainable
Resource Development**

Albertans are lucky to have such amazing hunting opportunities in their own backyard. Hunting is a longstanding tradition in our province, and it has been an important part of our culture and economy for many years.

We are a growing province with more than four million people – and more people means a greater demand on our lands and resources. We all have an important role to play in ensuring our wildlife is managed sustainably. Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development's goal is to make sure Albertans continue to enjoy a wide variety of recreational hunting opportunities long into the future. We rely heavily on the contributions of hunters and outdoor enthusiasts to act as stewards of Alberta's habitats and wildlife resources.

Effective management means making sure that hunting is sustainable. We monitor game species to ensure their populations remain healthy over time. Each year, we update our hunting regulations to provide the best, most up-to-date information to interested hunters and make changes as needed to ensure the long-term sustainability of hunting in Alberta.

This year, for example, our department has reinstated the Hay-Zama Bison hunt. The Hay-Zama population has recovered from the harsh winter of 2012/2013 to the point where a hunt can be safely supported.

I encourage all of you to familiarize yourself with the hunting regulations found in this guide. They provide the information needed to ensure a safe, successful and sustainable hunting season.

It's also important to respect the land and get permission from landowners before hunting on their property. Be safe out there and have an enjoyable and successful hunting season.

Honourable Robin Campbell
Minister of Environment and Sustainable Resource Development



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ONLINE TAGS

To purchase your licence online, you must have a pre-numbered 10-digit Government of Alberta paper tag and wire before you begin your purchase.

**CALL 1-888-944-5494
to have online tags mailed to you.**

ONLINE TAGS AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS



In Edmonton:

- Alberta Professional Outfitters Society
#103, 6030-88 Street,
Edmonton – 780-414-0249
- Alberta Hunter Education
#88, 4003-98 Street, Edmonton – 780-466-6682
- Alberta Fish and Game Association
6924-104 Street, Edmonton – 780-437-2342
- Information Centre Main Floor
9920-108 Street, Edmonton – 780-422-2079
- Sports Scene Publications Inc.
#100, 10642-178 Street, Edmonton – 780-413-0331

In Sherwood Park:

- Alberta Conservation Association
101-9 Chippewa Road, Sherwood Park – 780-410-1999

In Calgary:

- Alberta Hunter Education
911 Sylvester Cr. SW, Calgary – 403-252-8474

In Lethbridge:

- Alberta Conservation Association
#400, 817-4 Ave South, Lethbridge – 403-388-7769

**ALSO AVAILABLE AT ALL
FISH AND WILDLIFE OFFICES**
(see page 16 for the Fish and Wildlife office nearest you)



AlbertaRELM

The Government of Alberta sends emails to hunters and anglers throughout the year. These emails contain important information that you need to know! Issues such as when the draw results will be available or new fishery or hunting restrictions.

If you want to receive these emails directly, register your WIN at albertarelm.com. By providing your email address you will be included in our distribution.

Disclaimers

This pamphlet is neither a legal document nor a complete listing of current Alberta hunting regulations. It is a summary of the regulations and is published annually by Sports Scene Publications Inc. to help hunters understand the rules of hunting. Details of the regulations may be obtained from the nearest Fish and Wildlife office (page 16).

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IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR 2014

GENERAL

- **Effective 2014** all 1-900 licensing services for fishing and hunting is discontinued. Draw applications, checking draw results or reserving undersubscribed special licences will be available online through albertarelm.com or at licence issuers.
- **NOTE: Beginning 2014** all new first-time hunters who have qualified for obtaining recreational hunting licences by successfully completing the Alberta Conservation and Hunter Education course, will be required to provide on their WIN application form, their hunter certificate number that is issued to each course graduate, in order to be eligible to purchase a hunting licence.

BIG GAME

- The hunting of antlered mule deer in WMUs 339, 340, 342 and 344 during the general (rifle) season will require an Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence.
- The antlerless mule deer season in WMU 346 has been closed.
- The hunting of antlerless moose in WMU 248 during the October 25 – December 7 Antlerless Moose Special Licence season is now permitted in the County of Leduc as well as the County of Strathcona.
- Archery and Antlerless Elk Special Licence and Antlered Elk Special Licence hunting seasons have been created in WMUs 240 and 242.
- WMU 246 has been added to Archery and Antlerless Elk Special Licence and Antlered Elk Special Licence hunting seasons that currently exist in WMUs 206, 222, 226 and 244.
- Additional Antlerless Elk Special Licence hunting seasons in WMU 732 (CFB Suffield) have been created.

- Additional Antlerless and Antlered Elk Special Licence hunting seasons have been created for WMUs 124, 144, 148 and 150.
- The hunting season dates for Antlerless and Antlered Elk Special Licences in WMUs 200, 202, 203, 232 and 234 have been amended.
- An archery and general (rifle) hunting season for antlered elk (3-point or better) have been created in WMUs 528, 535 and 537.
- An antlerless elk hunting season has been created in WMU 537. A general licence or Antlerless Elk Special Licence will be valid during the archery only season and an Antlerless Elk Special Licence will be valid during the general (rifle) season.
- A general elk licence is now valid during the archery only hunting seasons in WMUs 151, 152, 164 and 166 for antlered or antlerless elk.
- A non-trophy sheep hunting season in WMU 404B has been created. A Non-trophy Sheep Special Licence is required to hunt during this season.
- The Bison Special Licence hunting season has been reinstated for 2014.
- The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence is no longer valid in WMUs 258, 300, 500, 501, 502, 503, 506 and 514.

GAME BIRD

- Starting 2015, Alberta will have a spring snow/Ross's goose hunting season from March 15 through June 15 annually. Please refer to the game bird hunting table on page 64 for valid WMUs. Regular fall hunting restrictions and daily bag limit (50) apply. As in the fall hunting season, there is no longer a possession limit for snow/Ross's geese.

WMU DESCRIPTIONS

The WMU boundaries shown on the enclosed map are small-scale approximations of the actual units legally described in the *Wildlife Regulation* (AR 143/97) and subsequent amendments. The map enclosed in this Guide is provided to help you identify the WMU in which you wish to hunt. **It is your responsibility to know in which WMU you are hunting and the seasons, rules and regulations that govern hunting in that WMU.** Text descriptions of the WMU boundaries may be either read

at your nearest Fish and Wildlife office or through the Alberta Queen's Printer website (www.qp.alberta.ca) or purchased from The Alberta Queen's Printer at the following address:

Alberta Queen's Printer
10611 - 98 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5K 2P7
Telephone: (780) 427-4952

NOTE: The Queen's Printer does not sell maps.

MAPS

Maps providing information about access, topography and land ownership can be purchased at several locations throughout the province. Contact your local Map Dealer. Map Dealer locations are highlighted on the Map Distribution Centre external website at esrd.alberta.ca

Provincial and Federal Maps

Provincial and federal access and topographical maps are available from

various private map dealers throughout the province.

County and Other Municipal Maps

Hunters are reminded to check with county and municipal offices for detailed maps showing land ownership status. These maps are available for a nominal fee and are useful for determining land status and ownership, which can help you obtain permission for access.



APOS – Your Partner in Conservation

The Alberta Professional Outfitter's Society has reinvested more than \$1.5 million in Alberta to support wildlife management. Programs funded include:

- Aerial Ungulate Surveys
- Access Management and Elk Ecology
- Cougar and Wolf Predation Research
- Habitat Utilization by Pronghorn Antelope
- Bighorn Sheep Resiliency Research
- Sharp-tailed Grouse Distribution

Healthy wildlife populations benefit all of Alberta's hunting community.



For more information on these
and other APOS activities
contact us at 780-414-0249
or visit
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APOS
ALBERTA PROFESSIONAL OUTFITTERS SOCIETY

INTERNET LICENSING – THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW.

BACKGROUND

What is albertarelm.com?

Albertarelm.com is a website built specifically for anglers and hunters and is funded in part by your licence fees. By registering on this site, hunters and anglers can buy or renew their Wildlife Identification Number card (WIN), buy sportfishing licences and hunting licences, and apply for their draws online.

Hunters and anglers can view their licence purchases including their draw application history, draw results and priorities, update their addresses and telephone numbers and receive directed information.

What is a WIN

A WIN is your unique Wildlife Identification Number which is required to purchase all your fishing and hunting licences (see page 20).

You can now visit albertarelm.com and purchase or renew your WIN and purchase your sportfishing licence and hunting licences and apply for draws.

What do I need to purchase an online licence?

ONLINE PURCHASES

You will need a valid credit card, an email address, access to a computer with an internet connection and a printer to print your licences. If you do not have an email address, free addresses are available through internet service providers or free email services such as Hotmail and Gmail. Credit cards accepted are Visa, MasterCard and American Express.

If you purchase a licence online that requires a tag(s) you must use an online paper tag. The online paper tags contain a unique 10 digit tag number. You are required to enter it when making your purchase. Tags are available at your local Fish and Wildlife office free of charge or call 1-888-944-5494. Print your licence once your purchase is complete. You do

not need to wait for a licence to be mailed or go to another location to pick it up. If you lose your online licence, you can reprint the licence online at no cost.

What does it cost to buy an online licence?

Your online licence will cost the same as a licence purchased at your local licence issuer. The cost varies according to the type of licence you buy. There are no added service fees.

What are the technical requirements for my computer for online purchases?

Your internet browser should use Microsoft Internet Explorer Version 6.0 or newer or Firefox Version 3.5 or higher. To print your licence, your operating system should be Adobe Acrobat Reader Version 8 or higher. Adobe Acrobat is available as a free download once you are connected to the internet.

Is there someone I can call if I have problems when I try to purchase a licence?

You can call the albertarelm Help Desk (1-888-944-5494) for assistance. You can also send e-mail inquiries to albertarelmsupport@activenetwork.com.

How do I know my information is secure?

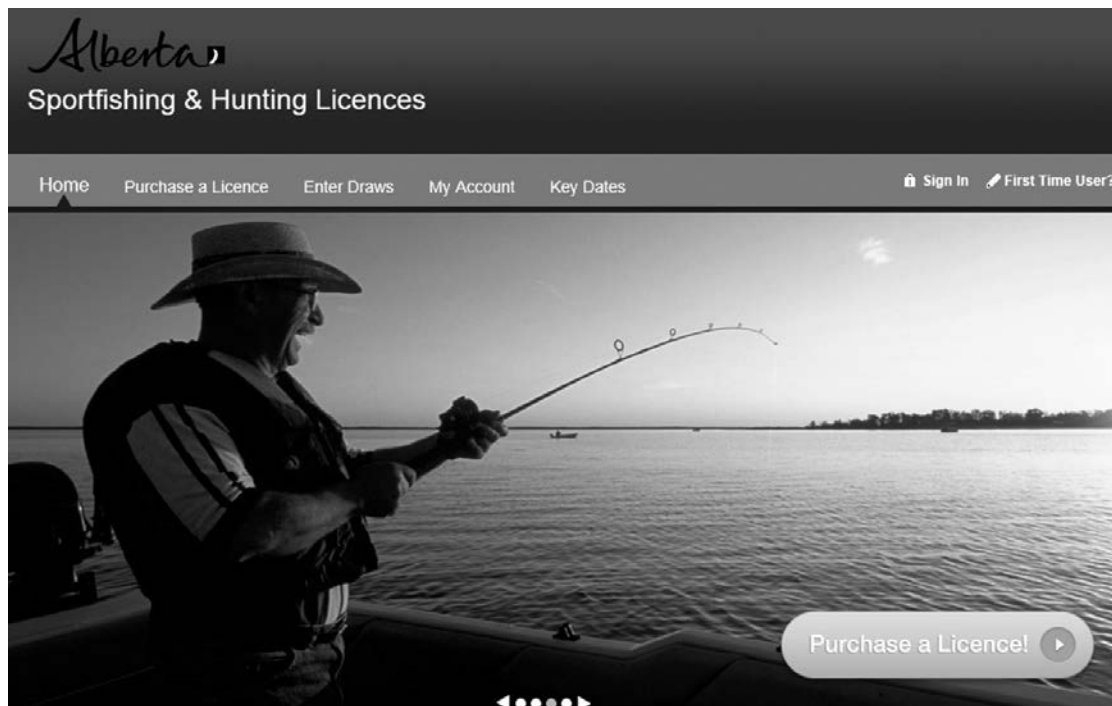
Your internet browser will indicate that you are operating on a secure server. You will know this as the URL of the website will begin with an "https" rather than "http" and there will be a closed padlock on the status bar.

Albertarelm is protected using a secure internet service know as Digicert. The information you enter is transmitted using a Secure Socket Layer (SSL) of communications.

Your credit card information is encrypted for added security. Your credit card number will not be stored in our database.

HOW TO ACCESS THE ONLINE SYSTEM

Go to albertaRELM.com



◀ **First Time Users start here.**

Follow the prompts to purchase licences.

If you experience difficulties, please call 1-888-944-5494 for assistance.

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions will help you understand this Guide:

Antlered – a white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose or elk having an antler exceeding 10.2 cm (4 in.) in length.

Antlerless – a white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose or elk that is not “antlered” (as defined above).

Bait – any substance that consists of a food attractant, including any mineral and any representation of a food attractant.

Big Game Designated Guide – a person designated by the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society to commercially guide big game hunters in Alberta. A Designated Guide may guide not more than two Non-resident (Canadian) and non-resident alien big game hunters at a time in any part of Alberta, provided that each Non-resident (Canadian) or Non-resident alien has contracted the hunt through an Outfitter-guide. The two-hunter limit does not include Resident hunters.

Big Game Outfitter-guide – a person who is the holder of a valid Outfitter-guide Permit, and who provides outfitting and guiding services to big game hunters in Alberta.

- Class S Outfitter-guide – an Outfitter-guide who holds Non-resident (Canadian)/Non-resident Alien allocations for Trophy Sheep Special Licences. A Class S Outfitter-guide may also hold allocations for other big game special licences.
- Class T Outfitter-guide – an Outfitter-guide who holds allocations valid for Non-resident (Canadian) and Non-resident Alien big game special licences other than those for trophy sheep.

Bird Game Designated Guide – a person designated by the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society to commercially guide game bird hunters in Alberta.

Bird Game Outfitter-guide – a person who is the holder of a valid Bird Game Outfitter-guide Permit issued by the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society and who provides outfitting and guiding services to non-resident and non-resident alien game bird hunters in Alberta.

Either Sex Special Elk – authorizes the hunting of any age, size, or gender of elk in a specific WMU.

Green Area – forest lands not available for agricultural development other than grazing. In general, the Green Area is public land outside the parkland and prairie regions or roughly in the northern half of the province and within a strip running along the Rocky Mountains and foothills.

Hunter Host – an adult resident who is the holder of a valid Hunter Host Licence. To obtain this licence, the adult must hold a valid WIN and be eligible to hold recreational hunting licences. A Hunter Host **may not provide services for gain or reward or accept a fee for services, directly or indirectly.**

The licence authorizes the holder (**usually a relative or friend of the hunters to be hosted**) to host a maximum of two non-residents (Canadian) or non-resident aliens* named on the host’s licence to hunt wolf, coyote and big game throughout the province. * Non-resident alien hunters are referred to Outfitting and Guiding Requirements (page 23) for additional conditions and restrictions.

Loaded Firearm – A firearm in or on a vehicle, aircraft or boat is considered loaded if it has live ammunition in the breech, chamber or magazine. Cartridges are permitted in a magazine that is not attached to the firearm.

Non-resident (Canadian) – a person who is not a Resident (see below), but who makes his or her home and is ordinarily present in Canada, and who has lived in Canada for the 12-month period immediately preceding the relevant date.

Non-resident Alien – a person who is neither a Resident (see below) nor a Non-resident (see above).

OHV (Off-Highway Vehicle) – any motorized vehicle designed for cross-country travel on land, water, snow, ice, marsh or swamp land, or on other natural terrain. [Exceptions: motor boats, as well as four-wheel-drive vehicles and motorcycles registered in accordance with the *Traffic Safety Act*.] OHVs include the following kinds of vehicles when they are designed for cross-country travel as described above:

- four-wheel drive or low pressure tire vehicles,
- motorcycles and related two-wheel vehicles,
- amphibious machines,
- all-terrain vehicles,
- miniature motor vehicles,
- snow vehicles,

- minibikes, or
- any other means of transportation that is propelled by any power other than muscular power or wind.

Partner Licence – a licence issued to an eligible hunter that allows him or her to hunt a specific species in a specified WMU and season under the direct authority of a Special Licence held by another hunter successful in a draw.

Resident – a person who either

- has his or her only or primary residence in Alberta and
 - 1) is a Canadian citizen or is admitted to permanent residence in Canada, or
 - 2) has lived in Canada for the 12-month period immediately preceding the relevant date; or
- is on full-time service with the Armed Forces of Canada and would, if an election were held under the *Elections Act* (Canada), be eligible to vote in Alberta under that Act.

Special Licence – a licence obtained through a draw process, or for Non-resident and Non-resident Alien hunters, through an Outfitter-guide. It permits hunting of a specific type or class of game only in specific areas during a specified season (page 22).

Weapon – a firearm or any other device that propels a projectile by means of an explosion, spring, air, gas, string, wire or elastic material or any combination of those things.

White Geese – snow and Ross’ geese.

WMU – Wildlife Management Unit, a geographical area prescribed in legislation.

WIN – Wildlife Identification Number, a permanent registration number issued to each hunter and angler.

Month Abbreviations

The following defines the month abbreviations used in this guide:

A – August S – September O – October
N – November D – December
J – January F – February M – March
Ap – April Ma – May Ju – June



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FURTHER INQUIRIES

The following sources are available for further information about these regulations or other matters concerning fish or wildlife management:

Information Centre 780-944-0313
 Toll free 1-877-944-0313
 E-mail: esrd.info-centre@gov.ab.ca

Websites – albertaregulations.ca or mywildalberta.com

**Fish and Wildlife
 Head Office Mailing Address**

Fish and Wildlife
 Great West Life Building
 9920 – 108 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2M4

Fish and Wildlife District Office Telephone Numbers

Note: These may be offices with Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development or Alberta Justice and Solicitor General.

For toll-free access within Alberta to most Alberta Government offices, call 310-0000.

Office hours vary, please contact the individual office for hours of operation.

Northwest Region

Fairview 780-835-2737
 Fort Vermilion 780-927-4488
 *Grande Prairie 780-538-5265
 *High Level 780-926-2238
 High Prairie 780-523-6521
 Manning 780-836-3065
 *Peace River 780-624-6405
 Red Earth 780-649-3853
 *Slave Lake 780-849-7123
 Spirit River 780-864-4101
 Valleyview 780-524-3605

Northeast Region

Athabasca 780-675-2419
 Bonnyville 780-826-3142
 Cold Lake 780-594-7876
 Edmonton 780-427-3574
 Fort Chipewyan 780-697-3511
 *Fort McMurray 780-743-7200
 *Lac La Biche 780-623-5247
 St. Paul 780-645-6313
 Smoky Lake 780-656-3556

Southwest Region

Barrhead 780-674-8236
 Blairmore 403-562-3289
 Canmore 403-678-2373
 Claresholm 403-625-1450
 Cochrane 403-932-2388
 Drayton Valley 780-542-6616
 *Edson 780-723-8244
 Evansburg 780-727-3635
 Fox Creek 780-622-3421

Grande Cache 780-827-3356
 High River 403-652-8330
 Hinton 780-865-8264
 Nordegg 403-721-3965
 Pincher Creek 403-627-1116
 *Rocky Mountain House 403-845-8230
 Stony Plain (Spruce Grove) 780-960-8190
 Sundre 403-638-3805
 Swan Hills 780-333-2229
 *Whitecourt 780-778-7112

Southeast Region

Brooks 403-362-1232
 *Calgary 403-297-6423
 Camrose 780-679-1225
 Cardston 403-653-5158
 Drumheller 403-823-1670
 Foremost 403-867-3826
 Hanna 403-854-5540
 Lethbridge 403-381-5266
 Lloydminster 780-871-6495
 Medicine Hat 403-529-3680
 Olds 403-556-4215
 Oyen 403-664-3614
 Ponoka 403-783-7093
 Provost 780-753-2433
 *Red Deer 403-340-5142
 Stettler 403-742-7510
 Strathmore 403-934-3422
 Vegreville 780-632-5410
 Vermilion 780-853-8137
 Vulcan 403-485-6971
 Wetaskiwin 780-361-1250

*Area Office



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Prohibitions

Note: *Convictions for certain offences will result in the suspension of all recreational hunting licences for a period of 1 to 3 years, and may result in a suspension for as long as 5 or more years. This is in addition to the assessment of a fine, an order and/or imprisonment.*

General

It is unlawful to

- **apply on draws or obtain recreational licences in Alberta if:**
 - i) **your hunting privileges are under a licence suspension/cancellation in Alberta (or elsewhere) or**
 - ii) **if you fail to pay your fine after being convicted of a provincial hunting or provincial sportfishing offence.**
 - carry or use another person's licence or tag or allow another person to use your licence or tag.
 - fail to carry a hunting licence when the hunter is hunting under the authority of that licence or when the hunter is transporting game taken under it.
 - fail to produce a licence when requested to do so by a wildlife officer.
2. harass, injure or kill any wildlife with a vehicle, aircraft or boat.
3. hunt any wildlife with or from an aircraft, or communicate, for the purpose of hunting, the signs or whereabouts of wildlife seen during a flight on an aircraft.
4. transport dead wildlife taken by others without an accompanying bill of lading (see page 68) signed by the licence or permit holder and providing the following details:
 - the kind and number of the licence under which the wildlife was killed or possessed,
 - a description of the wildlife,
 - the points of origin and destination, and
 - the date on which the wildlife is to be transported.
5. set out, use or employ any of the following items for the purpose of **hunting any wildlife:**
 - an arrow equipped with an explosive head,
 - a firearm that is capable of firing more than one bullet during one pressure of the trigger or a firearm that can be altered to operate as such,
 - a light,
 - a shotgun of a gauge greater than 10,
 - a device designed to deaden the sound of the report of a firearm,
 - recorded wildlife calls or sounds, or an electronically operated calling device except; 1) when hunting migratory game birds with the use of calls or sounds that mimic snow geese, or 2) using electronic calls to hunt crows, magpies, coyote, red fox and wolf (using sounds that mimic these animals, rabbits, hares, or rodents).
 - a pistol or revolver unless
 - the person is a licenced trapper (holding a federal authorization) who is dispatching an animal caught in a trap, or
 - it is an air powered pistol or revolver that discharges a projectile at less than 500 feet per second (often used for hunting small game).
 - live wildlife,
 - a swivel set or spring gun, or
 - a poisonous substance or an immobilizing drug.
6. abandon, destroy or allow the edible meat of any game bird or big game animal (except cougar or bear), to become unfit for human consumption.
7. have a loaded firearm (live ammunition in breech, chamber or magazine) in or on, or discharge a **weapon** from
 - a boat unless the boat is propelled by muscular power or is at anchor and the person is hunting, or
 - any kind of aircraft or vehicle whether it is moving or stationary.

Note: Ammunition may be carried in a magazine that is not attached to the firearm. Refer to page 20 for contact information regarding federal firearms legislation.

8. discharge a **weapon** within 183 m (200 yards) or cause a projectile from a **weapon** to pass within 183 m (200 yards) of any occupied building. Owners, occupants, or persons authorized by the owner or occupant are excepted, subject to local bylaws.
9. discharge a firearm from or cause a projectile from a firearm to pass along or across:
 - a) a provincial highway (this designation applies to all former primary and secondary highways),
 - b) a road that is paved, oiled, graded or regularly maintained, unless
 - the road is held under any active disposition under the *Public Lands Act* or under an order under the *Surface Rights Act*, or
 - the person is hunting game birds with a shotgun under the authority of a licence.

Note: if there is no identifiable ditch or fence to mark the outside edge of the roadway, then the roadway extends 20 feet from the edge of the traveled portion.
10. hunt any wildlife while impaired by alcohol or drugs.
11. hunt any wildlife **or discharge a firearm** between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise. (See sunrise/sunset table on page 52).
12. alter, destroy or remove any sign or notice that has been posted under the authority of the *Wildlife Act*, *Petty Trespass Act* or the *Migratory Birds Regulations*.
13. hunt any wildlife or discharge any firearm on or over occupied land or enter on to such land for the purpose of doing so without the consent of the owner or occupant of the land (page 32).
NOTE: There is an additional requirement affecting access for guided hunts (page 32).
14. possess a firearm of a calibre larger than .22 in a helicopter over WMUs 400-446.
15. hunt with a firearm if you are under **18** years of age and not accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or by a person 18 years of age or older who has the written permission of the parent or legal guardian. See page 20 for Canadian Firearms Centre contact information.

16. disturb traps, sets or trapping cabins.

Big Game

It is unlawful to

1. set out, use or employ any of the following items for the purpose of **hunting big game:**
 - ammunition of less than .23 calibre,
 - ammunition that contains non-expanding bullets,
 - an auto-loading firearm that has the capacity to hold more than 5 cartridges in the magazine,
 - a shotgun having a gauge of .410 or less,
 - a shotgun in a bird sanctuary,
 - bait, except as permitted for the hunting of black bears (page 60),
 - an arrow other than an authorized arrow (page 41),
 - a bow other than an authorized bow (page 41),
 - a muzzle-loading firearm of less than .44 calibre,
 - a rifle or shotgun in WMUs 212, 248 or 410 (persons hunting under the authority of a Strathcona White-tailed Deer Licence, a Foothills Deer Licence, or an Antlerless Moose Special Licence in Strathcona County may hunt with a bow and arrow, cross-bow, muzzle loader or shotgun),

- a trap,
 - a cross-bow and arrow that is not authorized (see page 63).
2. discharge a **weapon** at a big game animal while it is swimming.
 3. discharge an arrow from a bow or cross-bow at big game, from, along or across a highway or road specified in Item 9 on page 18.
 4. be accompanied by a dog while hunting big game or allow a dog to pursue big game except when hunting cougar under the authority of a Cougar Licence, from December 1 to the last day of February (the winter season).
 5. possess the carcass of a male elk, male antelope or male non-trophy sheep unless the complete skull plate, with horns or antlers intact, is also retained with the carcass until it is delivered to
 - the usual residence of the person who killed it, and the animal is butchered, cut and packaged for consumption, or
 - a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or a Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*.
 6. possess the carcass of a calf moose taken under authority of a Calf Moose Special Licence unless its head is also retained with the carcass until it is delivered to
 - the usual residence of the person who killed it, and the animal is butchered, cut and packaged for consumption, or
 - a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or a Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*.
 7. allow the skin of any bear or cougar to be wasted, destroyed, spoiled or abandoned. See exception for salvaging skin on page 32 – Access for Control of Livestock Predation.
 8. remove the distinctive evidence of sex and species from the carcass of any big game until
 - the carcass is delivered to a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*, or
 - the carcass is cut up and packaged for consumption at:
 - the usual residence of the person who killed the animal, or
 - the usual residence (a residence that is neither a business premises nor attached to such premises) of a resident of Alberta and that resident is in attendance.

In the case of grizzly bear and cougar, the evidence of sex must remain attached and be retained until the animal has been registered (page 44).
 9. remove the tag from the carcass of a big game animal until authorized (as outlined on page 41).
 10. hunt:
 - a black bear under the age of one year,
 - a female black bear accompanied by a cub under the age of one year,
 - a female cougar accompanied by a kitten with spotted fur, or
 - a cougar kitten with spotted fur.
 11. transport big game hunters, except those requiring medical aid, or big game by helicopter over WMUs 400-446.
 12. land or take off in a fixed-wing aircraft that is carrying big game, big game hunters or firearms of a calibre larger than .22 at or from any location in WMUs 400-446 except those locations where aircraft routinely land and take off.
 13. hunt big game within 6 hours of having disembarked from an aircraft, except for a jet or turbo-propeller driven aircraft.

14. hunt big game on Sundays:
 - in WMUs 102 – 166,
 - in WMUs 624, 728, 730 and 936.

15. be within 50 yards of a vehicle when discharging a weapon at an antelope.

Game Bird

It is unlawful to

1. hunt game birds during an open season for male pheasants within designated pheasant release sites after 2:00 p.m., except Saturdays.
2. possess, before it has been transported to the usual residence of the person who killed it or is prepared for immediate cooking, a game bird which does not bear evidence of sex and species. Evidence of sex and species consists of one completely feathered wing attached to the carcass of the game bird, except for Merriam's turkey for which evidence of sex and species consists of the complete head and beard attached to the carcass (see page 65 for tagging instructions for Merriam's turkey).
3. hunt a migratory game bird using:
 - a firearm loaded with a single bullet,
 - shot, other than non-toxic shot,
 - a cross-bow,
 - a shotgun that is of a larger size than 10 gauge.
4. hunt any game bird using:
 - a shotgun in which the magazine and chamber combined will hold more than three rounds of ammunition,
 - a trap, or
 - bait.

Note: see item 12 (below) for additional restrictions for hunting Merriam's turkey.
5. have more than one shotgun, for personal use, at any time while hunting migratory game birds unless each shotgun, in excess of one, is unloaded and disassembled or unloaded and cased.
6. hunt game birds in WMU 410 with other than a bow and arrow or falconry bird.
7. hunt game birds in WMU 212 or 248 with other than a bow and arrow, a cross-bow, shotgun or falconry bird.
8. exceed the daily or possession limit for any game bird (see game bird bag limits on page 64).
9. hunt game birds within 400 m (1/4 mi.) of a baited lure area operated under the Crop Damage Control Program.
10. transport migratory game birds belonging to others unless the carcasses are affixed with a tag showing:
 - the signature, name and address of the owner,
 - the licence number under which the bird was taken, and
 - the date the birds were taken.
11. fail to make every effort possible to immediately retrieve a migratory game bird that a person has killed or wounded. A hunter must have adequate means to retrieve any migratory bird that he or she may kill, cripple or injure.
12. hunt Merriam's turkey using:
 - a weapon other than a shotgun, cross-bow or a bow and arrow,
 - a shotgun with a bore diameter smaller than 20 gauge, or
 - shot size smaller than No. 6 shot or larger than No. 2 shot.
13. remove the tag from a Merriam's turkey until authorized (page 65).

FEDERAL FIREARMS LEGISLATION

All hunters should be aware of federal laws surrounding the acquisition, possession, transportation and use of weapons and ammunition. For further information contact your local police service or the Canadian Firearms Centre at 1-800-731-4000 or visit the Centre's website at <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/cfp-pcaf/index-eng.htm>.

LICENSING

Licence System

Active Network manages the sale of all recreational hunting and fishing licences in Alberta. Licences are sold through private licence issuers (e.g., sporting goods stores, convenience stores and gas stations) in communities throughout Alberta. Licences can be purchased online at albertarelm.com. See page 14 for details. Licences are not sold at Fish and Wildlife offices.

The automated system integrates all recreational licensing services, providing better service to hunters, anglers and licence issuers. The system provides Fish and Wildlife with important, up-to-date information about the hunters and anglers in the province.

To locate a licence issuer in your area of Alberta, contact the RELM (Recreational Licensing Management) Call Centre, toll-free in North America, at 1-888-944-5494, or go to mywildalberta.com.

Please bring your WIN card!

Please bring your card when you purchase licences. The WIN card allows the licence issuer to provide you with faster, more efficient service.

Wildlife Identification Number (WIN)

Hunters and anglers in Alberta must possess a 10-digit Wildlife Identification Number (WIN) before applying for or purchasing any licence or wildlife certificate. The WIN can be purchased for \$8.00 and is valid for five years. Once your WIN expires, you can renew it at any licence issuer or online at albertarelm.com for \$8.00 for another five years.

If you are purchasing a WIN for the first time, you can purchase one online at albertarelm.com or at a licence issuer. The licence issuer gives you a paper receipt (which includes your new number) allowing you to purchase licences immediately. Your card will be mailed to you within a few weeks.

If you have any questions about the WIN or the licensing system, please contact the RELM Call Centre, toll-free in North America, at 1-888-944-5494.

Change of Address

All hunters should ensure their address and telephone number on their licence is correct. To update your address, go online at albertarelm.com or call (toll-free in North America) 1-888-944-5494, or fill out a WIN Application form at your local licence issuer.

What is required to be eligible to hunt in Alberta?

Hunters in Alberta should be aware of federal regulations pertaining to possession and use of firearms (see Federal Firearms Legislation at the top of this page), and provincial regulations pertaining to licensing of hunters. There are regulations that pertain to first-time hunters, youths, residents, non-residents and non-resident aliens.

All hunters must have a Wildlife Identification Number (WIN) as a prerequisite to applying for, or purchasing any hunting licence, but some additional requirements must be met for the WIN-holder to be eligible to purchase hunting licences.

NOTE: Effective (2014) all new first-time hunters who have qualified for obtaining recreational hunting licences by successfully completing the Alberta Conservation and Hunter education course, will be required to provide on their WIN application form, their hunter certificate number that is issued to each course graduate, in order to be eligible to purchase a hunting licence.

A person must possess a valid Wildlife Certificate and the applicable hunting licence in order to hunt big game or game birds. The hunter must carry the licence and applicable tag(s) on his or her person while hunting. A person applying for a draw is not required to possess a Wildlife Certificate but must purchase one before purchasing any hunting licence.

Licensing requirements for first-time hunters

A first-time hunter is a hunter who 1) has not previously held a hunting licence in Alberta or elsewhere, or 2) has not prior to April 1, 2010, met

New AlbertaRELM

Purchase new Hunting Licences, New WIN Cards, WIN Card Renewals, or update your existing WIN profile online at AlbertaRELM.com.



For additional help, contact the RELM help desk at 1-888-944-5494 from the hours of 6:00am to midnight (MT), 7 days a week.

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Alberta first-time hunter criteria, or 3) has not successfully completed a hunter education course in Alberta or elsewhere.

Non-resident and non-resident alien hunters (12 years of age or older) are exempt from the first-time hunter eligibility requirement if they are accompanied by a Hunter Host or a Designated Guide while hunting in Alberta.

Youth first-time hunters must be *at least 12 years old* to hunt under the authority of any hunting licence in Alberta. All hunters *under the age of 16 years* must have written permission from a parent or guardian to purchase hunting licences. Hunters who are *11 years old* may apply in the draws for licences if they meet the above criteria, but they must be 12 years old anytime before or during the open season for that draw. They may not hunt until they are *12 years old*. **Note: As of 2007, hunters who are 12 or 13 years of age are no longer restricted to hunting big game with only a bow and arrow.** To hunt with a firearm, hunters *under 18 years of age* must be accompanied by a parent, a legal guardian or by a person 18 years of age or older who has the written permission of the parent or legal guardian. If a youth turns 18 during the hunting season, they can continue to hunt using their valid licence.

If you are interested in taking the Alberta Conservation and Hunter Education course, call the Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association toll-free in Alberta at 1-866-852-4342, Edmonton 780-466-6682, or Calgary 403-252-8474.



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Accessing Agricultural Leased Land

Before entering onto leased land, you must contact the leaseholder. Detailed maps, leaseholder contact information and access conditions for leased land are available on the Environment and Sustainable Resource Development Website: esrd.alberta.ca or by calling 1-866-279-0023.

With penalties for recreational users ranging up to \$500, failing to follow these guidelines can be costly.

Leaseholders must allow reasonable access. Access may be denied if:

- You are not on foot
- Livestock is present in a fenced pasture
- A crop has not yet been harvested
- A fire ban is in effect
- You wish to hunt in an area near livestock
- You wish to camp

When on agricultural public land, please be courteous and remember to:

- Pack out all litter
- Park vehicles so they do not block access to the land
- Ask permission before lighting a fire
- Leave gates as you find them – open or closed
- Use care not to damage the land or any property

Access to Provincial Grazing Reserves

Recreationalists are welcome on grazing reserves but are reminded that use of these areas may be restricted during certain times of the year. For information about seasonal or other restrictions on provincial grazing reserves, contact the regional grazing office or visit esrd.alberta.ca.

When visiting grazing reserves, please note:

- All motorized vehicles are required to stay on roads or trails
- Gates must be left as they are found
- Organized recreational groups require a letter of authority from the regional reserve office to use grazing reserves
- Camping is prohibited unless authorized by the regional reserve office.



Resident Youth Hunting Licences

Subject to the age limitations and conditions above, a resident 12 to 17 years of age may purchase a Resident Youth Wildlife Certificate, including a Game Bird Licence, for \$8.30. The holder of a valid Resident Youth Wildlife Certificate who has not yet attained the age of 18 years may also purchase a Youth White-tailed Deer Licence and a Youth Mule Deer Licence, each for \$8.25. **These licences are valid during the seasons that do not require one of the Special Licences obtained through a draw.** This person may also purchase an Antlerless Mule Deer Special Licence (available through a draw, see Draws for Special Licences, below) for \$8.00. Partner Licences are also available to resident youths if designated by the holder of any special licence. See this page.

Where Your Money Goes

A portion of the price of each **hunting licence** is a levy established by the Alberta Conservation Association to help finance wildlife rehabilitation programs, the enhancement of other wildlife management programs and the Report A Poacher Program. Another portion goes to General Revenue and the remainder is a transaction fee that goes to Active Network to finance the administration of the licensing system. This system collects valuable information about the use of our wildlife resource. The government uses this data for setting season dates, licence quotas and other regulations. For complete information on fee break down, contact Licensing, Revenue and Resource Data Management at (780) 427-5185.

Hunters with Disabilities

Eligible individuals may obtain a special permit or licence relating to off-highway vehicle (OHV) use, discharging a weapon from an OHV and cross-bow use during archery only seasons. Contact a Fish and Wildlife office (page 16) for more information or go to mywildalberta.com.

Mandatory Suspended Hunter Testing

A person whose right to hold a recreational hunting licence has been suspended in Alberta as a result of a conviction is required to pass a hunter-competency test before obtaining another recreational hunting licence. This test, which differs from the test given to first-time hunters, must be taken after the beginning of the suspension period. Mandatory hunter testing is intended to increase outdoor safety, awareness, skills and efficiency and to develop responsible attitudes in the field. Dates and times for testing are available at Fish and Wildlife offices (page 16).

Draws for Special Licences

When demand for hunting opportunities becomes excessive, season length and bag limits are often insufficient to conserve a game resource or to ensure a quality hunting experience. In such cases, Fish and Wildlife conducts lotteries or draws among eligible applicants for a limited number of special licences. Special licences allow successful applicants to hunt a specific type of game (e.g., antlerless elk) in defined areas during a specified season.

Only residents and, to a lesser extent, non-residents (Canadian) are eligible to apply in these draws. A non-refundable \$3.65 (plus GST) levy is charged for each application or group of applicants (maximum of four) for the same draw. This levy goes to the Alberta Conservation Association for programs. Although draws are used for specific wildlife management purposes (e.g., the goal in antlered mule deer draw areas is to develop a more balanced

age structure in the herd by controlling the kill of bucks), other benefits include improved hunter success, increased opportunity to harvest a trophy animal, a more pleasant hunting experience with lower hunter densities, reduced disturbance of landowners, and a better distribution of the harvest.

Draw Application Deadline Dates — Hunters interested in special licence hunts for fall 2014 must have applied by June 26. Refer to the *2014 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for more information on draws.

Hunters interested in the draw seasons for 2015 should obtain the *2015 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet and apply during the month of June 2015. Copies are available at licence issuers, your local Fish and Wildlife office or online at mywildalberta.com or albertaregulations.ca.

Draw Results — Beginning July 16, draw results are available online at albertarelm.com. Written notification of your draw results are sent in the mail to applicants who do not have an email address. Results for antelope and goat draws are available August 9.

Landowner Special Licence

A person who qualifies may be eligible to obtain a special licence after having been unsuccessful in some draws. Availability of Landowner Special Licences may be limited or not available at all for some species in certain WMUs. Those available will be issued to eligible persons on a first-come, first-served basis. For details on eligibility and the application process, please consult the *2014 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet.

Partner Licence

The following Partner Licences are available:

1. A resident holder of an **Antlerless Moose** Special Licence or a **Bison** Special Licence has the option of designating one eligible resident hunter (adult or youth) to be a partner on the Special Licence, thereby allowing the designated hunter to obtain a Special Antlerless Moose Partner Licence, or a Special Bison Partner Licence.
2. A resident holder of an **Antlered Moose** Special Licence has the option of designating one eligible hunter, either a resident (adult or youth) or a non-resident (Canadian) (adult or youth), to be a partner on the Special Licence, thereby allowing the designated hunter to obtain a Special Antlered Moose Partner Licence. To qualify for a Partner Licence in a particular WMU, the non-resident (Canadian) must have been eligible to apply for the Special Licence in that WMU. A non-resident (Canadian) holder of an Antlered Moose Special Licence obtained through the draw process has the option of designating one eligible resident (adult or youth) hunter to be a partner on the Special Licence, thereby allowing the designated hunter to obtain a Special Antlered Moose Partner Licence.
3. Resident hunters successful in drawing a Special Licence in any of the other Draws may designate one eligible resident youth (12 to 17 years of age) to be a partner on their Special Licence.

Rules for all Partners – A designated partner does not need any priority to qualify for a partner licence, does not need to have applied on the draw, and the purchase of the partner licence will not affect any existing priority of the partner. The intended partner must be eligible to hold a hunting licence. Refer to pages 24-27 regarding licence combinations and restrictions. The primary licensee may designate a partner at any time until the end of the season for which the Special Licence is valid. The designated partner hunts under the authority of the special licence and must be in direct communication (not including the use of any electronic devices) with the primary special licence holder while hunting to ensure that both stop hunting once the tag(s) are filled. The two hunters hunt as one. The primary licensee must carry the tag(s) issued with the special licence and must tag the animal as soon as there is a kill. The primary licensee may hunt without the partner, but not vice versa.

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To Designate a Partner – The Partner Licence is available online at albertarelm.com or at any licence issuer. The intended partner must provide the number of the Special Licence held by the primary hunter along with his or her own WIN. The Special Licence number authorizes the licensing system to issue a partner licence that is linked to the Special Licence. The intended partner may then purchase a Wildlife Certificate and the appropriate Partner Licence. If the intended partner is a non-resident, he/she must be accompanied by a licensed Hunter Host while hunting. The Partner Licence is valid for the same WMU and season as the Special Licence. No tag is issued with the Partner Licence.

- ▶▶ The Non-resident Alien and intended Hunter Host, if not related, must initiate an application at a Fish and Wildlife office for their licences, described above, by **August 31** of the licence year, or by the following **February 28** for the spring black bear hunt.
- ▶▶ The Non-resident Alien may apply to hunt only two (2) species of big game.

A Hunter Host

- Must be an adult resident, and be eligible to hold recreational hunting licences.
- Must be the holder of a valid WIN and Hunter Host Licence (below).
- **may not provide services for gain or reward, or accept remuneration, directly or indirectly, for such services.**
- may host a maximum of two (2) hunters/year, either Non-residents (Canadian), Non-resident Aliens or a combination thereof. If hosting 2 Non-resident Aliens, at least 1 must be a relative.
- may host Non-resident Aliens only if the host has not hosted a Non-resident Alien in the previous two (2) fiscal years (April 1 to March 31).
- **must report to the Fish and Wildlife office by December 31 in the year of harvest all hunting activities by the Non-resident Aliens he or she hosted. A report must be submitted even if the hunter doesn't harvest an animal.**
- must accompany the hunter(s) named on his or her Hunter Host Licence while they are hunting big game under the authority of the Hunter Host Licence.

Hunter Host Licence

A resident who wishes to be a Hunter Host may purchase a Hunter Host Licence online at albertarelm.com or at any licence issuer. You must have the WIN(s) of the non-resident(s) at the time of purchase. You **must** ensure that the hunters you host are named on your Hunter Host Licence. If you purchase your Hunter Host Licence naming one hunter and you decide to add a second hunter to your licence at a later date, you can do so at no additional charge. Return to albertarelm.com or to a licence issuer to have your licence amended. Once you have purchased your Hunter Host Licence, the hunters may purchase their licences.

A Hunter Host who plans to take a **non-resident alien** hunting must do the following:

1. Go to a Fish and Wildlife office (see page 16) in person and initiate an application (including statutory declaration). Sign it and have your signature sworn. If the Non-resident Alien is not a relative, you must start this process by August 31 or February 28 as described above.
2. Have the Non-resident Alien sign the application and have his or her signature sworn. If the Non-resident Alien does not have a WIN, have him fill out a WIN application at the same time.
3. Take the completed application to a Fish and Wildlife office. The application will be reviewed for final approval and keyed into the automated licensing system.
4. When you are notified that your application is approved, go online at albertarelm.com or to any licence issuer and purchase your Hunter Host Licence (see above) and the appropriate Wildlife Certificate and licences.

Outfitting and Guiding Requirements for Non-residents (Canadian) and Non-resident Aliens

(see Definitions on page 15).

There is no requirement for non-resident (Canadian) and non-resident alien game bird hunters to contract their **game bird** hunts through a Bird Game Outfitter-guide. They may hunt game birds without an Outfitter-guide, a guide or Hunter Host. However, those who do choose to hire an outfitter-guide for such a hunt must do so through the holder of a valid Bird Game Outfitter-guide Permit.

In this section, the term “accompany” or “accompanied” means that the persons involved are close enough to each other to easily facilitate verbal communications without the need for electronic devices. **It is acceptable, however, for the hunter to be placed in a stand location by the guide or hunter host, if they remain at that same location to be picked up later the same day.**

Non-resident (Canadian) and Non-resident Alien hunters of **big game, wolf and coyote must be accompanied by a licensed guide or a Hunter Host.** Each of these hunters has two options:

- 1) he or she may contract the holder of a valid Big Game Outfitter-guide Permit, be guided by a Big Game Designated Guide, and hunt under the authority of a licence allocated to an outfitter-guide (for information on outfitter-guides, contact the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society at apos.ab.ca), **OR**
- 2) he or she may be hosted by a Hunter Host (see this page) – usually a relative or friend – and hunt according to the following restrictions and conditions:
 - Non-resident Aliens may hunt with any Hunter Host only if the non-resident alien has not done so in the previous two (2) fiscal years (April 1 - March 31).
 - Non-residents (Canadian) and Non-resident Aliens are limited to certain licences, as indicated in the Licence Availability sections on pages 26 to 27.
 - Non-resident Aliens hosted by Hunter Hosts may hunt big game only during seasons that do not require one of the special licences, obtained through a draw, indicated by a ■ in the season tables on pages 46 to 60 or listed under Additional Special Licence Draw Hunts on page 62.
 - A Non-resident Alien and his or her intended Hunter Host must apply at a Fish and Wildlife office for their licences and make a statutory declaration that he or she understands the terms and conditions of the licences (see Hunter Host Licence on this page).
 - A Non-resident Alien must not hunt bighorn sheep, cougar or trophy antelope while accompanied by a Hunter Host.
 - **Further Restrictions for Non-resident Aliens Who are Not Relatives of the Hunter Host or the Hunter Host's Spouse**
 - ▶▶ Relatives are defined as father, brother, son, uncle, nephew, grandfather, grandson, son-in-law, brother-in-law (and female equivalents) of the Hunter Host or spouse of the Hunter Host.

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BIG GAME LICENCES

Resident Licence Costs and Combinations

NOTE: The 5% federal Goods and Services Tax (GST) is not included in the costs listed below.

Prior to purchasing any licence, each hunter must possess a valid WIN (see page 20) and a Wildlife Certificate which costs \$28.22 (or \$8.30 for a Resident Youth Wildlife Certificate, page 22). Hunters wishing to hunt with a bow and arrow must also purchase a Bowhunting Permit (not required for hunting with a cross-bow).

Licence	Price (\$)	Restrictions Applying to the Species	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter
White-tailed Deer	36.95	A Resident Adult may obtain only 1 of the first 2 licences.	A Resident Adult or Youth may obtain 4 different licences from this list of 25, but not more than 1 licence from this list for any one species.
Antlered White-tailed Deer Special Licence	36.65		
Youth White-tailed Deer ⁶	8.25	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of the last 3 licences.	
Special Antlered White-tailed Deer Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Mule Deer	36.95	A Resident Adult may obtain only 1 of the first 2 licences.	
Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence	36.65		
Youth Mule Deer ⁶	8.25	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of the last 3 licences.	
Special Antlered Mule Deer Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Elk	34.95	A Resident Adult may obtain only 1 of the first 6 licences.	
WMU 300 Elk Special Licence	34.65		
Either Sex Elk Special Licence	34.65	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 10 licences.	
Cypress Hills Elk Archery ¹	34.65		
Antlerless Elk Special Licence	34.65		
Antlered Elk Special Licence	34.65		
Special WMU 300 Elk Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Special Either Sex Elk Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Special Antlerless Elk Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Special Antlered Elk Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Moose	36.95		A Resident Adult may obtain only 1 of the first 6 licences.
Antlerless Moose Special Licence	36.65		
Antlered Moose Special Licence	36.85	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 7 licences.	
Calf Moose Special Licence	36.65		
Special Antlered Moose Partner Licence	12.00		
Special Antlerless Moose Partner Licence	12.00		
Special Calf Moose Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Trophy Sheep	51.31		A Resident who killed a sheep, except a legal non-trophy sheep, in 2013 may not purchase a Trophy Sheep Licence in 2014.
WMU 408 Trophy Sheep Special Licence	51.31		
WMU 410 Trophy Sheep Special Licence	51.31		
WMU 437 Trophy Sheep Special Licence	51.31		
WMU 438 Trophy Sheep Special Licence	51.31		
WMU 444/446 Trophy Sheep Special Licence	51.31		
Special WMU 408 Trophy Sheep Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Special WMU 410 Trophy Sheep Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Special WMU 437 Trophy Sheep Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Special WMU 438 Trophy Sheep Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Special WMU 444/446 Trophy Sheep Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		

continued on next page

Licence	Price (\$)	Restrictions Applying to the Species	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter
Non-trophy Sheep Special Licence	27.40	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	A Resident Adult may obtain 1 of each of these 16 licences (excluding the Youth licences). A Resident Youth may obtain 16 different licences from this list of 23, but not more than 1 licence from this list for any one species.
Special Non-trophy Sheep Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Antlerless White-tailed Deer Special Licence	18.70	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Special Antlerless White-tailed Deer Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer ²	19.15		
Strathcona White-tailed Deer	18.70	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Foothills Deer ³	18.70		
Antlerless Mule Deer Special Licence (issued to a youth)	21.20 (8.00)		
Special Antlerless Mule Deer Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Antlerless Deer (WMUs 212 & 248)	10.70		
Camp Wainwright Deer Special Licence	37.99	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Special Camp Wainwright Deer Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
WMU 212 Antlerless Elk Archery	18.95	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
WMU 212 Antlerless Elk Special Licence	34.65		
Special WMU 212 Antlerless Elk Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Black Bear	15.65	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Supplemental Black Bear ⁴	15.45		
Cougar	20.31	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Goat Special Licence ⁵	51.11		
Special Goat Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00	A Resident may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Bison Special Licence	50.00		
Special Bison Partner Licence	12.00	None	A Resident Adult may obtain only 1 of the first 3 licences.
Antelope Archery Special Licence	51.31		
Non-trophy Antelope Special Licence	19.35		
Trophy Antelope Special Licence	51.31		A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 6 licences.
Special Antelope Archery Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Special Non-trophy Antelope Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Special Trophy Antelope Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Bowhunting Permit (not required for cross-bows)	9.20		
Hunter Host Licence	27.00		
WIN Renewal	8.00		
Licence Reprint ⁷	2.00		
Tag Replacement ⁸	0.00		
Replacement WIN Card	4.00		

¹ This licence is only valid during the Cypress Hills Elk Archery Licence season, Sept. 1 - Oct. 15; WMU 116, 118 and 119.

² The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer licence will be issued with two tags and is only valid in the following WMUs: 310-314, 322-332, 336-340, 344-357, 360, 436-446, 505, 507-512, 515-521, 523-531, 534-544.

³ When hunting under the authority of this licence, valid in WMU 212 only, hunters must carry written permission to hunt from a landowner involved.

⁴ This licence is only valid in the following WMUs where 2 black bear licences may be used: 224, 250, 258, 260, 320-360, 429, 445, 500-544 and 841.

⁵ As of 2002, drawn applicants cannot reapply in future years (once-in-a-lifetime opportunity).

⁶ These licences are valid during the seasons that do not require one of the special licences obtained through a draw.

Special Licences (listed above) are available only through draws which occurred in June of this year.

Please refer to the 2015 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet in June 2015 for information on how to apply in these draws next year.

Footnotes continued on next page

- 7 Licences purchased at a licence issuer can be reprinted at any licence issuer for a \$2.00 fee. Licences purchased online can be reprinted online at no charge.
- 8 A replacement tag(s) for a licence purchased online or at a licence issuer can be replaced at no charge. You are required to bring your licence to a district office. In both cases you must complete a statutory declaration to authorize the replacement at a Fish and Wildlife office (See page 16).

Non-resident (Canadian) Licence Availability

All Non-resident hunters of big game, wolf or coyote require a Big Game Designated Guide or a Hunter Host. See Outfitting and Guiding Requirements on page 23.

Non-residents who hunt with a Hunter Host may obtain White-tailed Deer, Antlered Mule Deer, Antlered Moose, Antlered Elk, Black Bear, Supplemental Black Bear, Cougar, and Wolf/Coyote Licences (see table below) from private licence issuers or online at albertarelm.com. Some special licences may be obtained through the draw system that are described in the *2014 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet which was made available in June 2014.

Non-residents contracting a hunt with a Big Game Outfitter-guide may obtain Special Licences by using an allocation, available from their outfitter-guide. Wolf/Coyote licences can be purchased without an allocation. Non-residents using the services of an outfitter-guide must be guided by a Big Game Designated Guide. These licences are only available at licence issuers.

Non-resident (Canadian) Licence Costs and Combinations

NOTE: The 5% federal Goods and Services Tax (GST) is not included in the costs listed below. Prior to purchasing any licence, each hunter must possess a valid WIN (see page 20) and a Wildlife Certificate, which costs \$28.22. Hunters wishing to hunt with a bow and arrow must also purchase a Bowhunting Permit (not required for hunting with a cross-bow).

All **special** licences shown in the following table are available through a Big Game Outfitter-guide. Some are also available through the draw system.

Licence	Price (\$)	Restrictions Applying to the Species	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter
White-tailed Deer	122.33	A Non-resident may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	A Non-resident may obtain 4 different licences from this list of 9, but not more than 1 licence for any one species.
Antlered White-tailed Deer Special Licence ¹	122.33		
Antlered Mule Deer	122.33	A Non-resident may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence ¹	122.33		
Antlered Elk	135.31	A Non-resident may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Antlered Elk Special Licence ¹	135.31		
Antlered Moose	135.31	A Non-resident may obtain only 1 of these 3 licences.	
Antlered Moose Special Licence ¹	135.31		
Special Antlered Moose Partner Licence	44.00		
Trophy Sheep Special Licence ^{1,2}	317.82	A Non-resident who killed a sheep in 2013 may not purchase a Trophy Sheep Special Licence in 2014.	A Non-resident may obtain 1 of each licence from this list of 3.
Wolf/Coyote	12.40	See page 61 for dates and restrictions.	
Trophy Antelope Special Licence ³	182.45	None	
Black Bear Licence	63.61	A Non-resident accompanied by a Hunter Host may obtain both of these licences.	A Non-resident may obtain 1 of each licence from this list of 2. However, Non-residents purchasing 1 of these two licences may not purchase a Black Bear Special Licence.
Supplemental Black Bear Licence ⁴	63.61		
Black Bear Special Licence ⁵	63.61	Non-residents must purchase this licence through an outfitter-guide.	Non-residents purchasing this licence may not purchase a Black Bear Licence or a Supplemental Black Bear Licence.
Cougar	135.31	Non-residents hunting with a Hunter Host.	1 licence only from this list of 2.
Cougar Special Licence	135.31	Non-residents must purchase this licence through an outfitter-guide.	
Bowhunting Permit (not required for cross-bows)	16.45	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
WIN Renewal	8.00		
Licence Reprint ⁶	2.00		
Tag Replacement ⁷	0.00		
Replacement WIN card	4.00		

Footnotes on next page

- 1 These licences are available through the draw system or through an outfitter-guide. Please refer to the sections that deal with Non-resident (Canadian) Licence Availability (page 26) and Outfitting and Guiding Requirements (page 23).
- 2 Non-resident Trophy Sheep Special Licences are available through Class S Outfitter-guides or through a draw. Only 2 licences are available through a draw, and each hunter successful in the draw must be accompanied by a Hunter Host.
- 3 Non-resident Trophy Antelope Special Licences are available through an outfitter-guide or through a draw. Please refer to the sections that deal with Non-resident (Canadian) Licence Availability (page 26) and Outfitting and Guiding Requirements (page 23).
- 4 This licence is valid only in the following WMUs where 2 black bear licences may be used: 224, 250, 258, 260, 320-360, 429, 445, 500-544 and 841. Please see page 60 for more information.
- 5 These licences are valid for 2 black bears if the Outfitter-Guide's allocation is valid for a WMU where the Supplemental Black Bear Licence is valid (i.e., 2-bear areas).
- 6 Licences purchased at a licence issuer can be reprinted at any licence issuer for a \$2.00 fee. Licences purchased online can be reprinted online at no charge.
- 7 A replacement tag(s) for a licence purchased online or at a licence issuer can be replaced at no charge. You are required to bring your licence to a district office. In both cases you must complete a statutory declaration to authorize the replacement at a Fish and Wildlife office (See page 16).

Non-resident Alien Licence Availability

All Non-resident Alien hunters of big game, wolf or coyote require either a Big Game Designated Guide or a Hunter Host. See Outfitting and Guiding Requirements on page 23.

Non-resident Aliens who hunt with a Hunter Host may obtain Antlered White-tailed Deer, Antlered Mule Deer, Antlered Moose, Antlered Elk, Black Bear Special Licences and Wolf/Coyote Licences (see table below) online at albertaerm.com or at any licence issuers. See Outfitting and Guiding Requirements on page 23 for a summary of the circumstances under which these licences may be used and the limitations that apply.

Non-resident Aliens contracting a hunt with a Big Game Outfitter-guide must obtain Special Licences by using an allocation, available from their outfitter-guide. Wolf/Coyote licences can be purchased without an allocation. Non-resident Aliens using the services of an outfitter-guide must be guided by a Big Game Designated Guide. These licences are only available at licence issuers.

Non-resident Alien Licence Costs and Combinations

NOTE: The 5% federal Goods and Services Tax (GST) is not included in the costs listed below.

Prior to purchasing any licence, each hunter must possess a valid WIN (see page 20) and a Non-Resident Alien Wildlife Certificate, which costs \$68.22. Hunters wishing to hunt with a bow and arrow must also purchase a Bowhunting Permit (not required for hunting with a cross-bow).

Licence	Price (\$)	Restrictions Applying to the Species	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter
Antlered White-tailed Deer Special Licence	188.57 ¹	None	A Non-resident Alien may obtain 1 of each licence from this list of 9.
Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence	188.57 ¹		
Antlered Elk Special Licence	254.97 ¹		
Antlered Moose Special Licence	254.97 ¹		
Black Bear Special Licence ²	79.62 ¹		
Trophy Sheep Special Licence ³	317.82 ¹	A Non-resident Alien who killed a sheep in 2013 may not purchase a Trophy Sheep Special Licence in 2014.	
Cougar Special Licence ³	254.97 ¹	None	
Wolf/Coyote Licence	12.40 ¹	See page 61 for wolf and coyote season dates and restrictions.	
Trophy Antelope Special Licence ³	229.47 ¹	None	
Bowhunting Permit (not required for cross-bows)	23.20	Not Applicable	
WIN Renewal	8.00		
Licence Reprint ⁴	2.00		
Tag Replacement ⁵	0.00		

- 1 If purchased through an outfitter-guide or the Alberta Professional Outfitter Society, an additional service fee is charged.
- 2 This licence is valid for 2 black bears where the Resident and Non-resident (Canadian) Supplemental Black Bear Licences are valid (2-bear areas).
- 3 Trophy Sheep, Cougar and Trophy Antelope Special Licences are available to Non-resident Aliens only through an outfitter-guide.
- 4 Licences purchased at a licence issuer can be reprinted at any licence issuer for a \$2.00 fee. Licences purchased online can be reprinted online at no charge.
- 5 A replacement tag(s) for a licence purchased online or at a licence issuer can be replaced at no charge. You are required to bring your licence to a district office. In both cases you must complete a statutory declaration to authorize the replacement at a Fish and Wildlife office (See page 16).

GAME BIRD LICENCES

Resident game bird hunters require a WIN card and a Wildlife Certificate and:

- a Game Bird Licence to hunt grouse, partridge and ptarmigan;
 - a Game Bird Licence and a Pheasant Licence to hunt pheasant;
 - a Game Bird Licence and a Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit to hunt waterfowl;
 - a Merriam's Turkey Special Licence and a Game Bird Licence to hunt Merriam's turkey.
- (NOTE: Merriam's Turkey Special Licences are available only through a draw. See page 64 for more information.)

Non-resident (Canadian) game bird hunters require a WIN card and a Wildlife Certificate and:

- either a Game Bird Licence or a 3-Day Game Bird Licence to hunt grouse, partridge and ptarmigan;
- either a Game Bird Licence or a 3-Day Game Bird Licence, and a Pheasant Licence to hunt pheasant;
- either a Game Bird Licence or a 3-Day Game Bird Licence, and a Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit to hunt waterfowl.

Non-resident Alien game bird hunters require a WIN card and a Non-Resident Alien Wildlife Certificate and:

- an Upland Game Bird Licence to hunt grouse, partridge and ptarmigan;
- an Upland Game Bird and Pheasant Licence to hunt pheasant;
- a 6-Day Waterfowl Licence and a Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit to hunt waterfowl.

NOTE: The 5% federal Goods and Services Tax (GST) is not included in the costs listed below.

Prior to purchasing any licence, each hunter must possess a valid WIN (see page 20) and a Wildlife Certificate. The Wildlife Certificate costs \$28.22 or \$68.22 for a Non-Resident Alien Wildlife Certificate or \$8.30 for a Resident Youth Wildlife Certificate (see page 22). Hunters wishing to hunt with a bow and arrow (but not a cross-bow) must also purchase a Bowhunting Permit.

Licence Costs

Game Bird Licence	Price (\$)		
	Resident	Non-resident (Canadian)	Non-resident Alien
Game Bird	10.80	31.96	Not Applicable
Upland Game Bird	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	78.50
6-Day Waterfowl ⁴	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	78.50
3-Day Game Bird ⁴	Not Applicable	22.45	Not Applicable
Pheasant	15.38	22.62	22.62
Merriam's Turkey Special Licence ^{1,2}	25.81	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Special Merriam's Turkey Partner Licence (Youth) ¹	12.00	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Bowhunting Permit	9.20	16.45	23.20
WIN Renewal	8.00	8.00	8.00
Licence Reprint ⁵	2.00	2.00	2.00
Tag Replacement ⁶	0.00	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit ³	17.00	17.00	17.00

¹ A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.

² Available only through a draw, page 65.

³ Available at Post Offices and certain private licence issuers. See *MyWildAlberta.com*.

⁴ A hunter may purchase more than 1 of these licences.

⁵ Licences purchased at a licence issuer can be reprinted at any licence issuer for a \$2.00 fee. Licences purchased online can be reprinted online at no charge.

⁶ A replacement tag(s) for a licence purchased online or at a licence issuer can be replaced at no charge. You are required to bring your licence to a district office. In both cases you must complete a statutory declaration to authorize the replacement at a Fish and Wildlife office (See page 16).

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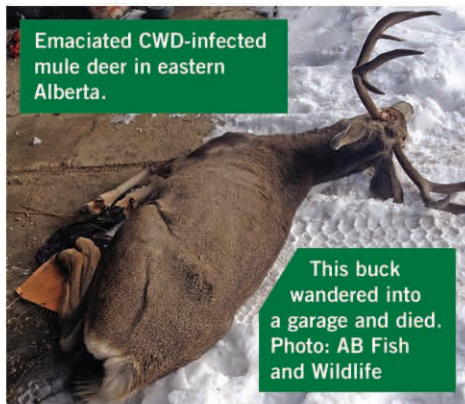
MODEL	SIZE	OUTSIDE	WEIGHT
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ENG80	80 Qt.	34.8 x 16.8 x 17.6	33 lbs
ENG123	123 Qt.	42 x 18.8 x 17.7	45 lbs
ENG240	240 Qt.	51.8 x 22.2 x 21	68 lbs
ENG320	320 Qt.	62 x 22.7 x 22.1	102 lbs

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Chronic Wasting Disease Management in Alberta

Alberta began addressing surveillance and management of CWD in 1998. The program evolved to have three primary objectives: detect CWD in wild cervids, try to limit the spread of CWD in wild cervids, and learn about CWD in Alberta landscapes and Alberta ecosystems. In 2012 Fish and Wildlife produced a summary of the programs. The full report is available on the CWD pages of the Wildlife Diseases web site www.esrd.alberta.ca/fish-wildlife/wildlife-diseases/.



What follows is a brief overview of the surveillance program and current data.

Hunter harvest samples are the backbone of the wild cervid surveillance program, in addition to heads collected during directed management activities. These are supplemented with opportunistic samples associated with ongoing Fish and Wildlife activities such as responding to found dead, road-kill, and emaciated cervids. In over 47,000 heads tested, 211 cases of CWD were detected: 183 mule deer, 27 white-tails, and one moose. This includes 49 cases (23%) identified in 3667 heads (~8% of heads tested since 1998) in 2013: 42 mule deer and 7 white-tails. The disease occurs predominantly in mule deer, males, and proportionately more in deer collected during disease control programs conducted 2005-2008. Using weighted surveillance measures based on patterns in the Alberta data, prevalence in hunter samples is increasing over time with the prevalence in mule deer reaching 2.0% in 2013 (up from 1.4% in 2012). The overall proportion of infected wild cervids remains low (1.34%); however, the prevalence in mule deer males in WMUs where CWD was detected in 2013 ranged from 1.5 to 12.0%.

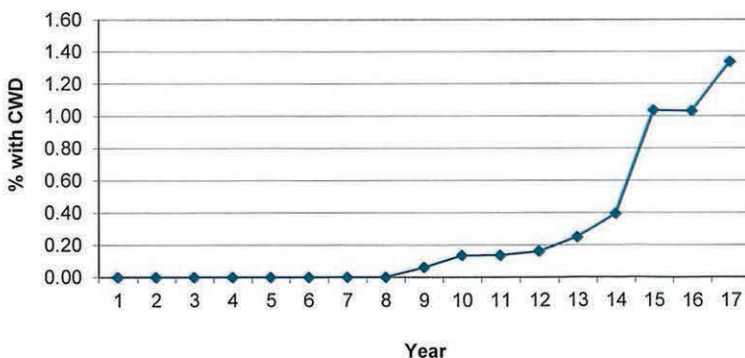
Highlights of analyses to date include the following. Risk models reveal increased geographic spread. This spread is occurring in relation to riparian areas and proximity to previous cases. The Battle and Red Deer/South Saskatchewan watersheds are at the highest risk of CWD occurrence. Mandatory designation significantly increases the number of heads submitted. Approximately 50% of the At Risk WMUs met the criteria for sufficient surveillance for detecting CWD prior to the first report of the disease in that unit. These units were on the immediate periphery of units with previous cases. The results imply that CWD spread into these WMUs. The remaining At Risk units had insufficient surveillance to be assured that the disease could be found prior to its actual detection in the WMU. In other words, CWD may or may not have been there before we found it. Major surveillance gaps were identified in CFB Suffield (WMU 732) and Cypress Hills (WMU 624), areas in close proximity to known cases of CWD but with limited sampling effort to date. WMUs with the best CWD detectability have 2 or more years of surveillance data and multiple years of mandatory head submission.

Many wildlife managers and stakeholders across North America agree that Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is the most significant disease concern facing big game populations across the continent. It destroys the brain and results in premature death of all infected deer. Data from long-term monitoring of local deer populations in established disease areas indicate infected populations slowly shift towards younger deer, lower productivity, and fewer trophy males. The declines are attributed directly to the effects of CWD. Prevalence continues to rise, with 40-50% of a local population infected with CWD. In Saskatchewan CWD is the single greatest cause of death in adult deer in an infected local population along the South Saskatchewan River.

In Alberta approximately 50% of mule deer and 40% of white-tails harvested in the primary CWD risk areas (=mandatory WMUs) are submitted for the surveillance program. Although the picture is quite clear and the patterns are consistent, additional heads would improve our ability to track the occurrence and extent of the disease. With better information big game managers can more fully understand the potential effects of the disease, and hunters concerned about CWD can make fully informed decisions about their hunt.

yr	1996/97	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
yr #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
# tested	75	186	185	385	800	1059	1231	1302	1660	2965	5170	4347	4817	5091	3194	3402	3667
# positive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	7	7	12	20	33	35	49
%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.13	0.14	0.16	0.25	0.39	1.03	1.03	1.34

% CWD in hunter surveillance since 1996/97



Note that while there was a case of CWD in a road-kill moose near Medicine Hat in 2012, this is considered spillover from infected deer in the area. Thus deer remain the best surveillance sample to indicate disease occurrence. However, as always, the program will test the head of any cervid harvested in Alberta.

Ongoing support from the public, and hunters and outfitters in particular, is essential to CWD surveillance.

For more information on CWD surveillance in Alberta **CHECK PAGE 3** of this guide. For more information about CWD contact your local Fish and Wildlife Office or visit: www.esrd.alberta.ca/fish-wildlife/wildlife-diseases/



EXPORTING

Alberta Export Permit

All big game (including bison hunted under a Bison Special Licence), game birds, and furbearing animals require a provincial export permit (**\$20.00 plus GST**) when they are to be conveyed beyond the borders of Alberta, except under the following conditions:

1. Hunters who lawfully harvest game birds, coyotes, white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose, elk, pronghorn antelope or black bear* under the authority of a hunting licence or a right that is protected under Canadian Constitution, may export those species without an Alberta export permit if
 - in the case of upland game birds, the bird has been processed as a mounted specimen, or
 - the export occurs within 30 days of the date the animal was killed or within 5 days of the close of the season, whichever occurs first, and
 - the shipment is accompanied by the hunter who killed the animal, and
 - the appropriate licence is carried by the hunter who killed the animal being exported.
- * Alberta prohibits the export of gall bladder and paws of black bear. You may export red meat, hide with claws attached, head or skull with teeth attached, but no other parts. See CITES Export Permit at right.
2. Coyote that have been lawfully hunted by residents do not require a provincial export permit.

Note: United States migratory bird hunting regulations state that it is unlawful for a person to import into the United States migratory game birds belonging to another person. Evidence of sex and species must remain attached to the bird until the final U.S. destination is reached. For further information on the export of wildlife, contact a Fish and Wildlife office (page 16).

Commercial Export of Wildlife to the U.S.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (US FWS) regulates commercial shipments of wildlife that enter or leave the U.S. In particular, taxidermists and outfitter-guides may experience difficulties transporting wildlife to the U.S. unless such businesses are licenced with the US FWS for transporting commercial shipments of wildlife across the U.S. border.

For more details, contact the US FWS at 1-703-358-1949 or view information at: <http://www.fws.gov/le/>

CITES Export Permit - for more information (1-800-668-6767)

Persons exporting cougar, grizzly bear, wood bison or wolf to points outside Canada must obtain a federal export permit issued in accordance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES). In addition, provincial export permits must be obtained for exporting these species, except for tanned wolf skin. All black bear require CITES export permits, except for those exported by United States hunters as noted on this page. Black bears do not require the provincial export permit if they are exported as described in the Alberta Export Permit section.

U.S. Black Bear Hunters – A CITES export permit is no longer required for U.S. hunters to take their black bear hunting trophy home in a fresh, frozen or salted condition at the conclusion of their hunt. The trophy must be part of the accompanying baggage of the hunter who killed the animal. This exemption does not apply to taxidermized trophies. All provincial export requirements still apply (see Alberta Export Permit section) and the trophy and documentation must be presented to Customs at the border when the hunters exit. Only the following parts of black bear may be exported: red meat, the hide with claws still attached, the head or skull with teeth attached, but no other parts. Alberta prohibits the export of the gall bladder or paws of black bear. Note that the CITES permit exemption for fresh black bear trophies applies only to U.S. hunters returning home and not to other hunters. An individual must not sell or dispose of the black bear within 90 days after the date on which the CITES exemption is claimed.

Other circumstances for Black Bear: Claws of black bear may not be exported from Alberta if they are separated from the whole skin. Partial skins of black bear that are processed (tanned or otherwise permanently preserved), black bear skulls with teeth attached (when not accompanied by the hunter returning home as described above) or taxidermized black bear skins may still be exported but only under a provincial export permit with a CITES permit. A black bear skin that is not part of a returning hunter's baggage may still be shipped but requires both provincial and CITES export permits.

SALE OF WILDLIFE

The selling, buying, bartering, soliciting or trading in wildlife or wildlife parts, or offering to do so, is regulated under the *Wildlife Act* and Regulations. Many transactions are strictly prohibited, while others are regulated. For further information, contact a Fish and Wildlife office (page 16).

When conducting wildlife transactions over the internet, recognize that wildlife laws vary in many jurisdictions; wildlife (such as a naturally shed antler) that is legal to sell within Alberta may not be legal to sell to persons in the U.S.

FOUND DEAD WILDLIFE

When driving or walking, hunters often find dead wildlife that they would like to keep. In most cases it is unlawful to possess such wildlife or parts of wildlife without first obtaining a permit. Contact a Fish and Wildlife office to apply for such a permit before taking possession of the wildlife.



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HUNTING PRIVILEGES ON OCCUPIED, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC LAND

Access to Public and Private Lands

Except under authority of a Game Bird Shooting Ground Licence, it is unlawful to directly or indirectly buy or sell, trade or barter, or offer to buy or sell access to any land for the purpose of hunting any big game, furbearing animals or game birds.

Hunting on privately owned lands without permission is a problem in Alberta. It generates anti-hunting sentiment among landowners and results in the prosecution of more than 200 hunters each year. They should leave gates as they find them, avoid damaging facilities or property, avoid disturbing livestock and establish friendly relations with landholders.

NOTE: Important changes to the *Petty Trespass Act* took effect in 2004. See this page.

Although there is a moral obligation to pursue wounded game and a legal requirement to ensure game is retrieved and not wasted or abandoned, these obligations do not override the legal requirement to get permission to enter private land.

Access to Public Lands

Hunters are reminded that the privilege to access public lands is contingent upon courtesy and responsible conduct. It is the hunter's responsibility to know, understand and abide by access conditions that apply when using and enjoying these areas.

In addition to privately owned land, permission is always required before entering or crossing:

- Indian reserves (from appropriate band council),
- Métis settlements (from appropriate Métis settlement association)
- Public land under agricultural or grazing lease (from leaseholder), please see advertisement on page 21.

While recreational 'foot' access is generally accepted on public land, hunters should be aware that:

- Off-highway vehicle (OHV) access is prohibited in most provincial parks and provincial recreation areas.
- Off-highway vehicle access may be limited or prohibited within counties, municipal districts or within special public land management areas such as Forest Land Use Zones (FLUZs).
- Some FLUZs have designated OHV trail networks (i.e. Ghost Fluz). In these areas, hunters are required to operate OHVs only on designated trails, even when retrieving game.
- Special conditions, such as extreme fire hazard, may warrant additional temporary access limitations.

Regardless of intent or mode of travel, all recreationists are expected and encouraged to respect, take pride, and play a stewardship role in maintaining the quality and character of Alberta's natural resources.

For more information regarding access to Agricultural Leased Land and Provincial Grazing Reserves, refer to page 21.

For more information, please contact your local Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development office by dialing 310-0000 or visit esrd.alberta.ca

Wildlife Act

Section 38 of the *Wildlife Act* specifies that no person shall hunt wildlife or discharge firearms on or over occupied lands, or enter onto such lands for the purpose of doing so without the consent of the owner or occupant.

The *Wildlife Act* defines "occupied lands" as follows:

- privately owned lands under cultivation or enclosed by a fence of any kind and not exceeding one section in area on which the owner or occupant actually resides, and
- any other privately owned land that is within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of the section referred to in clause (a) and that is owned or leased by the same owner or occupant.

The occupied lands described in the above legislation do not need to be posted with signs to receive protection under Section 38 of the *Wildlife Act*. The black area in the map (right) shows an example of nine square miles of land that could contain land falling within the definition of "occupied lands."

Petty Trespass Act

Amendments to the *Petty Trespass Act* came into force June 1, 2004. While it is still possible for a landowner to prohibit entry on to his or her land by giving oral or written notice or by posting signs prohibiting entry, the amendments now set out certain kinds of property where entry is prohibited without any notice required. These lands include those privately owned lands (and leased public lands not associated with grazing or cultivation – these are addressed on page 21) that are under cultivation, fenced or enclosed by a natural boundary or enclosed in a manner that indicates the landholder's intention to keep people off the premises or animals on the premises. **Importantly, hunters or others who access those lands must have permission before entering.**

31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

■ Potentially Occupied Lands
X Residence

Federal Criminal Code

The **Criminal Code** (Section 41) provides that a person in peaceable possession of real property can require a trespasser to vacate the property.

Access for Guiding

A Hunter Host, Big Game Designated Guide or Bird Game Designated Guide, when guiding on any privately held land, requires permission authorizing access from the landholder for conducting those guiding services on that land. Such a guide or host is required to carry on his person the landholder's name, address (or legal land location of landholder's residence) and telephone number.

Access for Control of Livestock Predation

Black Bear and Coyote*

Any person who is (a) the owner or occupant of privately owned land, or (b) authorized to keep livestock on public land, or (c) a resident authorized by a person described in (a) or a resident authorized in writing by a person described in (b) may, without a licence, hunt (but not trap) black bear or coyote on such lands, at all times of the year.

Timber Wolf*

Any person who is (a) the owner or occupant of privately owned land, or (b) authorized to keep livestock on public land, or (c) a resident authorized by a person described in (a) or a resident authorized in writing by a person described in (b) may, without a licence and at all times of the year, hunt (but not trap) timber wolf on such lands, and on any lands within 8 km (5 mi.) of the above lands, provided he or she also has the right of access to these latter lands.

*Cougar

Any person who is the owner or occupant of privately owned land may at any time of year, hunt (but not trap) cougar on such lands without a licence. Hunting with dogs is prohibited under this authority. Under this authority, registration is required within one week of the kill by bringing the skin and skull (or intact carcass) to a Fish and Wildlife office (see page 16). A premolar tooth will be retained for aging.

- * It is not legally necessary to salvage pelts of furbearing animals (includes coyote and wolf) or black bear taken in accordance with regulations authorizing the control of problem wildlife set out in this part. The skin and skull of cougar taken on privately-owned land as described must be submitted at time of registration as noted, but the cougar pelt does not need to be further salvaged. Refer to page 62 for information about seasons for coyote and wolf.

HUNTING IN ALBERTA PROVINCIAL PARKS AND PROTECTED AREAS

Alberta's Parks Division provides hunting opportunities on over 85% of the land base managed as a Provincial Park or Protected Area. In protected areas where hunting is allowed some activities are restricted in order to protect sensitive areas and species or to address public safety or wildlife management issues. For detailed information on hunting in Provincial Parks and protected areas contact your local Alberta Parks Division office or visit albertaparks.ca.

Classification of Protected Area	Hunting	Exceptions	OHV (including snowmobile) Use
Ecological Reserves	No	No	No
Wilderness Areas	No	No	No
Provincial Parks	No	Elk seasons in Cypress Hills	No
Provincial Recreation Areas (PRA)	No	Big game and game bird seasons in Blue Rapids, Cooking Lake-Blackfoot, Fickle Lake, Lakeland, North Bruderheim, Redwater, Sulphur Gates, and Wapiabi PRAs	Lakeland PRA - Yes on designated trails only.
Wildland Parks	Yes	Bison hunting is not permitted in Wildland Parks outside the Bison Hunting Zone	On designated trails in a select number of Wildland Parks. For a complete listing visit www.albertaparks.ca
Willmore Wilderness Park	Yes	No	No
Heritage Rangelands	Yes	Entry is subject to grazing lease access conditions	Subject to grazing lease access conditions. www.esrd.alberta.ca
Natural Areas	Yes	Access and other management conditions may apply. For a complete listing visit www.albertaparks.ca	Dependant on access conditions. For a complete listing visit www.albertaparks.ca

Ecological Reserves

Ecological Reserves preserve and protect natural heritage in an undisturbed state for scientific research and education. The primary intent of this class of protected area is strict preservation of natural ecosystems, habitats, features and associated biodiversity. Hunting is prohibited in Ecological Reserves.

Wilderness Areas

Wilderness Areas preserve and protect natural heritage, where visitors are provided with opportunities for non-consumptive, nature based outdoor recreation. Hunting is prohibited in Wilderness Areas.

Provincial Parks and Recreation Areas

Provincial Parks preserve natural heritage; they support outdoor recreation, heritage tourism and natural heritage appreciation activities that depend upon and are compatible with environmental protection. Provincial Recreation Areas support outdoor recreation and tourism: they often provide access to lakes, rivers, reservoirs and adjacent crown land.

In general, hunting or discharging a firearm (or bow) is prohibited in Provincial Parks and Provincial Recreation Areas. There are elk seasons in Cypress Hills Provincial Park and big game and game bird seasons in Blue Rapids, Fickle Lake, Wapiabi, Cooking Lake-Blackfoot, the northwest corner of Evan-Thomas, Sulphur Gates, and Lakeland Provincial Recreation Areas. Firearms discharge permits are required to hunt in all provincial parks and recreation areas other than Lakeland Provincial Recreation Area, Blue Rapids Provincial Recreation Area, Fickle Lake Provincial Recreation Area, and Wapiabi Provincial Recreation Area. Orientation sessions may also be required before hunting is permitted in a Provincial Park or Provincial Recreation Area. For more information on firearm discharge permits and orientation sessions for hunting in Provincial Parks or Provincial Recreation Areas please visit www.albertaparks.ca

If not in the process of hunting in a Provincial Park or Provincial Recreation Area that has an open season, all firearms must be unloaded, encased or dismantled.

Wildland Provincial Parks

Wildland Provincial Parks preserve and protect natural heritage and provide opportunities for backcountry recreation. Hunting is permitted in Wildland Provincial Parks. However, bison hunting in Wildland Provincial Parks is only permitted in the Hay-Zama Wildland Park, within the Bison Hunting Zone. Special access restrictions apply to all motorized vehicles.

Willmore Wilderness Park

Willmore Wilderness Park was established under its own legislation in 1959 and is similar in intent to Wildland Parks. Hunting is permitted in Willmore Wilderness Park; however, off-highway vehicle (and snowmobile) use is not permitted. Hunters are advised that the adjacent staging areas have different hunting and firearm storage regulations than Willmore Wilderness Park. Further information and maps are available at the Hinton Parks Division office at 780-865-8395.

Heritage Rangelands

Heritage Rangelands preserve and protect natural features that are representative of Alberta's prairies and grazing is used to maintain the grassland ecology. Two heritage rangelands have been established in Alberta - Black Creek Heritage Rangeland in the Whaleback area and OH Ranch Heritage Rangeland near Longview. These lands are cooperatively managed with Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development and grazing lease holders. Hunting is permitted, however entry is subject to grazing lease access conditions. For access conditions please visit esrd.alberta.ca, select Recreation and Public Use, then select Recreation on Agricultural Public Land.

Natural Areas

Natural Areas preserve and protect sites of local significance and provide opportunities for recreation and nature appreciation activities. Hunting is permitted in Natural Areas, however, there are some sites with special management and safety considerations that restrict hunting and access, e.g. Wagner Natural Area, Riverlot 56, Sherwood Park Natural Area. For more information please visit www.albertaparks.ca. To find access conditions for Natural Areas that are subject to a grazing lease please visit ersd.alberta.ca. Go to Recreation and Public Use.

Kananaskis Country

Kananaskis Country is a multi-use area comprised of both protected areas and public land; hunters must be aware of what type of land they are accessing. Access to some areas may be affected when roads and recreational trails are temporarily closed. Information and maps are available from Visitor Information Centres with in Kananaskis Country. For more information please visit albertaparks.ca.

Hunters - Please be Aware:

Baiting

Baiting of all wildlife, including bears, wolves and coyotes, is not permitted in all Provincial Parks, Provincial Recreation Areas and Wildland Provincial Parks. There are two exceptions: 1) A limited number of Registered Fur Management Area (RFMA) holders (registered trappers) and 2) A limited number of hunting guides who were historically authorized to conduct commercial guiding activities that used baits in an area prior to the area being established as a Wildland Provincial Park. Both exceptions are managed through permits and approvals issued by Alberta's Parks Division. For more information contact your local Parks Division office.

Found Dead Wildlife in Parks

In Provincial Parks, Wildland Provincial Parks and Provincial Recreation Areas it may be unlawful to remove dead wildlife that you find. For more information please contact your local Parks Division office. To obtain a permit to possess found dead wildlife, contact your local Fish and Wildlife office.

Hanging and Storage of Big Game

Unless authorized by a Conservation Officer it is unlawful to dress, hang, or store big game in a Provincial Park or Provincial Recreation Area. Where these activities are permitted, please follow safe storage practices in order to prevent human-wildlife conflicts.

Be Respectful of Others

Provincial Parks and protected areas are multiple use sites and are used by a wide range of recreational users year round. When hunting in these locations, respect other users and recognize that there may be hiking, cycling, camping, picnicking or other activities going on in close proximity. Please use caution when transporting firearms and avoid the use of firearms for target shooting and sighting-in of rifles.

For more information on hunting in Provincial Parks and protected areas please visit albertaparks.ca or contact your local Parks Division office.

Edmonton: 780-427-3582

Northwest Region: 780-538-5350

Northeast Region: 780-623-5235

West Central Region: 780-960-8170

East Central Region: 403-340-7691

Kananaskis Country: 403-678-5508

South Region: 403-382-4097

RESTRICTED AREAS

Alberta has a variety of restricted areas. Please read the following sections carefully to determine how the various designations affect hunting opportunities.

ALL HUNTING

Wildlife Sanctuaries

Sanctuaries are intended to provide secure habitat for wildlife and thus allow populations to either increase or remain at desired levels. They include areas of high quality habitat, often where populations of some wildlife species have been significantly lowered or dispersed because of disturbance at some

time in the past. Sanctuary status allows these areas to realize their potential to support wildlife and to act as core areas of production for animals that will disperse to surrounding areas. It also increases the opportunities for Albertans to view wildlife.

NOTE: Privately owned lands within wildlife sanctuaries are excluded from the sanctuaries.

Road Corridor Wildlife Sanctuaries

It is unlawful to hunt within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the road in a designated road corridor wildlife sanctuary (a corridor 730 m or 800 yards wide). No person shall possess a weapon in these sanctuaries unless the weapon, if it is a firearm, is unloaded **and** either dismantled, encased, or completely enclosed by another suitable covering. If crossing a road corridor wildlife sanctuary on horseback or on foot, a firearm must be unloaded and the person must be traveling in a direct route to leave the sanctuary.

There are 11 road corridor wildlife sanctuaries, shown in green on the enclosed WMU map. Eight are located in the Mountain and Foothills regions and three in the Boreal Region. Descriptions of the Road Corridor Wildlife Sanctuaries are as follows:

Mountain and Foothills

1. Highwood – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of
(a) Highway 40 between the southern boundary of Peter Lougheed Provincial Park and Secondary Road 541,
(b) Secondary Road 541 between Highway 40 and the eastern boundary of the Rocky Mountain Forest Reserve;
2. Harold Creek – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of the road locally known as the Harold Creek Road between the eastern boundary of the Rocky Mountain Forest Reserve and Secondary Road 734;
3. Ya Ha Tinda – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the road



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Also check into up-coming Minister's Special Licence Permit raffles. The use of these funds will be directed to the long-term benefit of wildlife, fish and habitat.

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locally known as the Ya Ha Tinda Ranch Road between the Red Deer River Provincial Recreation Area and the Ya Ha Tinda Ranch headquarters building;

4. Forestry Trunk Road – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of Provincial Highway 734 between its intersection with the road locally known as the Lynx Creek Road in section 26, township 36, range 14, west of the 5th meridian and the Seven Mile Provincial Recreation Area;
5. Cutoff Creek – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the road locally known as the Cutoff Creek Road between Provincial Highway 734 and the Cutoff Creek Equestrian Staging Forest Recreation Area;
6. North Ram – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of Secondary Road 734 that is in Township 38, Range 15, West of the 5th Meridian and north of the North Ram River;
7. Onion Creek Road – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the road locally known as the Onion Creek Road in section 9, township 36, range 14, west of the 5th meridian to its intersection with Provincial Highway 734;
8. Kootenay Plains – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of Highway 11 between Allstones Creek and the eastern boundary of Banff National Park;
9. Nordegg – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of Provincial Road 734 where it intersects the North Saskatchewan River in section 34, township 39, range 15, west of the 5th meridian to where it crosses Shunda Creek and within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of Provincial Highway 11 from where it intersects Provincial Highway 734 to where it crosses Shunda Creek;
10. Highway 40/Little Smoky/Simonette – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of Highway 40 between the Berland River and the Muskeg River.

Boreal Region

11. Whitemud Hills – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the Peace River Pulp Road locally known as the Whitemud Hills Haul

- Road from Highway 35 to the western boundary of Section 14, Township 85, Range 2, West of the 6th Meridian;
12. Sulphur Lake – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the Peace River Pulp Road locally known as the Sulphur Lake Haul Road from the southeast corner of Township 88, Range 1, West of the 6th Meridian to its junction with the road locally known as the Canfor East Road in Township 89, Range 3, West of the 6th Meridian;
13. Peace River Pulp Mill – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of
 - (a) the portion of secondary road 986 locally known as the Peace River Pulp Road between the Peace River Pulp Mill in township 85, range 21, west of the 5th meridian easterly to its junction with the road locally known as the Peace River Pulp Resource Road in the south-east quarter of section 17, township 85, range 19, west of the 5th meridian.
 - (b) the road locally known as the Peace River Pulp Resource Road from its intersection with secondary road 986 in the south-east quarter of section 17, township 85, range 19, west of the 5th meridian northerly to the centre of the north-east quarter of section 14, township 90, range 20, west of the 5th meridian.

Seasonal Sanctuaries

No person shall approach within 800 metres (0.5 mile) of any of the following seasonal sanctuaries between April 15 and September 15.

1. The island known as Pelican Island in Newell Lake in Township 17, Range 15, W4M;
2. The unnamed island in Namur Lake in Sections 35 and 36, Township 97, Range 17, W4M;
3. The unnamed island in Beaverhill Lake in Section 5, Township 52, Range 17, W4M;
4. The unnamed island in the unnamed lake in Section 8, 9, 16 and 17, Township 95, Range 17, W4M;
5. The unnamed island in Scope Reservoir in LSD 2 and 3, Section 10, Township 13, Range 14, W4M.

No person shall enter the following seasonal sanctuaries between April 15 and September 15:

1. That portion of the unnamed island in Lower Therien Lake in the NW Quarter of Section 14, Township 57, Range 10, W4M;
2. That portion of Lower Therien Lake in Section 2, 3, 10 and 11, Township 57, Range 10, W4M;
3. The unnamed islands in the Slave River in the SW Quarter of Section 30, Township 126, Range 10, W4M, and the SE Quarter of Section 25, Township 126, Range 11, W4M;
4. The island known as Bird Island in Buffalo Lake in Section 30, Township 40, Range 20, W4M;
5. The unnamed island in Joseph Lake in Section 12, Township 50, Range 22, W4M.

No person shall enter the following seasonal sanctuaries between May 1 and August 15:

1. The following lands to the extent that, at any given time, they are not covered by any of the waters of Muriel Lake,
 - a) within township 59, range 5, west of the fourth meridian, the east half of legal subdivisions 9 and 16 of section 19; legal subdivisions 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 of section 20; legal subdivisions 13 and 14 of section 21; the northeast quarter of section 21; legal subdivisions 2, 3 and 4 of section 28; legal subdivisions 10 and 11 of section 29; the southeast quarter and the southwest quarter of section 29;
 - b) within township 60, range 5, west of the fourth meridian, legal subdivisions 5, 11, 12, 13 and 14 of section 1; legal subdivisions 8, 9, 15 and 16 of section 2; the southeast quarter and the northeast quarter of section 11; legal subdivisions 3 and 4 of section 12.
2. All areas within legal subdivisions 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 of section 35, township 68, range 15, west of the fourth meridian and legal subdivisions 9 and 16 of section 34, township 68, range 15, west of the fourth meridian.

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Métis Settlements

In general, only a member of a Métis Settlement Association, formed under the *Métis Settlements Act*, may hunt or trap wildlife on a Métis Settlement. Hunting by non-members may be authorized under settlement by-laws.

Forest Recreation Areas

It is unlawful to discharge a firearm within a forest recreation area. It is also unlawful to “dress” a big game animal within a forest recreation area.

National Parks

Hunting is prohibited in national parks, and hunters should be especially careful about their locations when hunting near park boundaries. Firearms are prohibited in national parks except on through highways and in town sites where they must be unloaded and encased.

Other Restricted Areas

Except for the special seasons provided in WMUs 728 and 730, hunting is not permitted in the following areas:

- Cold Lake Air Weapons Range (WMU 726),
- Canadian Forces Base Wainwright (WMUs 728 and 730),
- Canadian Forces Base Suffield (WMU 732),
- Ghost River Wilderness Area (WMU 734),
- Greene Valley Wildlife Management Unit (WMU 926),
- Siffleur Wilderness Area (WMU 736),
- White Goat Wilderness Area (WMU 738), and
- within 91 m (100 yards) of Highway 1 or Highway 1A in WMU 410.

BIG GAME HUNTING

The hunting of big game is not permitted in the following areas:

- the Gregg River Resources Coal Mineral Surface Lease in WMU 438, and
- the Cardinal River Coal Mineral Surface Lease in WMU 438.

Saskatoon Mountain Primitive Weapons Area

Only shotguns, muzzle loaders and archery equipment may be used to hunt big game in this area in WMU 357, located 20 km west of Grande Prairie on the north side of Highway 43 (see enclosed Wildlife Management Unit Map). For a more detailed map/description of area, please contact the Grande Prairie Fish and Wildlife office.

Restricted Areas for Trophy and Non-trophy Sheep

It is unlawful to hunt trophy or non-trophy sheep within the following areas:

- 183 m (200 yards) of the Canada Cement rock quarry at Exshaw.
- 0.8 km (0.5 mi.) of Highway 1A between the western boundary of the Stoney Indian Reserve and Canmore,
- 0.8 km (0.5 mi.) of Highway 3,
- 1.6 km (1 mi.) of the Sheep River from the eastern boundary of WMU 406 upstream to Dyson Creek,
- 1.6 km (1.0 mi.) of the Inland Cement Rock Quarry near Cadomin,
- 1.6 km (1.0 mi.) of the intersection of Whitehorse Creek and the main forestry trunk road south of Cadomin,
- 1.6 km (1.0 mi.) of where Highway 16 intersects the eastern boundary of Jasper National Park,
- 3.2 km (2.0 mi.) of the intersection of the Forestry Trunk Road and the South Ram River in Section 18, Township 36, Range 13, West of the Fifth Meridian.



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GAME BIRD HUNTING

Game Bird Sanctuaries

Hunting game birds and carrying shotguns are prohibited in game bird sanctuaries except with a special permit. Descriptions of these sanctuaries are available from the Alberta Queen's Printer in Edmonton (page 12). Game bird sanctuaries are located in the following WMUs:

WMU	Sanctuary	WMU	Sanctuary
102	Pakowki Lake	242	Ministik Lake
148	Many Island Lake	242	Miquelon Lake
212	Inglewood	357	Saskatoon Lake
220	Red Deer	503	Lac La Biche
238	Birch Lake	530	Richardson Lake

Restricted Rivers

Hunting of migratory game birds on the following rivers, over any islands in these rivers or within 91 m (100 yards) of the edge of the waters of these rivers is prohibited until November 1:

1. Bow River downstream from the corporate limits of the City of Calgary to Highway 24.
2. Little Smoky River downstream from Highway 43.
3. Peace River.
4. Red Deer River downstream from the corporate limits of the City of Red Deer.
5. Smoky River downstream from the mouth of the Wapiti River.
6. South Saskatchewan River downstream from the corporate limits of the City of Medicine Hat.



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Restricted Lakes

Hunting game birds on the following lakes, over any island in these lakes or within 0.8 km (0.5 mi.) of the edge of the waters of these lakes is prohibited until November 1 (Note additional restrictions below for Saskatoon Lake and Ministik Lake). Efforts are made to post signs near these lakes, but not all lakes may be so identified. It is the hunter's responsibility to know the restrictions in the area he or she hunts.

Prairie WMUs

- 160 Little Fish Lake (28-16,17-W4)
- 162 Berry Creek Reservoir (Carolside Dam) (26,27-12-W4)
- 162 Blood Indian Creek Reservoir (26-9-W4)
- 162 Birkenshire Lake (23,24-28-11-W4)
- 163 Currant Lake (33-3-W4)
- 163 Grassy Island Lake (33-3-W4)
- 163 Misty Lake (33-3-W4)
- 163 Sounding Creek Reservoir (30-5,6-W4)
- 164 Fitzgerald Lake (3,4-33-8-W4)
- 164 Kirkpatrick Lake (33,34-9,10-W4)
- 164 Rushmere Lake (33-8-W4)
- 164 Syson Lake (35-12,13-W4)
- 164 Grays Lake (28,32,33-32-7-W4)
- 164 Wiste Lake (2,11-33-7-W4)
- 164 Unnamed Lake (23 to 27-33-8-W4)
- 164 Unnamed Lake (31,32-33-8-W4)
- 164 Polly Lake (7-31-1-W4)
- 164 Willowbend Reservoir (K-B Lake) (1-31-13-W4)
- 166 Dowling Lake (31,32-14,15-W4)
- 166 Sullivan Lake (34 to 37-14,15-W4)

Parkland WMUs

- 200 Sounding Lake (36,37-3,4-W4)
- 202 Armstrong Lake (42-10-W4)

- 202 Unnamed Lake (8,9-38-10-W4)
- 203 Bellshill (Goose) Lake (42-11-W4)
- 206 Buffalo Lake (40,41-20,21,22-W4**)
- 221 Cygnet Lake (38-1-W5 and 38-28-W4)
- 228 Driedmeat Lake (44,45-19,20-W4)
- 232 Blackburn Lake (10,11-43-10-W4)
- 234 Dolcy Lake (26,35-42-4-W4)
- 234 Gillespie Lake (39,40-2-W4)
- 234 McIntyre Lake (16,17-44-1-W4)
- 236 Kenilworth Lake (50-4-W4)
- 242 Beaverhill Lake (that portion lying in 50,51-17,18-W4 – approx. southern 1/2 of lake)
- 242 Ministik Lake* (50-21-W4)
- 242 Oliver Lake (50-21-W4)
- 242 Lake 'A' (50,51-17-W4) adjacent to Beaverhill Lake
- 252 Whitford Lake (56-15,16-W4)

* *Hunting of game birds in the Ministik Lake Game Bird Sanctuary is prohibited.*

** Hunting of upland game birds only is permitted in 9-40-21-W4.

Foothills WMUs

- 357 Saskatoon Lake* (including Little Lake) (71, 72-7,8-W6)
- * *Hunting of game birds in Saskatoon Lake Federal Migratory Bird Sanctuary is prohibited.*

Boreal WMUs

- 502 Stebbing Lake (63-7-W4)
- 523 Winagami Lake* (76,77-18,19-W5)
- 523 Kimiwan Lake (78-19-W5)
- 523 Lac Magloire (79-21-W5)

* Winagami Lake is within Winagami Lake Provincial Park. Hunting is prohibited on the lake and islands.

VEHICLE RESTRICTIONS

The use of vehicles, including off-highway vehicles (OHVs), is controlled by various regulations. Refer to the enclosed Wildlife Management Unit Map for more information.

Vehicle Use and Restrictions

The 'footprint' of vehicles is much greater than the average foot. Noise, erosion, soil compaction, habitat disturbance and vegetation impacts generally increase with vehicle use. Hunters are requested to minimize the impacts of vehicles where they are permitted and abide by limitations to vehicle use where applicable.

All off-highway vehicles (OHVs) operated on public land must be registered, insured and have a visible licence plate. Vehicles must also have a headlight, tail light, muffler and spark arrestor.

Public Land Use Zones (PLUZ)

Several areas in the province are designated as PLUZs to allow for the management of recreational interests and pressures on local ecology. On and off highway vehicle restrictions apply in all PLUZs and may limit vehicle type, trail access and seasons open to vehicle use. WMU and PLUZ boundaries may overlap and all – or portions of – WMUs may have vehicle access restrictions. Please refer to PLUZ maps available at your local ESRD office or visit esrd.alberta.ca, see Recreation and Public Use Section.

Wildland Provincial Parks

Hunting is allowed in the Wildland Provincial parks shown on the enclosed WMU map. However, special access restrictions apply to all motorized



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vehicles. For example, Bob Creek Wildland Provincial Park provides a network of designated trails on which only specific OHVs (quads and snowmobiles) may be operated from May 1 to December 15. For more detailed information, contact Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation.

Hunting with Motorized Vehicles

It is unlawful to

- discharge a **weapon** at antelope from within 46 m (50 yards) of a vehicle;
- use motorized travel within Willmore Wilderness Park; and
- carry a weapon (see definition on page 15) on an OHV **between 1 hour before sunrise and the following noon** during an open season for big game* on public land in the following WMUs: 102-166, 200-260, 300-351, 354-360, 400-446, 507, 508, 514, 521, 522, 526 and 841. This does not apply to a person who is traveling on a direct route to or from a location accessible by vehicles designed for highway travel and his or her isolated campsite, and the weapons and ammunition are carried out of view in separate locked containers (and remain locked during the trip). Also, the restriction does not apply in a WMU when the only big game season open is a spring black bear season or a cougar season.

* this restriction applies to all hunters (including bird game hunters).

Recreation Trails

A number of forested areas throughout Alberta have designated recreation trails. These areas allow a variety of activities, including hiking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling. Trail users and backcountry travellers should be aware of current land use restrictions. For more information on recreation trails, contact the Information Centre in Edmonton (see page 16).

Trappers' Trails

Many trails on Crown lands are created and maintained by trappers. To avoid interference with trapline operations, recreationists are urged to avoid motorized use of trails marked with signs indicating "Active Trapline," especially during trapping seasons of November through February.

Public Land Use Zone (PLUZ)	Off-Highway Vehicles	Associated WMUs
Allison Chinook	Seasonal access on designated trails only	402
Athabasca Ranch	Seasonal access only	344
Brule Lake	Designated corridors only	438
Castle	Seasonal access on designated trails only	400
Cataract Creek Snow Vehicle	Snowmobiles only with additional conditions	404
Coal Branch	Seasonal access on designated trails only	436-438
Dormer / Sheep	Designated trails only	416
Ghost	Designated trails only	316, 412, 414, 416
Job / Cline	Seasonal access on designated trails only	426, 430, 432, 434
Kiska / Willson	Designated trails only with some seasonal restrictions	326, 328, 416-418, 420, 422, 426, 428-430
McLean Creek Off-Highway	Permitted with conditions	406
Sibbald Snow Vehicle	Snowmobiles only with additional conditions	406
Blackstone / Wapiti	NOT PERMITTED	430, 434
Holmes Crossing	NOT PERMITTED	507
Kananaskis Country	NOT PERMITTED	404, 406, 408
Panther Corners	NOT PERMITTED	416, 418
Whitcourt Sandhills X-Country Ski	NOT PERMITTED	507

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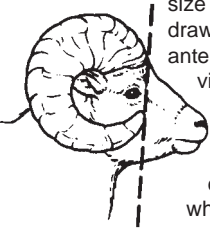
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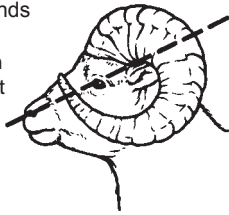
BIG GAME REGULATIONS

— Big Game Identification —

Trophy Sheep — A male bighorn sheep with horns, one of which is of sufficient size that a straight line drawn from the most anterior point of the visible base of the horn to the tip of the horn extends beyond the anterior edge of the eye when viewed in profile.



Full-Curl Trophy Sheep — A male bighorn sheep with horns, one of which is of sufficient size that when viewed in profile, its tip extends upward beyond a straight line drawn from the rear-most point of the base of the horn to the centre of the nostril.



Be Careful! Study a ram carefully when determining its trophy status. Be sure to view the ram's head from a horizontal plane and in profile, with the front of the right and left horn bases aligned. Views from below, in front, or any other perspective other than "in profile" will not provide for accurate judgement. Some rams may not be legal even if they are old or have horns severely broomed or with turned up tips.



lamb



yearling ewe

Non-trophy Sheep — A female bighorn sheep or a male bighorn sheep under one year of age.



yearling ram
(illegal)



adult ewe

White-tailed Deer — Body color grey to reddish brown, under body white. Tail large and bushy, brown on upper surface and white on lower surface. Tail often held erect and "flagged" when animal runs. Gait a series of short running dashes and bounds. Antlers have individual tines off main beams. Antlers present on males only.



Mule Deer — Body color grey to brownish grey, under body white. Ears prominent; tail compact, rope-like, and black-tipped; rump patch white. Tail held down when animal runs. Gait a series of stiff-legged bounds. Antlers branched and present on males only.



Antlered

A white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose or elk having an antler exceeding 10.2 cm (4 in.) in length.

Antlerless

A white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose or elk that is not "antlered" (as defined above).

Trophy Antelope — A male pronghorn antelope that has a horn at least 12.6 cm (5 in.) in length.



Non-trophy Antelope — A female pronghorn antelope or a male pronghorn antelope having horns not more than 7.6 cm (3 in.) in length.

Woodland Caribou — Woodland Caribou are classified as Threatened animals in Alberta.

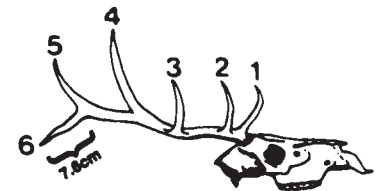
THERE IS NO OPEN SEASON FOR CARIBOU.



male



female



Six-point Elk — A male elk bearing an antler that is composed of a main beam from which project not fewer than five tines, each of which is at least 7.6 cm (3 in.) in length.

Note: The tip of the main beam must be at least 7.6 cm (3 in.) from the base of the last tine counted.

GRIZZLY

Hump
There is No Season for Grizzly Bear.



Dished Face Profile

14 cm



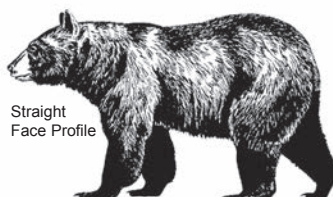
13 cm



24.5 cm

No Hump

BLACK BEAR



Straight Face Profile

9.5 cm



9 cm



18 cm

Go to bearsmart.alberta.ca for more information on distinguishing black bears from grizzly bears.



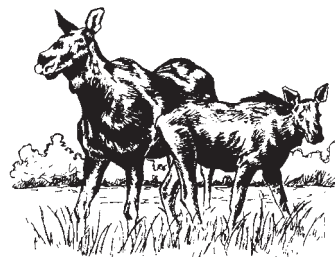
Three-point Elk — A male elk bearing an antler that is composed of a main beam from which project not fewer than two tines, each of which is at least 7.6 cm (3 in.) in length.

Note: The tip of the main beam must be at least 7.6 cm (3 in.) from the base of the last tine counted.

Moose

Cow – large, long nose and face; eyes appear close to top of head; rectangular body proportions; 1.8 m (6 ft.) high at the shoulder; may be found alone.

Calf – small, short nose and face; eyes appear more centered between tip of nose and top of head; squarish body proportions; 1.2 m (4 ft.) high at the shoulder; seldom found alone.



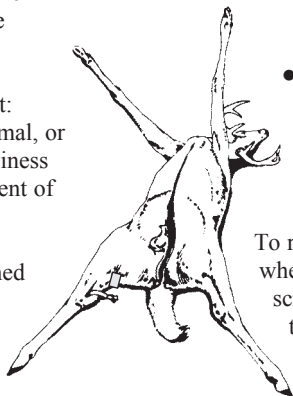
EVIDENCE OF SEX, SPECIES AND CLASS

In the case of **moose, elk, deer, antelope, bison and non-trophy sheep** the evidence of sex, species and class must remain attached to the carcass (cannot be surgically or otherwise removed) until:

- the carcass is delivered to a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*, or
- the carcass is cut up and packaged for consumption at:
 - the usual residence of the person who killed the animal, or
 - the usual residence (a residence that is neither a business premises nor attached to such a premises) of a resident of Alberta and that resident is in attendance.

The evidence of sex, species or class that must be retained is as follows:

- **moose, elk, deer, antelope, bison and non-trophy sheep** – attached to the same part of the animal to which the tag is affixed, **one** of the following:
 - testicles, scrotum, or udder, and in the case of deer only, the completely haired tail, or
 - the head with horns or antlers attached if the animal has horns or antlers, or
 - the head (complete with the skin on it) if the animal has no horns or antlers, **and in addition**



- the complete skull plate with horns or antlers intact must be retained with the carcass of the male antelope, male elk or male non-trophy sheep
- the complete head must be retained with the carcass of a calf moose harvested under authority of a Calf Moose Special Licence.
- **cougar** – one of the following attached to the skin and visible until compulsory registration is complete:
 - in the case of a male, the scrotum
 - in the case of a female, a teat or a portion of a mammary gland.

To retain the scrotum or udder, cut to one side of the scrotum or udder when opening the animal for gutting. If you skin your game, the scrotum or udder must remain attached to the portion to which the tag is affixed. If you remove the testicles and penis, leave the entire scrotum intact. The meat will not be tainted.

Deboning: a hunter can debone a carcass while in the field and still follow the requirements described above for moose, elk, deer, antelope, bison and non-trophy sheep. It's not necessary for the full hind quarter of meat to remain intact while still bearing the required evidence, provided that portion of the leg and tendon where the tag is attached also has the evidence of sex, species or class still attached to it.

TAGGING

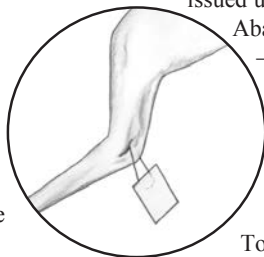
NOTE: Antlered moose, elk and deer must **NOT** be tagged around the antler base. Please review the following instructions.

Immediately after killing a big game animal, the appropriate tag(s) must be affixed and securely locked to the animal as follows:

- **trophy sheep, goat** – one tag through the nostril and, as soon as the skin is removed from the skull, one tag around the lower bone of the eye socket leaving the horns and eye intact.
- **moose, elk, deer, antelope, bison and non-trophy sheep** – through the space between the bone and the tendon of a hind leg directly above the hock and around either the bone or the tendon.
- **bear and cougar** – to the skin.

Partner Licence

Upon killing an animal, a partner must immediately inform the primary licence holder (and vice versa – if the primary licence holder kills the animal, he or she must immediately inform the partner) of the killing. The primary licence holder must, immediately upon arriving at the carcass, tag the animal in the normal fashion (See page 22 for more information).



Tags must remain affixed until, in the case of

- **trophy sheep, goat** – the animal is registered (page 44) and the skin is processed.
- **moose, elk, deer, antelope, bison or non-trophy sheep** – the carcass is delivered to:
 - a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*,
 - the usual residence of the person who killed the animal, or
 - the usual residence (a residence that is neither a business premises nor attached to such a premises) of a resident of Alberta and that resident is in attendance, and the carcass is cut up and packaged for consumption.
- **bear and cougar** – the skin is processed.

To tag your kill using the adhesive tag associated with your licence, attach the wire loop to the animal as described above for various species and classes. Close and secure the loop by affixing the adhesive tag over the free ends of the wire.

WILD GAME PROCESSING

Hunters are reminded that when big game (including boned meat) or game birds are taken to a business for butchering or other related processing services, there are requirements for the business to keep a record of the wildlife that has been submitted. This includes recording the date, the name and address of the person who delivered the wildlife, the name and address

of the person who killed the wildlife and their wildlife certificate number or wildlife identification number (WIN), the number of the licence under whose purported authority the wildlife was killed, and (if applicable) the tag number, and a description of the wildlife that in the case of a big game animal includes its sex.

BOWHUNTING

Note: The following applies to bowhunting other than with a cross-bow. For information about hunting with cross-bows, see page 63.

Except for the hunting of black bear, coyote, cougar or wolf under the circumstances outlined on page 32, a Bowhunting Permit is required by anyone who hunts big game, game bird, wolf or coyote with a bow and arrow. Bowhunters with appropriate general or special licences may hunt during the general seasons, archery-only seasons and primitive weapon seasons. A Bowhunting Permit is required in combination with a big game licence. In some areas of the province, hunters require special licences to hunt certain species of big game – see season tables. A bowhunter who obtains an Antlered Moose Special Licence, Antlerless Moose Special Licence, Calf Moose Special Licence, Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence, Antlerless Mule Deer Special Licence, Antlered White-tailed Deer Special Licence, Antlerless White-tailed Deer Special Licence, Antlered Elk Special Licence, Antlerless Elk Special Licence or Landowner Special Licence may, if an early archery season is offered, hunt under the authority of that licence during the archery season but only in the WMU specified on the licence and only for the type and species of animal for which the licence was issued. Holders of a Landowner Special Licence are subject to the terms/conditions of their licence. Bowhunters are reminded that, in some situations, archery-only seasons for some species may be in progress at the same time as primitive weapon and rifle seasons for other species in the same WMU.

Persons hunting big game must use an authorized bow and an authorized arrow. An authorized bow is one that is held, drawn and released by muscular power and has a draw weight of not less than 18 kg (40 lb.). This is the number of kilograms (pounds) required to draw an arrow of 71 cm (28 in.) to its head. An authorized arrow is one that is not less than 61 cm (24 in.) in length that has a tip that bears a head that is not intentionally designed to resist being withdrawn after it has penetrated an object. Furthermore, it must either have a solid, sharp cutting head of at least 7/8 inch in width, or a head that, when the arrow impacts, opens to present sharp cutting edges at least 7/8 inch in width.

Hunters are asked to remove their tree stands at the end of the hunting seasons unless permission has been granted by the landholder to do otherwise.



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Be BearSmart When Hunting

- Carry bear spray and keep it handy.
- Remember that using cover scents and calling game may attract bears.
- Be cautious in areas where bears might feed such as berry patches and grain fields.
- Be alert when handling a harvested animal. Remove the carcass quickly.
- If the bear finds your kill site, or if the carcass has been buried or moved, leave the area immediately. Advise the local Fish and Wildlife office by calling 310-0000.
- When black bear hunting, remember that grizzlies can wander into black bear range. Test your bear identification skills at www.bearsmart.alberta.ca





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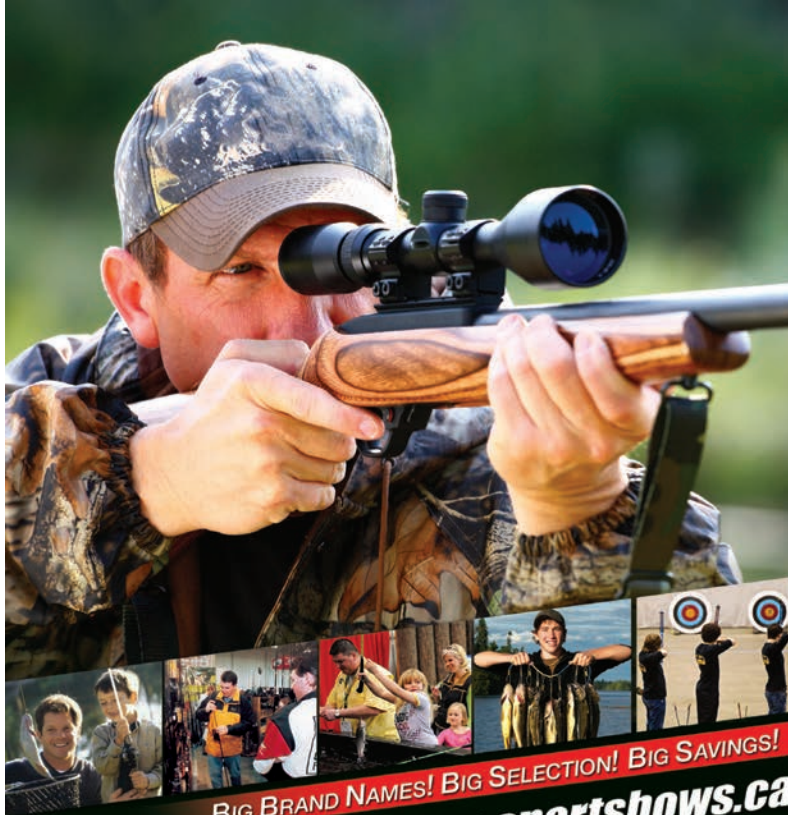
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WILDLIFE COMPULSORY REGISTRATION

After harvesting **any** of the animals listed below, a hunter must register the kill at a Fish and Wildlife office (page 16) within the specified time period. Where parts are required to be submitted, they must be submitted at the time the animal is registered in person by the hunter who killed the animal. For species where parts are not required to be submitted, the hunter who killed the animal may not have to attend in person at the time of registration. Contact a Fish and Wildlife office (page 16) for further information.

- Goat (the incisor bar must be submitted);
- Male sheep over 1 year of age (the complete unaltered skull with horns and eyes intact must be submitted);
- Wolves taken in any of WMUs 300 to 318, 324 to 330, 339 or 400 to 434 under any authority;
- Cougar (the skull and skin must be submitted, complete with the evidence of sex attached and visible). A premolar tooth will be retained for aging.
- Bobcat (the skin must be submitted complete with the evidence of sex attached and visible);

Registration Deadlines – Deadlines for registering harvests are:

- **Male sheep over 1 year of age** – not later than 7 days after the close of the open season in which the animal was killed or 14 days after the date on which the animal was killed, whichever occurs first.
- **Goat** – not later than 14 days after the close of the open season in which the animal was killed or 30 days after the date on which the animal was killed, whichever occurs first.
- **Cougar** – if taken on privately owned land by a landowner or occupant, see page 32 for requirements; if taken under a licence allocated to an Outfitter-guide, within 5 business days of the date of the kill; if taken under any other authority, within one business day following the date of the kill.
- **Bison taken in WMU 536 or 539** – not later than the end of the fifth usual business day after the animal was killed.

- **Wolves taken in any of the WMUs indicated earlier in this section** – not later than 30 days after the date on which the wolf was killed.
- **Bobcat** – before the skin is sold, processed or exported from Alberta or before the expiration of the period of 30 days after the bobcat was killed, whichever event comes first.

Persons registering goat, sheep, bison, cougar, bobcat and wolf are required to provide the following information:

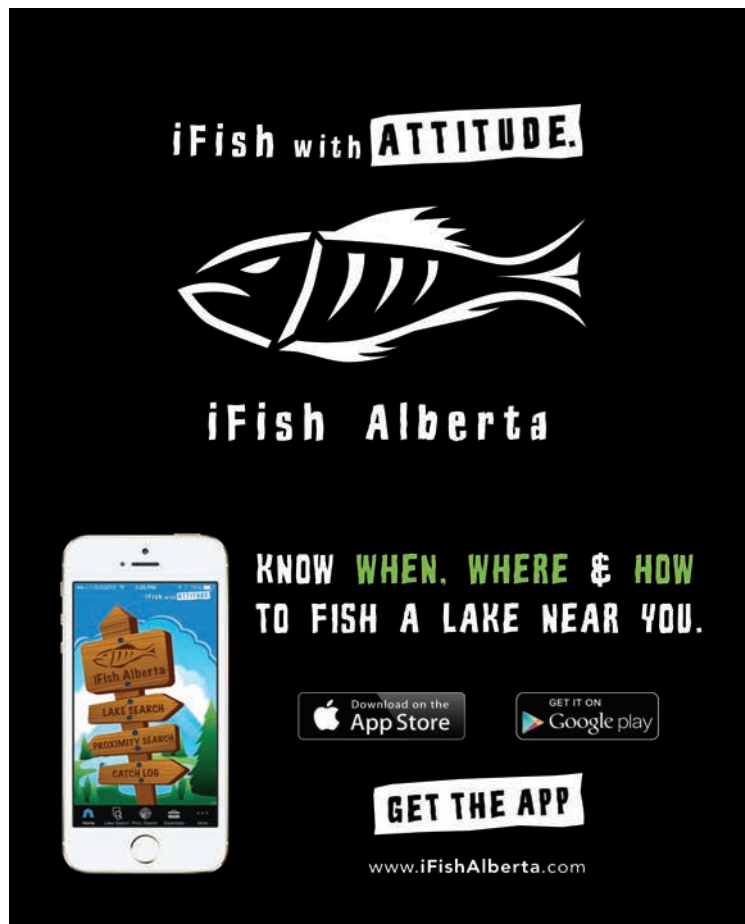
- species and sex of the animal,
- date and location of the kill.

As part of the registration process, trophy sheep horns will be fitted with a permanent identification marker. Other animals may be marked in another manner or retained for examination.


Compulsory registration provides information about the relative numbers of males, females and young in big game populations. It also provides the dates and locations of the harvest. Age structure and sex ratios provide an indication of population productivity (how many young survive to become adults) and status (increasing, decreasing or stable). The population and harvest data can then be used to determine the harvest goals or quotas for following years. This valuable information, provided by hunters, is essential for managing cougars, goats, trophy sheep and wolves in Alberta.

It is a mandatory requirement to submit the heads of deer harvested from specific WMUs for CWD testing and research purposes within 30 days of when it was killed. See pages 3, 29 and 68 for details.


Summaries that include additional information on registering game animals taken under Constitutionally recognized hunting rights can be viewed at <http://esrd.alberta.ca/fish-wildlife/fishing-hunting-trapping/aboriginal-rights-responsibilities.aspx>



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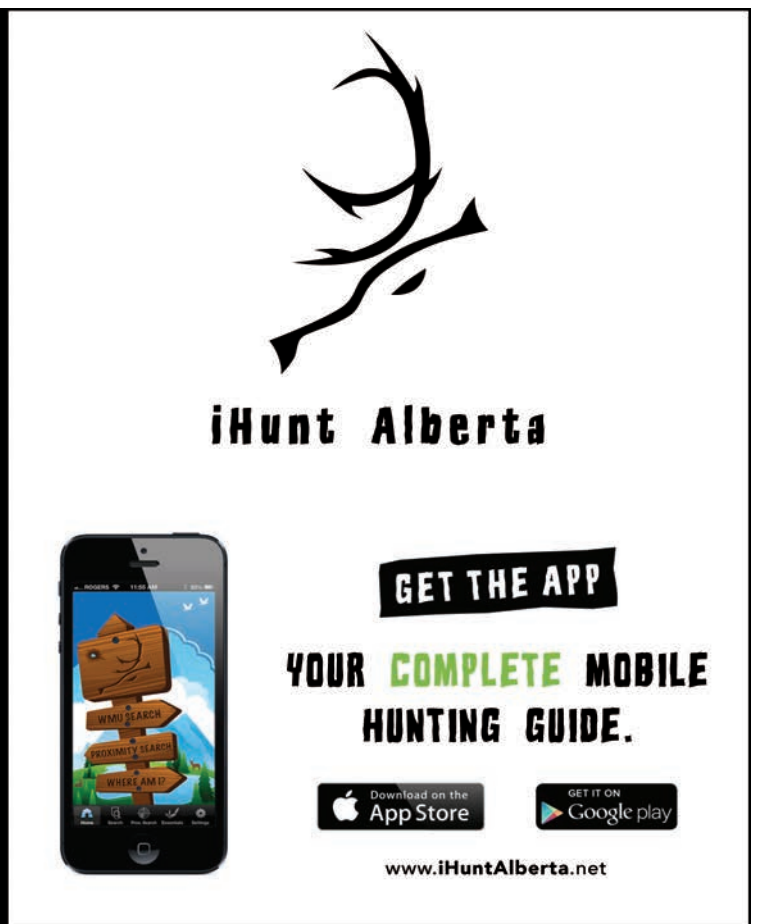



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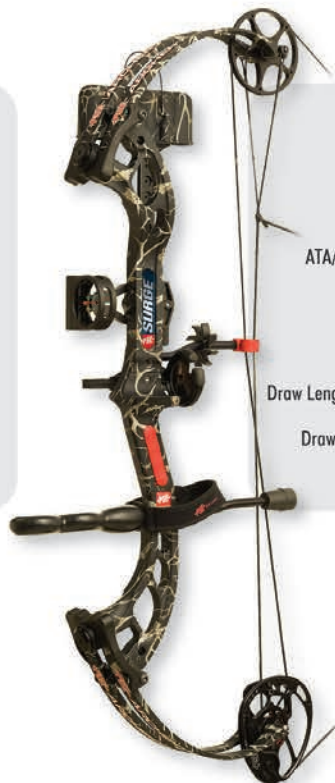
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BIG GAME SEASONS



Prairie WMUs (100 Series & 732)



Sunday hunting for big game is prohibited in Prairie WMUs (100 Series).

Archery Only Seasons are those where only a bow and arrow may be used to hunt.

General Seasons are those where either a firearm, cross-bow or a bow and arrow may be used.

- Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. Refer to the 2014 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for details.

Note: It is a mandatory requirement to submit the heads of deer harvested from specific WMUs for CWD testing and research purposes. See pages 3, 29 and 68 for details.

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
White-tailed Deer	Antlered	S1 - N4	(Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8, N12 - N15 N19 - N22, N26 - N29	102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164
		S1 - O31	N1 - N30	166
	Antlerless	S1 - N4	■ (Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8, N12 - N15 N19 - N22, N26 - N29	102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	166
Mule Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S1 - N4	■ (Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8, N12 - N15 N19 - N22, N26 - N29	102, 106, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	166
	Antlered	■ S1 - N4	■ (Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8, N12 - N15 N19 - N22, N26 - N29	104, 108, 110, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 156
	Antlerless	S1 - N4	■ (Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8, N12 - N15 N19 - N22, N26 - N29	104, 108, 110, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 156
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166
Elk	Antlered and Antlerless		■ S3 - S23 ■ S24 - O8 ■ O9 - O23	102
			■ S3 - S30 ■ O1 - O24 ■ O25 - N16 ■ N17 - D20	104, 108
			■ S3 - S30 ■ O1 - O24 ■ O25 - N16 ■ N17 - D20 ■ J1 - J30, 2015	(124, 144, 148, 150)
	Antlered	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	(151, 152), (164, 166)
	Antlerless	S1 - O31	■ N1 - J20, 2015	(151, 152), (164, 166)
			■ N17 - N20 ■ N24 - N27 ■ D1 - D4 ■ J12 - J15, 2015 ■ J19 - J22, 2015 ■ J26 - J29, 2015	732 (CFB Suffield)

Additional hunting opportunities in the Prairie WMUs:

- Either Sex Elk Special Licence, Antelope Archery Special Licence, Non-trophy Antelope Special Licence and Trophy Antelope Special Licence. Refer to page 61 for season dates or to the **2014 Alberta Hunting Draws** booklet for further details.
- Cypress Hills Elk Archery Licence. Holders of this licence may kill 1 elk, either antlered or antlerless, with a bow and arrow in WMUs 116, 118 and 119 during the archery season, S1 - O15.

BIG GAME SEASONS



Parkland WMUs (200 Series & 728, 730, 936)



Archery Only Seasons are those where only a bow and arrow may be used to hunt.

General Seasons are those where either a firearm, cross-bow or a bow and arrow may be used.

- Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. Refer to the 2014 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for details.

Sunday hunting for big game is prohibited in WMUs 728, 730 and 936.

Note: It is a mandatory requirement to submit the heads of deer harvested from specific WMUs for CWD testing and research purposes. See pages 3, 29 and 68 for details.

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
White-tailed Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S1 - O31	N1 - N30	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260
		S1 - N30		212, 248
		O17 - O31	N9 - N30	936 ¹
	Antlered	S1 - O31	N1 - N30	210
	Antlerless	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	210
Mule Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	200, 202, 203, 204, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260
		S1 - N30		212, 248
	Antlered	■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	206, 208, 210, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226
	Antlerless	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	206, 208, 210, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 210, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260
		S1 - N30		212, 248
			■ N27 - N29 ² ■ D1 - D6 ■ D8 - D13	728, 730
		■ O17 - O31	■ N1 - N23	936 ¹
	Antlerless		■ O25 - D7 ³	248 (Strathcona County and Leduc County portions only)
Elk	Antlered and Antlerless	S1 - N30		212, 248
		■ O17 - O31	■ N1 - N23	936 ¹
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - D20 and J1 - J20, 2015	(200, 202, 203, 232, 234)
	Antlered (3-point or larger) ⁴	S1 - O24	O25 - N30	214
		S1 - O31	N1 - N30	216, 221, 224
	Antlered	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	(200, 202, 203, 232, 234), (204, 228, 230), (206, 222, 226, 244, 246), (208, 220), (236, 238, 256, 500), (240, 242), (252, 254, 258, 260)
	Antlerless	S1 - O31	■ N1 - J20, 2015	(200, 202, 203, 232, 234), (204, 228, 230), (206, 222, 226, 244, 246), (208, 220), (236, 238, 256, 500), (240, 242), (252, 254, 258, 260)
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - D20	224
S1 - O24		■ O25 - N20 ■ N21 - D20 ■ J1 - J20, 2015	214	

Big Game Seasons in PARKLAND WMUs continued next page

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
Elk	Antlerless	S1 - O31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ N1 - N25 ■ N26 - D20 ■ J1 - J20, 2015 	216, 221
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ D1 - D20 ■ J2 - J20, 2015 Mon. - Fri. only (Primitive Weapon – muzzle loader, shotgun, cross-bow, bow & arrow)	212

Black Bear and Cougar Seasons – See pages 59 and 60.

- ¹ Hunters (including bowhunters) require a Firearms Discharge Permit to hunt in WMU 936. Self-registration discharge permits are no longer available. Hunters must contact the Cooking Lake/Blackfoot Grazing, Wildlife and Recreation Area office at **780-922-3293** for information on requirements to obtain the discharge permit. In WMU 936, vehicle access is permitted to the Staging Areas only. Horses are permitted only on designated trails and in open pastures. General area access is by muscular power only (bicycle or walking).
- ² From N27 - N29, this season is open to hunting only by means of archery or muzzle loader.
- ³ This season is open to hunting only by means of archery, cross-bow, muzzle loader or shotgun.
- ⁴ See page 40 for descriptions of 3-point or larger elk.

Additional hunting opportunities in the Parkland WMUs:

- Antlerless Deer (WMUs 212 & 248) Licence. Holders of this licence may kill two antlerless deer, either white-tailed deer or mule deer, with a bow and arrow (but not a cross-bow) in WMUs 212 and 248 during the archery-only season, S1 – N30.
- Foothills Deer Licence. Holders of this licence may kill 2 antlerless deer, either white-tailed deer or mule deer, with a bow and arrow, cross-bow, shotgun, or muzzle loader in WMU 212 on the following dates: D1 – D20 (Monday to Friday only). When hunting, they must carry written permission from the landowner involved.
- WMU 212 Antlerless Elk Archery Licence. Holders of this licence may kill 1 antlerless elk with a bow and arrow (but not a cross-bow) in WMU 212 during the archery only season, S1 – N30.
- Camp Wainwright Deer Special Licence. Refer to page 62 for season dates or the *2014 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for further details.
- Strathcona White-tailed Deer Licence. Holders of this licence may kill **three** white-tailed deer, only 1 of which may be antlered, with a bow and arrow, cross-bow, muzzle loader or shotgun in that portion of WMU 248 within the Counties of Strathcona and Leduc between the following dates: O25 – D7. Information about this hunt is available from the Fish and Wildlife office in Edmonton and from Strathcona County Hall, 2001 Sherwood Drive, Sherwood Park.

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The program, in partnership with the "Hunting for Tomorrow Foundation", is open to all eligible hunters. There is no cost to participate, but there are specific rules that all participants must adhere to regarding site access.

Public access to Capital Power's land at Genesee is only permitted through the Hunting for Tomorrow program.

The mentorship bow hunting program is also still active. This program pairs youth participants and first time hunters with a qualified mentor to receive one-on-one bow hunting instruction and opportunities.

Genesee staff are on the land 24-hours a day and at risk if you hunt in unauthorized areas.

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The "Hunting for Tomorrow Foundation" administers all hunting on Capital Power land. For more information or to apply to hunt at Genesee contact: Chuck Strong, chuck@ahcia.com
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BIG GAME SEASONS



Foothills WMUs (300 Series)



Archery Only Seasons are those where only a bow and arrow may be used to hunt.

General Seasons are those where either a firearm, cross-bow or a bow and arrow may be used.

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. Refer to the 2014 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for details.

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs	
		Archery Only	General		
White-tailed Deer ¹	Antlered and Antlerless	S1 - O31	N1 - N30	310, 312, 314, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 348	
		S1 - O24	O25 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308	
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	326, 328, 330, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 360	
	Antlered	A25 - S23	S24 - N30	316	
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	358, 359	
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	N1 - N7	358, 359	
		A25 - S23	N1 - N30	316	
Mule Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	310, 312, 334, 336, 348	
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	326	
	Antlered	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	347, 350, 352, 353, 355	
		A25 - S23	S24 - N30	316	
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	328, 330, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 349, 351, 354, 356	
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	338	
		■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	314, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 337	
		■ A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	357, 358, 359, 360	
		■ S1 - O24	■ O25 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308	
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	■ S17 - D20	357, 359, 360	
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	314, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 337	
		S1 - O24	■ O25 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308	
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	358	
		■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336, 337	
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336, 337	
		Antlered	A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
			■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	338, 348
			■ S1 - O24	■ O25 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 306, 308
	Antlerless	■ A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	326, 328, 330	
		A25 - S23	■ S24 - N30	352, 353*, 355	
		■ A25 - S23	■ N1 - N30	357	
		Antlerless (calf only)	■ A25 - S23	■ N1 - N30	359, 360
Elk	Antlered (3-point or larger) ²	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	326, 328, 330, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360	
		S1 - O24	O25 - N30	302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314	
		S1 - O31	N1 - N30	316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 348	

Big Game Seasons in Foothills WMUs continued on page 54

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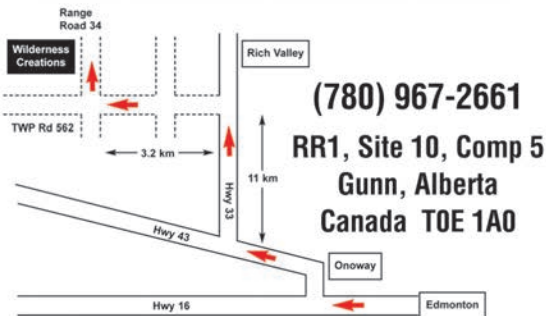
SUNRISE / SUNSET

	DATE	Calgary		Coronation		Edmonton		Ft. McMurray		High Level		Hinton		Lac La
		Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise
M D T	Sept. 1	6:50	8:22	6:37	8:13	6:43	8:23	6:28	8:21	6:47	8:48	7:00	8:39	6:35
	Sept. 5	6:56	8:13	6:44	8:04	6:50	8:14	6:36	8:10	6:56	8:37	7:07	8:30	6:42
	Sept. 10	7:04	8:02	6:52	7:52	6:59	8:02	6:47	7:57	7:07	8:22	7:15	8:18	6:51
	Sept. 15	7:11	7:50	7:00	7:40	7:08	7:50	6:57	7:43	7:18	8:08	7:24	8:06	7:01
	Sept. 20	7:19	7:39	7:09	7:29	7:16	7:37	7:07	7:30	7:29	7:53	7:33	7:53	7:10
	Sept. 25	7:27	7:27	7:17	7:17	7:25	7:25	7:17	7:16	7:40	7:39	7:41	7:41	7:19
	Sept. 30	7:35	7:16	7:25	7:05	7:34	7:13	7:27	7:03	7:51	7:25	7:50	7:29	7:28
	Oct. 1	7:37	7:14	7:27	7:03	7:36	7:10	7:29	7:00	7:53	7:22	7:52	7:27	7:30
	Oct. 5	7:43	7:05	7:34	6:54	7:43	7:01	7:37	6:49	8:02	7:10	7:59	7:17	7:38
	Oct. 10	7:51	6:54	7:42	6:42	7:52	6:49	7:48	6:36	8:13	6:56	8:08	7:05	7:48
Oct. 15	8:00	6:43	7:51	6:31	8:01	6:37	7:58	6:23	8:25	6:42	8:17	6:54	7:57	
Oct. 20	8:08	6:33	8:00	6:21	8:11	6:26	8:09	6:11	8:37	6:29	8:27	6:43	8:07	
Oct. 25	8:17	6:23	8:09	6:10	8:20	6:15	8:20	5:58	8:48	6:16	8:36	6:32	8:17	
Oct. 30	8:25	6:14	8:18	6:01	8:30	6:05	8:31	5:47	9:00	6:03	8:46	6:22	8:27	
Nov. 1	8:29	6:10	8:21	5:57	8:33	6:01	8:35	5:42	9:05	5:58	8:49	6:18	8:31	
M S T	Nov. 5	7:36	5:03	7:28	4:50	7:41	4:53	7:44	4:33	8:15	4:49	7:57	5:10	7:39
	Nov. 10	7:44	4:55	7:37	4:41	7:51	4:45	7:55	4:23	8:26	4:38	8:07	5:01	7:49
	Nov. 15	7:53	4:48	7:46	4:34	8:00	4:37	8:06	4:14	8:38	4:27	8:16	4:53	7:59
	Nov. 20	8:01	4:42	7:55	4:28	8:09	4:30	8:16	4:06	8:50	4:18	8:25	4:46	8:09
	Nov. 25	8:09	4:37	8:03	4:22	8:18	4:24	8:26	3:58	9:00	4:10	8:34	4:41	8:18
	Nov. 30	8:16	4:33	8:11	4:18	8:26	4:19	8:35	3:53	9:10	4:04	8:41	4:36	8:26
	Dec. 1	8:18	4:33	8:12	4:17	8:27	4:18	8:37	3:52	9:12	4:03	8:43	4:35	8:28
	Dec. 5	8:23	4:31	8:17	4:15	8:33	4:16	8:44	3:49	9:19	3:59	8:49	4:33	8:34
	Dec. 10	8:29	4:29	8:23	4:14	8:39	4:14	8:50	3:46	9:27	3:56	8:55	4:31	8:40
	Dec. 15	8:33	4:30	8:28	4:14	8:44	4:14	8:56	3:45	9:33	3:55	9:00	4:31	8:45
Dec. 20	8:37	4:31	8:32	4:15	8:48	4:16	9:00	3:47	9:37	3:56	9:03	4:33	8:49	
Dec. 25	8:39	4:34	8:34	4:18	8:50	4:18	9:02	3:50	9:39	3:59	9:05	4:36	8:51	
Dec. 30	8:40	4:38	8:34	4:22	8:50	4:23	9:02	3:54	9:39	4:04	9:06	4:40	8:52	
M S T	Jan. 1	8:40	4:40	8:34	4:25	8:50	4:25	9:02	3:57	9:38	4:06	9:06	4:42	8:51
	Jan. 5	8:39	4:45	8:33	4:29	8:49	4:30	9:00	4:02	9:36	4:12	9:05	4:47	8:50
	Jan. 10	8:37	4:51	8:31	4:36	8:46	4:37	8:56	4:10	9:31	4:21	9:02	4:54	8:47
	Jan. 15	8:33	4:59	8:27	4:43	8:42	4:45	8:51	4:19	9:25	4:31	8:58	5:02	8:42
	Jan. 20	8:28	5:06	8:22	4:52	8:37	4:54	8:44	4:29	9:18	4:42	8:52	5:11	8:36
	Jan. 25	8:23	5:15	8:16	5:00	8:30	5:03	8:36	4:40	9:09	4:53	8:46	5:20	8:29
	Jan. 30	8:16	5:24	8:09	5:10	8:23	5:13	8:27	4:51	8:59	5:05	8:38	5:29	8:21
	Feb. 1	8:13	5:27	8:06	5:13	8:19	5:16	8:23	4:55	8:55	5:10	8:35	5:33	8:18
	Feb. 5	8:07	5:34	7:59	5:21	8:12	5:24	8:15	5:04	8:46	5:20	8:28	5:41	8:10
	Feb. 10	7:58	5:43	7:51	5:30	8:03	5:34	8:04	5:16	8:34	5:32	8:19	5:51	8:00
Feb. 15	7:49	5:52	7:41	5:39	7:53	5:44	7:53	5:27	8:21	5:45	8:09	6:01	7:50	
Feb. 20	7:39	6:01	7:31	5:49	7:42	5:54	7:41	5:38	8:08	5:57	7:58	6:11	7:39	
Feb. 25	7:29	6:10	7:20	5:58	7:31	6:04	7:28	5:50	7:55	6:09	7:47	6:20	7:27	

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Biche Set	Lethbridge		Medicine Hat		Peace River		Red Deer		Whitecourt	
	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
8:20	6:47	8:15	6:38	8:07	6:53	8:44	6:47	8:23	6:51	8:33
8:10	6:53	8:06	6:44	7:58	7:01	8:33	6:53	8:13	6:58	8:24
7:57	7:00	7:55	6:51	7:47	7:11	8:20	7:01	8:02	7:07	8:11
7:44	7:07	7:45	6:59	7:36	7:21	8:07	7:10	7:50	7:16	7:59
7:32	7:15	7:34	7:06	7:25	7:31	7:53	7:18	7:38	7:25	7:46
7:19	7:22	7:23	7:14	7:14	7:40	7:40	7:26	7:26	7:34	7:34
7:06	7:30	7:12	7:21	7:03	7:50	7:27	7:35	7:15	7:43	7:21
7:04	7:31	7:10	7:23	7:01	7:52	7:24	7:36	7:12	7:45	7:19
6:54	7:37	7:01	7:29	6:52	8:01	7:13	7:43	7:03	7:52	7:09
6:41	7:45	6:51	7:37	6:42	8:11	7:00	7:52	6:52	8:02	6:57
6:29	7:53	6:40	7:45	6:31	8:21	6:48	8:01	6:41	8:11	6:45
6:17	8:01	6:31	7:53	6:21	8:32	6:35	8:09	6:30	8:21	6:34
6:06	8:09	6:21	8:01	6:12	8:42	6:23	8:18	6:19	8:30	6:22
5:55	8:17	6:12	8:09	6:03	8:53	6:12	8:27	6:10	8:40	6:12
5:51	8:20	6:09	8:13	5:59	8:57	6:07	8:31	6:06	8:44	6:08
4:43	7:27	5:02	7:19	4:53	8:06	4:59	7:38	4:59	7:52	5:00
4:34	7:35	4:55	7:28	4:45	8:17	4:49	7:47	4:50	8:02	4:51
4:25	7:43	4:48	7:36	4:38	8:27	4:40	7:56	4:43	8:11	4:43
4:18	7:51	4:42	7:44	4:33	8:37	4:32	8:05	4:36	8:21	4:36
4:12	7:59	4:38	7:51	4:28	8:47	4:25	8:13	4:31	8:30	4:30
4:07	8:06	4:34	7:58	4:24	8:56	4:19	8:21	4:27	8:38	4:25
4:06	8:07	4:34	8:00	4:24	8:58	4:18	8:22	4:26	8:39	4:24
4:03	8:12	4:32	8:05	4:22	9:04	4:15	8:28	4:24	8:45	4:22
4:01	8:17	4:31	8:10	4:21	9:11	4:13	8:34	4:22	8:51	4:20
4:01	8:22	4:31	8:15	4:21	9:17	4:13	8:39	4:22	8:56	4:19
4:02	8:25	4:33	8:18	4:22	9:20	4:14	8:42	4:24	9:00	4:21
4:05	8:28	4:36	8:21	4:25	9:22	4:17	8:44	4:27	9:02	4:24
4:10	8:28	4:40	8:21	4:29	9:22	4:21	8:45	4:31	9:03	4:28
4:12	8:28	4:42	8:21	4:31	9:22	4:24	8:45	4:33	9:02	4:30
4:17	8:28	4:46	8:21	4:36	9:20	4:29	8:44	4:38	9:01	4:35
4:24	8:26	4:52	8:19	4:42	9:17	4:37	8:41	4:44	8:58	4:43
4:33	8:23	4:59	8:15	4:49	9:12	4:46	8:38	4:52	8:54	4:51
4:42	8:18	5:07	8:11	4:57	9:05	4:56	8:33	5:00	8:48	5:00
4:52	8:13	5:15	8:06	5:05	8:58	5:06	8:26	5:09	8:42	5:09
5:02	8:07	5:23	7:59	5:13	8:49	5:17	8:19	5:18	8:34	5:19
5:06	8:04	5:26	7:56	5:17	8:45	5:21	8:16	5:22	8:30	5:23
5:14	7:58	5:33	7:50	5:24	8:37	5:30	8:09	5:30	8:23	5:31
5:25	7:50	5:42	7:42	5:32	8:26	5:41	8:00	5:39	8:13	5:41
5:35	7:41	5:50	7:33	5:41	8:15	5:52	7:51	5:49	8:03	5:52
5:45	7:32	5:59	7:24	6:49	8:03	6:03	7:41	5:58	7:52	6:02
5:56	7:22	6:07	7:14	6:58	7:51	6:14	7:30	6:07	7:41	6:12

These times apply only to the specific location and specific day (not numerous days).

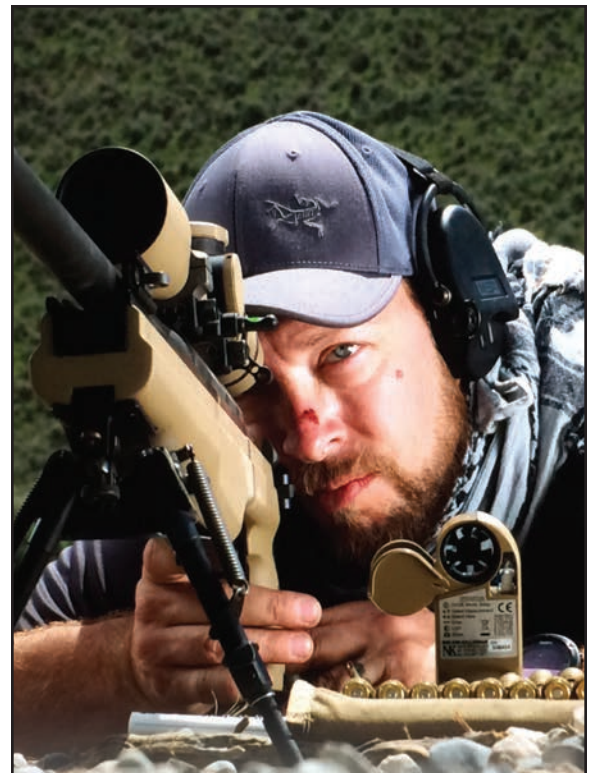
If hunting in between two listed communities, hunters can calculate what time would apply in their location.

To establish specific times for sunrise/sunset, refer to the National Research Council Canada (<http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/services/hia/sunrise-sunset.html>)



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Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
Elk	Antlerless	A25 - S16	■ S17 - D20	340, 342, 344*
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	330, 352
		S1 - O24	■ O25 - D20	302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - D20	334, 336
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - N25 ■ N26 - D20	318, 324, 332
		S1 - O24	■ O25 - N20 ■ N21 - D20 ■ J1 - J20, 2015	312, 314
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - O31 ■ N1 - D20 ■ D21 - J20, 2015	346, 357, 358, 359, 360
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - N25 ■ N26 - D20 ■ J1 - J20, 2015	320, 322
			■ N1 - D20 ■ D21 - J20, 2015	337, 338*, 348
A25 - S16	■ S17 - O31 ■ N1 - D20	353, 354, 355, 356		
Trophy Sheep ³	Resident	S3 - O31	302 ⁴ , 303, 306, 308	

Black Bear and Cougar Seasons – See pages 59 and 60.

* The special licence season for antlerless moose in WMU 353 and antlerless elk in WMUs 338 and 344 applies only to a portion of the WMU.

¹ The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence will be issued with 2 tags and is valid only in WMUs 310-314, 322-332, 336-340, 344-357 and 360.

² See page 40 for descriptions of 3-point or larger elk.

³ Hunting sheep is prohibited in several areas. See Restricted Areas for Trophy and Non-trophy Sheep on page 37.

⁴ WMU 302 is open only for full-curl rams.

Additional hunting opportunities in the Foothills WMUs:

- WMU 300 Elk Special Licence and Non-trophy Sheep Special Licence. Refer to page 62 for season dates or to the *2014 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for further details.

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BIG GAME SEASONS



Mountain WMUs (400 Series)



Archery Only Seasons are those where only a bow and arrow may be used to hunt.

General Seasons are those where either a firearm, cross-bow or a bow and arrow may be used.

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. Refer to the 2014 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for details.

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
White-tailed Deer ¹	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - S23	■ S24 - N30	404, 406, 408
		S8 - N30		410
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
	Antlered	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 429, 430, 432, 434
		S1 - S23	S24 - N30	400, 402
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	N1 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 429, 430, 432, 434
		S1 - S23	N1 - N15	400, 402
Mule Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - S23	■ S24 - N30	404, 406, 408
		S8 - N30		410
	Antlered	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	412, 414, 432, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 429, 430, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439
		■ S1 - S23	■ S24 - N30	400, 402
	Antlerless	S1 - S23	■ S24 - N30	400, 402
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - S23	■ S24 - N30	404, 406
		S8 - N30		410
	Antlered	A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31	412, 414
		A25 - S23	■ S24 - N30	416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
		■ A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	429
	Antlerless	S8 - S23	■ S24 - N30	408
		■ S1 - S16	■ S17 - N30	400, 402
Elk	Antlered and Antlerless	S8 - N30		410
	Antlered (6-point or larger) ² and Antlerless	S8 - S16	■ S17 - N30	404, 406, 408
		■ A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 428, 430
	Antlered (6-point or larger) ²	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	412, 414, 426, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	429
	Antlered (3-point or larger) ²	S1 - S16	S17 - N30	400, 402
		S1 - S16	■ S17 - N30	400, 402
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	438*, 439, 441*, 444*
Not Applicable		■ S10 - O31	440, 442, 444	
Goat	Not Applicable	■ S17 - O31	400	

Big Game Seasons in MOUNTAIN WMUs continued on next page

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
Trophy Sheep ⁵	Resident	S3 - O31		410
		■ S3 - N30		410
			■ A25 - S23 ■ S24 - O31	437
			■ N1 - N10 ■ N11 - N20 ■ N21 - N30	438 ⁸
			A25 - O31	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444 ³ , 445
			■ A25 - O31	444 ⁴ , 446
			S3 - O31	400 ⁶ , 402, 404, 406, 408
		■ N1 - N30	408 (west of Highway 40)	
	Non-resident and Non-resident Alien ⁷	■ S3 - N30		410
			■ S1 - O15	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444 ³ , 445

Black Bear and Cougar Seasons – See pages 59 and 60.

* The draw season for antlerless elk in WMU 438, 441 and 444 applies only to a portion of the WMU. See draw booklet for maps.

¹ The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence will be issued with 2 tags and is valid only in WMUs 436-446.

² See page 40 for descriptions of 3-point or larger elk and 6-point or larger elk.

³ The season for trophy sheep in WMU 444 applies only to the portion south of the Beaverdam Road.

⁴ The draw season for trophy sheep in WMU 444 applies only to the portion north of the Beaverdam Road.

⁵ Hunting of sheep is prohibited in several areas. See Restricted Areas for trophy and non-trophy sheep on page 37.

⁶ WMU 400 is open only for full-curl rams.

⁷ These seasons are only valid for hunters who have obtained Trophy Sheep Special Licences through a Class S Outfitter-guide or through a draw (Non-resident [Canadians] only).

⁸ The draw season for trophy sheep is valid in Area 438C (See *2014 Alberta Hunting Draws Booklet*).

Additional hunting opportunities in the Mountain WMUs:

- Non-trophy Sheep Special Licence, Trophy Sheep Special Licence (portion of WMU 408 lying west of Highway 40 or in WMU 446 and that portion of WMU 444 north of Beaverdam Road or in WMU 438C). Refer to page 62 for season dates or to the *2014 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for further details.



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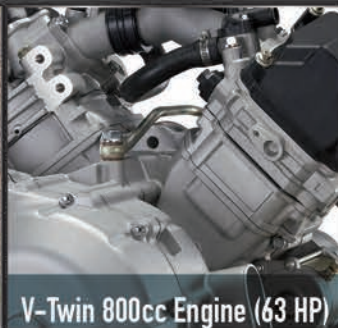
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BIG GAME SEASONS

Boreal WMUs (500 Series & 841)



Archery Only Seasons are those where only a bow and arrow may be used to hunt.

General Seasons are those where either a firearm, cross-bow or a bow and arrow may be used.

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. Refer to the 2014 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for details.

Bison – In the area west of highway 35 and north of the Chinchaga River and the Keg River Metis Settlement, bison is a protected species. No one is allowed to hunt bison in this area, except under the authority of a Bison Special Licence.

Note: It is a mandatory requirement to submit the heads of deer harvested from specific WMUs for CWD testing and research purposes. See page 3, 29 and 68 for details.

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
White-tailed Deer ¹	Antlered and Antlerless	S1 - O31	N1 - N30	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510
		A25 - A31	S1 - N30	511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 524, 525, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 536, 539, 540, 541, 542, 544
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	521, 523, 526, 527, 535, 537
	Antlered	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	522
			S17 - N30	841
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	N1 - N7	522
			N1 - N30	841
Mule Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	500, 501, 503, 505, 507, 508
	Antlered	A25 - A31	S1 - N30	512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 536, 539, 540, 541, 542
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	535
			S17 - N30	841
		■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	502, 504, 506, 509, 510
		■ A25 - A31	■ S1 - N30	511
		■ A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 537
		A25 - A31	■ S1 - N30	520, 524, 525, 544
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	■ S17 - D20	521, 522, 523, 526, 527
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	502, 504, 506, 509, 510
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	537
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 506, 509
		■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	507, 508
	Antlered		■ S17 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	841
		A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 535, 537
		A25 - A31	■ S1 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 524, 525, 528, 529, 530, 536, 541, 542, 544
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	505, 510
		A25 - A31	■ S1 - N30 ²	531, 532, 534, 539, 540
	Antlerless (calf only)	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	505, 510
		■ A25 - S23	■ N1 - N30	521, 522, 523, 526, 527
Elk	Antlered (6-point or larger) ³	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	509

Big Game Seasons in MOUNTAIN WMUs continued on next page

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
Elk	Antlered (3-point or larger) ³	S1 - O31	N1 - N30	504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 510, 511
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	520, 521, 522, 523, 525, 526, 527, 528, 535, 537, 544
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ S17 - O31 ■ N1 - D20 ■ D21 - J20, 2015 	520, 521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 537, 544
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - D20	504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510
		S1 - O31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ N1 - D20 ■ D21 - J20, 2015 	511

Black Bear and Cougar Seasons – See pages 59 and 60.

- ¹ The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence will be issued with 2 tags and is valid only in WMUs 505, 507-512, 515-521, 523-531 and 534-544.
- ² If hunting with an Outfitter-Guide, hunters should note these WMUs are split into two seasons: Sept. 1 – Oct. 31 or Nov. 1 – Nov. 30.
- ³ See page 40 for description of 3-point or larger elk and 6-point or larger elk.

COUGAR SEASONS

Fall Season

This season is open only to holders of a resident cougar licence. The use of dogs is prohibited during this season, and hunters may harvest one cougar of either sex.

Winter Season

During this season, cougar may be hunted by holders of a resident cougar licence, non-resident cougar licence, or cougar special licence. The use of dogs is allowed. The cougar season in specific WMUs may close prior to the closing date on this table. There is a male quota and a female quota. If either the male quota or the female quota for those WMUs is reached, the season will remain open until the other quota is filled. Before hunting cougar in any WMU, hunters must ensure that the season in that WMU remains open by calling the toll-free cougar hotline (1-800-661-3729) and listening to the message listing current closures. The hotline is updated regularly and by calling after

4:30 p.m., hunters can confirm which units will be open the next day.

It is unlawful to:

- allow the skin of any cougar to be wasted, destroyed, spoiled or abandoned. See exemption for salvaging skin on page 32 – Access for Control of Livestock Predation.
- hunt a female cougar accompanied by a cougar kitten with spotted fur, or a cougar kitten with spotted fur.

Use of Predator Calls and Bait

Cougar may be hunted using mouth or hand operated calls. The use of electronic calls and bait are prohibited for hunting cougar.

More information on cougar management, including a map of hunting areas, is available at mywildalberta.com.

ATTENTION: ALL RESIDENT COUGAR HUNTERS!

If you purchase a cougar licence for the fall season, it can be used for the winter season

ATTENTION COUGAR HUNTERS!

If possible, cougars should be brought in for registration in an unfrozen condition so the premolar tooth can be removed. It is also helpful to prop the jaw open with a stick before rigor sets in.

ATTENTION BEAR AND COUGAR HUNTERS!

Trichinosis – To prevent possible trichinosis, a parasitic infection, bear and cougar meat should be thoroughly cooked before it is consumed by humans or pets.

Cougar Season	SEASON		WMUs
	Archery Only	General	
Fall (Use of dogs prohibited) Residents Only	Nov. 1 – Nov. 30		212, 248, 410
		Nov. 1 – Nov. 30	102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166, 200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 210, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 357, 358, 359, 360, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 506, 508, 514, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 535, 536, 537, 539, 540, 541, 542, 544
Winter	Dec. 1, 2014 – Feb. 28, 2015		410
		Dec. 1, 2014 – Feb. 28, 2015	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 429, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446, 505, 507, 509, 510, 511, 512, 515, 516, 517

BLACK BEAR SEASONS

Black Bear Baiting

Baiting of black bears is permitted in the following WMUs: **322, 330-338, 348, 358-360, 500-507, 509, 510, 512-520, 522, 523, 529-536, 539-544 and portions of WMUs 320, 324, 357, 521, 526 and 528** (check with local Fish and Wildlife offices, page 16). However, the following restrictions also apply:

1) Baiting is prohibited within 1.6 km (1 mi.)

of occupied dwellings. Owners and occupants of dwellings are exempt from this restriction if they have permission to bait from the owners or occupants of all other dwellings within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of the bait. Other persons may also bait within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of an occupied dwelling if the bait has been authorized in writing by the owners or occupants of that dwelling and all other dwellings within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of the bait.

2) Baiting is prohibited within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of provincial parks that are not designated as Wildland Provincial Parks, provincial and forest recreation areas and some industrial sites. For more information on baiting in parks, see page 34.

3) Each bait site must have a readily observable sign legibly showing the owner's name, WIN, Big Game Outfitter-guide Permit number, or Big Game Guide Designation Number.

4) Each bait must be posted with surrounding signs to warn other people of its presence.

5) Baiting is restricted to the open season and the preceding two weeks in each specific WMU. Contact a Fish and Wildlife office (page 16) for legal land descriptions or more information.

Hunters are reminded that Alberta's *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act, Livestock Diseases Act and the Public Health Act* apply to baiting situations. Any livestock dying other than through proper slaughter for human consumption must be disposed of in prescribed ways and may not be used for baiting bears. Containers or wrappings made of paper, cardboard, plastic or other materials should not be left at bait sites. For the safety of others, baits should not be placed near active work sites (e.g., tree planting locations) and all bait sites must be cleaned immediately after the bear season.

Supplemental Black Bear Licences

Supplemental Black Bear Licences are available in the following WMUs: **224, 250, 258, 260, 320-360, 429, 445, 500-544 and 841.**

It is unlawful to:

- allow the skin of any bear to be wasted, destroyed, spoiled, or abandoned. See exception for salvaging skin on page 32 - Access for Control of Livestock Predation.
- hunt a black bear under the age of one year or a female black bear accompanied by a cub under the age of one year.

ATTENTION: All Black Bear and Non-resident (Canadian) and Non-resident Alien Wolf/Coyote Hunters

If you purchase one of these licences for the spring season, it can be used for the following fall of the same calendar year. This applies for any of the following: Wildlife Certificate, Black Bear Licence (Resident or Non-Resident [Canadian]), Black Bear Special Licence (Non-resident [Canadian] or Non-Resident Alien), Supplemental Black Bear Licence (Resident or Non-Resident [Canadian]) or a Non-Resident (Canadian)/ Non-Resident Alien Wolf/Coyote Licence.

DON'T DISCARD IT!

It can be used for the following fall season.

Type	SEASON		WMUs
	Archery Only	General	
Fall 2014	Aug. 25 – Aug. 31	Sept. 1 – Nov. 30	326, 328, 330, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 429, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446, 511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 535, 536, 537, 539, 540, 541, 542, 544
	Sept. 1 – Nov. 30		212
	Sept. 8 – Nov. 30		410
		Sept. 1 – Nov. 30	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 348, 400, 402, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 841
		Sept. 8 – Nov. 30	404, 406, 408
Spring 2015 (Requires a new year licence)	Apr. 1 – May 31		212, 410
		Apr. 1 – May 15	404, 406, 408, 841
		Apr. 1 – May 31	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 342, 348, 400, 402, 429, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510
		Apr. 1 – June 15	344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446, 511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 535, 536, 537, 539, 540, 541, 542, 544

VOLUNTARY BLACK BEAR TOOTH SUBMISSION PROGRAM

The department has initiated a 3-year pilot voluntary black bear tooth collection program in two parts of the province. Data generated from laboratory tooth analysis will allow biologists to determine black bear age structure, reproductive statistics, and better inform black bear management. Laboratory aging of an animal is based on the cementum annuli growth in the tooth.

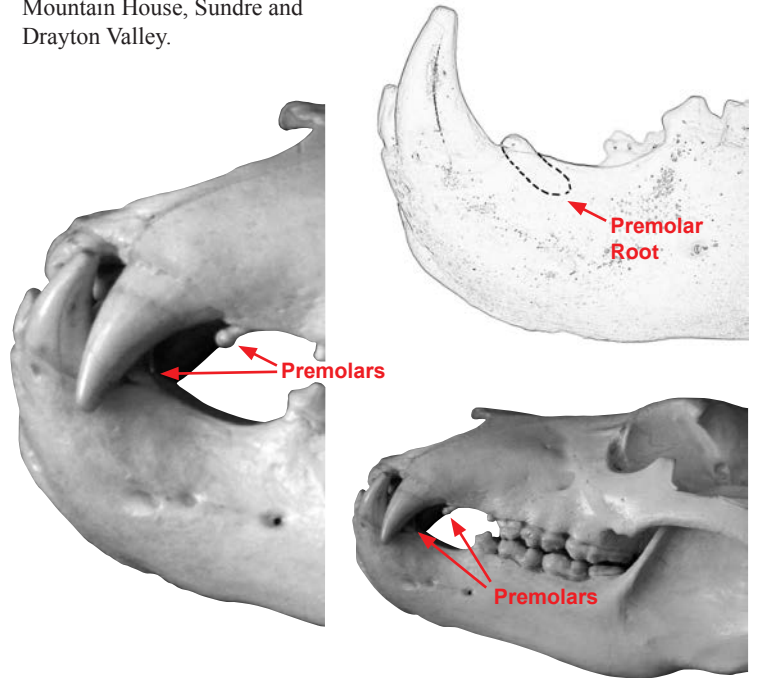
Fish and Wildlife are asking successful hunters to take the skull to an identified Fish and Wildlife office where staff will extract a premolar tooth. The premolar tooth is a small peg-like tooth located just behind the canines. Skulls submitted in a frozen state will be kept for a period of time to allow for thaw and extraction, whereupon the skull will be frozen and returned to the hunter. Extraction of a premolar tooth will not impair the display quality of a skull.

Alternatively, hunters can extract a premolar tooth in the field or request it of a taxidermist. The tooth can either be presented with the necessary harvest information to an identified Fish and Wildlife office or mailed in using a tooth submission envelope. Extraction is easily done just after the bear has been harvested when the jaw is still pliable. The tooth is easily loosened by running a knife blade on all sides of the tooth below the gum line and rocking the tooth back and forth. The tooth can then be removed with pliers. Care should be taken to ensure the root remains intact. Ensure that the tooth is free of tissue and dry prior to submission.

Information required as part of the program are harvest date, sex of bear, WIN, WMU where harvested, and either legal land location or latitude/longitude of kill site. When available, results for each tooth will be accessible online under your WIN number on the My Wild Alberta website (mywildalberta.com). Only WMUs 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332,

500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 506, 509, 510, 511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 529, 530, and 531 are open to this program.

Fish and Wildlife offices accepting skulls or tooth submissions are: Fort McMurray, Lac La Biche, Athabasca, Bonnyville, Cold Lake, Rocky Mountain House, Sundre and Drayton Valley.



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At Teck our goal is everyone going home safe and healthy every day.

Our Cardinal River Operations near Hinton includes two mineral surface lease areas: Luscar and Cheviot.

Any area within our Mineral Surface Leases is a "no hunting zone", even if within the Wildlife Management Unit boundaries.

It is important to be aware of hunting boundaries to ensure safety and prevent poaching.

Designated Access Trails (DATs) provide safe routes to popular recreation areas near our operations. All trails are clearly marked with signs. Boundaries are reviewed annually and temporary closures may be required.

For the most up-to-date maps and downloadable GPS coordinates visit www.teck.com

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ADDITIONAL SPECIAL LICENCE DRAW HUNTS

Season Dates And Locations (refer to page 15 for month abbreviations)

Non-trophy Sheep Special Licence

Areas 416, 418A*, 418B*, 420, 422A*, 426A*, 430A*, 430B*, 432, 434A*, 434B*, 437, 438A*, 438C*, 438D*, 440, 442, 444, 445A*, 445B*, 446	S10 - O31
Areas (402 – 303, 306)*, 402 – 308*, 402A*, 404B*, 406A*, 406B*, 408A*, 408B*	S10 - O31
Area 410	S10 - N30

* These areas comprise either a portion of one WMU or all of one WMU and a portion of an adjacent WMU. See descriptions in the **2014 Alberta Hunting Draws** booklet.

Camp Wainwright Deer Special Licence (WMUs 728 and 730)

Bow and arrow or muzzle loader	N27 - N29
Rifle	D1 - D3, D4 - D6, D8 - D10, D11 - D13

Antelope Archery Special Licence

WMUs 102, 104, 106, 108, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166	S3 - S27
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Trophy Antelope Special Licence

WMUs 138, 142, 144, 150, 151, 152, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166	S29 - O4
WMUs 102, 104, 106, 108, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 140, 148	O20 - O25

Non-trophy Antelope Special Licence

WMUs 102, 104, 106, 108, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 140, 148	O23 - O25, O27 - O29
WMUs 138, 142, 144, 150, 151, 152, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166	O2 - O4, O9 - O11

Either Sex Elk Special Licence

WMUs 116, 118, 119 and 624	Tue., Wed., Thu., Fri. only, N4 - N28
WMUs 116, 118 and 119	Tue., Wed., Thu., Fri. only, D2, 2014 - J2, 2015
WMUs 728 and 730	Bow and arrow or muzzle loader N27 - N29, Rifle D1 - D13

WMU 300 Elk Special Licence

S3 - O24, O25 - D24, D25 - F21, 2015

Refer to the **2014 Alberta Hunting Draws** booklet for details on what seasons will be open and how to apply for special licences.

OTHER SPECIES

NOTE: It is unlawful, with the following exceptions, to allow the pelt of any furbearing animal to be wasted:

It is not legally necessary to salvage pelts of 1) furbearing animals taken in accordance with regulations authorizing control of problem wildlife, or 2) coyotes harvested, by residents, outside of public lands in the Green Area.

Timber Wolf – A Resident may, without a licence, hunt (but not trap) timber wolf from the opening of any big game season in a particular WMU to May 31, 2015, or until June 15, 2015 in WMUs where black bear seasons are open until June 15, 2015.

A Non-resident or Non-resident Alien who holds a Non-resident/ Non-resident Alien Wolf/Coyote Licence may hunt (but not trap) timber wolf from the opening of any big game season in a particular WMU to May 31, 2015, or until June 15, 2015 in WMUs where black bear seasons are open until June 15, 2015.

Coyote – A Resident may, **except in WMUs 728 and 730, hunt (but not trap)** coyote on lands to which he or she has the right of access to hunt, from the opening day of a big game season in a particular WMU to May 31, 2015, or until June 15 if the hunting is in a WMU that has a spring season for black bear ending on that date. In Camp Wainwright (WMUs 728 and 730) a Resident may hunt coyote from January 5, 2015 to February 28, 2015.

A Non-resident or Non-resident Alien who holds a Non-resident/ Non-resident Alien Wolf/Coyote licence may hunt (but not trap) coyote on lands to which he or she has the right of access to hunt, from opening day of a big game in a particular WMU to May 31, 2015, or until June 15 if the hunting is in a WMU that has a spring season for black bear ending on that date.

Baiting for Wolves and Coyotes – On public land, hunters cannot use bait for hunting wolves or coyotes except a) from Dec. 1 to Mar. 31, or b) during an open season for the hunting of black bear where the setting out, use and possession of bait for the purpose of hunting black bear is permitted.

Each wolf or coyote bait site must have a readily observable sign showing the owner’s name, WIN, Big Game Outfitter-guide Permit Number, or Big Game Guide’s Designation Number.

These baiting restrictions do not apply to WMUs 102-166, to persons hunting under authority of a trapping licence, or on any private land.

Red Fox – A Resident may, without a licence and at all times of the year, hunt (but not trap) red fox on any privately owned land to which he or she has the right of access.

Red Squirrel and Badger – A Resident may, without a licence and at all times of the year, hunt or trap red squirrel and badger on any privately owned land to which he or she has the right of access.

Bobcat – A resident may, without a licence from November 1 - February 28, 2015, hunt (but not trap) bobcat in WMUs 102, 104, 106, 108, 112, 116, 118, 119 and in the portion of WMU 110 that lies east of highway 2 and south of highway 3. The use of dogs is prohibited. All kills must be registered at a Fish and Wildlife office (see page 16).

Other Animals – Porcupine, rabbit, hare, raccoon and woodchuck may be hunted, but not trapped**, without a licence throughout the province, at all times of the year. Skunk may be hunted and trapped.

** Some exceptions apply. Please refer to the **2014 Alberta Guide to Trapping Regulations**, available in September 2014.

HUNTING WITH CROSS-BOWS

Since the fall season of 2002, cross-bows are no longer “prohibited” for hunting wildlife in Alberta.

Cross-bows may not be used to hunt big game during archery-only seasons. The only exception is for an eligible handicapped hunter who has obtained a cross-bow licence.

A Bowhunting Permit, as required by bowhunters using conventional archery equipment, is not required by persons who are hunting with cross-bows.

In accordance with federal regulations, cross-bows may not be used for waterfowl hunting.

Persons hunting big game with a cross-bow must use an authorized cross-bow and arrow (bolt). An authorized cross-bow is one that requires 100 pounds or more of pull to draw the string or cable to its cocked position. There is no restriction on arrow length however it must have a tip as described under the heading “Bowhunting” on page 42.

GAME BIRD REGULATIONS

Please Remember

Federal regulations prohibit the use of lead shot or cross-bows for hunting waterfowl.

BE AWARE!

It is prohibited to hunt Sharp-tailed Grouse in many WMUs within Alberta (see page 63). Be sure of your target.

For a more detailed description of Sharp-tailed Grouse, please go to: www.mywildalberta.com/hunting/GameSpecies

All birds are protected except the following: Starlings, Crows, Pigeons, House (English) Sparrows, Magpies, Blackbirds, Common Grackles, Brown-headed Cowbirds, Ravens (hunted on private land by residents) and any other birds for which an open season has been declared by the regulations as indicated in this summary.

Falconry Hunting

Falconers are permitted to hunt upland game birds and migratory birds, by means of falconry, in all areas of the province except in national parks and those restricted areas identified on pages 33 through 37.

To hunt any game birds by means of falconry, Recreational Falconry Permit holders must possess all the same hunting licence(s) as those who would hunt game birds with firearms are required to possess (see page 28).

Seasons

The open season to hunt upland game birds by means of falconry is from August 15, 2014 to March 31, 2015. Migratory game birds may be hunted by means of falconry during the designated open season for migratory birds (page 64).

Bowhunting

Hunters wishing to hunt game birds with a bow and arrow, other than a cross-bow, require a Bowhunting Permit in addition to the other applicable licences.

Alberta's Pheasant Release Program

For the fall of 2014, and going forward, the Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) has been delegated the opportunity to coordinate a pheasant release program. The ACA is committed to making locations for all pheasant release sites available to the public, as well as expanding the program to new areas of Alberta.

For more information please see the ACA at ab-conservation.com, or contact directly at info@ab-conservation.com, or 1-877-969-9091.

IN ALBERTA

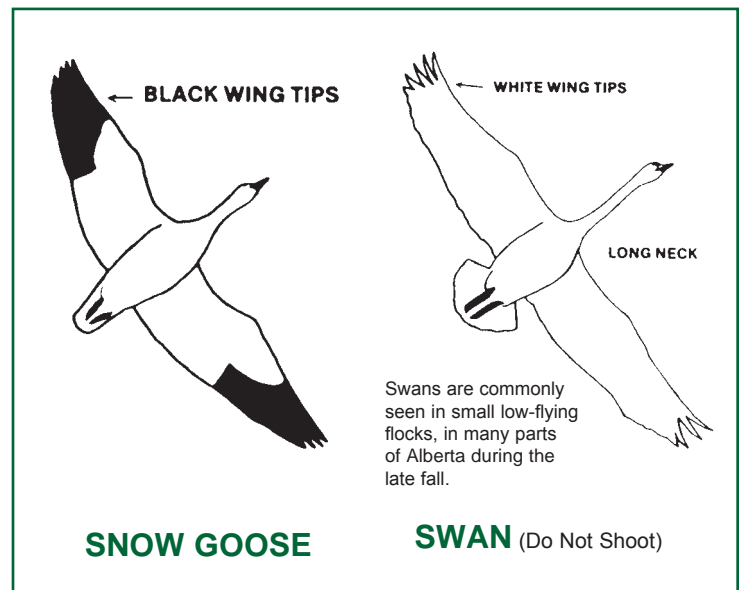
SAGE GROUSE ARE PROTECTED!

Sage grouse are listed as an endangered species in Alberta. If you hunt upland game birds within the range of sage grouse, be sure your target is not a sage grouse.

Special Hunting Areas

In WMUs 212 and 248 the hunting of game birds is only permitted with bows and arrows, cross-bows, shotguns or a falconry bird. Cross-bows cannot be used to hunt migratory birds.

In WMU 410 the hunting of game birds is permitted only with bows and arrows or a falconry bird.



Spring Snow/Ross's Goose Hunting Season

Starting 2015, Alberta will have a spring snow/Ross's goose hunting season from March 15 through June 15 annually. Please refer to the game bird hunting table on page 64 for valid WMUs. Regular fall hunting restrictions and daily bag limit (50) apply. As in the fall hunting season, there is no longer a possession limit for snow/Ross's geese.

GAME BIRD SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS

Where a dash (-) is used between WMUs in the following table, the dash is to be interpreted as including all WMUs that have numbers falling between the two WMU listed.

Species	Daily Limit	Possession Limit	WMUs	Season Date	Requirements
Snow or Ross's Geese	50 combined	No Limit	200-208, 216-260, 316-544, 841, 936	S1 - D16 / M15 - Ju15	(a) of which not more than five may be white-fronted geese.
			102-166, 210-214, 300-314	S1 - D21 / M15 - Ju15	
Canada or White-fronted Geese	8 (a) combined	24 (b) combined	200-208, 216-260, 316-544, 841, 936	S1 - D16	(b) of which not more than fifteen may be white-fronted geese.
			102-166, 210-214, 300-314	S8 - D21	
Ducks, Coots and Snipe	8 (c,d) each	24 (e,f) each	200-208, 216-260, 316-544, 841, 936	S1 - D16	(c) of which not more than four ducks may be pintail.
			102-166, 210-214, 300-314	S8 - D21	
Male Pheasant	2	6	200-260, 314-360, 400, 402, 412-544	S1 - N30	(d) of which not more than two ducks may be goldeneye for non-resident aliens.
			102-166, 300-312	O15 - N30	
			404-410, 841, 936	S8 - N30	
Ruffed Grouse	5	15	102-402, 412-544	S1 - N30	(e) of which not more than twelve ducks may be pintail.
			404-410, 841, 936	S8 - N30	
			728, 730 (Camp Wainwright)	A30 - S1	
Spruce Grouse	5	15	102-402, 412-544	S1 - N30	(f) of which not more than six ducks may be goldeneye for non-resident aliens.
			404-410, 841, 936	S8 - N30	
Sharp-tailed Grouse	5	15	102-246, 252-256, 300-314, 334, 400-402, 518-520, 524, 525, 528-542, 936	O1 - O31	(g) may harvest with a special licence only.
			728, 730 (Camp Wainwright)	A30 - S1	
Ptarmigan	5	15	500-544	S1 - J15	
			300-402, 412-446	S1 - N30	
			404-410	S8 - N30	
Blue Grouse	5	15	300-402, 412-446	S1 - N30	
			404-410	S8 - N30	
Gray Partridge	5	15	102-360, 500-544	S1 - N30	
			936	S8 - N30	
Merriam's Turkey	1 (g)	1 (g)	300-308, 400, 402	■ Ma1 - Ma31, 2015	

ATTENTION WMU 936 HUNTERS: All hunters for WMU 936 must attend a safety orientation and require a firearms discharge permit. Please contact the Cooking Lake/Blackfoot Grazing, Wildlife and Recreation Area office, (780-922-3293) in order to receive information regarding orientation dates and requirements for obtaining your discharge permit.

ATTENTION WMU 728 & 730 (Camp Wainwright) HUNTERS: WARNING: Hazards in the form of unexploded military munitions may exist throughout Camp Wainwright. Hunters are advised not to touch any foreign objects. **Camp Wainwright officials have advised that all hunters using shotguns to hunt game birds at Camp Wainwright must use non-toxic shot. Lead shot is not allowed.**

WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS

The first Saturday and Sunday in September are designated as Waterfowler Heritage Days in Alberta. Youth (age 12-17) may hunt waterfowl on these dates without a licence (provincial or federal) provided they are qualified to do so (see Licensing requirements for first-time hunters, page 20 and 21) and are accompanied by an adult migratory game bird hunting permit holder. The adult permit holder may not have in their possession or use a firearm, or accompany more than 2 minors at one time while mentoring youth. The youth can only hunt waterfowl species for which there will be an open season in that WMU. Regular bag limits and possession limits apply.

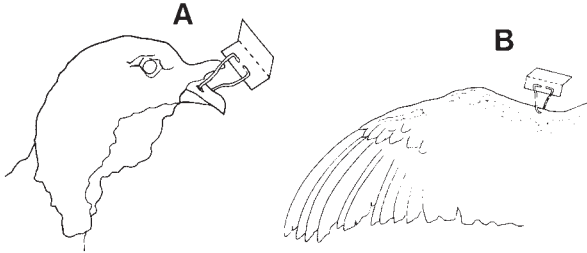
MERRIAM'S TURKEY DRAW

Merriam's Turkey Special Licences are issued through a draw and one bearded male is permitted per special licence holder.

Each Merriam's turkey harvested must be tagged

- immediately after the bird is killed, and
- in the manner described below with the paper tag supplied with each licence. All instructions on the back of the paper tag must be followed.

Merriam's Turkey Tagging Instructions



Tagging Instructions: (A) place wire through the nares, or (B) through the patagium between the tendon and the bones of the wing.

Tags must remain affixed until the carcass is delivered to

- the usual residence of the person who killed it, and is butchered, cut and packaged for consumption, or
- to a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*.

Please refer to items 2, 12 and 13 of Prohibitions, Game Bird section (page 19) for additional requirements concerning weapons and evidence of sex and species for Merriam's turkey.

Differentiating Between Males and females

The gobbler (male) has a fleshy growth (wattle) which hangs from the under side of the throat or chin. Males also exhibit fatty growths (caruncles) located on the side and back of the neck and on the lower throat. A fleshy projection above the bill of males (snood, or dew bill) will also distinguish males from females. Males also have a pronounced "beard" on the lower neck up to 25 centimetres (10 inches) long. The beard is usually absent or very small in females.

Common Characteristics to Differentiate Males and Females

Characteristic	Female	Male
Beard	Very rare, short	Regularly, up to 25cm (10") long
Gobble	Never	Frequently, especially in spring
Head Colour	Grey-brown, grey-blue	Bright turquoise blue, bright red, bright blue, sometimes grayish white

It is unlawful to hunt any wildlife or **discharge a firearm** between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise.

Sunrise/Sunset Table (Mountain Daylight Time)

Date	Sunrise	Sunset
May 01, 2015	6:14 a.m.	8:53 p.m.
May 05, 2015	6:07 a.m.	8:59 p.m.
May 10, 2015	5:59 a.m.	9:06 p.m.
May 15, 2015	5:52 a.m.	9:13 p.m.
May 20, 2015	5:46 a.m.	9:20 p.m.
May 25, 2015	5:40 a.m.	9:26 p.m.
May 30, 2015	5:36 a.m.	9:32 p.m.

ATTENTION TURKEY HUNTERS

Fish and Wildlife will be conducting a hunter harvest survey after the fall hunting season to obtain information required for turkey management. Your cooperation and assistance in collecting and providing the necessary information is required. We request that you keep track of the number of days hunted in each WMU.

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Marked Wildlife

Some species of wildlife are banded, collared or marked by other means in an ongoing effort to gain additional population biology information. You can assist and cooperate in these programs by reporting encounters with any marked animal to the nearest Fish and Wildlife office (page 16).

Some of these marked wildlife, as well as certain nuisance animals (e.g., some black bears), may have received drugs for research purposes or to facilitate their capture and handling. Any such animal will be marked with a tag advising that the meat of the animal should not be consumed before contacting Fish and Wildlife of Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development.

Report Waterfowl Leg Bands by Telephone or Internet

All waterfowl leg bands recovered in North America can now be reported by telephoning the toll-free number **1-800-327-BAND** (1-800-327-2263). Calls



The **REPORT A POACHER** program provides Albertans with the opportunity to report suspected violations using a toll-free number: **1-800-642-3800** or #3800 on the **TELUS Mobility network** (courtesy TELUS Mobility).

The line is in operation 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Fishing or hunting out of season, night hunting, exceeding bag limits, illegal sale of fish and wildlife and deposit of harmful substances in lakes and rivers are violations that seriously affect fish and wildlife in Alberta. If you see or know of a violation, you should record all information, including

- date
- time
- location
- vehicle licence number
- vehicle description
- description of person(s) involved
- details of violation, and any other details, no matter how insignificant they may seem. You should then contact the nearest Fish and Wildlife office or call **1-800-642-3800** as soon as possible.

If the information provided concerns a resource violation and results in the laying of a charge, the reporter may be eligible for a reward. If you have any questions about this program, please contact the nearest Fish and Wildlife office (page 16).

can be made from anywhere in Canada or the United States, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. However, operators are only available from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern time, Monday to Friday. After-hours and weekend callers will hear a recorded message requesting they leave their name and daytime telephone number so that the Bird Banding Lab can call them back. Band recovery can also be reported by internet at the website www.reportband.gov. Recovered bands can still be reported by mail or to the nearest Fish and Wildlife office (page 16) if you do not wish to report the band by telephone or internet.

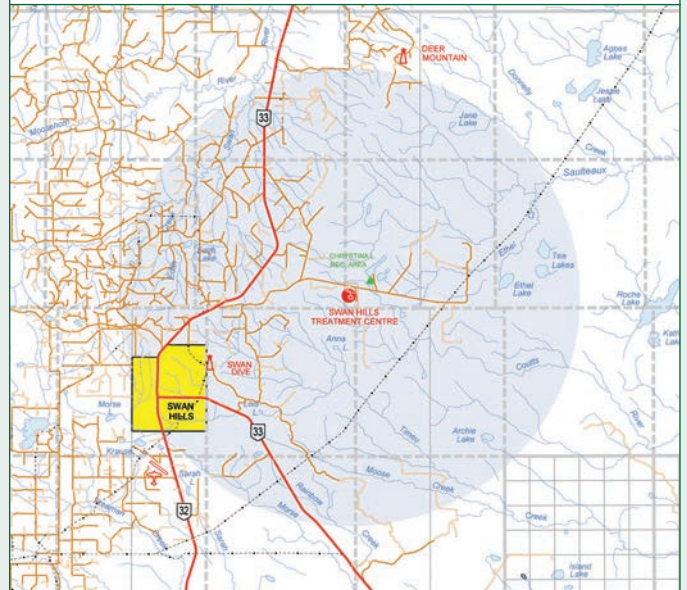
Wild Game Public Health Advisory

The wild game public health advisory for the Swan Hills area – originally issued on December 13, 1996, by the Provincial Health Officer – has been revised as a result of more extensive wild game testing. While recent test results confirm that eating wild game from the Swan Hills area poses no immediate threat to human health, it is recommended that individuals limit the amount of wild game eaten.

For more information contact Alberta Health and Wellness at 780-427-7164 or visit My Wild Alberta at <http://mywildalberta.com/Hunting/SafetyProcedures/HarvestedWildlifeHumanHealth.aspx>

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CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE AND DEER MANAGEMENT

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a chronic degenerative and ultimately fatal prion disease of cervids (primarily deer and elk). It is not known to infect humans. The disease has been found in 211 mule deer and white-tailed deer along the Alberta/Saskatchewan border in WMUs 118, 119, 148, 150, 151, 152, 160, 162, 163, 164, 200, 202, 203, 232, 234, 236, 256, 728 and 730 (see page 29 of this guide for a map of CWD cases in wild deer in Alberta). In Alberta, CWD occurs more often in mule deer, and in males.

Hunters and outfitters play a key role in assisting CWD management by helping to reduce deer numbers and by providing heads from harvested deer for the ongoing CWD surveillance program. Alberta began looking for CWD in wild deer in the hunting seasons in 1998. Since then we have tested over 47,000 heads of hunter-killed wild deer and elk and have found CWD in only 164 of them. Additional cases of CWD (n=47) were found as a result of government control programs implemented in 2005 to 2008.

Note : It is a mandatory requirement to submit the head of all deer harvested in the following WMUs: 102, 116, 118, 119, 124, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 160, 162, 163, 164, 200, 202, 203, 204, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 254, 256, 258, 500, 728, and 730. Antlers and skull plate can be removed from bucks before the head is submitted. For European mounts, keep the top portion of the skull and submit the lower portion including the lower jaw, the tissues at the back of the throat, and the part of the skull that contains the connection between the spinal cord and the brain.

All heads for testing, including the partial skull samples (as above), must have a green CWD label which gives each head a unique identification number. **Be sure to include either GPS or land location as well as WMU and your WIN number for each head.** When available, test results for each head will be accessible online via your WIN number at albertarelm.com.

For more information about CWD, contact your local Fish and Wildlife office or visit esrd.alberta.ca.

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to transport _____
(description of shipment including sex and species)


date of kill: _____ W.I.N. #: _____ Lic./Tag # _____

taken under authority of my _____
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(point of origin)

to _____ on _____
(destination) (date)

_____ (signature of hunter) _____ (signature of person transporting the wildlife)







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Conserving Alberta's Wild Side



COMMON LICENCE MISTAKES

GENERAL MULE DEER LICENCE

This general licence is valid during the “archery only” season, which precedes the general season. It is valid during the general season in the following WMUs: 316, 347, 350, 352, 353, 355, 412, 414, 432, 440-446, 512-519, 528-534, 536, 539-542 and 841. This licence is not valid during a season in which a Special Licence is required. In the Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations, special licences are required for all seasons where a small black box is located beside the season date.

SUPPLEMENTAL ANTLERLESS WHITE-TAILED DEER LICENCE

The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer licence is issued with two tags and is only valid in WMUs 310-314, 322-332, 336-340, 344-357, 360, 436-446, 505, 507-512, 515-521, 523-531, 534-544. It is a general licence and does not require a draw application.

YOUTH MULE DEER LICENCE

This general licence is available for resident hunters who are 12-17 years of age and who are eligible to hunt. It is a general licence that is valid during the “archery only” season, which precedes the general season. It is valid during the general season in the following WMUs: 316, 347, 350, 352, 353, 355, 412, 414, 432, 440-446, 512-519, 528-534, 536, 539-542 and 841. This licence is not valid during a season in which a Special Licence is required. In the Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations, special licences are required for all seasons where a small black box is located beside the season date.

YOUTH WHITE-TAILED DEER LICENCE

This licence is valid for resident hunters who are 12-17 years of age and who are eligible to hunt. It is a general licence and is valid during a general season (archery or rifle). Because it is a general licence, it can not be used during the rifle season in WMUs 404, 406 and 408 (a special licence is required). In the Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations, special licences are required for all seasons where a small black box is located beside the season date.

SUPPLEMENTAL BLACK BEAR LICENCE

This licence is only valid in WMUs 224, 250, 258, 260, 320-360, 429, 445, 500-544 and 841.

SPECIAL LICENCES

If you are drawn for a special licence, your draw priority returns to zero and that draw cannot be cancelled. You may not be able to purchase a particular general licence once you have been drawn for a special licence of that same species. Example: if you are drawn for Antlered Mule Deer, Antlered White-tailed Deer or Antlered, Antlerless, or Calf Moose you will not be able to purchase a general licence for that species. If you are drawn for Either Sex Elk, WMU 300 Elk, Antlered or Antlerless Elk, you will not be able to purchase a general elk licence. Resident hunters are able to purchase an elk licence in combination with the WMU 212 Antlerless Elk Archery and the WMU 212 Antlerless Elk Special Licence. See licence combinations on page 24.



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MESSAGE from the PUBLISHER



Rob Miskosky

There is good news for Alberta elk hunters: our wildlife managers have opened up many new elk hunting opportunities in well over a dozen wildlife management units (WMUs) for the

2014 season. With a burgeoning provincial population of elk, now is the time to grab your elk bugle and start practicing your best mating calls.

On top of that, after a couple of severe winters, Alberta's wild Hay-Zama bison population has recovered to the point that the bison season can be reopened and Alberta hunters can look forward to this unique hunt once again.

I know of three Alberta hunters who are already looking forward to the 2014 hunting season, and I'd bet that Michelle Kuny, Frank Gilham, and Jack McNaughton, our three Alberta 2013 Hunters of the Year, have put their draws in and are already making plans for 2014.

Michelle Kuny of Leduc County needs to be congratulated for becoming our 2013 Alberta Hunter of the Year Overall Champion after she connected on a tremendous mule deer buck in WMU 246. Michelle's buck netted a final score of 187 4/8, earning her a cheque for \$500 and bragging rights for the entire 2014 hunting season. Michelle becomes only our second female hunting "overall champion" and first since 2001, when Karey Seward took home a great mulie buck and top honours. You can see all of our past champions by visiting www.albertaoutdoorsmen.ca/hunters-of-the-year.html. Congratulations Michelle!

Frank Gilham of Medicine Hat is an incredible story himself. Frank becomes our first quadriplegic hunter to become a Hunter of the Year, in Frank's case, our Alberta Elk Hunter of the Year, after he connected on a bull that scored 367 2/8 in WMU 150. Phenomenal story Frank!

Finally, Jack McNaughton of Peace River needs to be congratulated after he arrowed an exceptional velvet white-tailed deer out of WMU 523. Jack's buck scored an awesome 181 6/8 and gives Jack our White-tailed Deer Hunter of the Year honours.

You can read more about all three hunters on page 96, as well as see a photo of each hunter with their exceptional trophies.

On a final note, get out there and get hunting! And don't forget to get your trophies entered into the Hunter of the Year Contest for the 2014 hunting season! ●



Pheasants – Wild and Free

Don't get me wrong, I have nothing against those who love to shoot planted pheasants, just so long as they do it on their own dime and don't expect the public, including those who hunt only wild pheasants, to pay for it. No other hunted species in Alberta is planted as recreational cannon fodder. Imagine the public outcry if we released, farmed whitetails for hunters to shoot.

But I do scoff at the briefs to government arguing that the long tradition of pheasant hunting in Alberta is doomed unless there is public funding for planted pheasants. From its start to now, I've lived and hunted that entire tradition,

bonanza and bust years alike, and it has always depended on wild, never on planted birds. I can recall the very odd spring when

hatchery hens were released after horrible late winter blizzards had suffocated thousands of pheasants, in hopes that they would breed with the surviving wild roosters and help restore the wild population.

So many shooters of planted birds have complained to me that they have no place to go to hunt pheasants other than the release

sites. Following some cross-examining, I have concluded that most of them are totally out of touch with Alberta today, have no idea what good wild pheasant habitat looks like, and



by Bob Scammell

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what to do if and when they get access to it.

The fact is that there is more freely accessible excellent wild pheasant habitat in Alberta now than there was at the height of the “clean-farming” fad 30-40 years ago. Think Brooks, Medicine Hat, Taber, and Lethbridge when looking for wild pheasant areas, and then narrow it down by poring over a free publication available wherever hunting and fishing licences are sold—“2014-15 Discover Alberta’s Wild Side”—to locate dozens of sites that are open to foot-access pheasant hunting without asking anyone’s permission.

In the Brooks area, the cover on private land is starting to look like it did in the bonanza days of the forties and fifties when I was doing my early pheasant hunting as a kid growing up there. One major reason for the change is the amazing Partners in Habitat Development (PHD) program, which started in the Eastern Irrigation District and has now spread to other Alberta irrigation districts. What PHD does, only at the request of the landowner, is alleviate and repair some of the habitat losses to “clean farming” by planting native trees

and shrubs, which the landowner then fences, irrigates, etc.

To hunt pheasants on these private land pheasant oases, one need to re-learn the old art and science of locating owners and asking



permission that too many have forgotten and even started fearing during their addictions to shooting planted pheasants on the release sites. Start by re-learning what good wild pheasant habitat looks like, and locate the owner on the landowner maps available in County offices.

In Brooks, head south from the County office to the head offices of the Eastern Irrigation District, check in for hunting the EID’s unirrigated grasslands, get a map and a brochure, and then head in various directions to a hunter’s heaven of 550,000 acres of widely varying habitats. The rule of the EID lands are simple and posted at most entry gates: vehicles on designated routes only, foot access everywhere else, no camping, and no fires.

The prudent hunter on these vast lands will carry a compass and have a vehicle compass as well. The only times I have been lost hunting upland game have been afoot, or in my vehicle after dark in various parts of the EID lands.

This could be a good year to get back into hunting wild pheasants in Alberta in general and the EID

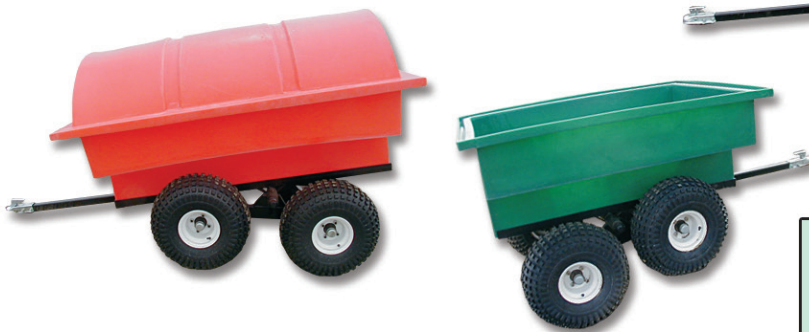
in particular.

Rick Martin, EID Wildlife Projects Manager, tells me “he was very pleasantly surprised with the upland bird counts in the EID this spring.” Pheasants were up 43% from last year and only 5% below the 35-year average;

continued on next page



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Good pheasant habitat will be found wherever water is found.

sharptails, amazingly, were 42% up from last year and 35% above the 18-year average; Hungarian partridge were 100% above last year, but still a disappointing 35% below the 10-year average.

The vast EID grass and grazing lands have taught me important lessons on finding wild pheasants for more than 60 years. You can find sharptails and Huns just about anywhere in this vast sea of grass, but wild pheasants are found in very particular places. First, think water and all that goes with it. There are creeks, drains, lakes, even a big river or two on or bordering the EID lands and good wild pheasant habitat will be found close beside such waters.

The combination of tules—bulrushes, cattails—and willow bushes is a powerful pheasant attractant. Several of my favourite pheasant patches on EID land offer these elements, and if you encounter a brushy side runoff to the bald-headed prairie, hunt it out to the end where the wild birds will have to fly out and into the open. Remember, the pheasants out here are wild, some of them very old trophies. Often they get behind me out here and then give me the razzberry as they rise (just out of range) and roar away.

For some reason, my Brittany's and I have had great success finding wild pheasants in a thin reed I can't name, growing in thick profusion right at the edge of lakes on the

EID lands. This same reed, and bulrushes too, can produce birds from the frequent bends in creeks or drains flowing through EID lands, often, eventually into either of the Bow or Red Deer Rivers. Sometimes there are barely damp bulrush-lined canals between lakes in which pheasants love to hang out. Don't forget to block these, or wild pheasants out here will fly or run to the next far-off patch of cover.

Abandoned buildings, corrals, etc. are not common on the EID's lands, but pheasants and Huns both love to loaf about in the good cover that often grows thick around such places.

There are places of very scant cover and bull berry thickets on the EID land where the sharptail grouse is king; on snowy days you will see the "sentry" up the nearest, highest tree making any approach difficult. Unfortunately, any time I have chased sharpies out here, the cactus and bull berry thorns have quickly dampened the usual enthusiasm of my Brittany's and had them practically begging to get back to water, bulrushes, etc.



Both pheasants and Huns love the thick cover that often grows near abandoned buildings.

The only other hunters I encounter on the EID land are happily hunting with dogs and agree with me that without them, any success in such cover would be rare and a matter of pure, dumb luck. They had nothing but praise for the EID lands and its policy for recreational access to them.

EID lands bordering the Red Deer River in the north and the Bow in the south offer fantastic pheasant jungles. Past success has taught me to bushwhack my way to the nearest grove of huge cottonwood trees because wild pheasants love to hang out near them. It was the same—perhaps even better—during my seasons hunting wild pheasants in the jungles along the Musselshell River in Montana. We would get dozens of points and flushes per hour of wild pheasants. Montana does not plant pen-raised pheasants because their research showed that imposing planted birds on a wild population harms the wild population. Alberta's pheasant hunting—and its tradition—would be better if only we'd listen and learn. ●

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Bears, Baits and Special Places

We are very fortunate in Alberta that we have very diverse wild places and habitat types, from the mountain peaks to the pancake-flat grasslands and every possible landscape in between. Most of it can sustain bears, as they are very adaptable if left alone. Having said that, bears and people don't get along so well.

Bears are much like people in the fact that they are slow growing and take a long time to mature. With age comes wisdom, making the bigger older bears tougher to see. If you're looking for big bears sporting huge skulls with ears that appear dwarfed and huge creases on their foreheads, you will have to find a place where few hunters venture and bears have the opportunity to live a long time.

If you are looking to shoot your first bear and aren't willing to drag bait to the end of the earth, almost anywhere bigger forested regions start will produce bears for you. What

I'm getting at is there is a special place for all bear hunters in Alberta no matter how much time, gear, or effort you have or are willing to put forward.



by Claudio Ongaro

When choosing that tiny place in this great big province to place a bear bait, be very, and I stress, *very selective* in that location. It takes more than just throwing a bucket of donuts or meat scraps on the ground and expecting the bears to come running. Many hunters will place several baits scattered

randomly where easy access and bear habitat collide in the hopes of attracting bears.

I have learned very quickly that selecting a great bear bait site takes some time but is definitely worth the effort. It will certainly pay off with less time spent baiting and checking baits for activity, with more time spent hunting, watching bears, and drawing your bow or raising your rifle.

I set a bear bait once a few miles back from a piece of private land that I had access too.

I took a cutline back into the woods until it made a turn to the right. It seemed like a decent spot where mature poplars met some thicker cover and it was certainly far enough back and away from any roads. It was even geographically difficult to get to from other places by ATV, it was in good bear habitat and I thought, "Build it and they will come." Well, that first season produced some bear activity but it was very sporadic. "Hmmm," was the only thing that ran through my head in disbelief!

It was time to look for a better spot, but I didn't want to make a huge move as I knew I was in great bear country and I wasn't willing to travel away from our camp by truck and trailer to move ATV's and bait. I began looking further down the cutline until I came to some lowland that met a seasonal drainage where some thicker spruce bogs flowed into willow flats. This gave way to a slight rise in terrain full of spruce and mixed with poplars... perfect! Would you believe me if I said that this spot was only one mile further down the same cutline, that it produced bears within one day of baiting, and within three weeks of baiting, we were seeing upwards of 15 bears every time we sat there. Oh, and that we took a 20-inch bear the first evening we hunted it and another 19-inch plus boar three weeks later. That was a lesson that I will never forget! Even though that first location had all of the same bait elements, it just didn't produce the bears. That is truly mind-boggling given the fact that spring bears are hungry, travel during the spring breeding season, and have strong olfactory capabilities that few wild animals possess. Obviously, taking the time in choosing that perfect spot will definitely pay off.

Here are a few of the things that I have learned or had passed on to me along my bear hunting journeys, efforts, successes and blunders.

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restaurants is great but if you don't want to mess with it, a five-gallon pail of new canola oil will work and is the easier solution.

Meat is amazing, but beaver carcasses are a Godsend. The nitty-gritty on bear hunting lies in those three statements. Appeal to their tastes, and you will attract and keep bears.

Hanging beaver carcasses is a near must if you want to attract bears from a distance. I like to hang them under a bucket on a ridgepole. It keeps the birds from picking at them and the greenhouse effect keeps them moist, allowing for that coveted "stink" factor to go on indefinitely.

Meat scraps will definitely keep the bears

coming back, as protein in the wild is hard to come by. If you really want to crank up a bear bait and bring in the boars, adding a bunch of meat to the mix always seems to work.

Sweets are good. Bears love sweets as much as kids do and just can't get enough of them. Cookies, donuts, oats flavoured with molasses and Kool-Aid soaked stale bread will likely be the easiest for you to get your hands on and be the staple of the average bear bait. It will keep the bears coming back.

Make sure to **chain your bait barrels** to the trees or you will be looking for them. I like to keep mine tight to the tree because it

allows me to position the bear for a broadside shot.

Stand placement can be critical and there are many different philosophies on this. Once the bears are conditioned to your bait site and become accustomed to you being there (believe me, they will become complacent, even in the close presence of humans when food is available), you can place your stand almost anywhere and be successful. However, there are a few things to consider, including the bear's primary approach paths and your exit path at the end of the evening sit.

It is nice to exit the opposite way from where the bears are primarily coming from. This does two things for you. It allows the bears to feed placidly as evening approaches, and it allows you to exit with a greater margin of safety. Mature sows and big boars at the bait in a fading light situation give them a greater sense of confidence and make them bolder. This is never good if you have to walk past them to get out of the bait site.

Generally, I place my stand on my approach path that is usually closer to a cutline or ATV trail. I like to place my stand 12-foot high at the floor and about 18 yards from the bait. This provides me an easy shot when the opportunity presents itself with a shallow angle of approach, which guarantees a double lung hit when the arrow or bullet meets its mark. If you go too high up the tree, you risk a steep trajectory and the possibility of a wounded bear. That is never fun.

I would like to leave you with a final word on safety and bear baiting. Although they become and seem friendly, docile, and nonchalant in you being there, they are still wild animals and can be unpredictable. The rut makes boars more aggressive than average and a sow with cubs needs no warnings. Bears are very fast, agile, and even a small one is stronger and faster than any human is. Much like a dog with a bone, they are to be treated with caution and respect. I have a friend who was very lucky in one incident where he became a bit too complacent at a bait and still has the scratch from a boar's claw on his boot just below his Achilles tendon.

Be careful out there! ●

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Chasing Late-Season Elk

Last fall was a particularly good year to have an elk tag in your pocket, especially during the month of November. Extremely heavy snowfall in October really got the elk moving early in Alberta. While we may not see the huge elk migrations that our southern neighbours do, elk in the province do move around a fair bit according to the weather conditions and availability of food. For the hunter that understands these movements, the rewards can be huge.

Both Vanessa and I scored on nice six-point bulls last year in a foothills zone and we saw

more elk than I can remember in the past 25 years of hunting the area. While the elk population seems to be doing well in the



by T.J. Schwanky

region, the huge numbers were more likely explained by a weather related movement.

Elk, especially the big breeding bulls, are in their worst condition of the year in the late fall and their thoughts quickly switch from wooing the ladies to filling their bellies. In the mountain zones, the bulls will typically herd up together

in late October and spend the winter away from the cows. However, in the foothills and agricultural zones, it's not uncommon

to see big bulls running with large herds of cows right through November and into the winter. Yearling and two-year-old bulls are common companions of the cows after the rut, regardless of the terrain and remain with them often right up until spring. These were the satellite bulls during the rut and they quickly move in on the cows if the herd bulls leave. They are hoping to pick up a cow or two that was not bred during the rut. For the hunter in search of a meat bull, these two-year-olds are about as good as it gets and can often be taken with somewhat unconventional methods.

While a rarely used method, these two-year-old bulls may be successfully bugled in right up until December. They are unsure of their place in the herd and will usually come to investigate a bugle late in the season. This will not be a raging, vocal repartee like those with the big herd bulls during the rut; rather, these bulls will usually sneak silently in to see what you are. While not nearly as exciting as bugling in September, it is an excellent way to fill the freezer none the less.



I've had the good fortune to bugle in a number of these bulls over the years. They definitely aren't full of bravado like the bigger bulls but they will come in with amazing regularity.

If it's the big bulls you are after, you may as well leave the bugle at home once November rolls around. They only have one thing on their mind and that's food. When they remain with the cows, they become easy pickings, as the cows will typically lead them out into the open early in the afternoon to feed but when the big bulls head off on their own or herd up together in small groups, they become much more savvy. With the tough fall last year, the big bulls seemed to want to remain in the big cow herds and it made locating them simple. There were over 50 cows and about a dozen bulls in the herd Vanessa took her bull from, and there were about 20 cows in the herd mine was with and there were three more mature 6x6 bulls and several five-pointers too. Conditions play a huge roll in where you find bulls.

In years with little snow in the fall, the bulls seem less likely to join the big herds of cows



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and I have far better luck getting back into the heavy cover near their preferred feeding areas and intercepting them on the way to feed. Many people believe that elk become nocturnal when faced with heavy hunting pressure and do not leave their beds until darkness. This is not true. While pressured bulls will rarely venture into the open during daylight hours, they are up and feeding in the heavy cover, often a couple of hours before last shooting light.

It's not uncommon for elk to travel several miles each day from secure cover to prime feed. But, rather than getting up from their bed and heading straight for the food source, they will slowly make their way, eating as they go. While feed in the heavy cover is often marginal, it provides them with some nutrition while they wait for darkness. They rarely linger in the open during the morning either. Their bellies are full and they are just looking for a secure place to lay up and chew their



cud. I've had far more success intercepting these bulls travelling to feed in the evenings rather than leaving in the mornings. They seem to waste little time moving from feeding to bedding areas in the morning.

Often, the hardest part about hunting late-season elk is finding them, especially if snow is scarce. By limiting your search to areas of prime habitat, your chances of success are greatly increased. Most ranchers and farmers in elk country are pleased to have responsible hunters on their place. Wintering elk do extensive damage to crops, stacks and feed. The key is to get out and locate these hotspots long before the season opens and establish a rapport with the landowner.


Look for farms that have standing grain fields or alfalfa fields with good second growth. These are two of the elk's favourite sources of food. There may be some elk in these locations early in the season, but it is when the cold winds blow and the snow falls that they really get hot. In areas without tame crops, look for recent burns, recently logged areas, or other areas of fibrous forage. Bull's nutritional requirements differ greatly from cows at this time of year and they will

be found in the pockets with the highest concentration of nutritious forage. Finding where the cows and young bulls are feeding is no guarantee that the big bulls will be there. The more fat a bull loses during the rut and the more injuries he sustains, the more nutritious sources of feed he must find and the more solitary he will become.

An often-overlooked hotspot is in the high mountains. While most people think that elk head for lower elevations in the late fall, this is often not the case. Bull elk, especially big bulls, are lovers of the high, wind-blown slopes during the winter months. It's not uncommon to see them eating right alongside sheep and goats. This high-elevation grass is high in protein and strong winds keep the slopes snow free throughout the winter. As long as there is some dark timber nearby for the elk to bed in, count on catching them on these high-wintering slopes in November. I took


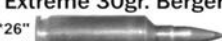
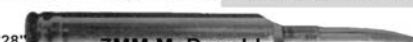
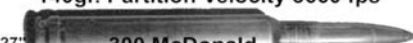
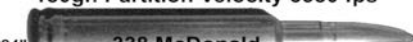
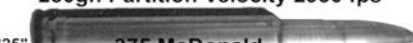
my big bull on just one of these slopes a few years back in mid November. The area saw virtually no pressure as most hunters weren't willing to make the long trek in and the elk casually foraged on the open slopes well into the day.

Just because the elk are not bugling is no excuse for not hunting them. Late-season elk just require a little different strategy. If you just want to fill the freezer, there couldn't be a better time. The more solitary old herd bulls may be a little tougher, but at no other time of year are they as predictable. Find the best sources of feed and you will find these grand old monarchs of the high country. I can't wait for November to roll around again. ●



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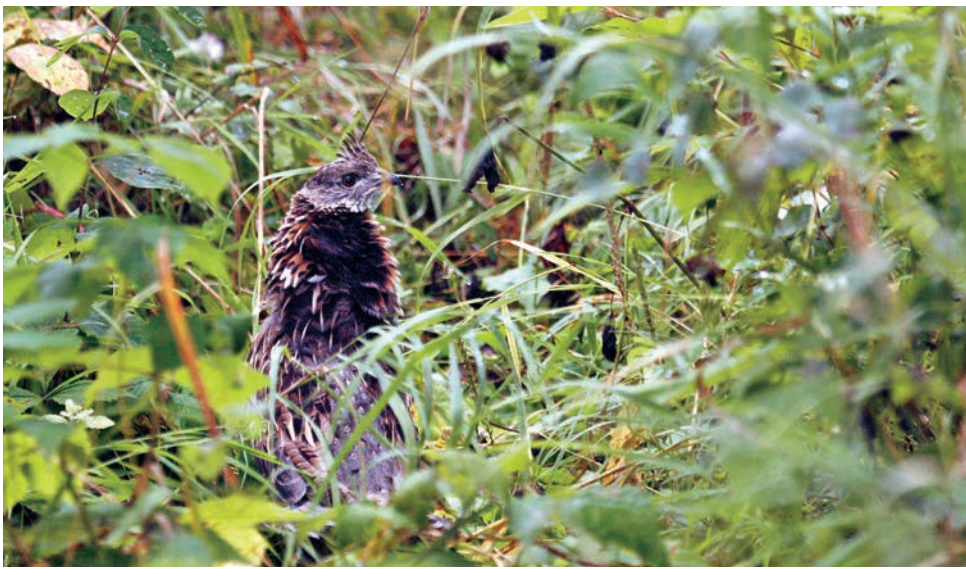
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Grouse Logic 101

When polls are conducted with Alberta hunters from time to time on what our favourite upland game bird is, the result is inevitably the same. Species like the gaudy ringneck pheasant, the gregarious Hungarian partridge or the skittish sharptail grouse all fall by the wayside. And the lowly bush chicken—the ruffed grouse—more times than not tops the survey as our Numero Uno upland quarry.

The reasons for the ruffie’s popularity are up front and obvious—access and opportunity.

The ruffed grouse’s home turf is the aspen poplar ridges of the boreal forest and foothills, which just happens to encompass a huge

chunk of the province. Not only is it massive, most of it is Crown land, which means access is easy and unfettered. No landowners to track down and obtain permission from. No fences, gates or cows to contend with. Just park your truck, let out the dog, and hunt.

Except that’s often where the hard part begins. Somewhere out in that boreal vastness, there’s a solitary bird dressed in perfect fall foliage camo whose natural defensive mechanism

when encountering a stranger is to freeze in cover until the threat passes. Wandering around aimlessly in the bush will still occasionally produce a bird or two; the law of averages will see to that.



by Neil Waugh

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Every decade or so when Alberta ruffies experience a population peak and there are birds everywhere, filling a five-bird limit is stupid easy.

But in the intervening years when the grouse numbers are down, there’s still a way to cut the odds and increase your chances of harvesting a few birds while spending a pleasant day in the fall forest.

You have to shed your superior-species preconceptions and begin to think like a grouse. It’s called Grouse Logic 101.

Habits

Although they live in an unregulated and chaotic world, most wild animals remain creatures of habit. Whether it’s migrating geese that return to the same barley stubble to feed each morning or a whitetail buck patrolling his scrape line, successful hunting is anticipating the repetitive nature of their movements and being in the right place at the right time to capitalize on this established pattern.

Ruffed grouse also exhibit regular and predictable movements. The most compelling being the need to satisfy the bird’s insatiable fall appetite. Ruffies have a variety of food sources, from bush fruit like wild cherries, berries and rose hips to “mast”, which in Alberta constitutes hazel nut, bearberry and aspen buds. Hunting areas where these are present can all produce a flush.

But in Alberta, the primary source of fall nutrition for ruffed grouse is red clover. For reasons known only to ruffies, they simply love the stuff and come out to roadsides and trail edges in the fall to stuff their crops to bursting with succulent clover leaves.

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Grouse logic says hunt these areas that concentrate birds. Clover, which is not a native species, owes its presence in grouse country largely to the energy industry. Grouse habitat and the industrial landscape known as “Oil Patch” overlay each other in large areas of the province.

Government regulators require that disturbed ground—like well leases, oil roads and pipeline right-of-ways—be re-vegetated to minimize erosion and siltation of streams. These seed mixes invariably contain red clover, which in the past 65-years-or-so of oil exploration on Crown land has created many thousands of kilometres of habitat that attracts grouse.

Grouse will be present on oil country clover most times of the hunting day. But their numbers increase exponentially during the last few hours of legal light when shadows lengthen and the woods are sublime and mellow.

As well as clover, Alberta grouse have an affinity for aspen poplar. The quakies are not only its escape route and sanctuary, it's the grouse's primary source of food when the first permanent snow cover kills off the clover and sends the birds into the forest canopy to feed on their winter survival food of poplar buds. Clover with aspens nearby is habit forming for Alberta ruffies.

Habitat

I've harvested ruffed grouse from the pine-clad slopes of Front Range mountains to deep and dark black spruce muskegs, which at first glance seem unlikely places to find birds. But on further review, a common denominator runs through these widely diverse habitats that attracted game. A road, trail or some other factor that differentiates and defines the deep woods from open country. It's what upland hunters call “edge.” Ruffed grouse are attracted to these breaks. Add a food source (clover, of course being the most obvious) and

the attraction becomes an obsession. Edge gives the bird access to food while at the same time providing concealment and cover.

As I've alluded to earlier, Alberta grouse country is blessed with an almost infinite amount of edge because of oil and gas development. The province's community pasture complex—all Crown land with full access after the cattle are removed in mid-September—also provide massive amounts of hunt-friendly edge where even on the busiest of October weekends, you will rarely encounter another hunter.

Hunting

It's “go time” in grouse country. The September leaves, which make early season ruffie hunting so erratic and frustrating, have now been largely replaced with the bare gray trunks of October aspens.

My fox red Lab Penny works on ahead as the trail climbs and twists through a country of beaver swamps and poplar highlands.

A lush, green carpet of clover blankets the track and back in the timber, the scarlet hanging fruit of high-bush cranberries break the brown and burgundy mid-fall monotony.

This is about as birdie as it gets.

I know it. And so does the dog whose cursory scenting excursions had now become purposeful. Almost fanatic.

Penny picks up a trail that leads through a cordon of hazel nuts. She casts to the left and two metres ahead of her active nose there's a soft “burr” and a flush.

I manage to get my over-and-under 12-gauge shouldered and squeeze off a quick shot before the fleeing brown bird jinks around the last poplar and is swallowed up by the bush.

It folds and the dog, after a brief search, makes a noble retrieve.

This is the way I like to hunt grouse. But it's not the only way.

Old school Alberta grouse hunters patrol

grouse country during the productive hours, on alert for the head or silhouette of a trail bird. Others prefer a shotgun. Whatever the choice of firearm, the concept is essentially the same. Hunting transition areas with food sources that attract birds during active feeding hours.

Add a dog—especially one with a hunting nose and bush instincts—and Grouse Logic increases considerably.

Not all birds freeze by the roadside at the approach of a hunter. Many are long gone and never seen. Others use their concealment instincts and hunker down in cover so convincingly that the lone hunter isn't aware they are around. But they can't hide from a good, aggressive dog that will track them back into the timber and bust them out of the deepest cover.

Having a load in your gun that evens the odds is also important to maximizing your grouse hunting success rate.

The shooting window is only a second or so between the flush and the grouse disappearing into the understory. It doesn't take much to kill a grouse. Getting the shot on target is a more compelling problem.

While 5 or 6-shot loads will harvest a ruffie without creating too much collateral damage to the flesh, I prefer 7 1/2 on the theory the more balls you have in the air the better the odds that one will get through.



Grouse guns are in the eye of the beholder. As mentioned earlier, I prefer a 12-gauge double gun. But the key to successful ruffed grouse wing shooting is to have your weapon raised and ready when the flush comes. The heads up that a bird dog provides can't be stressed enough.

Grouse country is also rough country. A stout pair of boots and briar-resistant hunting pants will greatly increase your comfort level.

The sun hangs low during grouse season so a hat with a shady brim is essential.

It also should be stressed that Alberta's oil patch may appear at times like the great lone land; it's in reality, a working landscape. Plan your hunt carefully, stay away from areas where activity is taking place, hunt less often travelled trails (they're usually better anyway) and be aware before squeezing the trigger.

But most important, if you want a satisfying weight in your hunting vest's game pouch and a tired, happy dog when you get back to the truck at the end of the day, you have to think like a grouse. ●

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Alberta's Merriam's Turkey Hunt

Hunt wild turkeys in Alberta? Yes indeed, our province has a wild turkey hunt and it's fast gaining popularity. Thanks to diligent

transplant and management strategies, Alberta's wild turkey populations are holding their own. If you're looking for a new challenge and outstanding table fare, this is a phenomenal opportunity!

Since their introduction to the Cypress Hills in 1962, Fish and Wildlife authorities have attempted to introduce the Merriam's Turkey into various southern regions of the province. In 1963 and 1973, a combination of hatchery-raised and wild-trapped birds were transplanted from Nebraska to Alberta's Porcupine Hills Forest Reserve. Over the past half century, these turkey populations have fluctuated with a general growth in numbers and they continue to disperse into wider ranges from as far south as the U.S. border on up well north of the

Oldman River.

Hunting opportunities are made available only to Alberta residents through a limited entry draw system, so competition with other

hunters is minimal. Each special licence in combination with a Game Bird permit, allows the hunter to take one bearded turkey and their tag is valid in Wildlife Management Units 300-308, 400, and 402.

I have been fortunate enough to hunt turkeys in many areas of the U.S. and, in my opinion, we have a world-class opportunity

right here at home. Able to hunt birds that see few hunters, the odds for success can be very good. Through the limited draw process, Alberta issued 150 tags for the spring 2014 hunt that ran from May 1 to May 30.

Now, before you jump to any conclusions about how easy this hunt might be, let me assure you it is anything but. I've drawn this tag twice myself. The first was back in 1999. My partner and I hunted for six days



by Kevin Wilson

before closing our tags. Finally, after many kilometres of hiking, several close calls, and nearly giving up, we managed to get an excited response mid-day.

My second tag was drawn for the spring 2014 season and Heather and I were fortunate enough to find an eager tom the second day of the season. In the end, it's really all about doing your research, understanding how to hunt them, and putting in your time.

Pre-Hunt Preparation

Planning for a turkey hunt requires attention to detail. Preparation involves contacting landowners to secure permission to hunt, locating pockets of birds and especially their roost trees, acquiring and practicing calls, patterning your shotgun and load, gathering topographic maps, studying Google Earth images, and researching turkey behaviour.

The most successful turkey hunters are usually the ones who start planning early; they're the folks who research and prepare well ahead of the season. One of your first phone calls should be to an area ESRD biologist. The biologists, and even enforcement officers, will have some idea of where they see birds, bird densities, how the turkeys overwintered, and they may even provide some advice on where you can hunt.

Calls and Decoys

Having the right gear is imperative. Alberta's turkey season occurs during their breeding period and this is one of the times in which they are most vocal. Most years, the toms are vocal and eager to breed by the start of May. Putts, clucks, purrs and a plethora of sounds are made by both sexes. Each has its time and place and more importantly, knowing when to mimic which sound can bring a turkey on the run, and let me tell you, when they get cranked up, the guttural gobble of a mature tom is spine-chilling!

There are four main types of commercial turkey calls; these include box calls, slate calls, diaphragm calls, and friction calls. Most emulate hen vocalizations. As toms and hens are eager to breed, they are often keen to declare dominance and take on intruding turkeys. Adding a couple of hen decoys and a jake decoy to your equation can be dynamite.

Locator calls are commonly used to prompt shock gobblers. Once you know where a tom is, you can move in, set up, and get serious about calling in a bird. Among the most productive locator calls are those emulating a crow, owl, woodpecker or coyote howl. Not sure why, but these sounds will often cause a tom or a jake to gobble. They can be useful throughout the day but in the early morning and late evening, they can be especially valuable in helping you locate roosted birds.

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Shotgun and Ammunition

Most turkey hunters will use a 12 gauge, some with a shorter barrel, others with a longer barrel. Really, the gun itself is up to personal preference. What does make a difference is the choke and ammunition. I use a 3 1/2" Benelli autoloader more because I'm comfortable with it for wing shooting, and I put a custom full turkey choke tube in it. The goal is to have as much of the shot pattern hit its mark evenly. With this in mind, it's always a good idea to pattern your load prior to your hunt.

Hunt Strategies

Finding wild turkeys is half the battle. Looking for a vocal gobbler is a lot like hunting elk in September; time and kilometres pass quickly as the hunt progresses. But all it takes is one encounter. Wild turkeys can be extremely vocal but they can all also be quiet.

Merriam's turkeys favour open deciduous forests and forest edges. Do your best to find a roost. Merriam's turkeys often roost in larger pine trees on ridges in the evening as the sun goes down. A textbook turkey hunt starts long before sunrise. Ideally, with some understanding of where they roost, move in and set up your decoys within a couple hundred metres of the roost and begin calling just as the sun comes up. If all goes well, a gobbler will fly down and approach in curiosity.

The types of calls you use will depend on the



The length of the beard is one of the features used to measure trophy quality. The author's 2014 Merriam's Turkey had an 8 1/2" beard.

situation. For instance, if a tom is tending several hens and there are jakes with them as well, I have found it to be very productive to begin with a series of five or six yelps, then pause and wait. If there is no immediate response from the tom, I step it up by adding in some excited yelps, putts, clucks, and purrs. My 2014 bird was with several hens and jakes, and he responded almost instantly to this type of excited calling.

Alternatively, if birds just aren't making noise, spot-and-stalk hunting or ambush hunting are two other effective strategies.

I have a good friend who had patterned the turkeys so well last spring that he placed his portable ground blind along a key movement corridor on a ridge and literally waited them out. After a couple of days, he brought home a mature bird.

In the end, hunting Alberta's Merriam's turkeys is all about adapting. It really is a lot like hunting elk. Be willing to modify your approach, be diligent, take the right steps both before and during the season, and you'll have a good chance of bringing home a bird. ●

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concentration, requiring our full attention. One wrong step could put us in view of the deer and it would all be over.

This is where you really need to pay attention. In our bustling society, most of us are trained to have short attention spans. We check our phones for email or text messages, go get something to eat, or look for something to entertain us. When you sneak into a deer's bedroom and want the best opportunity for a shot, it requires serious patience. Stay calm, and hunt smart.

When Joe and I arrived on the prairie to find four mature mule bucks feeding together, we followed them for over two and a half hours, covering close to three miles of grazed fescue no taller than my boots before they eventually bedded in a dry creek bed. We had watched them from a long distance and if we hadn't seen them bed, we would have likely thought the large expanse of open prairie held little cover to hide a deer. In reality, the shallow relief was the perfect hiding place for the bucks to spend their daylight hours. We positioned ourselves to stalk into the wind and slowly close the distance to where we had seen them last. The secret to our success would be sticking to the principle—continue to vigilantly scan the area to catch sight of an antler tip before one of the deer caught sight of us.



We inched along, taking one step at a time, using our binoculars to fully inspect everything in front of us. Slowly and painstakingly, we covered close to 300 metres of meandering creek bottom back and forth through the grassland. The wind was ideal, blowing just strong enough to cover any noise our boots made on the dry vegetation. It's a rare occasion when the wind doesn't blow on the plains, but when it does happen, we are often forced to stalk in our socks.

We had just inched through a patch of rose bush when we spotted a top antler fork of one of the mule bucks. They had bedded in

STAY CALM AND HUNT ON

In the pale morning light, four mule deer bucks silhouetted themselves against the skyline on a distant ridge. There is an intimidation factor the open country has over hunters; most feel it can be impossible to get close enough to deer in order to harvest them. It's a psychological advantage a calm and calculated hunter can capitalize on.

Our strategy for the deer was to observe them until they found a spot to bed for the day, and then plan a stalk to take us within bow range. The bucks wandered across the grasslands as we watched attentively from our vantage point. The deer would move in

and out of sight, as they meandered through dips and valleys looking for a place to bed down. It would be easy to miss the deer even if you were looking for them, but having hunted the area extensively, we knew to be patient.



by Brad Fenson

Watching the bucks actually bed, we now had to walk out and find the exact spot to ensure they hadn't escaped undetected. The trick would be spotting them before they spotted us.

My friend Joe and I cautiously headed out into the open, checking new territory as it came into view with each step. We knew this was a mental game of

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a steep turn of the creek bed and although we could see a portion of the antler from one buck, the others were completely concealed. On our hands and knees, we edged to within 30 metres of their bed. Joe took the primary position for the shot, while I covered one of the flanks in case one of the other bucks got up first. We sat and waited.

Over the years, we've found there is such a thing as too close. Staying back at 30 or 40 metres provides a definite advantage for remaining undetected. Whether it is swirling winds or noise working against you, disaster is usually abated by staying back at a comfortable shooting distance.

It was an interesting group of mature deer with a large and medium 4x4 buck, an incredibly wide 3x3 and a unique non-typical that Joe was now staring at. We both had equal opportunity, as any of the bucks could stand and offer one of us a shot. We sat patiently, waiting for about twenty minutes when the non-typical stood up to stretch his legs. He immediately stared at Joe, but after 30 seconds, decided it was nothing to worry about and turned to face the other way.

As I keep saying, bowhunting short grass prairie is a mental game—keeping your composure and knowing when to draw is critical to success. If Joe had even flinched,



let alone try to draw his bow, it would have all been over. Being fully camouflaged and wearing a facemask, the deer didn't identify the strange shape as a threat and went about his regular routine.

Joe saw the opportunity to draw his bow and released an arrow on the unsuspecting buck. The sound of the broadhead hitting its target sent the other three bucks into a full run from a bedded position. The non-typical

ran a short distance onto the prairie before falling over onto the short grass. We patiently waited until the other bucks were out of sight before venturing up to put our hands on Joe's big buck.

The buck was a great trophy and keeping things composed and focused allowed Joe to get close, draw, and follow through with the perfect shot. Staying back at 30 metres instead of sneaking in to 20 or less is undoubtedly

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why the buck wasn't alarmed when he initially got up and looked in our direction.

I was now hoping I could find a big buck to catch up to and determine where he would try to hide next. Being able to see for miles, you'd think there was no way to miss a deer; but I'm here to tell you, they know every low spot or change in topography to remain undetected when they want to. We watched whitetail in shelterbelts that could easily be stalked the same way. Hunting whitetail or mule deer in any of the river valleys should be approached with the same techniques. The key is to watch them and know where they bed so you can sneak right into their bedroom.

First light is the best time to locate deer and watch from a distance. It can take hours and often require a move or two to make sure you can see your quarry. A stalk could take the better part of the day if you are able to watch a shooter buck bed. Taking your time and planning to always have your nose into the wind is critical. A big, old buck never questions his nose and if he gets wind of you, the entire hunt is over. If for some reason your morning hunt doesn't work out, you can often find deer up and feeding early in the afternoon. They usually bed much quicker than in the morning, but can still provide an opportunity. Be warned, the deer in the afternoon will not stay bedded as long as they do in the mornings. You will have to plan your stalk to get into range before they are up and active for the evening.

I learned the hard way that coming in from below or level to a deer increases your success. I was sure stalking from above in the creeks and coulees would be best, but the deer busted me every time. The best way to ensure success is to be calm and hunt slow and smart. ●

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Thank you to everyone who participated in the Alberta Hunters Who Care Deer for the Foodbank Program in 2013. This is the sixteenth year of our program that has seen more than 230,000 pounds of high quality wild game donated to the Edmonton and Calgary Foodbanks. Please help us feed those in need again in 2014. All hunters and outfitters are encouraged to participate.

Important Changes for 2014:

1. Wild game will now be accepted in Calgary for distribution through the Calgary Foodbank. See the [Hunting for Tomorrow website](#) or call our information line for details (780-443-6006).
2. We will now accept donations from Oct 15, 2014 to Dec 15, 2014.
3. There are no extra wild game tags allotted for this program. You are asked to share the harvest from any one of the general season, supplementary or undersubscribed elk, moose or deer tags that are available.
4. Only elk, moose or deer that have been harvested between October 15 and December 15, 2014 during the regular hunting seasons are eligible for this program.
5. The elk, moose or deer cannot be completely frozen and it must be delivered to a participating meat processor within 24 hours from the time of harvest.
6. Please contact the processor to ensure whether the elk, moose or deer can be brought in skinned or unskinned.
7. There are no processing costs charged to the donating hunter. The processing costs are paid by the **Alberta Hunters Who Care** association through financial donations by hunting organizations including our primary sponsors: **APOS Legacy Fund, Safari Club International, Alberta Conservation Association, Alberta Fish & Game Association** and **Minister's Special Licence Program**.

To find the complete donation guidelines and the list of participating meat processors, please call our 24 hour information line at 780-443-6006. Or you can visit the [Hunting for Tomorrow website](#) at www.huntingfortomorrow.com. Our wild game donation information is found under their **Facts and Fiction** section under **Fact #11**.

You can also contact the **Alberta Hunters Who Care** Supervisors:

- For Edmonton area please contact Jim Thomson at 780-962-9452 or Gordon Corcoran at 780-842-3774
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Alberta is a Trophy Mecca

It may come as a surprise to many hunters, but as of 2012, which is the most recent year for which up-to-date official records are available, an astounding 3,430 Alberta entries have made the Boone and Crockett Club (B&C) record book. According to Dean Bromberger, Alberta Fish and Game Association (AFGA) B&C official measurer, “To be clear, these figures represent what the AFGA has on record, not B&C. Not all records are necessarily entered in B&C. Nonetheless, all the AFGA entries meet the minimum B&C record book scores, validating that Alberta remains a veritable factory for trophy big game animals.”



by Duane Radford

To top these remarkable record book phenomena, some of the finest trophies ever recorded in Alberta have been taken in recent years. A prime example is the outstanding pronghorn antelope, which scored an amazing 90 B&C points, that was taken by Tannis R. Piotrowski in 2013 near Manyberries—a new Alberta record.

I saw this buck’s horns at the 51st AFGA Annual Wildlife Awards Banquet and they were truly amazing! Mark my words, this trophy antelope will go down as one of the top entries ever for Alberta. Relatively speaking, it’s on a scale comparable with the incredible “Broder Buck” that scored 355 2/8 points, along with Guinn D. Crousen’s 208 3/8 world record bighorn, both shot in Alberta.

Incidentally, the former Alberta record pronghorn antelope that scored 88 4/8 (taken by Fred J. Streleoff in 2003) was also shot near Manyberries, a go-to location for trophy antelope.

There was a potential new world record

bighorn sheep that was found dead south of Hinton by Fish and Wildlife Officers this year. It was initially scored at 209-1/8 inches. However, after the mandatory 60-day drying period, the final measurement came in at 205-7/8, still good enough to be ranked fifth all time.

There has been no let up in the number of big game records set each year and 2012 was no exception, featuring an astonishing 60 new entries. What gives? Why is Alberta such an outstanding place to tag a record book big game animal?

(1) For starters, Alberta has a diversity of prime big game habitat, without equal in Canada, featuring the mountains, foothills, prairies, parklands and boreal forest. It is this habitat diversity that spawns so many fine trophies, and so long as wildlife habitat is not impaired, there’s no reason why production of trophies should decline.

(2) Alberta enjoyed a series of relatively mild winters up until 2010-2011, which allowed

deer herds to expand. High deer numbers translated into more and larger trophies than normal. I wrote an article about hunting mule deer in Alberta in 2008 (*The Skinny on Alberta’s Mule Deer*) for these regulations when the mule deer provincial population estimate was 185,000. I suggested that hunters should not put off a mule deer hunt, take advantage of their abundance and sizes of bucks while they last. As things have turned out, hard winters over the past few years have severely reduced the size of the mule deer herd in Alberta.

(3) It is common knowledge that there are a many sanctuaries in Alberta that are fodder for trophy animals when they move to their winter ranges, in the case of elk, or bighorn sheep in search of ewes. There are several hotspots near national and provincial parks that consistently produce record book animals, as they move out of these sanctuaries. Likewise, large bowhunting-only zones around Alberta’s major municipal centres yield some wall hangers from time to time, notably white-tailed deer.

(4) Changes in hunting regulations, especially limited entry draws, must also be credited for allowing better escapement of mature animals that have lived longer and produced better heads.

(5) Lastly, hunters are becoming more strategic in pursuing trophies, and are more knowledgeable today than ever before in searching out outstanding animals. They’re also better equipped than in earlier days with fine rifles and optics that help them close the hunt a lot easier than in bygone days.

Bighorn Sheep

Alberta is world renowned for its record book bighorn sheep; an incredible 500 record rams have made the B&C record book, 68 since 2000. Alberta also boasts the 208 3/8 world record bighorn taken by Guinn D. Crousen (on Luscar Mountain near Hinton) in 2000. Last year’s AFGA record bighorn ram (178 5/8) also came from this area, shot by Fran Diepstraten, near Cadomin.

continued on page 94

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Tannis Piotrowski with her 2013 trophy pronghorn antelope taken near Manyberries.



Alberta is renowned for its great bighorn sheep and the hunting opportunities they provide.



Alberta boasts some incredible bull elk with 104 typical elk having made book up until 2012.

Black Bear

AFGA records indicate that 422 Alberta black bears made the B&C record book. Bear numbers remain high and hunting pressure relatively low, so your chances of shooting a big bruin remain high.

Elk

Alberta's top elk (419 6/8) was shot by Clarence Brown in 1977 in the Panther River. Up until 2012, 11 non-typical elk and 104 typical elk have made the B&C records in Alberta. Several outstanding bulls have been shot during the last few years, many taken around Canadian Forces Base Suffield and in WMU 300 near Waterton Lakes National Park.

Moose

All time, 337 Canada moose have made the record book in Alberta. The harsh winter of 2010-2011 did not affect moose significantly with 11 making the book in 2012. With a limited entry draw in most Wildlife Management Units, there's a good chance at taking a large moose in many parts of Alberta.

Pronghorn Antelope

Even though Alberta is at the northern

edge of the range of pronghorn antelope in North America, it has been producing some exceptional bucks during the past decade, with record book bucks being shot routinely. While it may sound hard to believe, 125 bucks have made the B&C records up until 2012. The severe winter in 2010-2011 took its toll, however, and no pronghorn antelope made the book in either 2011 or 2012. Things changed in 2013 though, with some fine bucks being shot. In the previous dozen years, B&C bucks were taken in 2000 (5), 2001 (6), 2002 (3), 2003 (7), 2004 (2), 2007 (5), 2008 (8), 2009 (6) and 2010 (4).

Mule Deer

Alberta has become a go-to destination for trophy mule deer in recent years. According to AFGA records, 74 non-typical mule deer and 211 typical mule deer have made the B&C record book. Bromberger says the top five spots for trophy mule deer over the past several years were Arizona, Alberta, South Dakota, Texas, and Saskatchewan.

The 2010 pre-season provincial population estimate for mule deer was 170,000, a huge increase since the 1970s, when the estimated population was only about 60,000. The

humongous Broder Buck that scored an unbelievable 355 2/8 points (taken in 1926 by Ed Broder near Chip Lake west of Edmonton), still stands as the number one non-typical mule deer in the world. It's unlikely this record will ever be broken.

White-tailed Deer

AFGA records indicate that 452 non-typical and 926 typical white-tailed deer qualified for the B&C records up to 2012. The severe winter in 2010-2011 reduced the number of record-breaking whitetail bucks. Surprisingly, however, there's been some carryover of big bucks, as evidenced by the 2013 monster shot by Colton Gustafson in Wildlife Management Unit 506 that scored 183 2/8.

Summary

For the most up-to-date information on where Alberta's record big game animals have been taken, readers should check the *Alberta Wildlife Records – Official Records of the Alberta Fish and Game Association 3rd Edition 1963-2010* (2011). Some clues can be found on where to bag outstanding trophies by studying these records, as well as the records for the Boone & Crockett Club and Pope and Young Club. ●

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ALBERTA MAGAZINE
OUTDOORSMEN

presents the
2013 ALBERTA HUNTERS OF THE YEAR

Congratulations Overall Champion Michelle Kuny!

Michelle Kuny of Leduc County, Alberta wins \$500.00 and is Alberta's 2013 Hunter of the Year!



WHITE-TAILED DEER
Jack McNaughton (\$250)

Jack McNaughton of Peace River, Alberta is our 2013 Alberta White-tailed Deer Hunter of the Year after he arrowed this long-tined buck in WMU 523 near Peace River. Jack's buck grosses 184 7/8 and nets an impressive 181 6/8. Jack wins \$250 for his trophy whitetail taken during the archery season while still in velvet. An excellent buck indeed!



MULE DEER
Michelle Kuny (\$500)

Michelle Kuny of Leduc County, Alberta is our 2013 Alberta Mule Deer Hunter of the Year and Overall Champion. Michelle took her mule buck in WMU 246 near Leduc. Michelle's buck has a 27 3/8 tip-to-tip spread and grossed 194 3/8 before netting a final score of 187 4/8. Michelle wins \$500 for her trophy buck. Congratulations Michelle on a super season!



ELK
Frank Gilham (\$250)

Frank Gilham of Medicine Hat, Alberta is our 2013 Elk Hunter of the Year. Frank's impressive bull was taken in WMU 150 near Jenner. Frank's massive bull stretches the tape to 367 2/8. More impressive is the fact that Frank is a quadriplegic who loves to hunt! Frank was recently featured in the Alberta Outdoorsmen magazine for his incredible feat!

ALBERTA OUTDOORSMEN MAGAZINE presents the
2014 ALBERTA HUNTERS OF THE YEAR

RULES

- 1) Any Alberta resident hunting legally in Alberta may enter.
- 2) Typically scored Whitetail, Mule Deer and Elk are the eligible species. Non-Typical scores will not qualify.
- 3) A hunter may enter only one animal per species.
- 4) All qualifying game must be taken under "Fair Chase" as defined by the Boone and Crockett Club.
- 5) All qualifying game must be scored by an Official Measurer and cannot be scored until after the trophy has dried for 60 or more days after harvest date.
- 6) Each entrant must submit a photo (landscape if possible) of themselves with their trophy, as well as a photo of the trophy by itself. All photos

- become the property of Sports Scene and may be reproduced at Sports Scene's discretion.
- 7) Each entrant must follow all Boone and Crockett Trophy Entry Requirements and a copy of the original score chart, signed and dated by the Official Measurer, must be sent to Sports Scene along with photos.
- 8) Sports Scene Publications Inc. reserves the right to reject or accept any entry and all decisions will be final.
- 9) The Grand Prize will be awarded to the hunter whose trophy won its category and came closest (on percentage basis) to the current provincial record for that species.
- 10) All prizes must be accepted as awarded.
- 11) Contest opens 2014 hunting season start and closes June 8, 2015.

PRIZES

The winner in each category will receive a cheque for **\$250.00** as well as have his or her picture with their trophy, published in next years regulations. The Grand Prize winner will also receive an extra \$250 for a grand total of **\$500.00**

SEND YOUR ENTRIES TO:
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2014 HUNTER OF THE YEAR ENTRY FORM

NAME: _____ DIVISION: Whitetail ___ Mule Deer ___ Elk ___
 ADDRESS: _____ WMU where trophy was taken: _____
 CITY: _____ Nearest Town or City: _____
 POSTAL: _____ Date trophy was taken: _____
 PHONE: _____ Rifle ___ Bow ___

Entry form must be completed entirely and submitted with entry.



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In Alberta, fire lookouts are considered a residence as well as a workplace. These sites may be occupied from April to October.

Here's what you need to know if you plan to hunt near fire lookouts:

- It is your responsibility to know your distance from a residence, and the safe distance for discharging firearms.
- It is unlawful to discharge a weapon within 183m (200 yards) or cause a projectile from a weapon to pass within 183m (200 yards) of any occupied building.
- For more information, please consult the appropriate sections of the Petty Trespass Act and the Wildlife Act.



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Alberta Wildfire App

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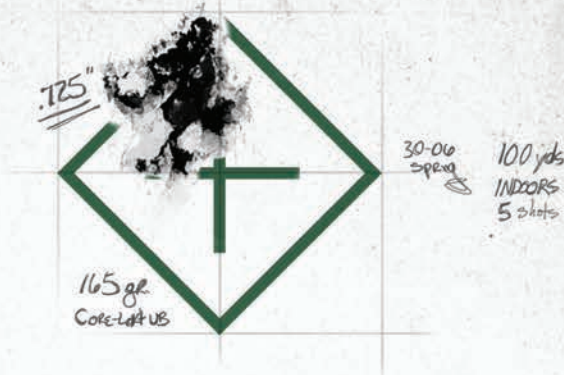
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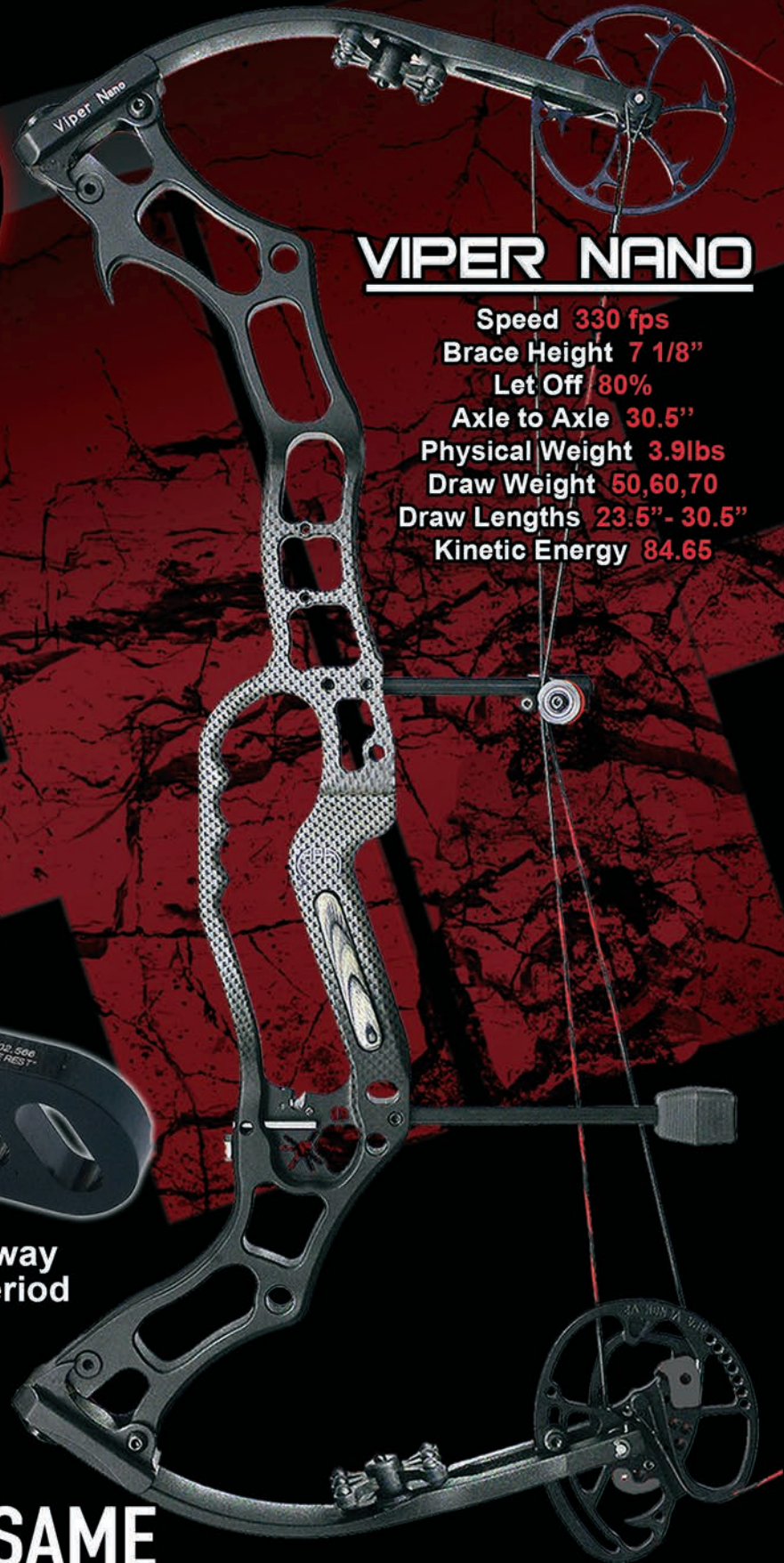


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