



# Certification Page Regular and Emergency Rules

Revised July 2019

**Emergency Rules** *(Complete Sections 1-3 and 5-6)*

**Regular Rules**

### 1. General Information

a. Agency/Board Name		
b. Agency/Board Address	c. City	d. Zip Code
e. Name of Agency Liaison		f. Agency Liaison Telephone Number
g. Agency Liaison Email Address		h. Adoption Date
i. Program		

### 2. Legislative Enactment For purposes of this Section 2, "new" only applies to regular (non-emergency) rules promulgated in response to a Wyoming legislative enactment not previously addressed in whole or in part by prior rulemaking and does not include rules adopted in response to a federal mandate.

a. Are these non-emergency or regular rules new as per the above description and the definition of "new" in Chapter 1 of the Rules on Rules?

No.     Yes. If the rules are new, please provide the Chapter Numbers and Years Enacted (e.g. 2015 Session Laws Chapter 154):

### 3. Rule Type and Information For purposes of this Section 3, "New" means an emergency or regular rule that has never been previously created.

a. Provide the Chapter Number, Title\* and Proposed Action for Each Chapter. *Please use the "Additional Rule Information" form to identify additional rule chapters.*

Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Repealed
Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Repealed
Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Repealed
Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Repealed
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Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Repealed
Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Repealed
Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Repealed
Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Repealed
Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Repealed

\* If the name of a chapter of rules is changing, please only provide the NEW chapter name on this rules certification form.

**4. Public Notice of Intended Rulemaking**

a. Notice was mailed 45 days in advance to all persons who made a timely request for advance notice.  No.  Yes.  N/A

b. A public hearing was held on the proposed rules.  No.  Yes. Please complete the boxes below.

Date: <b>See attached.</b>	Time:	City:	Location:
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**5. Checklist**

a.  For regular rules, the Statement of Principal Reasons is attached to this Certification and, in compliance with Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. v. Environmental Quality Council, 590 P.2d 1324 (Wyo. 1979), includes a brief statement of the substance or terms of the rule and the basis and purpose of the rule

b.  For emergency rules, the Memorandum to the Governor documenting the emergency, which requires promulgation of these rules without providing notice or an opportunity for a public hearing, is attached to this Certification.

**6. Agency/Board Certification**

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing information is correct. By electronically submitting the emergency or regular rules into the Wyoming Administrative Rules System, the undersigned acknowledges that the Registrar of Rules will review the rules as to form and, if approved, the electronic filing system will electronically notify the Governor's Office, Attorney General's Office, and Legislative Service Office of the approval and electronically provide them with a copy of the complete rule packet on the date approved by the Registrar of Rules. The complete rules packet includes this signed certification page; the Statement of Principal Reasons or, if emergency rules, the Memorandum to the Governor documenting the emergency; and a strike and underscore copy and clean copy of each chapter of rules.

Signature of Authorized Individual	
Printed Name of Signatory	David Rael
Signatory Title	President
Date of Signature	January 15, 2020

**7. Governor's Certification**

I have reviewed these rules and determined that they:

1. Are within the scope of the statutory authority delegated to the adopting agency;
2. Appear to be within the scope of the legislative purpose of the statutory authority; and, if emergency rules,
3. Are necessary and that I concur in the finding that they are an emergency.

Therefore, I approve the same.

Governor's Signature	
Date of Signature	

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Town</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>
November 6, 2019	6:00 p.m.	Jackson	Game & Fish Office
November 12, 2019	6:00 p.m.	Cody	Park County Library
November 12, 2019	6:00 p.m.	Sheridan	Game & Fish Office
November 13, 2019	6:00 p.m.	Casper	Game & Fish Office
November 14, 2019	6:00 p.m.	Laramie	Game & Fish Office
November 18, 2019	6:00 p.m.	Saratoga	Town Hall
December 6, 2019	6:00 p.m.	Pinedale	Game & Fish Office
December 9, 2019	6:00 p.m.	Rawlins	Jeffrey Memorial Community Center (32 & 61)
December 10, 2019	6:00 p.m.	Green River	Game & Fish Office
December 11, 2019	6:00 p.m.	Dubois	Headwaters Arts & Conference Center (32 & 61)
December 12, 2019	6:00 p.m.	Lander	Game & Fish Office

## STATEMENT OF REASONS

### CHAPTER 3

#### BLACK BEAR HUNTING SEASONS

W.S. § 23-1-302(a)(i) directs and empowers the Commission to fix seasons and bag limits, shorten or close seasons on any species or sex of wildlife for any type of legal weapon, except predatory animals, predacious birds, protected animals and protected birds, in any specified locality of Wyoming, and to give notice thereof.

The Wyoming Game and Fish Commission promulgates Chapter 3, Black Bear Hunting Seasons to establish limitations on the take of black bears during the spring and fall hunting seasons.

Section 3. Language has been modified in the first paragraph for clarity of this section.

Section 4. Edits have been incorporated into subsection (b) to clarify the registration and reporting periods for black bear kills is seventy-two (72) hours. Subsection (c) has been edited to remove a punishment statement since that occurs by application of Title 23.

Section 5. Edits have been made in subsection (a)(ii) to clarify provisions that shall be met in order for a person to have preference to register the same bait site for the immediately following year. A person shall have placed a bear bait, and provided the bear bait site GPS coordinates to the Department during the previous calendar year in accordance with Commission regulation. In subsection (d), proposed edits also permit an individual to use their sportsperson identification number to properly identify their bear bait container. A sportsperson identification number is specific to each licensed hunter, does not change from year to year and will simplify the bear bait container identification process.

Section 6. Subsections (b) and (c) have been modified and reformatted for clarity.

Section 8. Edits to this section deleted a reference to chemical attractants since they are already addressed in Section 6.

Section 10. The previous three (3) year black bear harvest information is not yet available at the time this draft regulation is being made available for public comment. As a result of harvest information analysis, the Department may propose additional changes to hunting season dates, female mortality limits or hunting season structure. Any additional proposed black bear hunt area season date changes or annual female mortality limits will be made available to the public for comment during all public meetings held around the state.

Section 13. The boundary between Hunt Areas 1 and 32 is being modified to better utilize hunter harvest as a management tool and to mitigate black bear conflicts. Department personnel have removed several conflict bears in the Lower Shoshone and Crooked Creek

drainages near Lovell in Hunt Area 1 which is proposed to become part of Hunt Area 32. The Department is also proposing to modify the boundary description for Hunt Area 7 as a result of previous public comments.

Minor grammatical and formatting edits have been incorporated to provide additional clarity but do not change the intent of the regulation.



## WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006

Phone: (307) 777-4600 Fax: (307) 777-4699

wgfd.wyo.gov

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MIKE SCHMID

December 20, 2019

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Wyoming Game and Fish Commission

**FROM:** Rick King, Chief, Wildlife Division

**COPY TO:** David Dewald, File

**SUBJECT:** Chapter 3 Public Comment Summary and Department Response

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department (Department) conducted eleven (11) public meetings across the state to address draft regulation proposals for Wyoming Game and Fish Commission Regulation Chapter 3, Black Bear Hunting Seasons. A draft regulation proposal was also available for viewing and public comment through the Department website from October 24, 2019 through December 16, 2019.

The Department received eight total written or online comments for Chapter 3. There was also discussion of proposed black bear seasons at the public meetings.

Some public comment topics included: comments regarding outfitters taking the majority of females in hunt area 1 and closing the season; grouping the Bighorn bear management unit hunt areas by west and east sides instead of north and south; shifting the female mortality limit in hunt area 7 to provide equal hunting opportunity in each season; and, support for proposed increases in female mortality limits in the Bighorns, Snowy Range, and Sierra Madres. There was one comment opposing the lowering of the Greys River female mortality limit.

Department harvest data suggest outfitters are taking fewer female bears compared to non-outfitted hunters in hunt areas 1 and 2. Department harvest and population monitoring data from the Greys River support decreasing the female mortality limit to stabilize this population. The Department chose not to change the grouping of the hunt areas in the Bighorns bear management unit until it can review the results of the ongoing Bighorns black bear population monitoring work, which will be completed prior to the next 3-year cycle. Department harvest and management data support shifting the mortality limits in hunt area 7 and the remaining season dates and limits as proposed.

The Department made no additional changes to this draft regulation.

**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 3, Black Bear Hunting Seasons**

**1** I would like to bring up a couple of suggestions for the black bear regulations. The first being, I really feel something needs to be done with the outfitters. I have nothing against most of them and support them totally but, that being said, I don't feel they should be included in our quota. I, and a lot of others, feel that they should have their own quota. This is for two main reasons. The first being, they are able to put out way more baits than we can thus, allowing for more bears. The second, is it seems that they are just trying to get as many bears as they possibly can before the season gets closed. If they had a separate, strict quota maybe, they would slow down and be more selective on what they allow to be shot. I understand that they do it for a living but, right now, it seems unfair to us residents that put in all the effort only to have it close so fast. I don't know if that is actually true or not but, we've had word up here in areas 1&2 that an outfitter had contributed to over 1/2 of the quota the last couple of years. That's not cool. The other issue that seems like it would be better is re-establishing the areas. For example, instead of areas 1&2 and 3&4, it seems it would make more sense to do areas 1&3 and 2&4. Then they would at least be on the same side as their regional office. Thank you for your time, Chris Sawaya Cj\_sawaya@yahoo.com 3072729633

**Sawaya , Chris      Lovell, WY**

11/5/2019 7:46:00  
PM

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**2** Hello, It is my understanding that there is talk of ending the black bear season on June 1st. I am writing to ask that the season end date be kept as is. I am a school teacher and there are only a couple season openings I have the time to enjoy in Wyoming and black bear is one of them because of the season ending later in June. I have several buddies who feel the same way and I am going to try to help them with their computer skills so they can also tell you about their similar preference and how they bring their kids to enjoy Wyoming during bear season because they're also free from school to come to Wyoming at this time as well. I have also been told there is talk of lowering the female bear quota and I think this could be a mistake as well because the quota has not even been met in the last few years both before and after raising the quota near Bondurant and Jackson. Please consider keeping the regulations as there currently are written. I love coming to Wyoming to bear hunt and would like to bring my children with me to show them how great it is too. Thank you.

**Dolezal, Dennis      Rushville , NE**

11/11/2019  
10:23:00 AM

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**3** On behalf of the Western Bear Foundation we hope you will accept these comments on the draft bear hunting regulation. In all we are happy with the regulations and changes made. We have appreciated the ability to work with department on these. They have been fantastic over the last 3 years in involving our group and bear hunters in Wyoming on the strategies and plan for black bear hunting in Wyoming. Our feedback has been heard and there has been a genuine interest in our thoughts on bear hunting in Wyoming. We are very happy with the direction the Large Carnivore Team and Bear Managers in Wyoming are moving. We had a few comments from our members that I will address

**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 3, Black Bear Hunting Seasons**

below, these would be for consideration on this cycle or the next. 1. Outfitter Harvest- The outfitter harvest is effecting total female mortality quotas in several units. Specifically the Bighorn Mountain Units. These large harvest by outfitters is quiet fine but when they have hunters that shoot sows it directly effects the quota and reduces the Wyoming Residents bear hunting opportunity. There have been instances of outfitters killing several sows on one hunt and closes seasons single handed by their harvest. We feel this needs to be addressed by the department. It is creating lots of conflict between 2 user groups. Its reducing hunter opportunity for residents and could negatively effect the amount of bear tags sold in the future. Folks simply will not hunt bears if the opportunity to harvest is reduced further. This is especially noticeable in the fall, several of the fall hunts in Wyoming are closed within just a few days of opening. We have done research and tracked harvest data and know several of these closures are due to Outfitter Harvest. This leaves the Wyoming Resident who wants to hunt these units in the fall a small window to hunt. At some point this needs to be addressed either by giving outfitters a separate quota or removing them from the female mortality quota all together. 2. We receive lots of comments on the Bighorn Mountain Hunting Districts. There is a large population on the East Side of that range and the amount of hunters and outfitters on the East Side are causing more bears, specifically more sows to be harvested. This effects the quotas in other areas. Area 1 and 2 are a shared quota as is area 3 and 4. We would like to see the Bighorns divided by East and West rather than North and South. Or separate the areas out entirely with each unit having its own quota. Area 1 and 3 would share a quota and area 2 and 4 would share a quota. That being said we know there is currently black bear population monitoring going on in this range. It is a multiple year study and will give department a better understanding of black bear populations and densities in the range. We are okay waiting until the results of that study come in to further asses changes these districts. We feel the remaining changes in the regulations are beneficial to both bears and bear hunters so aside from the few comments above we are happy with them and the work done by the entire Large Carnivore Team.

**Kondelis, Joseph    Cody, WY**

11/15/2019  
7:44:00 AM

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**4** Considering fall bear area 1 was closed in 2.5 days. Something has to change. In area 1 it was an outfitter that took the majority of the sows. If outfitters can place more baits and fall under a different set of rules they should have there own stricter quota. They are professionals in there field and have no excuse for shooting sows (Unless it was intentional).

**Davis, Travis    Greybull , WY**

11/15/2019  
4:33:00 PM

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**5** i would like to see the female bear mortality for area 8 be 10 in the spring and 7 in the fall

**Turner, Bill    laramie, WY**

11/15/2019  
6:11:00 PM

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**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 3, Black Bear Hunting Seasons**

**6** Please limit the number of bait sites that outfitters can register to two sites like everybody else who buys a bear license. Move the special archery season back to start may 1st when there are actually bears available to hunt.

**Long, Scott**

**Rock Springs, WY**

11/25/2019  
12:26:00 PM

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**7** Hunters who harvest a black bear in the spring season should be allowed to get a second black bear tag for the fall season. The quotas in many of the more remote and rugged areas in Western Wyoming are rarely met. I would be in favor of having two separate tags for hunters at the current price, one for the spring season and one for the fall season. This would bring in more revenue for the department and allow avid bear hunters to have more time hunting bears with the two different tags. Also, the spring archery season should be moved to the end of June.

**CIMBUREK,  
CHASE**

**Rock Springs, WY**

12/2/2019  
10:10:00 AM

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**8** Please increase the female mortality to 10 black bears for the fall hunt in area 1 and 2. Please allow the use of chemical attractants for the baiting of black bears.

**Hirsch, Michael**

**Powell, WY**

12/5/2019 5:45:00  
PM

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# Wyoming Game and Fish Department Comment Form



The Department welcomes comment regarding proposed changes to regulations. Questions about these proposed regulation changes should be directed to Department Regional Offices for clarification. No individual Department response will be generated from questions submitted through this comment form. Written comments shall be accepted at all public meetings, by standard mail at the address below, or on the WGFD website at <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/Get-Involved/Public-Meetings>. Comments will not be accepted via email, fax or telephone. All written comments must be received at the below address no later than 5:00 p.m., December 16, 2019.

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604

Please use a separate form for each of the categories below:

- Black Bear Hunting Seasons
- Regulation Governing Firearms Cartridges and Archery Equipment
- Collection of Shed Antlers and Horns



Comments:

Looks all good.  
you guys & gals doing a great job  
thanks for all that hard  
work that you all do.

lander

Jeff Smith  
Printed Name  
Date  
(Please use reverse for additional comments.)  
12-12-19  
11/2019

## CHAPTER 3

### BLACK BEAR HUNTING SEASONS

**Section 1. Authority.** This regulation is promulgated by authority of Wyoming Statutes § 23-1-302 and § 23-2-104.

**Section 2. Hunting Seasons Established.** There shall be open seasons for the hunting of black bear as set forth in this chapter and in accordance with Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation.

**Section 3. Definitions.** In addition to the definitions set forth in Title 23 of the Wyoming Statutes and Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation, the Commission also adopts the following definitions for the purpose of this chapter:

(a) “Baiting” means placing or utilizing a processed bait or an unprocessed bait as a lure or attractant for the purpose of taking black bear.

(b) “Chemical attractant” means any chemical(s) used as a lure or mask rather than for consumption.

(c) “Dependent young” means any black bear cub of the year or yearling black bear traveling with an adult female black bear.

(d) “GPS coordinates” means a specified geographic location defined by any universal coordinate system that will direct Department personnel to within fifty (50) yards of a registered bait site.

(e) “Immediately” means following the observation of a grizzly bear using a bait, the person registering the bait, the person placing the bait or the person hunting over the bait shall report, without delay, said use to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Immediately also means any person taking a grizzly bear shall report, without delay, to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department in accordance with Section 12 of this regulation.

(f) “Mortality” means any legal or illegal human caused female black bear death, excluding female black bears taken by the Department, female black bears taken under the authority of W.S. § 23-3-115(a) and known natural and accidental female black bear deaths.

(g) “Processed bait” means a nontoxic biodegradable substance.

(h) “Prohibited bait” means big game animals, small game animals, game birds, game fish, protected animals, protected birds or parts thereof placed for the purpose of attracting a bear.

(i) “Unprocessed bait” means livestock or livestock parts that have not been processed for human consumption, or wildlife or wildlife parts that are not otherwise prohibited in Section 3(h).

(j) “Water” means permanent rivers, streams, lakes or ponds.

#### **Section 4. Hunting Regulations.**

(a) Hunters may take any black bear except dependent young and female black bears with dependent young at side.

(b) Registering Kills. A hunter taking a black bear shall retain the pelt and skull from each black bear taken for registration purposes. Even if the skull is damaged, it shall accompany the pelt. Visible external evidence of sex shall remain naturally attached to the pelt. Within seventy-two (72) hours, after taking a black bear, the licensee shall present the pelt and skull to a district game warden, district wildlife biologist or Department personnel at a Department Regional Office during business hours for registration. The pelt and skull shall be presented in an unfrozen condition in order to allow collection of two (2) premolar teeth to be utilized to determine the age of the black bear and to allow examination of the pelt to determine the sex and possible lactation status of the black bear. A hunter taking a black bear in designated wilderness areas in hunt areas 13, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 or 28 shall report their harvest by telephone or in person within seventy-two (72) hours and shall present the pelt and skull to a district game warden, district wildlife biologist or Department personnel at a Department Regional Office during business hours for registration within ten (10) days from the date of harvest or within three (3) days after returning from a designated wilderness area. The hunter making the telephone report shall contact a district game warden, district wildlife biologist or Department personnel at a Department Regional Office and provide their name, license number, date of kill, sex of bear, hunt area and the general location of the kill site including drainage. At the time of registration, the hunter shall furnish the Department their license number, date of kill and the location of the site of kill to include hunt area, section, township and range or GPS coordinates.

(c) Any person who makes a false statement on the registration form is in violation of this regulation.

**Section 5. Registration, Number, Placement, Removal and Identification of Baits on Federal or State Lands.** The provisions in this section shall only apply to the registration, number, placement, removal and identification of baits on federal lands or state lands, including lands owned or administered by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission.

(a) Registration of bait site(s).

(i) A person who registers a bait site(s) for the first time shall only register in person or by a representative of the applicant at any Department Regional Office beginning April 1 at 8:00 a.m. for the current calendar year. If April 1 occurs on a day when Department Regional Offices are closed, applications to register a bait site shall be accepted beginning at 8:00 a.m. on the next business day. Applications for bait site registration shall be accepted only if

a bait site location is available. Following the preference period, first time registration of a bait site shall be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

(ii) A person may register the same bait site(s) they registered in the previous calendar year by telephone, mail, facsimile or on the Department website. Bait site registration renewal may be applied for in person or by a representative of the applicant.

(A) Persons who had a bait site(s) registered the previous calendar year may register the same bait site(s) March 1 through March 20. Applications to register a bait site(s) shall not be accepted by the Department prior to 8:00 a.m. March 1, or 8:00 a.m. of the first business day following March 1 if March 1 occurs on a day when Department Regional Offices are closed. If March 20 occurs on a day when Department Regional Offices are closed, applications to register a bait site shall be accepted up to 5:00 p.m. on the next business day.

(B) For the purpose of receiving preference to register a bait site, a person shall have placed a bait at a properly registered bait site and provided GPS coordinates for that bait site to the Department during the previous calendar year in accordance with Commission regulations. A person who fails to meet this requirement shall lose all preference to register that bait site and shall be considered as a first time registrant for that bait site during the following calendar year.

(C) Bait sites that are not renewed during the preference period shall be available for registration beginning April 1.

(iii) A person shall not change a registered bait site location during the calendar year for which the bait site was registered by the Department.

(iv) A registered bait site shall not be transferred to another person in the same calendar year in which the bait site was registered.

(v) Bait site(s) registration shall be valid for the calendar year in which the site(s) was registered.

(vi) Prior to placement of a bait(s), the bait site(s) registration shall be approved by the Department.

(A) To register a bait site(s), an applicant or representative of an applicant registering the bait site(s) shall provide all information required on the bait site registration form. Any person who makes a false statement on the bait site registration form shall be in violation of this regulation.

(B) The Department shall review the information provided on the bait site(s) registration form. If the Department approves the bait site registration, the applicant shall be furnished a copy indicating the site has been approved. The registration form shall include the name, address, telephone number and valid Wyoming black bear hunting license number of the person desiring to register the bait; and, the name of the person registering the bait site(s) if

the registration is by a representative other than a licensed outfitter. If a licensed outfitter desires to utilize the bait site(s) for outfitting black bear hunters, the outfitter's license number shall be furnished in lieu of the valid Wyoming black bear hunting license number. The registration form shall include the legal description of the bait site location to include the range, township, section and GPS coordinates. GPS coordinates of a registered bait site shall be provided on the bait site registration form at the time of application, or within seven (7) days after placing any bait at a registered bait site. A registration form which has not been completed with all required information shall not be considered a valid registration and shall be denied by the Department.

(b) Number of black bear baits and bait density. No hunter shall register or place more than two (2) baits during the calendar year. A person licensed as an outfitter in Wyoming for the current calendar year shall register or place no more than twenty (20) baits for their outfitting business use during the calendar year. Bait density shall be no more than one (1) bait per section as illustrated on U.S. Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management maps.

(c) Placement and removal of baits. No person shall place a bait or hunt over a bait that is not enclosed in a rigid container(s) of wood, metal or plastic not to exceed a combined total of eight (8) cubic feet, the approximate size of a fifty-five (55) gallon drum. Holes in containers shall be smooth and not constructed to function as a trap. No person shall place a bait or hunt over a bait that has not been registered with the Department in accordance with this regulation. No person shall place a bait or hunt over a bait that is less than two hundred (200) yards from water; less than two hundred (200) yards from roads or pack trails; nor less than one-half (1/2) mile from a developed campground, picnic ground or building. Upon request, persons placing bait(s) shall be required to escort the Regional Wildlife Supervisor or his designee to the bait site(s). No person shall place a bait within a hunt area more than seven (7) days prior to the opening day of the black bear special archery or general season as listed in Section 10 of this regulation. Registered baits placed in the spring season, including all containers and bait materials, shall be removed within seven (7) days after the close of the spring season as listed in Section 10 of this regulation. Registered baits placed in the fall season, including all containers and bait materials, shall be removed within seven (7) days after the close of the fall season as listed in Section 10 of this regulation. Burial of the bait is prohibited and shall not constitute removal of the bait.

(d) Identification of bait site(s). The name and address or the current year's black bear license number or the sportsperson identification number of the person who registered the bait, or the name and address or current year's outfitter's license number of the licensed outfitter registering the bait site(s) shall be legible and permanently affixed to or painted on the outside of the container(s) enclosing the bait.

#### **Section 6. Areas Open and Areas Closed to Black Bear Baiting; Restrictions on Use of Processed and Unprocessed Baits.**

(a) All black bear hunt areas shall be open to the baiting of black bear except those hunt areas and those portions of hunt areas listed in this section.

(i) Black Bear Hunt Areas 22, 25, 26, 32 and that portion of Black Bear Hunt Area 23 on U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and State lands, including lands administered by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, shall be closed to baiting.

(ii) That portion of Black Bear Hunt Area 27 north and west of the Wood River on U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and State lands including lands administered by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, shall be closed to baiting.

(iii) That portion of Black Bear Hunt Area 28 on the Shoshone National Forest north of Pelham Lake, Pelham Lake Creek and Lava Mountain shall be closed to baiting.

(iv) Those portions of Black Bear Hunt Areas 7 and 35 on the Pole Mountain Unit of the Medicine Bow National Forest shall be closed to baiting.

(v) All designated Wilderness Areas in National Forests shall be closed to baiting. Hunters should check maps of designated Wilderness Areas at the Department Headquarters or Regional Offices.

(vi) The primary conservation area for grizzly bears shall be closed to baiting and no bait registrations shall be issued within that area. Hunters may view a map of the primary conservation area for grizzly bears on the Department website.

(vii) Areas administered by the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management or the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission in which human access has been restricted to protect wintering wildlife shall be closed to baiting. Such areas, if not already closed by this section, shall be closed to black bear baiting during the time period for which the areas have been closed to human access.

(b) Only unprocessed baits shall be utilized for the baiting of black bears in Black Bear Hunt Area 18 and those portions of Hunt Areas 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 27, 28 and 29 in which bear baiting is not excluded by Section 6(a).

(c) Processed or unprocessed baits shall be utilized for the baiting of black bears in Black Bear Hunt Areas 1-17, 30, 31, 33, 35.

(d) Chemical attractants are not considered bait and may be used in all black bear hunt areas of the state.

**Section 7. Reporting Use of Bait by a Grizzly Bear.** Any person registering a bait site, placing a bait, hunting at a bait site or witnessing the use of a bait site by a grizzly bear shall immediately report use of the bait by a grizzly bear to the Department (1-877-WGFD-TIP). Regardless of the land status whether federal, state or private, no person shall hunt black bear over a bait site utilized by a grizzly bear for the remainder of the current black bear hunting season. The bait site(s) shall be closed for the remainder of the current black bear hunting season and the bait may be removed as soon as possible by personnel of the Department.

**Section 8. Prohibited Bait.** No person shall place any prohibited bait for the purpose of baiting black bears. Baiting for black bear with a substance other than those defined as a bait in Section 3 or in a manner other than as specified in Section 5 shall be prohibited on federal or state lands, including lands administered by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission.

**Section 9. Area Mortality Limits.** The black bear hunting season shall close in each black bear hunt area or group of hunt areas when the female mortality limit specified for the respective hunt area or group of hunt areas has been reached. If the female mortality limit is not reached, the season shall close upon the date specified in Section 10. If the female mortality limits for the spring hunting season are exceeded, the additional mortalities shall be subtracted from the fall mortality limits. Conversely, if female mortality limits in the spring have not been reached, the portion of the limit remaining shall be added to the fall mortality limit. It is the hunter's responsibility to confirm that the hunt area the person intends to hunt is open. The status of hunt area closures shall be available twenty-four (24) hours a day by calling toll free 1-800-264-1280.

**Section 10. Hunt Areas, General and Special Archery Season Dates and Limitations.**

Hunt Area(s)	Season Dates		Annual Female Mortality Limit
	Special Archery	General	
1, 2	May 1 - 14	May 15 - June 15 Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	8 Spring 8 Fall
3, 4	May 1 - 14	May 15 - June 15 Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	6 Spring 4 Fall
5, 6		May 1 - June 15 Aug. 15 - Nov. 15	2 Spring 2 Fall
7		Apr. 15 - May 31 Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	5 Spring 5 Fall
8	Sep. 15 - 30	Apr. 15 - June 7 Oct. 1 - Oct. 31	9 Spring 8 Fall
9	Apr. 15 - 30 Sep. 1 - 30	May 1 - June 15 Oct. 1 - 31	10 Spring 9 Fall
10	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 1 - Sep. 30	May 1 - June 15 Oct. 1 - 31	2 Spring 2 Fall
11	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 15 - 31	May 1 - June 15 Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	5 Spring 5 Fall
12	Apr. 15 - 30 Sep. 1 - 30	May 1 - June 15 Oct. 1 - 31	1 Spring 1 Fall

Hunt Area(s)	Season Dates		Annual Female Mortality Limit
	Special Archery	General	
13	Apr. 15 - 30	May 1 - June 15  Aug. 1 - 31, valid only in that portion of Area 13 within the Popo Agie Wilderness  Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	5 Spring  5 Fall
14, 15, 16, 17, 30	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 15 - 31	May 1 - June 15 Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	24 Spring 18 Fall
18, 20, 21, 22, 24, 29	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 15 - 31	May 1 - June 15 Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	13 Spring 20 Fall
19	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 15 - 31	May 1 - June 15 Sep. 1 - Nov. 15	10 Spring 8 Fall
23	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 1 - 14	May 1 - June 15 Aug. 15 - Oct. 31	8 Spring*
25, 26, 27	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 15 - 31	May 1 - June 15 Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	12 Fall*
28	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 1 - 14	May 1 - June 15 Aug. 15 - Oct. 31	4 Spring 4 Fall
31	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 1 - 14	May 1 - June 15 Aug. 15 - Oct. 31	2 Spring 2 Fall
32	Apr. 15 - 30	May 1 - June 15 Aug. 1 - Nov. 15	
33		Apr. 15 - May 31 Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	3 Spring 2 Fall
35		Apr. 15 - June 15 Aug. 1 - Oct. 31	

\*Annual Female Mortality Limit applies to areas 23, 25, 26 and 27 in combination.

### **Section 11. Special Archery Seasons.**

There shall be special archery seasons for the hunting of black bear by the use of legal archery equipment in hunt areas as set forth in Section 10 of this Chapter.

**Section 12. Reporting Grizzly Bear Mortalities.** Any taking of a grizzly bear shall be reported immediately to the Department (1-877-WGFD-TIP).

### **Section 13. Hunt Area Descriptions.** Hunt Area Number, Name and Description.

**Area 1. Northwest Bighorn.** Beginning where the Bighorn River crosses the Wyoming-Montana state line; east along said line to the Bighorn Mountain divide; southeasterly

along said divide to U.S. Highway 14 at Granite Pass; southerly then westerly along said highway to the Bighorn River; northerly along said river to the Wyoming-Montana state line.

**Area 2. Burgess Junction.** Beginning where Interstate Highway 90 crosses the Wyoming-Montana state line; southeasterly along said highway to U.S. Highway 14 at the town of Ranchester; southwestly along said highway to the Big Horn Mountain Divide at Granite Pass; northwestly along said divide to the Wyoming-Montana state line; easterly along said line to Interstate Highway 90.

**Area 3. Paint Rock.** Beginning at the town of Greybull; easterly and northerly along U.S. Highway 14 to the Bighorn Mountain Divide; southerly along said divide to Powder River Pass and U.S. Highway 16; westerly along said highway to the Canyon Creek Road (U.S.F.S. Road 25); southerly along said road to the Gold Mine Road (U.S.F.S. Road 452); southerly along said road to the Big Horn Mountain Divide Road/Hazelton Road (Johnson County Road 3); southerly along said road to the Rome Hill Road (Johnson County Road 3A-Washakie County Road 56); westerly along said road to U.S. Highway 16; westerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 20; westerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 433; northerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 16-20; northerly along said highway to the town of Greybull.

**Area 4. Story.** Beginning at Interstate Highway 90 at the town of Ranchester; southeasterly along said highway to Interstate Highway 25; southerly along said highway to Crazy Woman Creek; westerly up said creek to the Middle Fork Crazy Woman Creek; westerly up said creek to Doyle Creek; southwestly up said creek to Taylor Creek; westerly up said creek to the Bighorn National Forest boundary; westerly along the southern boundary of the Bighorn National Forest to the Hazelton Road (Johnson County Road 3); southwestly along said road to the Gold Mine Road (becomes U.S.F.S. Road 452); northerly along said road to the Canyon Creek Road (U.S.F.S. Road 25); northerly along said road to U.S. Highway 16; easterly along said highway to the Bighorn Mountain Divide at Powder River Pass; northwestly along said divide to U.S. Highway 14 at Granite Pass; northeasterly along said highway to Interstate Highway 90 at the town of Ranchester.

**Area 5. Upper Nowood.** Beginning at the town of Ten Sleep; easterly along U.S. Highway 16 to the Rome Hill Road (Washakie County Road 56-Johnson County Road 3A); easterly along said road to the Big Horn Mountain Divide Road/Hazelton Road (Johnson County Road 3-Washakie County Road 81-Natrona County Road 109); southerly along said road to the Buffalo Creek Road (Natrona County Road 105); southwestly along said road to the Arminto Road (Natrona County Road 104); southerly along said road to Waltman and U.S. Highway 20-26; westerly along said highway to the town of Shoshoni; northerly along U.S. Highway 20 to the eastern boundary of the Wind River Reservation; northerly, then westerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 20; northerly along said highway to the town of Worland and U.S. Highway 16; easterly along said highway to the town of Ten Sleep.

**Area 6. Mayoworth.** Beginning where Interstate Highway 25 crosses Crazy Woman Creek; southerly along said highway to the Midwest interchange and the Smoky Gap Road (Natrona County Road 115); westerly along said road to the Dead Horse Road (Natrona County Road 114); southwestly along said road to the Wild Horse Trail Road (Natrona County Road

113); westerly along said road to the 33 Mile Road (Natrona County Road 110); northwesterly along said road to the Buffalo Creek Road (Natrona County Road 105); southwesterly along said road to the Bighorn Mountain Divide Road/Hazelton Road (Natrona County Road 109-Washakie County Road 81-Johnson County Road 3); northerly along said road to the Bighorn National Forest boundary; easterly along the southern boundary of the Bighorn National Forest to Taylor Creek; easterly down said creek to Doyle Creek; northeasterly down said creek to the Middle Fork Crazy Woman Creek; easterly down said creek to Crazy Woman Creek; easterly down said creek to Interstate Highway 25.

**Area 7. Laramie Peak.** Beginning where Interstate Highway 25 crosses the North Platte River at the city of Douglas; southerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 34; westerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 30; northerly and westerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 487; northerly and westerly along said highway to the Lone Tree Road (Bureau of Land Management Road 3141); northerly along said road to the Spring Creek Road; easterly along said road to the Bates Creek Road (Natrona County Road 402); northeasterly along said road to the Squaw Springs Trail Road; northeasterly along said road to U.S.F.S. Road 660; southeasterly along said road to Curry Creek; northwesterly down said creek to Deer Creek; northeasterly down said creek to the North Platte River; easterly down said river to Interstate Highway 25 at the city of Douglas.

**Area 8. Snowy Range.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 287 crosses the Wyoming-Colorado state line; west along said line to Wyoming Highway 230 west of the North Platte River; northerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 130; northerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 30; easterly and southerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 287; southerly along said highway to the Wyoming-Colorado state line.

**Area 9. Sierra Madre.** Beginning where Wyoming Highway 789 crosses the Wyoming-Colorado state line; northerly along said highway to Interstate Highway 80; easterly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 130; southerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 230; southeasterly along said highway to the Wyoming-Colorado state line; westerly along said line to Wyoming Highway 789.

**Area 10. Uinta.** Beginning where Interstate Highway 80 crosses the Wyoming-Utah state line; easterly along said highway to the Green River; southerly down said river to the Flaming Gorge Reservoir; southerly along said reservoir to the Wyoming-Utah state line; westerly then northerly along said line to Interstate Highway 80.

**Area 11. Smith's Fork.** Beginning where Wyoming Highway 89 crosses the Wyoming-Utah state line west of Sage Junction; northerly along said line to the Wyoming-Idaho state line; northerly along said line to the divide between the Bear River and Salt River; easterly along said divide to the divide between the Salt River and Smith's Fork River; northeasterly along said divide to the divide between the Smith's Fork River and Greys River; southeasterly along said divide to LaBarge Creek; southeasterly down said creek to the Green River; southeasterly down said river to the CCC Bridge and the Lincoln-Sweetwater Road (Lincoln County Road 311); westerly along said road to Wyoming Highway 372; westerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 189; westerly then southerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 30;

westerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 89 at Sage Junction; westerly along said highway to the Wyoming-Utah state line.

**Area 12. Pine Mountain.** Beginning where Interstate Highway 80 crosses the Green River; easterly along said highway to the town of Rock Springs and Wyoming Highway 430; southeasterly along said highway to the Wyoming-Colorado state line; westerly along said line to the Wyoming-Utah state line; westerly along said line to the Flaming Gorge Reservoir; northerly along said reservoir to the Green River; northerly along said river to Interstate Highway 80.

**Area 13. Lander.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 287 crosses the south boundary of the Wind River Reservation; southerly and easterly along said highway to the Sweetwater River; southwesterly and then northerly up said river to the Sweetwater Gap and the headwaters of the Sweetwater River; westerly from Sweetwater Gap to Mt. Nystrom and the continental divide; northwesterly along said divide to the south boundary of the Wind River Reservation; easterly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 287.

**Area 14. South Piney.** Beginning where LaBarge Creek enters the Green River; westerly up said creek to the divide between the Green River and Greys River; northerly along said divide to the South Fork of South Cottonwood Creek; easterly down said creek to South Cottonwood Creek; easterly down said creek to Cottonwood Creek; easterly down said creek to the Green River; southerly down said river to LaBarge Creek.

**Area 15. Piney-Horse Creek.** Beginning where the East Green River Road (Sublette County Road 23-110) joins Wyoming Highway 351; westerly along said highway to the Green River; northerly up said river to Cottonwood Creek; westerly up said creek to South Cottonwood Creek; westerly up said creek to the South Fork of South Cottonwood Creek; westerly up said creek to the divide between the Green River and Greys River; northerly along said divide to the divide between the Green River and the Hoback River (Hoback Rim); easterly along said divide to U.S. Highway 191; southerly along said highway to the East Green River Road (Sublette County Road 23-110) at Cora Junction; southerly along said road to Wyoming Highway 351.

**Area 16. Greys River.** All of the drainages of Greys River, Little Greys River and the drainages south of the Snake River from Alpine east to and including Bailey Creek.

**Area 17. Hoback.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 191 crosses the divide between the Green River and the Hoback River (Hoback Rim); westerly along said divide to the divide between the Greys River and the Hoback River; northerly along said divide to the divide between the Greys River and Willow Creek; northerly along said divide to the divide between Bailey Creek and Willow Creek (Greyback Ridge); northerly along said divide to the divide between Bailey Creek and the Snake River; westerly along said divide to the Snake River; northerly up said river to the Hoback River; southeasterly up said river to Highway 191 at Bondurant; southerly and easterly along said highway to the divide between the Green River and the Hoback River (Hoback Rim).

**Area 18. Fall Creek.** Beginning where Wyoming Highway 22 crosses the Snake River; southerly and westerly down said river to the Wyoming-Idaho state line; northerly along said line to Wyoming Highway 22; easterly along said highway to the Snake River.

**Area 19. Green River.** Beginning at the town of Farson; northerly along U.S. Highway 191 to the Sublette County Line (west of Big Sandy Reservoir); westerly along the Sublette County Line to the Green River (north of the town of LaBarge); northerly up said river to Wyoming Highway 351; easterly along said highway to the East Green River Road (Sublette County Road 23-110); northerly along said road to U.S. Highway 191; northwesterly along said highway to the divide between the Green River and the Hoback River (Hoback Rim); northerly along said divide to the divide between the Green River and the Gros Ventre River at Hodges Peak; northeasterly along said divide to the Darwin Ranch road (U.S.F.S. Road 620); easterly along said road to the Union Pass Road (U.S.F.S. Road 600); northeasterly along said road to the Continental Divide; southerly along said divide to Mt. Nystrom; easterly from Mt. Nystrom to Sweetwater Gap and the headwaters of the Sweetwater River; southerly along said river to U.S. Highway 28; southwestly along said highway to the town of Farson.

**Area 20. Gros Ventre.** Beginning at the southeast corner boundary of the National Elk Refuge near the town of Jackson; northerly along the refuge boundary to the Gros Ventre River; easterly up said river to Kinky Creek; easterly up said creek to the Darwin Ranch Road (U.S.F.S. Road 620); easterly along said road to the divide between the Green River and the Gros Ventre River; southwestly along said divide to the divide between the Green River and the Hoback River at Hodges Peak; southerly along said divide to Highway 191 at Hoback Rim; northerly and westerly along said highway to the Hoback River at Bondurant; westerly down said river to the Snake River; northerly along said river to Wyoming Highway 22; easterly along said highway to Highway 26; northerly along said highway to the National Elk Refuge boundary; easterly along said boundary to the southeast corner of the National Elk Refuge.

**Area 21. Conant Basin.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 26-287 intersects the south boundary of John D. Rockefeller Memorial Parkway; westerly along said boundary to the Targhee National Forest boundary; southerly along said boundary to the head of the north fork of Teton Creek; westerly down said creek to Teton Creek; westerly down said creek to the Wyoming-Idaho state line; northerly along said line to the Yellowstone National Park boundary; easterly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 26-287; southerly along said highway to the south boundary of John D. Rockefeller Memorial Parkway.

**Area 22. Pacific Creek.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 26-287 intersects the Grand Teton National Park boundary; northwesterly along said boundary to the John D. Rockefeller Memorial Parkway boundary; westerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 26-287; northerly along said highway to the Yellowstone National Park boundary; easterly along said boundary to the Continental Divide; southeasterly along said divide to U.S. Highway 26-287; westerly along said highway to the Grand Teton National Park boundary.

**Area 23. Ramshorn.** All of the drainage of the Wind River that lies north of U.S. Highway 287 and west of the Wind River Reservation and those areas of the Spence and Moriarity Wildlife Management Area east of the East Fork of the Wind River.

**Area 24. Darby Creek.** Beginning at the town of Jackson; westerly along Wyoming Highway 22 to the Wyoming-Idaho state line; northerly along said line to Teton Creek; easterly along said creek to the north fork of Teton Creek; northeasterly along said creek to the Grand Teton National Park boundary; southerly and easterly along said boundary to the Snake River; northerly and southerly along said park boundary to U.S. Highway 189; southerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 22.

**Area 25. North Absaroka.** Beginning where the east boundary of Yellowstone National Park crosses the Wyoming-Montana state line; easterly along said line to the Shoshone National Forest boundary; southerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 14-16-20; westerly along said highway to the east boundary of Yellowstone National Park; northerly along said boundary to the Wyoming-Montana state line.

**Area 26. South Absaroka.** Beginning where the east boundary of Yellowstone National Park crosses U.S. Highway 14-16-20; easterly along said highway to the Shoshone National Forest boundary; southerly along said boundary to the Greybull River; westerly then southerly up said river to the divide between the Greybull River and the Wind River; westerly along said divide to the divide between the South Fork of the Shoshone River and the Wind River; westerly along said divide to the Continental Divide; northwesterly along said divide to the south boundary of Yellowstone National Park; easterly then northerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 14-16-20.

**Area 27. Grass Creek.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 120 crosses the Greybull River; southeasterly along said highway to U. S. Highway 20; southerly along said highway to the northern boundary of the Wind River Reservation; westerly along said boundary to the divide between the Wood River and the Wind River; northwesterly along said divide to the divide between the Greybull River and the Wind River; northwesterly along said divide to the Greybull River; northerly then easterly down said river to U.S. Highway 120; and all non-Indian owned fee title lands in that portion of Hot Springs County within the exterior boundaries of the Wind River Reservation.

**Area 28. Wind River.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 287 crosses the west boundary of the Wind River Reservation; southerly along said boundary to the Continental Divide; northwesterly along said divide to U.S. Highway 287 at Togwotee Pass; southeasterly along said highway to the Wind River Reservation boundary.

**Area 29. Spread Creek.** Beginning where the Grand Teton National Park boundary crosses the Gros Ventre River; northerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 26-287; easterly along said highway to Togwotee Pass and the Continental Divide; southerly along said divide to the Union Pass Road (U.S.F.S. Road 600); southwestly along said road to the Darwin Ranch Road (U.S.F.S. Road 620); westerly along said road to Kinky Creek; westerly down said creek to the Gros Ventre River; westerly down said river to the Grand Teton National Park boundary.

**Area 30. Star Valley.** All of the drainage of the Salt River east of the Wyoming-Idaho state line.

**Area 31. Crowheart Butte.** All non-Indian owned fee title lands in that portion of Fremont County within the exterior boundaries of the Wind River Reservation, and all lands within the Bureau of Reclamation's Riverton and Boysen Unit boundaries, and those lands within Boysen State Park south of Cottonwood Creek, west of Boysen Reservoir, and south of U.S. Highway 20-26; excluding those areas of the Spence and Moriarity Wildlife Management Area that lie east of the East Fork of the Wind River.

**Area 32. Cody.** Beginning where the east boundary of the Shoshone National Forest boundary meets the Wyoming-Montana state line; easterly along said line to the Bighorn River; southerly along said river to U.S. Highway 14; easterly along said highway to U.S. Highway 16-20 in the town of Greybull; southerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 433; southerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 20; southerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 120; northwesterly along said highway to the Greybull River; southwestly up said river to the Shoshone National Forest Boundary; northerly along said boundary to the Wyoming-Montana state line.

**Area 33. Casper Mountain.** Beginning at the confluence of the North Platte River and Deer Creek at the town of Glenrock; southerly up said creek to the confluence of Curry Creek and Deer Creek; southeasterly up Curry Creek to U.S.F.S. Road 660; northwesterly along said road to the Squaw Springs Trail Road; southwestly along said road to the Bates Creek Road (Natrona County Road 402); southwestly along said road to the Spring Creek Road; westerly along said road to the Lone Tree Road (Bureau of Land Management Road 3141); southerly along said road to Wyoming Highway 487; northerly and westerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 220; northerly and easterly along said highway to the Casper city limits; northerly along said city limits to the North Platte River; easterly along said river to Deer Creek.

**Area 35.** The entire State of Wyoming excluding lands included in Areas 1-33, Grand Teton National Park and the National Elk Refuge.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

David Rael, President

Dated: January 15, 2020

## CHAPTER 3

### BLACK BEAR HUNTING SEASONS

**Section 1. Authority.** This regulation is promulgated by authority of Wyoming Statutes § 23-1-302 and § 23-2-104.

**Section 2. Hunting Seasons Established.** There shall be open seasons for the hunting of black bear as set forth in this chapter and in accordance with Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulations.

**Section 3. Definitions.** In addition to the Definitions definitions shall be as set forth in Title 23, of the Wyoming Statutes, and Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation, Commission regulations, and the Commission also adopts the following definitions for the purpose of this chapter:

(a) “Baiting” means placing or utilizing a processed bait or an unprocessed bait as a lure or attractant for the purpose of taking black bear.

(b) “Chemical attractant” means any chemical(s) used as a lure or mask rather than for consumption.

(c) “Dependent young” means any black bear cub of the year or yearling black bear traveling with an adult female black bear.

(d) “GPS coordinates” means a specified geographic location defined by any universal coordinate system that will direct Department personnel to within fifty (50) yards of a registered bait site.

(e) “Immediately” means following the observation of a grizzly bear using a bait, the person registering the bait, the person placing the bait or the person hunting over the bait shall report, without delay, said use to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Immediately also means any person taking a grizzly bear shall report, without delay, to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department in accordance with Section 12 of this regulation.

(f) “Mortality” means any legal or illegal human caused female black bear death, excluding female black bears taken by the Department, female black bears taken under the authority of W.S. § 23-3-115(a) and known natural and accidental female black bear deaths.

(g) “Processed bait” means a nontoxic biodegradable substance.

(h) “Prohibited bait” means big game animals, small game animals, game birds, game fish, protected animals, protected birds or parts thereof placed for the purpose of attracting a bear.

(j) “Unprocessed bait” means livestock or livestock parts that have not been processed for human consumption, or wildlife or wildlife parts that are not otherwise prohibited in Section 3(h).

(k) “Water” means permanent rivers, streams, lakes or ponds.

#### **Section 4. Hunting Regulations.**

(a) Hunters may take any black bear except dependent young and female black bears with dependent young at side.

(b) Registering Kills. A hunter taking a black bear shall retain the pelt and skull from each black bear taken for registration purposes. Even if the skull is damaged, it shall accompany the pelt. Visible external evidence of sex shall remain naturally attached to the pelt. Within ~~three (3) days, (seventy-two (72) hours),~~ after taking a black bear, the licensee shall present the pelt and skull to a district game warden, district wildlife biologist or Department personnel at a Department Regional Office during business hours for registration. The pelt and skull shall be presented in an unfrozen condition in order to allow collection of two (2) premolar teeth to be utilized to determine the age of the black bear and to allow examination of the pelt to determine the sex and possible lactation status of the black bear. A hunter taking a black bear in designated wilderness areas in hunt areas 13, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 or 28 shall report their harvest by telephone or in person within ~~three (3) days, (seventy-two (72) hours)~~ and shall present the pelt and skull to a district game warden, district wildlife biologist or Department personnel at a Department Regional Office during business hours for registration within ten (10) days from the date of harvest or within three (3) days after returning from a designated wilderness area. The hunter making the telephone report shall contact a district game warden, district wildlife biologist or Department personnel at a Department Regional Office and provide their name, license number, date of kill, sex of bear, hunt area and the general location of the kill site including ~~(drainage)~~. At the time of registration, the hunter shall furnish the Department their license number, date of kill and the location of the site of kill to include hunt area, section, township and range or GPS coordinates.

~~(i)(c)~~ Any person who makes a false statement on the registration form ~~shall be is in~~ violation of this regulation ~~and such violation shall be punishable as provided by Title 23, W.S. for violation of Commission regulations.~~

**Section 5. Registration, Number, Placement, Removal and Identification of Baits on Federal or State Lands.** The provisions in this section shall only apply to the registration, number, placement, removal and identification of baits on federal lands or state lands, including lands owned or administered by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission.

(a) Registration of bait site(s).

(i) A person who registers a bait site(s) for the first time shall only register in person or by a representative of the applicant at any Department Regional Office beginning April 1 at 8:00 a.m. for the current calendar year. If April 1 occurs on a day when Department

Regional Offices are closed, applications to register a bait site shall be accepted beginning at 8:00 a.m. on the next business day. Applications for bait site registration shall be accepted only if a bait site location is available. Following the preference period, first time registration of a bait site shall be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

(ii) A person may register the same bait site(s) ~~he~~ they registered in the previous calendar year by telephone, mail, facsimile or on the Department website. Bait site registration renewal may be applied for in person or by a representative of the applicant.

(A) Persons who had a bait site(s) registered the previous calendar year ~~shall may receive preference during March 1 through March 20 to register the same bait site(s) March 1 through March 20.~~ Applications to register a bait site(s) shall not be accepted by the Department prior to 8:00 a.m. March 1, or 8:00 a.m. of the first business day following March 1 if March 1 occurs on a day when Department Regional Offices are closed. If March 20 occurs on a day when Department Regional Offices are closed, applications to register a bait site shall be accepted up to 5:00 p.m. on the next business day.

~~(AB) For the purpose of receiving preference to register a bait site, any person who fails to either place a bait at a properly registered bait site or provide GPS coordinates for that bait site during the previous calendar year shall lose all preference to register that bait site and shall be considered as a first time registrant for that site the following calendar year.~~ For the purpose of receiving preference to register a bait site, a person shall have placed a bait at a properly registered bait site and provided GPS coordinates for that bait site to the Department during the previous calendar year in accordance with Commission regulations. A person who fails to meet this requirement shall lose all preference to register that bait site and shall be considered as a first time registrant for that bait site during the following calendar year.

(C) Bait sites that are not renewed during the preference period shall be available for registration beginning April 1.

(iii) A person shall not change a registered bait site location during the calendar year for which the bait site was registered by the Department.

(iv) A registered bait site shall not be transferred to another person in the same calendar year in which the bait site was registered.

(v) Bait site(s) registration shall be valid for the calendar year in which the site(s) was registered.

(vi) Prior to placement of a bait(s), the bait site(s) registration shall be approved by the Department.

(A) To register a bait site(s), an applicant or representative of an applicant registering the bait site(s) shall provide all information required on the bait site registration form. Any person who makes a false statement on the bait site registration form

shall be in violation of this regulation and such violation shall be punishable as provided by Title 23, Wyoming Statutes for violation of Commission regulations.

(B) The Department shall review the information provided on the bait site(s) registration form. If the Department approves the bait site registration, the applicant shall be furnished a copy indicating the site has been approved. The registration form shall include the name, address, telephone number and valid Wyoming black bear hunting license number of the person desiring to register the bait; and, the name of the person registering the bait site(s) if the registration is by a representative other than a licensed outfitter. If a licensed outfitter desires to utilize the bait site(s) for outfitting black bear hunters, the outfitter's license number shall be furnished in lieu of the valid Wyoming black bear hunting license number. The registration form shall include the legal description of the bait site location to include the range, township, section and GPS coordinates. GPS coordinates of a registered bait site shall be provided on the bait site registration form at the time of application, or within seven (7) days after placing any bait at a registered bait site. A registration form which has not been completed with all required information shall not be considered a valid registration and shall be denied by the Department.

(b) Number of black bear baits and bait density. No hunter shall register or place more than two (2) baits during the calendar year. A person licensed as an outfitter in Wyoming for the current calendar year shall register or place no more than twenty (20) baits for their outfitting business use during the calendar year. Bait density shall be no more than one (1) bait per section as illustrated on U.S. Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management maps.

(c) Placement and removal of baits. No person shall place a bait or hunt over a bait that is not enclosed in a rigid container(s) of wood, metal or plastic not to exceed a combined total of eight (8) cubic feet, the approximate size of a fifty-five (55) gallon drum. Holes in containers shall be smooth and not constructed to function as a trap. No person shall place a bait or hunt over a bait that has not been registered with the Department in accordance with this regulation. No person shall place a bait or hunt over a bait that is less than two hundred (200) yards from water; less than two hundred (200) yards from roads or pack trails; nor less than one-half (1/2) mile from a developed campground, picnic ground or building. Upon request, persons placing bait(s) shall be required to escort the Regional Wildlife Supervisor or his designee to the bait site(s). No person shall place a bait within a hunt area more than seven (7) days prior to the opening day of the black bear special archery or general season as listed in Section 10 of this regulation. Registered baits placed in the spring season, including all containers and bait materials, shall be removed within seven (7) days after the close of the spring season as listed in Section 10 of this regulation. Registered baits placed in the fall season, including all containers and bait materials, shall be removed within seven (7) days after the close of the fall season as listed in Section 10 of this regulation. Burial of the bait ~~shall be specifically~~ is prohibited and shall not constitute removal of the bait.

(d) Identification of bait site(s). The name and address or the current year's black bear license number or the sportsperson identification number of the person who registered the bait, or the name and address or current year's outfitter's license number of the licensed outfitter registering the bait site(s) shall be legible and permanently affixed to or painted on the outside of the container(s) enclosing the bait.

**Section 6. Areas Open and Areas Closed to Black Bear Baiting; Restrictions on Use of Processed and Unprocessed Baits.**

(a) All black bear hunt areas shall be open to the baiting of black bear except those hunt areas and those portions of hunt areas listed in this section.

(i) Black Bear Hunt Areas 22, 25, 26, 32 and that portion of Black Bear Hunt Area 23 on U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and State lands, including lands administered by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, shall be closed to baiting.

(ii) That portion of Black Bear Hunt Area 27 north and west of the Wood River on U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and State lands including lands administered by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, shall be closed to baiting.

(iii) That portion of Black Bear Hunt Area 28 on the Shoshone National Forest north of Pelham Lake, Pelham Lake Creek and Lava Mountain shall be closed to baiting.

(iv) Those portions of Black Bear Hunt Areas 7 and 35 on the Pole Mountain Unit of the Medicine Bow National Forest shall be closed to baiting.

(v) All designated Wilderness Areas in National Forests shall be closed to baiting. Hunters should check maps of designated Wilderness Areas at the Department Headquarters or Regional Offices.

(vi) The primary conservation area for grizzly bears shall be closed to baiting and no bait registrations shall be issued within that area. Hunters may view a map of the primary conservation area for grizzly bears on the Department website.

(vii) Areas administered by the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management or the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission in which human access has been restricted to protect wintering wildlife shall be closed to baiting. Such areas, if not already closed by this section, shall be closed to black bear baiting during the time period for which the areas have been closed to human access.

(b) Only unprocessed baits shall be utilized for the baiting of black bears in ~~the following black bear hunt areas and in accordance with the provisions of this regulation.~~

~~(i)~~ Black Bear Hunt Area 18 and those portions of Hunt Areas 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 27, 28 and 29 in which bear baiting is not excluded by Section 6(a).

(c) Processed or unprocessed baits shall be utilized for the baiting of black bears in ~~the following black bear hunt areas, in accordance with the provisions of this regulation.~~ (i)

~~Black Bear Hunt Areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 17, 30, 31, 33, 35.~~

(d) Chemical attractants ~~shall not be~~ are not considered bait and may be used in all black bear hunt areas of the state.

**Section 7. Reporting Use of Bait by a Grizzly Bear.** Any person registering a bait site, placing a bait, hunting at a bait site or witnessing the use of a bait site by a grizzly bear shall immediately report use of the bait by a grizzly bear to the Department (1-877-WGFD-TIP). Regardless of the land status—~~albeit whether Federal, State~~ federal, state or private, no person shall hunt black bear over a bait site utilized by a grizzly bear for the remainder of the current black bear hunting season. The bait site(s) shall be closed for the remainder of the current black bear hunting season and the bait may be removed as soon as possible by personnel of the Department.

**Section 8. Prohibited Bait.** No person shall place any prohibited bait for the purpose of baiting black bears. Baiting for black bear with a substance other than those defined as a bait in Section 3 or in a manner other than as specified in Section 5 shall be prohibited on ~~Federal or State~~ federal or state lands, including lands administered by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. ~~Chemical attractants shall not be considered bait and shall not be prohibited.~~

**Section 9. Area Mortality Limits.** The black bear hunting season shall close in each black bear hunt area or group of hunt areas when the female mortality limit specified for the respective hunt area or group of hunt areas has been reached. If the female mortality limit is not reached, the season shall close upon the date specified in Section 10. If the female mortality limits for the spring hunting season are exceeded, the additional mortalities shall be subtracted from the fall mortality limits. Conversely, if female mortality limits in the spring have not been reached, the portion of the limit remaining shall be added to the fall mortality limit. It is the hunter’s responsibility to confirm that the hunt area the person intends to hunt is open. The status of hunt area closures shall be available twenty-four (24) hours a day by calling toll free 1-800-264-1280.

**Section 10. Hunt Areas, General and Special Archery Season Dates and Limitations.**

Hunt Area(s)	Season Dates		Annual Female Mortality Limit
	Special Archery	General	
1, 2	May 1 - 14	May 15 - June 15 Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	8 Spring <del>6</del> 8 Fall
3, 4	May 1 - 14	May 15 - June 15 Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	6 Spring 4 Fall
5, 6		May 1 - June 15 Aug. 15 - Nov. 15	2 Spring 2 Fall
7		Apr. 15 - May 31 Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	<del>4</del> 5 Spring <del>6</del> 5 Fall
8	Sep. 15 - 30	Apr. 15 - June 7 Oct. 1 - Oct. 31	<del>5</del> 9 Spring <del>6</del> 8 Fall
9	Apr. 15 - 30 Sep. 1 - 30	May 1 - June 15 Oct. 1 - 31	<del>8</del> 10 Spring <del>6</del> 9 Fall
10	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 1 - Sep. 30	May 1 - June 15 Oct. 1 - 31	2 Spring 2 Fall

Hunt Area(s)	Season Dates		Annual Female Mortality Limit
	Special Archery	General	
11	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 15 - 31	May 1 - June 15 Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	5 Spring 5 Fall
12	Apr. 15 - 30 Sep. 1 - 30	May 1 - June 15 Oct. 1 - 31	1 Spring 1 Fall
13	Apr. 15 - 30	May 1 - June 15  Aug. 1 - 31, valid only in that portion of Area 13 within the Popo Agie Wilderness  Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	5 Spring  5 Fall
14, 15, 16, 17, 30	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 15 - 31	May 1 - June 15 Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	<del>30</del> 24 Spring 18 Fall
18, 20, 21, 22, 24, 29	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 15 - 31	May 1 - June 15 Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	13 Spring 20 Fall
19	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 15 - 31	May 1 - June 15 Sep. 1 - Nov. 15	10 Spring 8 Fall
23	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 1 - 14	May 1 - June 15 Aug. 15 - Oct. 31	8 Spring*
25, 26, 27	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 15 - 31	May 1 - June 15 Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	12 Fall*
28	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 1 - 14	May 1 - June 15 Aug. 15 - Oct. 31	4 Spring 4 Fall
31	Apr. 15 - 30 Aug. 1 - 14	May 1 - June 15 Aug. 15 - Oct. 31	2 Spring 2 Fall
32	Apr. 15 - 30	May 1 - June 15 Aug. 1 - Nov. 15	
33		Apr. 15 - May 31 Sep. 1 - Oct. 31	3 Spring 2 Fall
35		Apr. 15 - June 15 Aug. 1 - Oct. 31	

\*Annual Female Mortality Limit applies to areas 23, 25, 26 and 27 in combination.

### Section 11. Special Archery Seasons.

There shall be special archery seasons for the hunting of black bear by the use of legal archery equipment in hunt areas as set forth in Section 10 of this Chapter.

**Section 12. Reporting Grizzly Bear Mortalities.** Any taking of a grizzly bear shall be reported immediately to the Department (1-877-WGFD-TIP).

**Section 13. Hunt Area Descriptions.** Hunt Area Number, Name and Description.

**Area 1. Northwest Bighorn.** Beginning where ~~U.S. Highway 310~~ the Bighorn River crosses the Wyoming-Montana state line; east along said line to the Bighorn Mountain divide; southeasterly along said divide to U.S. Highway 14 at Granite Pass; southerly then westerly along said highway to ~~U. S. Highway 14 16 20;~~ westerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 310; ~~northwesterly along said highway~~ the Bighorn River; northerly along said river to the Wyoming-Montana state line.

**Area 2. Burgess Junction.** Beginning where Interstate Highway 90 crosses the Wyoming-Montana state line; southeasterly along said highway to U.S. Highway 14 at the town of Ranchester; southwestly along said highway to the Big Horn Mountain Divide at Granite Pass; northwesterly along said divide to the Wyoming-Montana state line; easterly along said line to Interstate Highway 90.

**Area 3. Paint Rock.** Beginning at the town of Greybull; easterly and northerly along U.S. Highway 14 to the Bighorn Mountain Divide; southerly along said divide to Powder River Pass and U.S. Highway 16; westerly along said highway to the Canyon Creek Road (U.S.F.S. Road 25); southerly along said road to the Gold Mine Road (U.S.F.S. Road 452); southerly along said road to the Big Horn Mountain Divide Road/Hazelton Road (Johnson County Road 3); southerly along said road to the Rome Hill Road (Johnson County Road 3A-Washakie County Road 56); westerly along said road to U.S. Highway 16; westerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 20; westerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 433; northerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 16-20; northerly along said highway to the town of Greybull.

**Area 4. Story.** Beginning at Interstate Highway 90 at the town of Ranchester; southeasterly along said highway to Interstate Highway 25; southerly along said highway to Crazy Woman Creek; westerly up said creek to the Middle Fork Crazy Woman Creek; westerly up said creek to Doyle Creek; southwestly up said creek to Taylor Creek; westerly up said creek to the Bighorn National Forest boundary; westerly along the southern boundary of the Bighorn National Forest to the Hazelton Road (Johnson County Road 3); southwestly along said road to the Gold Mine Road (becomes U.S.F.S. Road 452); northerly along said road to the Canyon Creek Road (U.S.F.S. Road 25); northerly along said road to U.S. Highway 16; easterly along said highway to the Bighorn Mountain Divide at Powder River Pass; northwesterly along said divide to U.S. Highway 14 at Granite Pass; northeasterly along said highway to Interstate Highway 90 at the town of Ranchester.

**Area 5. Upper Nowood.** Beginning at the town of Ten Sleep; easterly along U.S. Highway 16 to the Rome Hill Road (Washakie County Road 56-Johnson County Road 3A); easterly along said road to the Big Horn Mountain Divide Road/Hazelton Road (Johnson County Road 3-Washakie County Road 81-Natrona County Road 109); southerly along said road to the Buffalo Creek Road (Natrona County Road 105); southwestly along said road to the Arminto Road (Natrona County Road 104); southerly along said road to Waltman and U.S. Highway 20-26; westerly along said highway to the town of Shoshoni; northerly along U.S. Highway 20 to the eastern boundary of the Wind River Reservation; northerly, then westerly along said

boundary to U.S. Highway 20; northerly along said highway to the town of Worland and U.S. Highway 16; easterly along said highway to the town of Ten Sleep.

**Area 6. Mayoworth.** Beginning where Interstate Highway 25 crosses Crazy Woman Creek; southerly along said highway to the Midwest interchange and the Smoky Gap Road (Natrona County Road 115); westerly along said road to the Dead Horse Road (Natrona County Road 114); southwestly along said road to the Wild Horse Trail Road (Natrona County Road 113); westerly along said road to the 33 Mile Road (Natrona County Road 110); northwestly along said road to the Buffalo Creek Road (Natrona County Road 105); southwestly along said road to the Bighorn Mountain Divide Road/Hazelton Road (Natrona County Road 109-Washakie County Road 81-Johnson County Road 3); northerly along said road to the Bighorn National Forest boundary; easterly along the southern boundary of the Bighorn National Forest to Taylor Creek; easterly down said creek to Doyle Creek; northeasterly down said creek to the Middle Fork Crazy Woman Creek; easterly down said creek to Crazy Woman Creek; easterly down said creek to Interstate Highway 25.

**Area 7. Laramie Peak.** Beginning where Interstate Highway 25 crosses the North Platte River at the city of Douglas; southerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 34; westerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 30; northerly and westerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 487; northerly and westerly along said highway to at the junction of U.S. Highway 30/287 and Wyoming Highway 487 in the town of Medicine Bow; northerly and westerly along Wyoming Highway 487 to the Lone Tree Road (Bureau of Land Management Road 3141); northerly along said road to the Spring Creek Road; easterly along said road to the Bates Creek Road (Natrona County Road 402); northeasterly along said road to the Squaw Springs Trail Road; northeasterly along said road to U.S.F.S. Road 660; southeasterly along said road to Curry Creek; northwestly down said creek to Deer Creek; northeasterly down said creek to ~~the confluence of Deer Creek and the North Platte River~~; easterly ~~and southerly~~ down said river to Interstate Highway 25 at the city of Douglas; ~~southerly along said highway to Interstate Highway 80~~; westerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 30/287; northerly and westerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 487 in the town of Medicine Bow.

**Area 8. Snowy Range.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 287 crosses the Wyoming-Colorado state line; west along said line to Wyoming Highway 230 west of the North Platte River; northerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 130; northerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 30; easterly and southerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 287; southerly along said highway to the Wyoming-Colorado state line.

**Area 9. Sierra Madre.** Beginning where Wyoming Highway 789 crosses the Wyoming-Colorado state line; northerly along said highway to Interstate Highway 80; easterly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 130; southerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 230; southeasterly along said highway to the Wyoming-Colorado state line; westerly along said line to Wyoming Highway 789.

**Area 10. Uinta.** Beginning where Interstate Highway 80 crosses the Wyoming-Utah state line; easterly along said highway to the Green River; southerly down said river to the

Flaming Gorge Reservoir; southerly along said reservoir to the Wyoming-Utah state line; westerly then northerly along said line to Interstate Highway 80.

**Area 11. Smith's Fork.** Beginning where Wyoming Highway 89 crosses the Wyoming-Utah state line west of Sage Junction; northerly along said line to the Wyoming-Idaho state line; northerly along said line to the divide between the Bear River and Salt River; easterly along said divide to the divide between the Salt River and Smith's Fork River; northeasterly along said divide to the divide between the Smith's Fork River and Greys River; southeasterly along said divide to LaBarge Creek; southeasterly down said creek to the Green River; southeasterly down said river to the CCC Bridge and the Lincoln-Sweetwater Road (Lincoln County Road 311); westerly along said road to Wyoming Highway 372; westerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 189; westerly then southerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 30; westerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 89 at Sage Junction; westerly along said highway to the Wyoming-Utah state line.

**Area 12. Pine Mountain.** Beginning where Interstate Highway 80 crosses the Green River; easterly along said highway to the town of Rock Springs and Wyoming Highway 430; southeasterly along said highway to the Wyoming-Colorado state line; westerly along said line to the Wyoming-Utah state line; westerly along said line to the Flaming Gorge Reservoir; northerly along said reservoir to the Green River; northerly along said river to Interstate Highway 80.

**Area 13. Lander.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 287 crosses the south boundary of the Wind River Reservation; southerly and easterly along said highway to the Sweetwater River; southwesterly and then northerly up said river to the Sweetwater Gap and the headwaters of the Sweetwater River; westerly from Sweetwater Gap to Mt. Nystrom and the continental divide; northwesterly along said divide to the south boundary of the Wind River Reservation; easterly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 287.

**Area 14. South Piney.** Beginning where LaBarge Creek enters the Green River; westerly up said creek to the divide between the Green River and Greys River; northerly along said divide to the South Fork of South Cottonwood Creek; easterly down said creek to South Cottonwood Creek; easterly down said creek to Cottonwood Creek; easterly down said creek to the Green River; southerly down said river to LaBarge Creek.

**Area 15. Piney-Horse Creek.** Beginning where the East Green River Road (Sublette County Road 23-110) joins Wyoming Highway 351; westerly along said highway to the Green River; northerly up said river to Cottonwood Creek; westerly up said creek to South Cottonwood Creek; westerly up said creek to the South Fork of South Cottonwood Creek; westerly up said creek to the divide between the Green River and Greys River; northerly along said divide to the divide between the Green River and the Hoback River (Hoback Rim); easterly along said divide to U.S. Highway 191; southerly along said highway to the East Green River Road (Sublette County Road 23-110) at Cora Junction; southerly along said road to Wyoming Highway 351.

**Area 16. Greys River.** All of the drainages of Greys River, Little Greys River and the drainages south of the Snake River from Alpine east to and including Bailey Creek.

**Area 17. Hoback.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 191 crosses the divide between the Green River and the Hoback River (Hoback Rim); westerly along said divide to the divide between the Greys River and the Hoback River; northerly along said divide to the divide between the Greys River and Willow Creek; northerly along said divide to the divide between Bailey Creek and Willow Creek (Greyback Ridge); northerly along said divide to the divide between Bailey Creek and the Snake River; westerly along said divide to the Snake River; northerly up said river to the Hoback River; southeasterly up said river to Highway 191 at Bondurant; southerly and easterly along said highway to the divide between the Green River and the Hoback River (Hoback Rim).

**Area 18. Fall Creek.** Beginning where Wyoming Highway 22 crosses the Snake River; southerly and westerly down said river to the Wyoming-Idaho state line; northerly along said line to Wyoming Highway 22; easterly along said highway to the Snake River.

**Area 19. Green River.** Beginning at the town of Farson; northerly along U.S. Highway 191 to the Sublette County Line (west of Big Sandy Reservoir); westerly along the Sublette County Line to the Green River (north of the town of LaBarge); northerly up said river to Wyoming Highway 351; easterly along said highway to the East Green River Road (Sublette County Road 23-110); northerly along said road to U.S. Highway 191; northwesterly along said highway to the divide between the Green River and the Hoback River (Hoback Rim); northerly along said divide to the divide between the Green River and the Gros Ventre River at Hodges Peak; northeasterly along said divide to the Darwin Ranch road (U.S.F.S. Road 620); easterly along said road to the Union Pass Road (U.S.F.S. Road 600); northeasterly along said road to the Continental Divide; southerly along said divide to Mt. Nystrom; easterly from Mt. Nystrom to Sweetwater Gap and the headwaters of the Sweetwater River; southerly along said river to U.S. Highway 28; southwestly along said highway to the town of Farson.

**Area 20. Gros Ventre.** Beginning at the southeast corner boundary of the National Elk Refuge near the town of Jackson; northerly along the refuge boundary to the Gros Ventre River; easterly up said river to Kinky Creek; easterly up said creek to the Darwin Ranch Road (U.S.F.S. Road 620); easterly along said road to the divide between the Green River and the Gros Ventre River; southwestly along said divide to the divide between the Green River and the Hoback River at Hodges Peak; southerly along said divide to Highway 191 at Hoback Rim; northerly and westerly along said highway to the Hoback River at Bondurant; westerly down said river to the Snake River; northerly along said river to Wyoming Highway 22; easterly along said highway to Highway 26; northerly along said highway to the National Elk Refuge boundary; easterly along said boundary to the southeast corner of the National Elk Refuge.

**Area 21. Conant Basin.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 26-287 intersects the south boundary of John D. Rockefeller Memorial Parkway; westerly along said boundary to the Targhee National Forest boundary; southerly along said boundary to the head of the north fork of Teton Creek; westerly down said creek to Teton Creek; westerly down said creek to the Wyoming-Idaho state line; northerly along said line to the Yellowstone National Park boundary; easterly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 26-287; southerly along said highway to the south boundary of John D. Rockefeller Memorial Parkway.

**Area 22. Pacific Creek.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 26-287 intersects the Grand Teton National Park boundary; northwesterly along said boundary to the John D. Rockefeller Memorial Parkway boundary; westerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 26-287; northerly along said highway to the Yellowstone National Park boundary; easterly along said boundary to the Continental Divide; southeasterly along said divide to U.S. Highway 26-287; westerly along said highway to the Grand Teton National Park boundary.

**Area 23. Ramshorn.** All of the drainage of the Wind River that lies north of U.S. Highway 287 and west of the Wind River Reservation and those areas of the Spence and Moriarity Wildlife Management Area east of the East Fork of the Wind River.

**Area 24. Darby Creek.** Beginning at the town of Jackson; westerly along Wyoming Highway 22 to the Wyoming-Idaho state line; northerly along said line to Teton Creek; easterly along said creek to the north fork of Teton Creek; northeasterly along said creek to the Grand Teton National Park boundary; southerly and easterly along said boundary to the Snake River; northerly and southerly along said park boundary to U.S. Highway 189; southerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 22.

**Area 25. North Absaroka.** Beginning where the east boundary of Yellowstone National Park crosses the Wyoming-Montana state line; easterly along said line to the Shoshone National Forest boundary; southerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 14-16-20; westerly along said highway to the east boundary of Yellowstone National Park; northerly along said boundary to the Wyoming-Montana state line.

**Area 26. South Absaroka.** Beginning where the east boundary of Yellowstone National Park crosses U.S. Highway 14-16-20; easterly along said highway to the Shoshone National Forest boundary; southerly along said boundary to the Greybull River; westerly then southerly up said river to the divide between the Greybull River and the Wind River; westerly along said divide to the divide between the South Fork of the Shoshone River and the Wind River; westerly along said divide to the Continental Divide; northwesterly along said divide to the south boundary of Yellowstone National Park; easterly then northerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 14-16-20.

**Area 27. Grass Creek.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 120 crosses the Greybull River; southeasterly along said highway to U. S. Highway 20; southerly along said highway to the northern boundary of the Wind River Reservation; westerly along said boundary to the divide between the Wood River and the Wind River; northwesterly along said divide to the divide between the Greybull River and the Wind River; northwesterly along said divide to the Greybull River; northerly then easterly down said river to U.S. Highway 120; and all non-Indian owned fee title lands in that portion of Hot Springs County within the exterior boundaries of the Wind River Reservation.

**Area 28. Wind River.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 287 crosses the west boundary of the Wind River Reservation; southerly along said boundary to the Continental Divide; northwesterly along said divide to U.S. Highway 287 at Togwotee Pass; southeasterly along said highway to the Wind River Reservation boundary.

**Area 29. Spread Creek.** Beginning where the Grand Teton National Park boundary crosses the Gros Ventre River; northerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 26-287; easterly along said highway to Togwotee Pass and the Continental Divide; southerly along said divide to the Union Pass Road (U.S.F.S. Road 600); southwesterly along said road to the Darwin Ranch Road (U.S.F.S. Road 620); westerly along said road to Kinky Creek; westerly down said creek to the Gros Ventre River; westerly down said river to the Grand Teton National Park boundary.

**Area 30. Star Valley.** All of the drainage of the Salt River east of the Wyoming-Idaho state line.

**Area 31. Crowheart Butte.** All non-Indian owned fee title lands in that portion of Fremont County within the exterior boundaries of the Wind River Reservation, and all lands within the Bureau of Reclamation's Riverton and Boysen Unit boundaries, and those lands within Boysen State Park south of Cottonwood Creek, west of Boysen Reservoir, and south of U.S. Highway 20-26; excluding those areas of the Spence and Moriarity Wildlife Management Area that lie east of the East Fork of the Wind River.

**Area 32. Cody.** Beginning where the east boundary of the Shoshone National Forest boundary meets the Wyoming-Montana state line; easterly along said line to ~~U.S. Highway 310~~ the Bighorn River; ~~southeasterly~~ southerly along said ~~highway~~ river to U.S. Highway 14-16-20; easterly along said highway to U.S. Highway 16-20 in the town of Greybull; southerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 433; southerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 20; southerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 120; northwesterly along said highway to the Greybull River; southwesterly up said river to the Shoshone National Forest Boundary; northerly along said boundary to the Wyoming-Montana state line.

**Area 33. Casper Mountain.** Beginning at the confluence of the North Platte River and Deer Creek at the town of Glenrock; southerly up said creek to the confluence of Curry Creek and Deer Creek; southeasterly up Curry Creek to U.S.F.S. Road 660; northwesterly along said road to the Squaw Springs Trail Road; southwesterly along said road to the Bates Creek Road (Natrona County Road 402); southwesterly along said road to the Spring Creek Road; westerly along said road to the Lone Tree Road (Bureau of Land Management Road 3141); southerly along said road to Wyoming Highway 487; northerly and westerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 220; northerly and easterly along said highway to the Casper city limits; northerly along said city limits to the North Platte River; easterly along said river to Deer Creek.

**Area 35.** The entire State of Wyoming excluding lands included in Areas 1-33, Grand Teton National Park and the National Elk Refuge.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

~~T. Carrie Little~~David Rael, President

Dated: ~~January 18, 2017~~ January 15, 2020

## STATEMENT OF REASONS

### CHAPTER 32

#### REGULATION GOVERNING FIREARM CARTRIDGES AND ARCHERY EQUIPMENT

W.S. § 23-1-302 directs and empowers the Commission to promulgate such orders as the Commission deems necessary to carry out the intent of this act.

W.S. § 23-2-104 empowers the Commission to establish rules and regulation specifications for archery equipment used for taking big or trophy game animals.

W.S. § 23-3-110 empowers the Commission to establish rules and regulations governing firearms and ammunition specifications for taking game birds and wild turkeys.

W.S. § 23-3-111 empowers the Commission to establish rules and regulations governing firearms and ammunition specifications for taking big or trophy game animals.

Section 2. Edits to this section removed unnecessary language.

Section 3. A new definition is being provided for the term “Expanding Point Bullet” to mean any bullet designed by its manufacturer to create a wound channel larger than the bullet’s diameter. This is meant to clarify the term already used in this regulation and to allow for newer bullet technology. The Department is making this proposed regulation edit to address public comments and advances in hunting bullet technology.

Section 4. The term “expanding point bullet” is being added to existing regulation language to clarify the legality of newer bullet technology used to develop hunting bullets for big and trophy game animals. Several suitable hunting bullets currently are manufactured that create a wound channel larger than the bullet’s diameter but are not identified as “expanding” by their manufacturers.

Minor grammatical and formatting edits have been incorporated to provide additional clarity but do not change the intent of this chapter.



## WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006

Phone: (307) 777-4600 Fax: (307) 777-4699

wgfd.wyo.gov

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PATRICK CRANK  
RICHARD LADWIG  
MIKE SCHMID

December 20, 2019

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Wyoming Game and Fish Commission

**FROM:** Rick King, Chief, Wildlife Division

**COPY TO:** David Dewald, File

**SUBJECT:** Chapter 32 Public Comment Summary and Department Response

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department (Department) conducted eleven (11) public meetings across the state to address draft regulation proposals for Wyoming Game and Fish Commission Regulation Chapter 32, Regulation Governing Firearm Cartridges and Archery Equipment. A draft regulation proposal was available for public comment on the Department website from October 24, 2019 through December 16, 2019.

The Department received 11 total written or online comments for Chapter 32. There was also discussion of the draft regulation at all public meetings.

Public comment topics include: general support for the proposed regulation; suggestion to re-evaluate minimum bullet weight requirements; suggestion to include the 10mm as a legal caliber for hunting; and to specifically exclude use of full metal jacket bullets for hunting.

The Department currently provides minimum standards for legal bullet calibers, weights and overall bullet length specifications. This draft regulation includes new language meant to clarify the legality of newer bullet technology used to develop hunting bullets for big and trophy game animals. This new language excludes the use of full metal jacket bullets since they are not designed by their manufacturers to create a wound channel larger than the bullet diameter. The Department chose not to modify other existing minimum bullet standards for simplification and ease of enforcement of this regulation.

The Department made no additional changes to this draft regulation.

**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 32, Regulation Governing Firearm Cartridges and Archery Equipment**

**1** I support the changes to ch 32 and the bullet definition.

**Rhodes,  
Christopher**

**Newcastle, WY**

11/13/2019 9:33:00  
AM

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**2** In viewing the changes in the regulations I believe they are needed and a positive step. I am disappointed to see that in my opinion a chance to fix an issue that in my opinion was unintended in an earlier change was not being addressed. The 10mm handgun cartridge is an extremely popular hunting round. It is one of if not the top choice of backwoods defense rounds carried today. The minimum 1.5 inches excludes the 10mm from being legal even though it meets the diameter and energy qualifications. Could this issue be addressed while the regulation is opened up for amendment. Thank you.

**McOmie, Daniel**

**Lander, WY**

11/19/2019 5:37:00  
AM

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**3** I strongly feel it would worth adding: "The use of bullets labeled by the Manufacturer as FMJ shall not be permitted." Or something along those lines. Ultimately, I believe that is the goal of the existing/proposed updated wording. The existing/proposed updates and definitions for the legal type of bullet make sense to me and others with common sense/firearm experience, but I strongly feel that outright saying NO FMJ BULLETS is an inarguable statement that is crucial to humane killing of animals. Thank you for your consideration! Additionally, I would like to add that since the legalization of .223 Rem. as a hunting cartridge, I have personally witnessed a noticeable increase in unethical hunting practices and wounded big game animals. I have also heard multiple reports from others that have witnessed similar things. Unfortunately, due the regulations in place, the people committing these unethical/reckless acts aren't technically breaking any laws unless they're witnessed letting a wounded animal get away. And with a .223 Rem, it's difficult to know if you've even hit an animal (or multiple animals). I believe there is no reason to legalize undersized cartridges for the taking of big game/trophy game, and especially since it opens the door for fools to take their AR-15s with excessively high capacity magazines hunting. To protect and maintain the finite resources we have with wildlife, we have to plan our regulations around their exploitation by idiots. Give them an inch, they'll take a mile. Thank you, - Elijah Reish

**REISH, ELIJAH**

**CASPER, WY**

11/21/2019 11:52:00  
PM

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**4** I'd like to see the minimum bullet weight of 60 grains for .224 caliber rifles be done away with. There are many excellent hunting bullets in the 50 and 55 grain weight. Many rifles chambered in 223 or 22-250 do not have the correct rate of twist to stabilize a bullet heavier than 50 grains. Thank you.

**Thompson, Chance**   **Rock Springs , WY**

11/25/2019 3:26:00  
PM

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**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 32, Regulation Governing Firearm Cartridges and Archery Equipment**

**5** Wyoming Game and Fish needs to rethink the way it defines legal hunting cartridges. It makes no sense that 10mm (which is often packed as a self defense round against Grizzlies) is not allowed for hunting any big game in Wyoming because its overall length does not reach 1.5" yet the anemic .38 Special is legal for hunting elk because it meets the 1.5" overall length requirement and has a .357" diameter bullet.

**CIMBUREK,  
CHASE**

**Rock Springs, WY**

12/2/2019 10:29:00  
AM

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**6** Big game handgun regs say the cartridge length must exceed 1.5". This excludes the 10mm magnum, which has similar KE as the .357 magnum, which WY regs allow because its OAL is barely over 1.5". You might want to require xx ft-lbs of KE to the pistol regs (as other states do as an exception to the cartridge OAL reg. BTW I don't own a 10mm or hunt with a pistol; I'm just pointing out an inconsistency. I'll even bet that some WY hunters hunt with a 10mm and don't even know they're breaking the law.

**Morrison, Bruce**

**Pinedale, WY**

12/5/2019 5:10:00  
PM

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**7** Please reconsider the bullet diameter and weight for the taking of grizzly bear reduced to .264 and 140 grains. The 6.5 mm bullets are being designed much better for the taking of large dangerous trophy game animals.

**Hirsch, Michael**

**Powell, WY**

12/5/2019 5:26:00  
PM

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**8** For many years The 10mm handgun round was allowed in regulations. Now it is not. There are numerous other calibers that fall into this category. It is unfortunate that the regulations do not allow for this type of handgun round to be used. It has proven with the energy standards of old that it performs close to a .41 magnum handgun cartridge. Making the 10mm and others like it capable of ethical hunting standards. Can we please change the regulation to reflect the cartridge 10mm and others like it. Thank you

**Carey, Jim**

**Lander, WY**

12/6/2019 10:01:00  
AM

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**9** I am a Wyoming hunter, changes seem very reasonable. Would it be possible to add "or bison" to Section 4 Part C: "For the taking of a grizzly bear (or bison) by the use of a firearm, a hunter shall use:" So that all caliber regulations for all Wyoming game animals would be located in the same place? At the moment it appears Bison and Grizzly are subject to the exact same caliber restrictions. It took me a significant amount of searching to find the approved minimum caliber for bison.

**Jackson, Jacob**

**Cheyenne, WY**

12/6/2019  
12:06:00 PM

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# Wyoming Game and Fish Department Comment Form



The Department welcomes comment regarding proposed changes to regulations. Questions about these proposed regulation changes should be directed to Department Regional Offices for clarification. No individual Department response will be generated from questions submitted through this comment form. Written comments shall be accepted at all public meetings, by standard mail at the address below, or on the WGFD website at <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/Get-Involved/Public-Meetings>. Comments will not be accepted via email, fax or telephone. All written comments must be received at the below address no later than 5:00 p.m., December 16, 2019.

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604

Please use a separate form for each of the categories below:

- Black Bear Hunting Seasons
- Regulation Governing Firearms Cartridges and Archery Equipment
- Collection of Shed Antlers and Horns



Comments:

looks all good.  
you guys & gals doing a great job  
thanks for all that hard  
work that you all do.

lander

Jeff Smith

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

12-12-19

Printed Name

Date

11/2019

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form

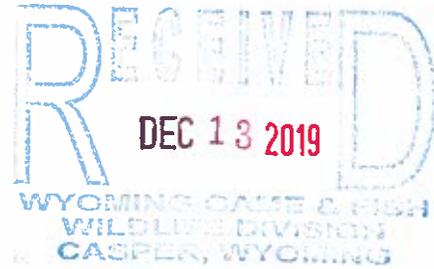


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- Collection of Shed Antlers and Horns



Comments:

\* Hard-cast bullets?

Re: section 4 (A)(i): There seems to be no mention of the use of hard-cast bullets. Research exists with respect to the effective use of "hard-cast" bullets, generally with a gas-check installed, that make them deadly. So... would a hunter be breaking the law if he/she used a hard-cast bullet in the taking of a big game animal.

Jeff Hammer  
(307) 332-9441  
jeffhammer58@gmail.com

Jander

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

Printed Name

Date

11/2019

## CHAPTER 32

### REGULATION GOVERNING FIREARM CARTRIDGES AND ARCHERY EQUIPMENT

**Section 1. Authority.** This regulation is promulgated by authority of Wyoming Statutes § 23-1-302, § 23-2-104, § 23-3-110 and § 23-3-111.

**Section 2. Regulation.** The Commission hereby adopts the following regulation governing firearm cartridges and archery equipment for the taking of big or trophy game animals and game birds.

**Section 3. Definition.** In addition to the definitions set forth in Title 23 of the Wyoming Statutes, the Commission also adopts the following definitions for the purpose of this chapter:

(a) “Archery Equipment” means crossbows, longbows, recurve bows, compound bows, arrows and bolts.

(b) “Expanding Point Bullet” means any bullet designed by its manufacturer to create a wound channel larger than the bullet’s diameter.

(c) “Smart Firearm” means any firearm equipped with a computerized targeting system that marks a target, calculates a firing solution and automatically discharges the firearm at a point calculated to most likely hit the marked target.

(d) “Trackable Arrow Technology” means any technology or device that allows for a hunting arrow to be tracked or more readily located while in the field. This includes, but is not necessarily limited to, lighted arrow nocks, GPS devices inserted into an arrow shaft or Bluetooth arrow nocks, which facilitate locating a hunting arrow once it is shot from a bow.

**Section 4. Firearms, muzzle-loaders and cartridges that are legal for the taking of big or trophy game animals.**

(a) For the taking of bighorn sheep, elk, moose, mountain goat or black bear by the use of a firearm, a hunter shall use:

(i) Any center-fire firearm of at least .24 caliber and firing a cartridge of at least two (2) inches in overall length and using an expanding point bullet, or any other cartridge of at least .35 caliber and at least one and one-half inches (1.5) in overall length and using an expanding point bullet; or,

(ii) Any muzzle-loading rifle or any muzzle-loading handgun of at least .40 caliber and firing an expanding point bullet or lead ball and using a charge of at least fifty (50) grains of black powder or its equivalent; or,

(iii) Any shotgun firing “00” or larger buckshot, or a slug.

(b) For the taking of antelope, deer, mountain lion, or gray wolf where designated as a trophy game animal, a hunter shall use:

(i) Any center-fire firearm of at least .22 caliber (excluding .22 Hornet) and having a bullet weight of at least sixty (60) grains and firing a cartridge of at least two (2) inches in overall length and using an expanding point bullet, or any other cartridge of at least .35 caliber and at least one and one-half (1.5) inches in overall length and using an expanding point bullet; or,

(ii) Any muzzle-loading rifle or any muzzle-loading handgun of at least .40 caliber and firing an expanding point bullet or lead ball and using a charge of at least fifty (50) grains of black powder or its equivalent; or,

(iii) Any shotgun firing “00” or larger buckshot, or a slug.

(c) For the taking of a grizzly bear by the use of a firearm, a hunter shall use:

(i) Any center-fire firearm of at least .27 caliber and having a bullet weight of at least one hundred fifty (150) grains and firing a cartridge of at least two (2) inches in overall length and using an expanding point bullet; or,

(ii) Any muzzle-loading rifle or any muzzle-loading handgun of at least .50 caliber and firing an expanding point bullet or lead ball and using a charge of at least one hundred (100) grains of black powder or its equivalent; or,

(iii) Any shotgun firing “00” or larger buckshot, or a slug.

**Section 5. Firearms, cartridges and archery equipment that are legal for the taking of game birds and small game.**

(a) For the taking of game birds, excluding wild turkey, blue grouse and ruffed grouse, a hunter shall use:

(i) Any center-fire or muzzle-loading shotgun not larger than a ten (10) gauge plugged to admit no more than one (1) shell in the chamber and two (2) shells in the magazine; or,

(ii) Any archery equipment.

(b) For the taking of wild turkey, a hunter shall use any shotgun, center-fire firearm, .17 HMR or larger rimfire firearm with an overall cartridge length greater than one (1) inch, any muzzle-loading firearm, or any archery equipment.

(c) Blue grouse, ruffed grouse and small game may be taken in any manner except as prohibited by Wyoming Statute.

**Section 6. Archery equipment that is legal for the taking of big or trophy game animals.**

(a) For the taking of antelope, bighorn sheep, black bear, deer, mountain goat, mountain lion, or gray wolf where designated as a trophy game animal, a hunter shall use a longbow, recurve bow or compound bow of not less than forty (40) pounds draw weight and an arrow equipped with a fixed or expanding point broadhead that when fully expanded cannot pass through a seven-eighths (7/8) inch solid ring.

(b) For the taking of elk, grizzly bear or moose, a hunter shall use a longbow, recurve bow or compound bow of not less than fifty (50) pounds draw weight and an arrow equipped with a fixed or expanding point broadhead that when fully expanded cannot pass through a seven-eighths (7/8) inch solid ring.

(c) For the taking of any big or trophy game animal with a crossbow, a hunter shall use a crossbow having a peak draw weight of at least ninety (90) pounds and a bolt of at least sixteen (16) inches in length equipped with a fixed or expanding point broadhead that when fully expanded cannot pass through a seven-eighths (7/8) inch solid ring.

(d) For the taking of any big or trophy game animal by the use of any archery equipment, a hunter may use trackable arrow technology to assist in following up their shot, retrieving a hunting arrow or locating a legally harvested big or trophy game animal. Any electronic tracking device that is capable of transferring from a hunting arrow to a big or trophy game animal shall not be considered trackable arrow technology and shall not be permitted for hunting big or trophy game animals.

(e) Magnifying sights, holographic sights and range finding sights attached to legal archery equipment are permissible to use while archery hunting any big or trophy game animal.

**Section 7. Smart Firearm.** No person shall use a smart firearm to take any game bird, big game or trophy game animal.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

David Rael, President

Dated: January 15, 2020

## CHAPTER 32

### REGULATION GOVERNING FIREARM CARTRIDGES AND ARCHERY EQUIPMENT

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**Section 3. Definition.** ~~For the purpose of this regulation,~~ In addition to the definitions shall be as set forth in Title 23, of the Wyoming Statutes, and the Commission also adopts the following definitions for the purpose of this chapter:

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grains of black powder or its equivalent; or,

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**Section 7. Smart Firearm.** No person shall use a smart firearm to take any game bird, big game or trophy game animal.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

David Rael, President

Dated: ~~July 18, 2019~~ January 15, 2020

## STATEMENT OF REASONS

### CHAPTER 61

#### COLLECTION OF SHED ANTLERS AND HORNS

W.S. § 23-1-302 (xxxi) directs and empowers the Commission to regulate and control the collection of shed antlers and horns of big game animals for the purpose of minimizing the harassment or disturbance of big game populations on public lands.

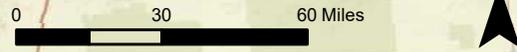
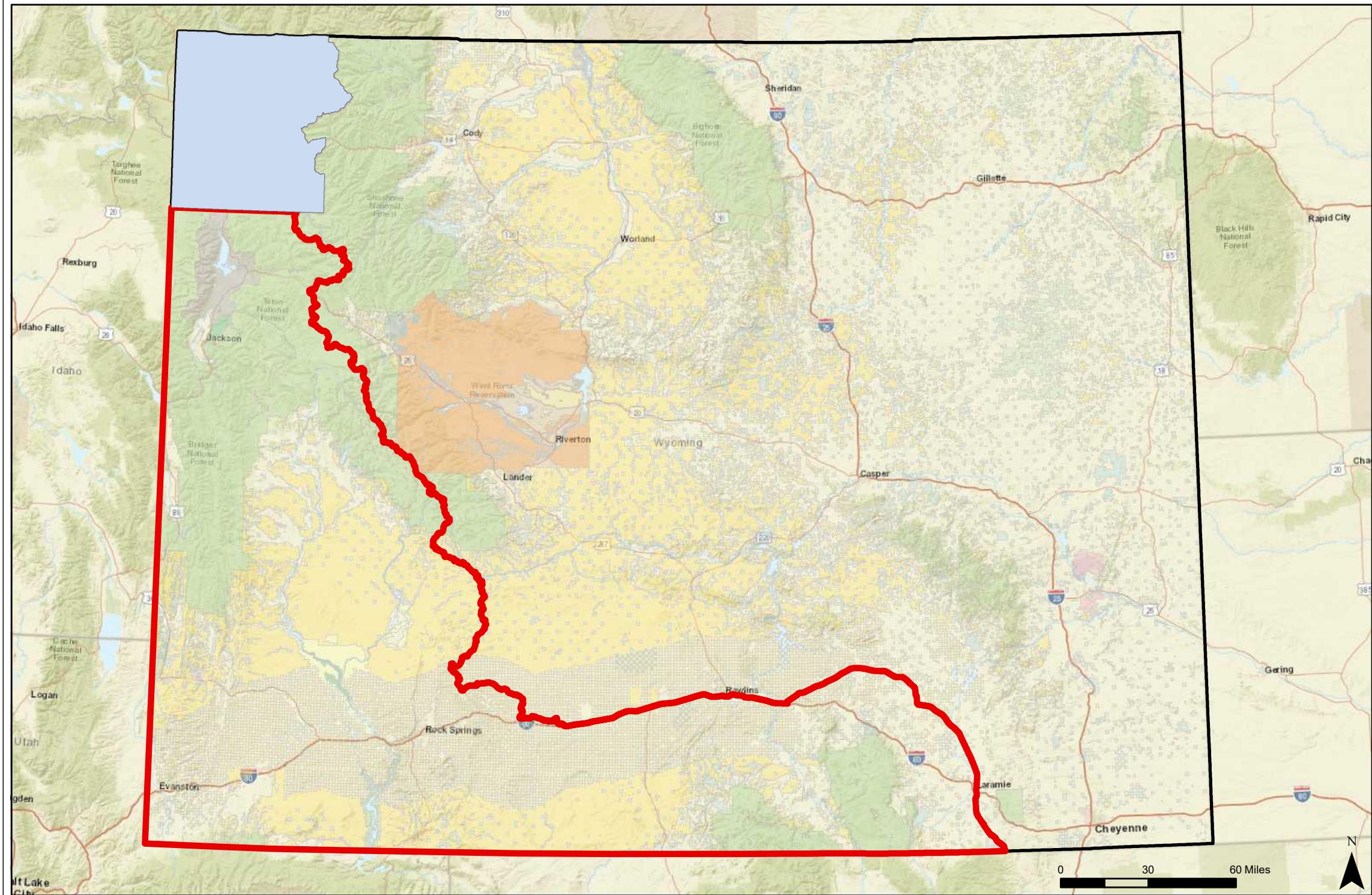
Section 2. Language in the first paragraph has been modified for clarity of this section.

Section 3. A new boundary description has been proposed for regulating the collection of shed antlers and horns from big game animals on public lands. This is in response to the Sixty-Fifth Legislature of the State of Wyoming 2019 General Session House Enrolled Act 64, which expanded the area within the Commission's authority to regulate such activity. The added area of regulation is designed to protect critical wintering big game areas on public lands. A map of the new proposed shed antler and horn collection area is attached for reference.

Section 4. Edits have been incorporated to clarify the intent of this section by using the defined term "collect" rather than "take", and to correct the Commission policy number referenced within the section.

Minor grammatical and formatting edits have been incorporated to provide additional clarity but do not change the intent of this chapter.

# Antler Hunting Area



- |                    |                |     |                         |                       |                           |               |
|--------------------|----------------|-----|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| Continental Divide | State Boundary | BLM | Forest Service          | National Park Service | Bureau of Reclamation     | Other Federal |
| Antler Area        | State          | BIA | Fish & Wildlife Service | DOD                   | Wyoming Game & Fish Dept. | Private       |



## WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006

Phone: (307) 777-4600 Fax: (307) 777-4699

wgfd.wyo.gov

**GOVERNOR**  
MARK GORDON

**DIRECTOR**  
BRIAN R. NESVIK

**COMMISSIONERS**  
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GAY LYNN BYRD  
PATRICK CRANK  
RICHARD LADWIG  
MIKE SCHMID

December 20, 2019

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Wyoming Game and Fish Commission

**FROM:** Rick King, Chief, Wildlife Division

**COPY TO:** David Dewald, File

**SUBJECT:** Chapter 61 Public Comment Summary and Department Response

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department (Department) conducted eleven (11) public meetings across the state to address draft regulation proposals for Wyoming Game and Fish Commission Regulation Chapter 61, Collection of Shed Antlers and Horns. A draft regulation proposal was available for public comment on the Department website from October 24, 2019 through December 16, 2019.

The Department received 20 total written or online comments for Chapter 61. There was also discussion of the draft regulation at all public meetings.

Public comment topics include: 11 comments showed general support for the proposed regulation and support for a statewide antler hunting restriction; four comments support some sort of licensing for antler hunters; four concern about enforcement difficulties; two concerns about too many restrictions on public lands; and one comment about the opening time for the antler-hunting season.

The Department recognizes enforcement challenges with all regulations and continue to collaborate with the public and other interested parties to meet these challenges. A growing number of antler hunting violations have been successfully prosecuted each year, indicating success with this regulation.

Department personnel will continue to evaluate including additional restriction areas within this regulation based on public input and coordination with federal land management agencies. Current seasonal closures on Wyoming Game and Fish Commission owned or managed lands, seasonal closures on federal lands and state trespass laws are also tools the Department relies on to protect critical wintering habitats.

The Department made no additional changes to this draft regulation.

**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 61, Collection of Shed Antlers and Horns**

**1** In my opinion there is no way to reasonably enforce these actions of "shed hunting" it is a popular sport. But there are so many other acts that take place on public land such as snowmobiling, fishing, hiking, mushroom hunting, riding fourwheelers, nature watching, dog walking, turkey hunting, etc..., the list could go on but not just one act should be barred from the use of public land. A few people's wrongdoing ruins the opportunity for the rest of us ethical hunters. There are critical areas I do believe where extra caution should be used but as for the new proposed line and other areas within the old it needs to be more of a case study than a large area barred off. People will always find a way to go around this law and it only hurts the honest people who wait for season.

**Majors, Jimmy     Evanston, WY**

11/3/2019 4:31:00  
PM

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**2** I am writing to object to the May 1st opener for shed antler collection in Wyoming. I feel that there is a lack of scientific research and studies regarding the impact of shed antler hunting on wintering ungulates in Wyoming. Most of the criticism that I have seen and heard is based upon conjecture and lacks a formal understanding of what is actually happening, just hearsay and rumors about animals being "run to death." I feel that there is no scientific basis for this closure and that there are no statistics or scientific evidence that "X" numbers of animals will be saved if we ban pre-May 1st shed collection. Most of the horn hunters that I know of are respectful of not bumping or harassing wintering wildlife, and do not use motorized vehicles to pressure or disturb animals. Shed hunting is a passion for many Wyoming residents, and a May 1 opener will displace sportsman from being on our public lands. Despite heavy fines and punishments, some antler poachers will not honor the seasons, and will stockpile or remove horns in a secretive manner, and it is impossible to effectively enforce this seasonal closure. Many Wyoming sportsman are already displeased with WGFD, and this closure will not "save" wintering animals, and will instead limit a legitimate activity that is not nearly as harmful as WGFD would have us believe. Many/most elk and deer units in the state are above population objectives, despite decades of coexisting with substantial numbers of horn hunters. There is simply not enough evidence to warrant closing the early spring collection of horns just because some people think that this is harmful to wildlife. Predation, automobile accidents, harsh winters, and lack of suitable wintering habitat are far greater issues for Wyoming ungulates than horn hunters.

**Holmes, Zachary     Cody, WY**

11/5/2019 3:39:00  
PM

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**3** The G&F staff recommendation to go with the antler hunting regulations only including the Snowy Range west of Laramie, when there is a big issue in Lander, Cody and the Bighorns is not a good solution. I supporter the legislation to make the regulation as intended for this to be statewide west of I25. After conversations with Brain Nesvick and Rick King at G&F, I fail to understand why this is not being implemented state wide. Last I knew, Wyoming Game Warden Association was in favor of implementation as intended. The problems are very real everywhere. At the time this was proposed and

**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 61, Collection of Shed Antlers and Horns**

passed, it did seem to be wanted by folks in the Lander and Cody area and Bighorns. It is an issue that will shift a large number of people from out of state and out of the Laramie, Cheyenne and Casper area to other parts of the state. Piecemeal implementation will lead to more problems in the other areas.

**Rinehart, James      Laramie, WY**

11/6/2019  
11:44:00 AM

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**4** So i can bear hunt but not pick up sheds? Your taking away oppurtunity for people to do things outdoors and enjoy PUBLIC lands! The state is continually making areas closed in spring to protect wildlife and changing trail use dates for same reasons, reducing recreational oppurtunites espicially for bear hunters. Why not remove the opening season dates and require any shed hunter to hold a hunting license or conservation stamp( dont establish a new license!). This will reduce the chaos and out of state guys lined up at midnight while also overall reduced human and animal interactions. This is wyoming, you shouldnt be slowly taking away my rights to enjoy the outdoors. Whats next?

**Crowell, Chris      Cody, WY**

11/11/2019  
2:03:00 PM

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**5** I would like to express my support for the proposed expansion of the regulated shed antler collection area. In fact I would fully support inclusion of all public and state trust lands in the entire state for inclusion in the shed antler collection regulations.. thank you, Joe Hicks

**hicks, joe      meeteetse, WY**

11/15/2019  
3:47:00 PM

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**6** As an avid shed hunter in the Southeast corner of the state I commend the Laramie regions efforts to protect the wildlife while on their winter range. It has been a long time coming and a building problem over the years. Although I wish the commission would consider not only the Snowy Range herd as in danger but put the regulation on the entire state. Closing one region will only push shed hunters to other areas causing the same effect there. The new regulation is warranted and needs to be expanded. I also hope the department will consider resources to enforce these new regs and possibly protect the wildlife even further by expanding the designated winter ranges to block off motorized travel as I can guarantee the use of snowmobiles will be the main rule breaker in these area most importantly Platte Ridge. The comments around town are they can't keep me from snowmobiling or hiking in the areas which will harrass the herds even with the reg in place. So I hope the wardens and forest service will take that into consideration when discussing this topic. I applaud the Laramie regions efforts to fix a growing problem not only statewide but here in the Southeast corner. Thank you for your time.

**Wald, Scott      Laramie, WY**

11/16/2019  
11:33:00 AM

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**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 61, Collection of Shed Antlers and Horns**

**7** I fully support the proposed changes for collection of shed antlers. I have been an avid shed hunter on and near the Snowy Range for the last 10 years. In my opinion this proposed change is overdue because there are just too many people out harassing elk and deer (whether on purpose or not). I would also like to see additional restrictions in the entire state and perhaps no unauthorized entry during closed dates in specific areas that are known to be important winter ranges.

**Smith, Kurt      Laramie, WY**

11/25/2019  
11:07:00 AM

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**8** Antler or Shed hunting should NOT open at midnight. Too many people can not obey the regulations and it is impossible to police something at midnight. Many are piling sheds before the opener and then at midnight race to their caches and collect. If antler hunting began at or after daylight then it would be easier to catch those that are not obeying the laws. In they light they would be out for everyone to see them at cheating. It will also help the department by not having to have wardens available in the middle of the night chasing people in the dark. Please change how our season is currently set up. Thanks.

**Scharf, Cheyenne      Rock Springs, WY**

12/4/2019 9:12:00  
AM

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**9** I fully support the proposal to expand the area for antler collection restrictions. As an avid outdoorsman and sportsman our wildlife need a break. Any way we can lessen our impact on them while they're on the winter range is a win.

**Sliger, Stephen      Laramie, WY**

12/4/2019 6:52:00  
PM

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**10** Please make the entire state of Wyoming for no collecting of antlers until May 1st of each year. Take some pressure off our wildlife. It will help the wildlife when winters last until April 15th. Resident antlers hunters must have a \$50 dollar license and non residents must have a \$500 dollar license for this activity.

**Hirsch, Michael      Powell, WY**

12/5/2019 5:19:00  
PM

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**11** By further restricting the areas open earlier for horn hunting, there is going to be more people focusing on areas that are open 365 days a year. Just this last year when we went out looking there was people from Utah, Montana, Idaho, etc. While I am completely OK with restricting it in order to save and take more stress off the wildlife, I think this is not the way to do it. Even with this regulation imposed, there is still going to be people going and gathering antlers before it is open. This will affect people such as myself who go and enjoy finding a few antlers and spending my day outside, whereas now it will be even harder to find any antlers. The only way that this problem will ever

**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 61, Collection of Shed Antlers and Horns**

be fixed is when the price of antlers goes belly up and there is not a market for them.  
Thanks, W. Good

**Good, Wyatt**

**Greybull, WY**

12/5/2019 7:42:00  
PM

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- 12** To the WGFD, thank you for your efforts in recognizing that antler collecting is disturbing to animals on their winter range. I need the WGFD to enact this restriction to the lands surrounding the Ferris Range, Green Mountain and Whiskey Peak mountains. Antler hunting is the most disturbing activity to the big game herds of these areas, as well as to the sagebrush habitat that is disturbed by UTVs during their antler hunting. PLEASE DO NOT EXCLUDE THE FERRIS RANGE, GREEN MOUNTAIN AND WHISKEY PEAK AREAS from this increased restrictions. For three years under my management, Pathfinder Ranches has already NOT allowed antler hunting due to the disturbances. I would love the WGFD to provide the regulations to assist us in that manner. Thank you, Matt Hoobler.

**Hoobler, Matt**

**CHEYENNE, WY**

12/6/2019 3:54:00  
PM

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- 13** I cannot understand why Wyoming game and fish does not monetize shed antlers; there is a value attached to sheds, there are regulations in place to control the collection of sheds. Making individuals purchase a permit would be hugely profitable for WyG&F. Also why is the boundary not I-25 west?? The proposed regulations leave a sizeable chunk open, this will create a bottle neck on May1st in the areas that were closed.

**owen, Ben**

**saratoga, WY**

12/9/2019 1:21:00  
PM

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- 14** I would fully support a statewide antler pickup restriction date of May 1st for collection of any antler rather than just portions of the state protecting wildlife from extra/unnecessary harassment by individuals more interested in money than the protection of public wildlife. I would also fully support and participate in an antler collection license/stamp from \$10 to \$30 annually to be able to collect sheds. Maybe in the addition of this license, the money can be used towards enforcement during shed collection season and before the season begins as well. While shed hunting the spring 2019 season I was extremely disappointed in people out collecting sheds in their side-by-sides showing zero regard towards the protection of our natural resources on public lands. I saw countless tracks across sagebrush plains with no roads to be found and many new ruts made where snow had become deep. I saw sage grouse nests destroyed by individuals too lazy to walk off a road to collect antlers, I was so disappointing in seeing this, this is why I would gladly pay a fee to collect antlers if there was a way to help enforcement of this activity or even towards wildlife conservation.

**Perry, Tyrell**

**Rawlins, WY**

12/9/2019 7:07:00  
PM

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**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 61, Collection of Shed Antlers and Horns**

**15** THE BOUNDARY DESIGNATION FOR THE NEW RESTRICTED SHED ANTLER HUNT AREA IS INCREDIBLY OBSCURE. I WOULD SUGGEST USING MAJOR HIGHWAYS OR INCREASING THE AREA TO STATE WIDE

**C, IAN**

**CASPER, WY**

12/12/2019 6:52:00  
AM

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**16** I support the changes to protect critical wintering big game areas on public lands. I would also support higher fines, loss of hunting privileges and jail time for offenders.

**Oleary, Maureen Jackson, WY**

12/12/2019  
6:28:00 PM

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**17** Why extend the shed closure to a small section of land around Laramie which mostly consists of private land!? I BELIEVE WY needs to step up and be like Colorado and Nevada and close the entire state down to shed hunting/collection of antlers until May 1. Our wildlife gets way too much pressure in the winter due to the increased popularity of collecting shed antlers. CLOSE THE WHOLE STATE TIL MAY 1!!!!

**Berrian, Jeremy Jackson, WY**

12/16/2019  
8:32:00 AM

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**18** I request that the commission consider establishing a resident-only period at the beginning of the open season for shed hunting on public land. An influx of non-residents (NRs) has always been part of the concern about shed hunting crowds. As well, one of the arguments for expanding the closed area in Wyoming was the recently established shed season in Colorado (assuming that would increase crowds in WY). In managing crowds, residents v. NRs seems like a natural dividing line. Further comment on the points most often raised: - Reducing crowds during the beginning of the open season (May) would likely benefit resident shed hunters, but it would definitely benefit wildlife. Opening-day frenzies are an inevitable side effect of closures, but they are perhaps the worst side effect. Reducing the "opening day" effect may be even more important in the future and limiting NRs now may be a chance to "get in front". - "How could it be enforced?" is always asked. Well how can any of it be enforced? The regulation has always been mismatched with the objective. As long as most abide by the rule, the goal of significantly reducing human activity will be met. I would note that in the areas where I have observations, the new Colorado antler regulation is not taken seriously by many shed hunters. - Managing crowds by limiting NRs is far from a new idea. Seemingly every state imposes higher fees for NR hunting and fishing licenses. Throughout the west, we are used to the idea of restricted quotas for NR big game licenses. But in addition, some states limit NRs in other ways. Examples: Excerpted from the South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks webpage (1) Pheasant Season - Resident Only Season Dates Start: Oct 12, 2019 End: Oct 14, 2019 (2) "South Dakota nonresident waterfowl licenses during the fall are limited in number and distributed by a lottery drawing. " Excerpted from the North Dakota Game and Fish webpage (1)

**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 61, Collection of Shed Antlers and Horns**

Nonresident hunting restriction - In accordance with NDCC 20.1-08-04.9, nonresidents may not hunt any game during the first seven days of the pheasant season (October 12-18, 2019) on North Dakota Game and Fish Department Wildlife Management Areas or on Conservation PLOTS (Private Land Open To Sportsmen) areas. (2) Waterfowl Licenses. There are two types available. 1) A statewide license, allows hunting statewide for two 7-day periods or one 14-day period. \$150 2) A zone-restricted license that requires selection of hunting zones (zone map) according to the following restrictions: \$100 • A nonresident must select Zone 1 or Zone 2 for one seven-day period and Zone 3 for the other seven-day period or • Zone 3 for the full 14 days or two seven-day periods or • Zones 1 and 3 concurrently for the same 7-day period or zones 2 and 3 concurrently for the same 7-day period. This option effectively reduces the license to seven days only, as the two 7-day periods are run at the same time. I know of other cases, but the above seemed to be good examples. There is a great deal that could be said about shed hunting and the future of shed hunting. But here and now I have tried to stay relevant to the idea of establishing a resident-only period at the beginning of the open shed season; thank you for considering it.

**Hart, Andy**

**Laramie, WY**

12/16/2019  
2:46:00 PM

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Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form



The Department welcomes comment regarding proposed changes to regulations. Questions about these proposed regulation changes should be directed to Department Regional Offices for clarification. No individual Department response will be generated from questions submitted through this comment form. Written comments shall be accepted at all public meetings, by standard mail at the address below, or on the WGFD website at <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/Get-Involved/Public-Meetings>. Comments will not be accepted via email, fax or telephone. All written comments must be received at the below address no later than 5:00 p.m., December 16, 2019.

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604

RECEIVED  
DEC 11 2019  
WYOMING GAME & FISH  
WILDLIFE DIVISION  
CASPER, WYOMING

Please use a separate form for each of the categories below:

- Black Bear Hunting Seasons
- Regulation Governing Firearms Cartridges and Archery Equipment
- Collection of Shed Antlers and Horns

Comments:

1. It is recommended to establish a license and fee for collecting antlers with a larger fee for non-residents. The fee should be sufficient to cover processing costs with money left over to fund WGFD projects/needs.

2. It is recommended to <sup>have WGFD</sup> encourage neighboring states to follow WGFD's lead in restricting antler collection times.

3. It is recommended to expand the antler collection restriction statewide.

All the above is in the interest of protecting wildlife during the stress of winter.

Greenriver

KEVIN KEERLEBER  
Printed Name

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

12-10-19  
Date

11/2019

# Wyoming Game and Fish Department Comment Form



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Comments:

Looks all good.  
you guys & gals doing a great job  
thanks for all that hard  
work that you all do.

lander

Jeff Smith  
Printed Name

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

12-12-19  
Date

11/2019



Greetings Wyoming Game and Fish Commission!

Below I have several comments regarding proposed changes to Chapter 61 (Collection of Shed Antlers and Horns). In short, I am opposed to the proposed changes to Chapter 61 Section 3; however, I am open-minded on this issue and eager to learn more about the science around this subject. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of my comments. Every spring, I enjoy hiking on public lands and finding shed antlers; it's a great way to get some exercise and experience our public lands. I have a great deal of respect for our wildlife and understand their importance to the people of our State and our tourism.

First, one of my main concerns regarding the proposed change to Chapter 61 Section 3 is the ability of our wardens to effectively enforce this new closure. How do you expect a warden to differentiate between a person on public land that may be just hiking, mountain biking, birding (citizen science), coyote hunting, or any other activity other than collecting shed antlers or horns? If a person is walking on public land with a set of binoculars, a birding checklist, and using a GPS to discretely mark locations of shed antlers and stockpiling them, do you have confidence a warden will be able to effectively enforce this new regulation by proving that person was locating shed antlers instead of just identifying birds? Another concern I have is that this new regulation will keep law-abiding shed hunters out of the wintering ranges until May 1, while less-honest shed hunters will have many weeks to attempt to poach winter range that will be theoretically undisturbed and relatively full of shed antlers. I like that when I get out and hike in the spring I have a reasonable chance of finding a shed antler, whereas a poached landscape wouldn't provide the same opportunity for law-abiding shed hunters. Perhaps, the Department could more aggressively seek to establish more Wildlife Habitat Management Areas that have human presence closures for a good portion of the year, thus avoiding the issue of distinguishing different recreation types?

I understand and agree that late winter/early spring is a critical time for wintering wildlife when their body condition is at its lowest point and unnecessary stress may push them over the edge into the winterkill data column. I would ask the Commission to consider whether shed hunting is the only factor that contributes to winterkilled wildlife? Thinking big picture, are there other sources of stress throughout the year that may have contributed to the death of an animal in late winter? For example, during hunting season in the fall wildlife are hunted for several months straight. Is it possible that consistent hunting pressure throughout the fall impacts the ability of our wildlife to enter the winter months in the best body condition possible? Nearly every year since 2012 I have had a 67-6 reduced price cow/calf elk license. While hunting this tag, I have seen on multiple occasions hunters pursuing running herds of elk with motorized vehicles. I believe this type of motorized activity causes unnecessary stress on the elk, which compromises their ability to maintain reasonable body condition during November and December months. Could we consider working with our land management partners to close more areas to motorized travel during hunting season so as to reduce stress on animals during these months? Alternatively, a strategy similar to the National Elk Refuge where hunting is all walk-in, but game retrieval with motorized assistance is permitted once an animal has been harvested? I believe more closely regulating motorized traffic, particularly during late season cow/calf elk tags, would help our elk go into winter in better body condition. How about habitat? Are there places where human activity has compromised habitat, thus not allowing wildlife to enter winter in the best body condition possible? Again, I do understand how unnecessary stress in the late winter/early spring can cause additional winterkill mortality; however, I ask the Commission to consider what other

*lander office*

factors contribute to the body condition of wildlife throughout the year, not just during a 1-2 month timeframe.

In these comments I wish to also be constructive, therefore I have the following suggestions that I would ask the Commission to consider prior to implementing closures of public lands. First, I suggest a shed hunting license be required for anyone who looks for shed antlers or horns on public lands. The annual fee for this license, to be determined by the Commission, would be relatively small compared to the current commercial value of an antler. The revenue to the WGFD from these new license sales would go directly to the funding of additional warden positions, with the objective of increased surveillance of winter ranges to ultimately reduce harassment and stress of wintering wildlife. Additionally, having a shed hunting license would provide a mechanism to further punish people who chronically harass wildlife and/or enter closed winter ranges early; this license can be revoked for a period of time, similar to the way hunting privileges can be revoked for those who do not follow the WGFD regulations. Second, I suggest an online shed hunting ethics training course that is mandatory for all those who purchase a shed hunting license. This online course, which would be required to be taken every year, will educate people on the dangers of disturbing wintering wildlife during their most vulnerable, critical time. Just like a Hunter's Education Safety Card, all shed hunters would be required to carry their "Shed Hunting Ethics Training Course" completion card on them in the field. I believe the State of Utah has implemented such a course. Third, I suggest we work with our land management partners to identify areas where additional seasonal motorized-use closures would help reduce stress on wintering wildlife. I have personally seen motorized vehicle tracks on public lands, off established roads during March, April, and May. I think this type of motorized use during this timeframe is particularly stressful on wintering wildlife. Finally, I suggest greater fines/consequences be proposed for the activities related to harassment of wintering wildlife, entering closed winter range early, and traveling off established roads with motorized vehicles on public lands. Greater consequences for those who engage in activities related to the disturbance of wintering wildlife would hopefully mean less people consider engaging in said activities.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my comments. I love hiking on public lands in the spring, and hope that instead of a shut-down of public lands until May 1, that the Commission could consider alternatives similar to what I have suggested above to try and encourage a culture where wintering wildlife is respected and left alone while still allowing people to enjoy their public lands.

Sincerely,



Mike Wachtendonk  
wachtendonk@uwalumni.com  
Sportsperson and Public Lands Enthusiast  
Lander, WY

## CHAPTER 61

### COLLECTION OF SHED ANTLERS AND HORNS

**Section 1. Authority.** This regulation is promulgated by authority of Wyoming Statutes § 23-1-103 and § 23-1-302.

**Section 2. Definitions.** In addition to the definitions set forth in Title 23 of the Wyoming Statutes and Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation, the Commission also adopts the following definitions for the purpose of this chapter:

(a) “Antlers” mean the bony, deciduous appendages protruding from the heads of members of the deer family (Cervidae), including deer, elk or moose.

(b) “Collect” means to search for, locate, stockpile, or possess shed antlers and horns of big game animals on public land or attempt to search for, locate, stockpile, or possess shed antlers and horns of big game animals on public land.

(c) “Horns” mean the hard, permanent appendages protruding from the heads of bighorn sheep, mountain goats or pronghorn antelope.

(d) “Public land” means federal lands and lands owned or administered by the Commission.

(e) “Shed” means having become naturally separated from the skull.

**Section 3. Collection of Shed Antlers or Horns.** No person shall collect shed antlers or horns from big game animals on public land west of a line beginning at the Wyoming-Colorado state line at the intersection of U.S. Highway 287, northerly along said highway to U.S. Highway 30-287; northwesterly along said highway to Interstate Highway 80; westerly along said highway to the Pacific Branch of the Continental Divide; northwesterly along said divide to the southern boundary of Yellowstone National Park; westerly along said boundary to the Wyoming-Idaho state line, from January 1 through 12:00 p.m. May 1 of each calendar year.

**Section 4. Exceptions.** Department personnel and elk feeders under contract with the Department may collect antlers on Department elk feedgrounds during the closed season dates specified in Section 3 only when the collecting of such antlers is part of their official duties. All antlers collected by Department personnel and elk feeders on Department elk feedgrounds are property of the Department and shall be disposed of in accordance with the Commission policy VIIK “DISPOSITION OF ELK ANTLERS”, dated December 7, 1999, and which does not include any later amendments or editions of the incorporated matter. This Commission policy can be viewed at regional offices and the Headquarters Office of the Department.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

David Rael, President

Dated: January 15, 2020

# WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

## CHAPTER 61

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WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

~~Mike Healy~~ David Rael, President

Dated: ~~January 22, 2014~~ January 15, 2020