HUNTING

REGULATIONS



Important Changes... 12 Licensing... 18 Alberta Hunting Report... 28 Sunrise/Sunset Table... 48 Matt Farquhar photo





RIFLESCOPES | RED DOTS | RANGEFINDERS | BINOCULARS | MONOCULARS | SPOTTING SCOPES | TRIPODS | APPAREL

2025 Deer Hunters

Your Role in CWD Surveillance

Ongoing Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance is designed to support game management decisions. While CWD occurs in deer throughout central and eastern Alberta, the program targets specific wildlife management units (WMUs) along the Alberta/Saskatchewan border and along the leading edges of the CWD risk area. However, as always, we will test any cervid legally harvested in Alberta. Depending on where and what you hunt, the risk of harvesting an infected deer ranges from very low to very high. CWD occurs most often in mule deer bucks. For more information and previous data check the CWD web pages at alberta.ca/chronic-wasting-disease-updates

For 2025, submission of deer heads is MANDATORY in the following WMUs:

- 102, 108, 110, 116, 118, 119, 148, 150, 151, 200, 212, 216, 221, 224, 232, 234, 236, 238, 246, 247, 248, 250, AND

- 300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 320, 322, 334, 402, 404, AND

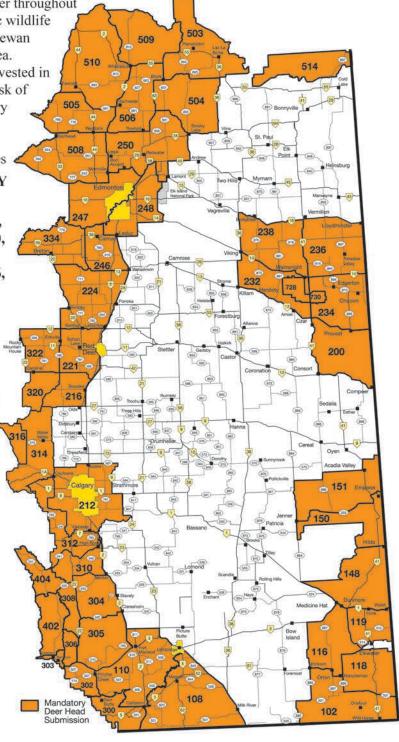
- 503, 504, 505, 506, 508, 509, 510, 514, 728, and 730 (see map).

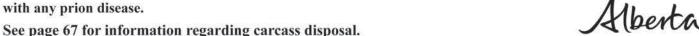
Each head must have a green CWD label. Labels are available at Fish and Wildlife offices or, during rifle seasons, at the 24-hour CWD freezers. DO NOT TAKE EXTRA LABELS FROM THE FREEZERS! TAKE ONLY THE LABEL YOU NEED FOR THE HEAD YOU HAVE!! COMPLETE BOTH SIDES OF THE GREEN LABEL, INCLUDING A PRECISE KILL LOCATION AND YOUR WIN NUMBER. Keep heads frozen and drop off at any CWD freezer or call to perhaps arrange drop-off at a Fish and Wildlife office. CWD test results are provided via email to hunters as soon as possible.

For more detailed information about CWD, visit Alberta's wildlife diseases website alberta.ca/chronic-wasting-disease or contact

Dr. M. Pybus (780) 427-3462. Dial 310-0000 first for toll-free long distance calls.

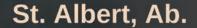
Health authorities state that CWD is not known to infect humans. However, they advise against eating animals infected Note: Check CWD web page in October for 2025 freezer locations











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contact us at:

Genesee Hunting Program

Capital Power at the Genesee Generating Station and Mine, south west of Edmonton, is continuing their hunting program that includes black powder rifles, cross bows, shotguns, and archery. This program provides excellent hunting opportunities for the public in an area well known for its Whitetail and Mule Deer populations.

The program, in partnership with the Alberta Hunter Education Instructor's Association (A.H.E.I.A.), is open to all eligible hunters. There is no cost to participate, but there are specific rules that all participants must adhere to regarding site access.

Public access to Capital Power's land at Genesee is only permitted through the A.H.E.I.A. program.

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

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

> Please protect yourself and others. We appreciate your cooperation.

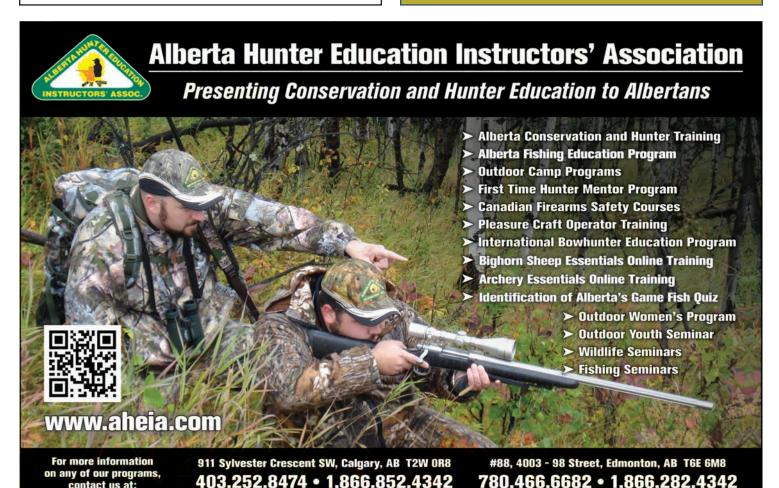
A.H.E.I.A. administers all hunting on Capital Power land. For more information or to apply to hunt at Genesee contact:

Allan Orr, allan@aheia.com

Tel. 780-466-6682 Toll Free: 1-866-282-4342

Website: www.aheia.ca





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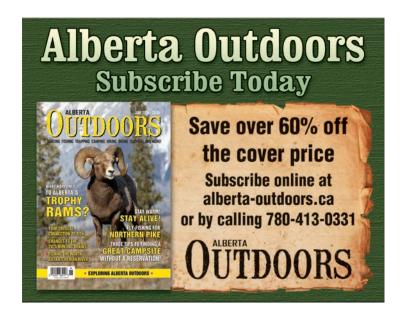
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Notice to Hunters

Alberta Government Enforcement Compliance Officers frequently conduct vehicle checks to assist in the management of Alberta's fish and wildlife resources and to ensure compliance with existing legislation.



Message from the Honourable Todd Loewen

Minister of Forestry and Parks

unting remains an important part of life in Alberta, preserving family traditions, connecting us to the land, providing sustainable food sources, strengthening the economy and supporting wildlife management and conservation goals. Albertans are lucky to live in a world-class hunting destination where incredible adventures can be had in every corner of the province. Whether you're an experienced hunter pursuing a once-in-a-lifetime ram, a family looking for whitetail deer for the freezer or a newcomer harvesting your first

upland game bird, our diverse landscapes and abundant wildlife offer unique hunting opportunities for all experience levels.

As we head into the 2025-26 hunting season, hunters should carefully review this year's guide due to a number of regulatory updates. Earlier this year, Alberta's government was proud to introduce amendments to both



the Wildlife Act and the Wildlife Regulation, modernizing our approach to wildlife management. These changes recognize Alberta's ongoing commitment to conservation and the effective stewardship of the province's wildlife populations, ensuring hunting is safe and sustainable for generations to come. We work hard to ensure hunting rules and regulations reflect current scientific knowledge and align with best practices across Canada. Key improvements include streamlining enforcement, reducing administrative burdens, improving clarity for hunters and introducing new hunting opportunities.

When properly managed, hunting in Alberta plays an important role in balancing ecosystem health and raising funds for conservation. Just this year, the Minister's Special Licence Program raised over \$900,000 for conservation initiatives via auction and raffle

of licences for species such as bighorn sheep, pronghorn, elk, moose, cougar, wild turkey, whitetail deer and mule deer. These funds support initiatives throughout the province focused on habitat restoration, wildlife research and public education.

As Minister of Forestry and Parks, and as an avid hunter, I'm proud of the responsible stewardship shown by Alberta's hunting community. Everyone on the landscape plays a role in maintaining the health of our wildlife populations and preserving the outdoors for future generations.

Please take time to review the 2025 regulations carefully, particularly the changes introduced this season. And remember, mandatory harvest surveys for Special Licences are essential for effective wildlife monitoring and future planning.

Sincerely, **Todd Loewen**Minister of Forestry and Parks





310-LAND (5263)

Call for information or to report public safety incidents, illegal activity and enforcement concerns in provincial parks and protected areas, and on public land. Available 24/7 to ensure help is there when you need it most.

You can also call toll free from outside Alberta: 1-833-310-5869

Albertan Alberta.ca/310LAND

page 10

AlbertaRELM

Alberta Forestry and Parks uses your contact information on AlbertaRELM.com to send out important information regarding hunting and sportfishing opportunities. Please visit AlbertaRELM.com and confirm that your contact information (including your email address) is current to ensure that you receive messages regarding upcoming opportunities and information on licences that you have purchased.

Disclaimers

This pamphlet is neither a legal document nor a complete listing of current Alberta hunting regulations. It is a summary of the regulations and is published annually by Sports Scene Publications Inc. to help hunters understand the rules of hunting. Details of the regulations may be obtained from the nearest Fish and Wildlife office (page 14).

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Albertan





IMPORTANT CHANGES AND INFORMATION FOR 2025

GENERAL

- Alberta residency eligibility The definition of an Alberta resident has changed. See Terms and Definitions on Page 17.
- All tracking devices attached to animals that are legally killed or found dead must be reported to the service and returned to the service.
- Definition of a 'vehicle' non-motorized mobility aids, such as non-powered wheelchairs, are now exempt from the being classified as a vehicle and users of these devices will not be required to have a Weapons Discharge Permit to shoot from these devices while hunting.

BIG GAME

- Special licence harvest report deadlines with additional elk seasons now extended to February 28, those elk special licences that end after February 15 must have their harvest reports submitted by March 15. All other special licence mandatory harvest reports must still be submitted by February 15.
- The minimum age for youth to hunt big game is now 10 years old. This means that a 10-year-old can hold a big game licence and can apply for big game draws.
- The minimum edible portions of big game that must be recovered by hunters, if fit for consumption, are: the four quarters, the loins and the neck.
- Resident use of outfitter allocations a resident may continue to access outfitter allocated big game licences. This is now a permanent entitlement.
- Anyone who kills a male sheep over one year of age must now submit their report and deliver the complete unaltered skull with horns and eye intact within 14 days after the close of the season, or 30 days after the date that the animal was killed, whichever occurs first.
- Trophy sheep are now called 'Class 1 Sheep' and trophy antelope are now called 'Class 1 Antelope'. Non-trophy sheep are now called 'Class 2 Sheep' and non-trophy antelope are now called 'Class 2 Antelope'.
- The skins of black bears and cougars may now be abandoned and wasted ONLY IF the edible portions of the meat of those animals are recovered. A hunter may thus abandon the skin OR meat of a cougar or black bear. If skins are abandoned, the meat must be tagged like other big game animals, such as deer, elk or moose.

ELK

- Antlerless elk seasons have been extended to February 28 in several WMUs. See Big Game Seasons on page 47 for details.
- An additional season of December 21 to February 28 was added for antlered and antlerless elk in WMU 108.
- The last antlered and antlerless elk seasons have been extended to February 28 in WMUs 116, 118, and 119 and WMU group (124, 128, 142, 144, 148, 150).
- The last season for the WMU 212 Resident Antlerless Elk Special Licence has been extended to February 28.
- Antlerless Elk Special Licence seasons were created in WMUs 528 and 535.

DEER

- Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licences will be issued with ONE tag and will be valid in the following WMU's: 200-208, 214, 220-246, 248, 258-260, 300, 304, 305, 332, 334, 350-353, 357-360, 440-446.
- The hunting of antlered mule deer in WMUs 106, 112, 128, and 242 during the archery-only hunting season now requires the successful draw of a Special Licence.
- Antlered Mule Deer Landowner Licences will be limited to 25 per cent of the total resident permits in each WMU and provided on a first come, first served basis.
- The mandatory submission of white-tailed and mule deer heads for CWD surveillance has been expanded for 2025. See page 3 for a detailed map.

BLACK BEAR

- Black bear spring seasons have been extended until June 30 in several WMUs in Northern Alberta. See Black Bear Seasons on page 58 for details.
- Dogs can be used to hunt black bears in September and October in prescribed WMU's. See Black Bear Seasons on page 58 for details.
- Bear bait station signs it is no longer compulsory to include a Wildlife Identification Number on a bait station sign if the sign includes a name and active contact phone number for the person responsible for the bait. Outfitters and guides can choose to include a outfitter (big game) permit number, or a number relating to the person's big game guide's designation.

COUGAR

- Cougar harvest reporting cougar harvests will now be reported to the email address provided by the service. There is no longer a phone number as this email address can be texted as well. See page 57 for details.
- Cougar may be hunted, other than by trapping or by the use of dogs, on privately owned land by the owner or occupant of that land, or a resident who is authorized in writing by the owner or occupant of that land, to hunt on that land.

GAME BIRD

- **Double crested cormorants** are a game bird huntable during duck seasons. Their flesh may be abandoned or wasted BUT dead birds must be recovered from the field and properly disposed of.
- You may now shoot at migratory birds from an unanchored, powered boat BUT the boat cannot be moving due to the momentum imparted by a motor (or sail).
- Turkey can be now hunted with any weapon that is not prohibited for hunting upland game birds.
- Someone hunting on a game bird shooting ground may now use any weapon that is allowed for hunting game birds, but only if authorized by the
 landowner or the holder of the game bird shooting ground licence.

IMPORTANT CHANGES AND INFORMATION FOR 2025

- Anyone guiding a **resident hunter for game bird hunting** for gain or reward must be a registered guide and outfitter or working for a registered outfitter. That outfitter must be hunting under a waterfowl privilege in the fall season but doesn't need a waterfowl privilege when hunting with resident clients in the spring white goose season.
- The minimum edible portions of game birds that must be recovered by hunters, if fit for consumption, are the breasts.
- Youth under 10 are exempt from the need for a provincial game bird licence while hunting game birds. HOWEVER, they must be supervised by a licenced adult and any birds they harvest are considered part of the adult's limit. i.e., the youth under 10 shares the supervising adult's legal harvest limits for legally huntable species. See page 63 for more information.

HUNTING EQUIPMENT AND HUNTING METHODS

- **Prohibited weapons** for big game now includes all rimfire ammunition and all centrefire ammunition with a bullet less than .22" calibre. This means that centrefire .22 cartridges like .223, .22-250, .22 Creedmoor etc., are now legal for big game.
- The minimum draw weight for bows has been reduced to 35 pounds to draw an arrow 28 inches to its head.
- Tracking dogs it is now legal to use a leashed tracking dog to help recover shot at big game that is presumed dead or wounded. The dog can only be brought into the area after the shot and must remain leashed at all times while in an area with an open season for big game. NOTE: hunting of big game while accompanied by a dog, other than for cougars and black bears where prescribed, or with a 'pack dog' in the 400 WMU's REMAINS ILLEGAL.

LICENCES, WILDLIFE REGISTRATION AND HUNTING ENTITLEMENTS

- Undersubscribed licences permitted licence combinations will now allow a resident hunter to buy one undersubscribed licence of any kind even if that hunter already holds a licence of that type. For example: if a hunter draws an Antlerless Elk Special Licence, they can still buy an Undersubscribed Antlerless Elk Special Licence if one is available after the draw.
- The **crossbow permit** itself has been repealed BUT those wanting to use a crossbow in archery season must still demonstrate the same level of medical justification. The medical assessment form must still be carried and be signed by an authorized medical practitioner. This form will be considered invalid if improperly filled out or incomplete. The responsibility lies with the hunter to ensure its accuracy.
- Muskrats and double crested cormorants can now be hunted by an owner or occupant, or a resident authorized in writing by the owner or occupant, without a licence on private land.
- Hunters cannot be accompanied by domestic sheep or goats (e.g. 'pack goats') while hunting in WMU's 302, 303, 306, 308, and 400-446.
- Minors hunting with firearms minors who possess a federal minors firearm permit and who are using that firearm in accordance with their permit's conditions may be exempt from being supervised while using a firearm for hunting. If not in possession of a valid minor's permit, they are still required to be supervised by an appropriately licenced parent, guardian or authorized adult.
- Registration for sale parts of an animal such as skins and horns may be registered for sale by the person who killed the animal under authority of a recreational licence. This now includes an animal from any jurisdiction as long that person can demonstrate the authority under which it was killed.
- Sale of marked wildlife wildlife that have been permanently marked to authorize them for sale may now be sold immediately after that permanent marking, there is no longer a need to wait for three years.
- The **processed skins** of grizzly bear or cougar, or the horns or antlers of a big game animal that have been registered for sale, may be sold as is or as part of an artisan product.
- Bill of Lading a bill of lading (see page 66) is no longer needed if sharing the processed meat and parts of a legally hunted game animal after the tag has been removed. A tag may only be removed at a residence or commercial facility, like a butcher, when the animal is processed. All other possession of wildlife must still be accompanied by prescribed documents. A bill of lading is still required when someone other than the licence holder is in possession of the game animal parts prior to the legal removal of the tag, e.g. when transporting another hunter's game animal carcass to a residence or commercial facility for processing.



FURTHER INQUIRIES

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

EPA Outreach Services	310-3773
Toll free1-	877-944-0313
E-mail: EPA.Outreach-Service	es@gov.ab.ca
Public Lands	LAND (5263)
(Recreational access questions, illegal garbage	dumping, etc.)

AlbertaRelm Help Desk 1-888-944-5494

Websites - albertaregulations.ca or mywildalberta.ca

Hunting and Fishing Branch Alberta Government

Forestry Building 9920 - 108 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2M4 email: FP.HuntingAndFishingBranch@gov.ab.ca

Alberta Government Offices

- Hunting, trapping and sportfishing regulations.
- Licences: RFMA/Trapping, Fish Stocking, Fish Research, Competitive Fishing, Fur Dealers, Taxidermy, Tannery, Damage
- Found Dead Wildlife or Export Permit applications.
- Registrations for Compulsory Furbearer Species and Big Game, fish or wildlife disease inquiries including freezer locations.

780-675-2419

Wildlife or Fisheries Management inquiries.

Athahasca (*)

• (*) indicates Designated Sheep and Goat Registration Office

Athabasca (^)	780-675-2419
Barrhead	780-674-8236
Bonnyville	780-826-3142
Calgary/Cochrane (*)	403-297-6674
Drayton Valley	780-542-6616
Edmonton (*)	780-427-3574
Edson (*)	780-723-8244
Fairview	780-835-7200
Fort McMurray	780-743-7200
Fort Vermilion	780-927-3712
Grande Prairie (*)	780-538-5260
High Level	780-841-0132
High Prairie	780-523-6521
Hinton	780-865-8264
Lac La Biche	780-623-5247
Lethbridge (*)	403-381-5322
Manning	780-836-3065
Medicine Hat (*)	403-529-3680
Peace River (*)	780-624-6167
Pincher Creek (*)	403-627-1120
Red Deer (*)	403-340-7052
Rocky Mountain House (*)	403-845-8230
St Paul	780-645-6313
Slave Lake (*)	780-849-7123
Spruce Grove (*)	780-960-8600
Vermilion	780-853-8137
Whitecourt	780-778-7153

Public Safety and Emergency Services / Fish and Wildlife Enforcement **Services Offices**

- For non-urgent enforcement or problem wildlife matters see contact information below
- For hunting and fishing violations in progress or imminent public safety risk or significant property loss due to wildlife call Report A Poacher line 1-800-642-3800
- Fish and Wildlife Enforcement media requests 780-644-3009
- The first location listed is the designated Unit Hub office location responsible for the subsequent locations listed

Northwest Region	Grande Prairie, Grande Cache, Spirit River, Valleyview	780-538-5265
region	High Prairie, Fox Creek, Slave Lake, Whitecourt	780-523-6526
	Peace River, Fairview, Fort Vermilion, High Level, Manning	780-624-6405
	Rocky Mountain House, Drayton Valley, Edson, Evansburg, Hinton, Nordegg, Sundre	403-845-8300
Northeast Region	Athabasca, Cold Lake, Fort McMurray, Lac La Biche	780-675-8169
	Edmonton	780-644-7089
	Spruce Grove, Barrhead	780-960-8190
	Red Deer, Wetaskiwin	403-755-6150
	Smoky Lake, St. Paul ¹	780-656-3556
	Vegreville, Camrose, Ponoka ¹	780-632-5410
	Provost, Stettler, Vermilion ¹	780-753-2433
South	Calgary, Drumheller, Hanna, Strathmore	403-297-6423
Region	Cochrane, High River, Oyen	403-932-2388
	Lethbridge, Brooks, Cardston, Medicine Hat, Vulcan	403-381-5266
	Blairmore, Claresholm, Pincher Creek	403-562-3289

Footnotes:

¹ Part time offices – please contact for service hours.

NOTICE TO HUNTERS

Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Services frequently conducts vehicle checks to assist in the management of Alberta's fish and wildlife resources and to ensure compliance with existing legislation.



Eastern Irrigation District PUBLIC ACCESS



The Eastern Irrigation District (EID) manages its land with a multi-use concept. Hunting is generally permitted on **EID owned Community Pastures** (Shaded Areas) during the legal recreational hunting season by individuals with written permission and in possession of the appropriate recreational hunting licences.

Please help ensure these lands remain open to recreational access by following the rules of access.

The below conditions must be followed:

- · Automobiles must stay on designated routes or established trails
- All watercraft must be registered with EID's Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program and follow approved prevention procedures
- · No off-highway vehicles, camping, or fires
- · Do not disturb livestock
- Leave gates as found
- · Obey all signs, certain areas have added restrictions

Access to these private lands is a privilege not a right, please use respect.

Rosemary

Duchess

Millicent Patricia

Brooks

Tilley

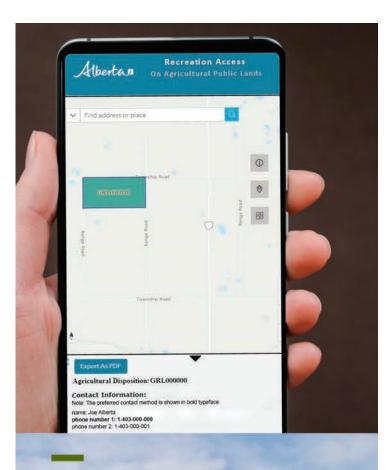
Rainier

Scandia

Rolling

Hills

eid@eid.ca www.eid.ca 403-362-1400



Hunting on agricultural public land

There are over five million acres of public land in Alberta that are held under agricultural leases. Leaseholders are responsible for managing their lease and provide reasonable access for recreational users to enjoy the land while maintaining their working landscape.

Before accessing agricultural public land:

- Contact the leaseholder to discuss your trip plans and access conditions
- . Know and follow the rules for use of the lease
- Plan ahead, respect the land and be courteous to other users

Learn more and explore the recreation access on agricultural public lands web map for leaseholder contact information and access conditions at Alberta.ca/AgriculturalPublicLand



WMU DESCRIPTIONS

The WMU boundaries shown on the enclosed map are small-scale approximations of the actual units legally described in the *Wildlife Regulation* (AR 143/97) and subsequent amendments. The map enclosed in this Guide is provided to help you identify the WMU in which you wish to hunt. **It is your responsibility to know in which WMU you are hunting and the seasons, rules and regulations that govern hunting in that WMU.** Text descriptions of the WMU boundaries may be either read at your nearest Fish and Wildlife office or through the Alberta King's Printer website (https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-kings-printer.aspx) or purchased from The Alberta King's Printer at the following address:

Alberta King's Printer

10611 - 98 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5K 2P7

Telephone: (780) 427-4952

NOTE: Maps can be found online at mywildalberta.ca/hunting/regulations/default.aspx.

MAPS

Maps providing information about access, topography and land ownership can be purchased at several locations throughout the province. Contact your local Map Dealer. Certain Government of Alberta maps, including WMUs, sanctuaries, useful for planning hunts, can be found at https://geospatial.alberta.ca/FWIMT_Pub/Viewer/?TermsOfUseRequired=true&Viewer=FWIMT_Pub.

Provincial and Federal Maps

Provincial and federal access and topographical maps are available from various private map dealers throughout the province.

County and Other Municipal Maps

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

FEDERAL FIREARMS LEGISLATION

All hunters should be aware of federal laws surrounding the acquisition, possession, transportation and use of weapons and ammunition. For further information contact your local police service or the Canadian Firearms Centre at 1-800-731-4000 or visit the Centre's website at rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/firearms.



TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

The following will help you understand terms and definitions in this Guide:

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

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

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

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

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

- Class S outfitter an outfitter who holds non-resident (Canadian)/non-resident alien allocations for Class 1 sheep special licences. A Class S outfitter may also hold allocations for other big game special licences.
- Class T outfitter an outfitter who holds allocations valid for non-resident (Canadian) and non-resident alien big game special licences other than those for Class 1 sheep.

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

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

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

Green Area – forest lands not available for agricultural development other than grazing. In general, the Green Area is public land outside the parkland and prairie regions or roughly in the

northern half of the province and within a strip running along the Rocky Mountains and foothills.

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

The licence authorizes the holder (usually a relative or friend of the hunters to be hosted) to host a maximum of two non-residents (Canadian) or non-resident aliens* named on the host's licence to hunt wolf, coyote and big game throughout the province. *Non-resident alien hunters are referred to Outfitting and Guiding Requirements (page 20) for additional conditions and restrictions.

Legal Hunting Firearm

- Must comply with big game and bird game restrictions listed under General Regulations (see pages 30/31);
- Can have any stock design or stock composition;
- Is not limited by the energy its projectile(s) produces (see page 30 for air-pistol velocity limits);
- Can have any bore or caliber size except for restrictions listed under General Regulations (see pages 30/31);
- Can hold any amount of ammunition except for restrictions listed under General Regulations (see pages 30/31); and
- Can have any action other than fully automatic.

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

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

Non-resident Alien – a person who is neither a resident nor a non-resident.

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

- four-wheel drive or low pressure tire vehicles,
- motorcycles and related two-wheel vehicles (including bicycles equipped with an electric motor),

- amphibious machines,
- all-terrain vehicles.
- miniature motor vehicles.
- snow vehicles,
- minibikes, or
- any other means of transportation that is propelled by any power other than muscular power or wind.

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

Resident – means a person whose primary residence has been in Alberta for at least a 6-month period immediately preceding the relevant date and who

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

Special Licence – a licence obtained through a draw process, or for resident, non-resident and non-resident alien hunters, through an outfitter. It permits hunting of a specific type or class of game only in specific areas during a specified season (page 19).

Vehicle – Non-motorized mobility aids, such as non-powered wheelchairs, are now exempt from being classified as a vehicle. Users of these devices will not be required to have a Weapons Discharge Permit to shoot from these devices while hunting.

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

White Geese – snow and Ross' geese.

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

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

Month Abbreviations

The following defines the month abbreviations used in this guide:

 $\begin{array}{cccc} A-August & S-September & O-October\\ & N-November & D-December\\ & J-January & F-February & M-March\\ & Ap-April & Ma-May & Ju-June \end{array}$

LICENSING

PURCHASING A LICENCE

Aspira manages the sale of all recreational hunting and fishing licences in Alberta. Licences are sold through private licence issuers or online at Albertarelm.com.

Albertarelm.com is a website for hunters and anglers. By registering on the site, individuals can purchase their licences.

Costs of licences are the same online or at an issuer—no service fees are added. Cost will vary according to the type of licence.

For Online Purchases: To purchase an online licence you will need a valid credit card, an email address, access to a computer with an internet connection and a printer to print your licences.

Download the AlbertaRelm app and easily store your licences and WiN card electronically. Please remember that the onus remains on the hunter to be able to produce their licence, whether electronic or paper, and associated paper tags when requested by an officer during field compliance checks.

To purchase a licence, which requires tags online, you must have a pre-numbered tag(s) before you begin your purchase process. Tags are available by calling 1-888-944-5494 and at licence issuers.

Licence Issuers

A list of licence issuers and locations can be located on albertarelm.com or contact the call centre/help desk toll-free in North America at 1-888-944-5494. Email inquiries can be sent to ab.webmaster@aspirasupport.com

LICENCE REQUIREMENTS

Wildlife Identification Number (WiN)

Hunters and anglers in Alberta must have a 10-digit Wildlife Identification Number (WiN) to apply for draws, purchase wildlife certificates, licences and replacements. Please keep your information up to date; address changes can be made online or at an issuer.

Wildlife Certificate

Hunters must possess a valid Wildlife Certificate and the applicable hunting licence to hunt big game or game birds. Licences whether electronic or paper and applicable tags must be carried on their person while hunting.

Licensing requirements for first-time hunters

NOTE: All new first-time hunters who have qualified for obtaining recreational hunting licences by successfully completing the Alberta conservation and hunter education course, will be required to provide on their WiN profile, their hunter certificate number that is issued to each course graduate, in order to be eligible to purchase a hunting licence.

A first-time hunter is a hunter who 1) has not previously held a hunting licence in Alberta or elsewhere, or 2) has not prior to April 1, 2010, met Alberta first-time hunter criteria, or 3) has not successfully completed a hunter education course in Alberta or elsewhere.

Non-resident and non-resident alien hunters (10 years of age, or older) are exempt from the first-time hunter eligibility requirement if they are accompanied by a hunter host or a designated guide while hunting in Alberta.

Youth first-time hunters must be at least 10 years of age to hunt under the authority of any hunting licence in Alberta, or to apply for any big game draws. All hunters under the age of 16 years must have written permission from a parent or guardian to purchase hunting licences. To hunt with a firearm, hunters under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent, a legal guardian or by a person 18 years of age or older who has the written permission of the parent or legal guardian. If a youth is in possession of a Minors Firearm Permit issued by the RCMP they may hunt unsupervised if the permit permits hunting as a valid use of that firearm. If a youth turns 18 during the hunting season, they can continue to hunt using their valid licence.

Youth under 10 may hunt game birds without a licence *if* they are supervised by a licenced adult. The youth under 10 does not get their own bag limit and any birds harvested count towards the adults bag limit. If hunting migratory birds the youth under 10 still needs a federal Youth Migratory Bird Permit which is issued free and the supervising adult also need a migratory bird permit.

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



Resident Youth Hunting Licences

Subject to the age limitations and conditions above, a resident 10 to 17 years of age may purchase a Resident Youth Wildlife Certificate, including a Game Bird Licence, for \$12.00. The holder of a valid Resident Youth Wildlife Certificate between 10 and 17 who has not yet attained the age of 18 years may also purchase a Youth White-tailed Deer Licence and a Youth Mule Deer Licence, each for \$12.00. These licences are valid during the seasons that do not require one of the special licences obtained through a draw. This person may also purchase an Antlerless Mule Deer Special Licence (available through a draw, see Draws for Special Licences, below) for \$12.00. Partner licences are also available to resident youths if designated by the holder of any special licence. See this page.

Resident Senior Hunting Licences

A resident who is 65 years of age or older at the time of acquiring the following licences may purchase a Resident Youth/Senior Wildlife Certificate, including a Game Bird Licence, for \$12.00. The holder of a valid Resident Youth/Senior Wildlife Certificate may also purchase a Youth/Senior White-tailed Deer Licence for \$12.00. These licences are only vaild during the seasons that do not require one of the special licences obtained through a draw. Partner licences are also available to resident seniors if designated by the holder of any special licence.

Hunters with Disabilities

Eligible individuals may obtain a special permit to discharge a weapon from an OHV. Eligibility requirements have been slightly relaxed to acknowledge a more expansive list of physical challenges. The cross-bow permit itself has been repealed. This means you don't need to get the permit BUT YOU DO NEED TO COMPLETE THE MEDICAL ELIGIBILITY FORM. This form will be considered invalid if improperly filled out or incomplete. See https://mywildalberta.ca/hunting/licence-permits-hunters-with-disabilities.aspx.

Mandatory Suspended Hunter Requirements

A person whose right to hold a recreational hunting licence has been suspended in Alberta as a result of a conviction is required to complete the Alberta Conservation and Hunter Education course available at Alberta Hunter Education Instructors Association (AHEIA), either online or in person. This course must be taken after the beginning of the suspension period. The course is intended to increase outdoor safety, awareness, skills and efficiency and to develop responsible attitudes in the field. Individuals can contact AHEIA for information on completing the course. Participants will be responsible for course and material costs.

Licence Suspensions for Unpaid Fines

If a person is convicted of a provincial fishing or hunting offence and fails to pay their fine on or before the fine due date, they will be suspended from purchasing or using a sportfishing licence, a hunting licence or applying on draws until that outstanding fine has been paid.

Draws for Special Licences

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

Only residents and, to a lesser extent, non-residents (Canadian) are eligible to apply in these draws. A non-refundable \$5.00 (plus GST) levy is charged for each application or group of applicants (maximum of four) for the same draw. This levy goes to the Alberta Conservation Association for programs. Although draws are used for specific wildlife management purposes (e.g., the goal in draw areas is to develop a more balanced age structure), other benefits include improved hunter success, increased opportunity to harvest a trophy animal, a more pleasant hunting experience with lower hunter densities, reduced disturbance of landowners, and a better distribution of the harvest.

With additional elk seasons now extended to February 28, those elk special licences that end after February 15 must have their harvest reports submitted by March 15. All other special licence mandatory harvest reports must still be submitted by February 15. Failure to report will result in a \$15.00 survey fee being charged before they can purchase a Wildlife Certificate and participate in the special licence draw process.

Draw Application Deadline Dates – Hunters interested in special licence hunts for fall 2025 must have applied by June 19. Refer to the 2025 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for more information on draws. Undersubscribed licences are special licences leftover following the draw. These opportunities go on sale August 1 – visit albertarelm.com for more information.

Draw Results – Beginning July 8, draw results are available online at albertarelm.com.

Landowner Special Licence

A person who qualifies may be eligible to obtain a special licence after having been unsuccessful in some draws. Availability of Landowner Special Licences may be limited or not available at all for some species in certain WMUs. Those available will be issued to eligible persons on a first-come, first-served basis. For details on eligibility and the application process, please consult the *2025 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet. NOTE: grazing lease holders are not eligible for a landowner special licence on the lease.

Partner Licence

The following partner licences are available:

- 1. A resident holder of an **Antlerless Moose** Special Licence has the option of designating one eligible resident hunter (adult, youth or senior) to be a partner on the special licence, thereby allowing the designated hunter to obtain a Special Antlerless Moose Partner Licence.
- 2. A resident holder of an **Antlered Moose** Special Licence has the option of designating one eligible hunter, either a resident (adult, youth or senior) or a non-resident (Canadian) (adult, youth or senior), to be a partner on the Special Licence, thereby allowing the designated hunter to obtain a Special Antlered Moose Partner Licence. To qualify for a partner licence in a particular WMU, the non-resident (Canadian) must have been eligible to apply for the special licence in that WMU.
- A non-resident (Canadian) holder of an Antlered Moose Special Licence obtained through the draw process has the option of designating one eligible resident (adult, youth or senior) hunter to be a partner on the special licence, thereby allowing the designated hunter to obtain a Special Antlered Moose Partner Licence.
- 3. Resident hunters successful in drawing a special licence in any of the other draws may designate one eligible resident youth (10 to 17 years of age) or senior (65 years of age and over) to be a partner on their special licence.

Rules for all Partners – A designated partner does not need any priority to qualify for a partner licence, does not need to have applied on the draw, and the purchase of the partner licence will not affect any existing priority of the partner. The intended partner must be eligible to hold a hunting licence. Refer to pages 21-25 regarding licence combinations and restrictions. The primary licensee may designate a partner at any time until the end of the season for which the special licence is valid. The designated partner hunts under the authority of the special licence and must be in direct communication (not including the use of any electronic devices) with the primary special licence holder while hunting to ensure that both stop hunting once the tag(s) are filled. The two hunters hunt as one.

The primary licensee must carry the tag(s) issued with the special licence and must tag the animal as soon as there is a kill. The primary licensee may hunt without the partner, but not vice versa.

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

Outfitting and Guiding Requirements

There is no requirement for non-resident (Canadian) and non-resident alien game bird hunters to contract their game bird hunts through a bird game outfitter. They may hunt game birds without an outfitter, a guide or hunter host.

Anyone guiding an Alberta resident hunter or a non-resident (Canadian) or non-resident alien for game bird hunting for gain or reward must be a registered guide and outfitter or working for a registered outfitter. That outfitter must be hunting under a waterfowl privilege in the fall season but doesn't need a waterfowl privilege when hunting with resident clients in the spring white goose season.

In this section, the term "accompany" or "accompanied" means that the persons involved are close enough to each other to easily facilitate verbal communications without the need for electronic devices. In this section "accompany" or "accompanied" means that the guide knows where the client is at all times. The big game hunter is accompanied by a guide earlier in the day, the guide can then locate the client at all times if they part company, and the client is again accompanied by that guide later in the same day.

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

- 1) May contract the holder of a valid Big Game Outfitter Permit, be guided by a big game designated guide, and hunt under the authority of a licence allocated to an outfitter (for information on outfitters, contact the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society at apos.ab.ca), **OR**
- 2) May be hosted by a hunter host (see this page) usually a relative or friend and hunt according to the following restrictions and conditions:
 - Non-resident aliens may hunt with any hunter host only if the non-resident alien has not done so in the previous two (2) fiscal years (April 1 - March 31).
 - Non-residents (Canadian) and non-resident aliens are limited to certain licences, as indicated in the Licence Availability sections on pages 24 and 25.
 - Non-resident aliens hosted by hunter hosts may hunt big game only during seasons that do not require one of the special licences,



- obtained through a draw, indicated by a in the season tables on pages 47 to 58 or listed under Additional Special Licence Draw Hunts on page 60.
- A non-resident alien and their intended hunter host must apply for their licences and make a statutory declaration that they understand the terms and conditions of the licences (see Hunter Host Licence on this page). The application process can take up to 10 days to complete.
- A non-resident alien must not hunt bighorn sheep, cougar or Class 1 antelope while accompanied by a hunter host.
- Further Restrictions for Non-resident Aliens Who are Not Relatives of the Hunter Host or the Hunter Host's Spouse
 - ➤ Relatives are defined as father, brother, son, uncle, nephew, grandfather, grandson, son-in-law, brother-in-law (and female equivalents) of the hunter host or spouse of the hunter host.
 - >> The non-resident alien and intended hunter host must initiate an application at a Fish and Wildlife office for their licences.
 - ➤ The non-resident alien may apply to hunt only two (2) species of big game and wolf/coyote.

A Hunter Host

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

Hunter Host Licence

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

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

- Contact a Fish and Wildlife office (see page 14) and initiate an application (including statutory declaration). Sign and have signature sworn.
- Have the non-resident alien sign the application (including statutory declaration) and have their signature sworn. If the non-resident alien does not have a WiN, have them complete a WiN profile online at this time.
- Take the completed application to a Fish and Wildlife office. The application will be reviewed for final approval and keyed into the automated licensing system.
- 4. Once the application is approved, go online at albertarelm.com or to any licence issuer and purchase your Hunter Host Licence and the appropriate Wildlife Certificate and licences.

Resident Use of Outfitter Allocations

Alberta residents may access outfitter allocated licences.

BIG GAME LICENCES

Resident Licence Costs and Combinations

NOTE: The 5% federal Goods and Services Tax (GST) is not included in the costs listed below. The licence combination rules now allow a hunter to purchase ONE of any available undersubscribed licence, regardless of a licence they already hold. For example, if you draw an antlered elk special licence you may buy an undersubscribed antlerless elk special licence as well. If you draw an antlerless moose, you may buy an undersubscribed antlerless moose special licence, if available, as well.

Prior to purchasing any licence, each hunter must possess a valid WiN (see page 17) and a Wildlife Certificate which costs \$30.00 (or \$12.00 for a Resident Youth/Senior Wildlife Certificate, page 19). Hunters wishing to hunt with a bow and arrow must also purchase a Bowhunting Permit (not required for hunting with a cross-bow).

Licence	Price (\$)	Licence Combination Restrictions	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter
White-tailed Deer	45.00	A resident adult may obtain only	A resident adult or youth may obtain one licence from each species for a total of four from this list of 24.
Antlered White-tailed Deer Special Licence	45.00	one of the first two licences.	
Youth/Senior White-tailed Deer	12.00	A resident youth/senior may obtain	
Special Antlered White-tailed Deer Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00	only one of the last three licences.	
Mule Deer	45.00	A resident adult may obtain only	
Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence	45.00	one of the first two licences.	
Youth Mule Deer	12.00	A resident senior may obtain only	
Special Antlered Mule Deer Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00	one of the four licences, excluding the Youth licence.	
		A resident youth may obtain only one of the last three licences.	
Elk	45.00	A resident adult may obtain only	Residents may buy one undersubscribed licence of any kind, per species, even if that hunter already holds a licence of that type.
Either Sex Elk Special Licence	45.00	one of the first five licences.	
Antlerless Elk Special Licence	45.00	A resident youth/senior may obtain	
Antlered Elk Special Licence	60.00	only one of these nine licences.	
WMU 300 Elk Special Licence	60.00		
Special WMU 300 Elk Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00		
Special Either Sex Elk Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00		
Special Antlerless Elk Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00		
Special Antlered Elk Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00		
Moose (Archery)	45.00	A resident adult may obtain only	
Antlerless Moose Special Licence	45.00	one of the first six licences.	
Calf Moose Special Licence	45.00	A resident youth/senior may obtain	
Antlered Moose Special Licence	60.00	only one of these seven licences.	
Special Antlered Moose Partner Licence	12.00		
Special Antlerless Moose Partner Licence	12.00		
Special Calf Moose Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00		
Class 1 Sheep	90.00	A resident who killed a sheep,	A resident adult may
WMU 408 Class 1 Sheep Special Licence	90.00	except a legal Class 2 sheep, in 2024 may not purchase a Class 1	obtain only one of the first six licences.
WMU 410 Class 1 Sheep Special Licence	90.00	Sheep Licence in 2025.	
WMU 437 Class 1 Sheep Special Licence	90.00		A resident youth/senior may obtain only one of
WMU 438 Class 1 Sheep Special Licence	90.00		these 11 licences.
WMU 444/446 Class 1 Sheep Special Licence	90.00		

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Licence	Price (\$)	Licence Combination Restrictions	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter
Special WMU 410 Class 1 Sheep Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00	see page 21 for restrictions	see page 21 for licences
Special WMU 408 Class 1 Sheep Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00		
Special WMU 437 Class 1 Sheep Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00		
Special WMU 438 Class 1 Sheep Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00		
Special WMU 444/446 Class 1 Sheep Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00		
Class 2 Sheep Special Licence	90.00	A resident youth/senior may obtain	A resident adult may obtain
Special Class 2 Sheep Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00	only one of these two licences.	one of each of these 22 licences (excluding the
Antlerless White-tailed Deer Special Licence	25.00	A resident youth/senior may obtain	youth/senior licences).
Special Antlerless White-tailed Deer Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00	only one of these two licences.	A resident youth may obtain 14 different licences
Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer ¹	25.00		from this list of 22.
Antlerless Deer (WMUs 212, 247 & 248)	25.00	1	
WMU 248 White-tailed Deer	25.00	1	
Foothills Deer	25.00	1	
Antlerless Mule Deer Special Licence	25.00	A resident youth may obtain only	
Antlerless Mule Deer Special Licence (Youth)	12.00	one of the last two licences.	
Special Antlerless Mule Deer Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00	1	
CFB Wainwright Deer Special Licence	45.00	A resident youth/senior may obtain	
Special CFB Wainwright Deer Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00	only one of these two licences.	
WMU 212 Antlerless Elk Archery	25.00		
WMU 212 Antlerless Elk Special Licence	45.00	A resident youth/senior may obtain	
Special WMU 212 Antlerless Elk Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00	only one of these two licences.	
Black Bear	25.00		
Supplemental Black Bear ²	25.00		
Youth Black Bear Licence	12.00		
Cougar	25.00		
Goat Special Licence ³	180.00	A resident youth/senior may obtain only one of these two licences.	
Special Goat Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00	only one of these two needees.	
Antelope Archery Special Licence	90.00	A resident adult may obtain only	
Class 2 Antelope Special Licence	90.00	one of the first three licences.	
Class 1 Antelope Special Licence	90.00	A resident youth/senior may obtain	
Special Antelope Archery Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00	only one of these six licences.	
Special Class 2 Antelope Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00]	
Special Class 1 Antelope Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00		
Game Bird	15.00		
Pheasant	25.00		
Wild Turkey Special Licence	60.00	A resident youth/senior may obtain only one of these two licences.	
Special Wild Turkey Partner Licence (Youth/Senior)	12.00	omy one of these two ficences.	

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Licence	Price (\$)	Licence Combination Restrictions	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter
Bowhunting Permit (not required for cross-bows)	10.00		
Hunter Host Licence	30.00		
WiN Activation	8.00		
Physical WiN Card	3.00		
Licence Reprint ⁴	2.00		
Tag Replacement ⁵	11.00		

The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licences will be issued with ONE tag and be valid in the following WMU's: 200-208, 214, 220-246, 248, 258-260, 300, 304, 305, 332, 334, 350-353, 357-360, 440-446.

- 220-246, 248, 258-260, 300, 304, 305, 352, 354, 350-353, 357-360, 440-446.

 This licence is only valid in the following WMUs where 2 black bear licences may be used: 224, 250, 258, 260, 320-360, 429, 445, 500-544 and 841.
- 3 Drawn applicants cannot reapply in future years (once-in-a-lifetime opportunity).
- ⁴ All purchased licences can be reprinted either at a licence issuer for a \$2.00 fee or online at no charge.
- ⁵ You are required to bring your licence and identification to a licence issuer and obtain the authorization for the tag replacement. \$11.00 fee is applicable per licence.

NOTE: Special Licences (listed above) are available only through draws which occurred in June of this year. Please refer to the annual *Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for information on how to apply in these draws next year. Draw results and undersubscribed opportunities will be available on July 13.



Non-resident (Canadian) Licence Availability

All non-resident hunters of big game, wolf or coyote require a big game designated guide or a hunter host. See Outfitting and Guiding Requirements on page 20.

Non-residents who hunt with a hunter host may obtain white-tailed deer, antlered mule deer, antlered moose, antlered elk, black bear, supplemental black bear, cougar, and wolf/coyote licences (see table below) from private licence issuers or online at albertarelm.com. Some special licences may be obtained through the draw system that are described in the 2025 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet which was made available in May 2025.

Non-residents contracting a hunt with a big game outfitter may obtain special licences by using an allocation, available from their outfitter. Wolf/coyote licences can be purchased without an allocation. Non-residents using the services of an outfitter must be guided by a big game designated guide. These licences are only available at licence issuers

Non-resident (Canadian) Licence Costs and Combinations

NOTE: The 5% federal Goods and Services Tax (GST) is not included in the costs listed below. Prior to purchasing any licence, each hunter must possess a valid WiN (see page 17) and a Wildlife Certificate, which costs \$30.00. Hunters wishing to hunt with a bow and arrow must also purchase a Bowhunting Permit (not required for hunting with a cross-bow).

All special licences shown in the following table are available through a big game outfitter. Some are also available through the draw system.

Licence	Price (\$)	Licence Combination Restrictions	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter
White-tailed Deer	175.00	A non-resident may not obtain more than one of these two licences.	A non-resident may obtain four
Antlered White-tailed Deer Special Licence ¹	175.00		different licences from this list of nine, but not more than one licence
Antlered Mule Deer	175.00	A non-resident may not obtain more	for any one species.
Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence ¹	175.00	than one of these two licences.	
Antlered Elk	250.00	A non-resident may not obtain more	
Antlered Elk Special Licence ¹	250.00	than one of these two licences.	
Antlered Moose (Archery)	250.00	A non-resident may not obtain	
Antlered Moose Special Licence ¹	250.00	more than one of these three licences.	
Special Antlered Moose Partner Licence	60.00		
Class 1 Sheep Special Licence ^{1,2}	400.00	A non-resident who killed a sheep	A non-resident may obtain one of
Class 1 Sheep (Outfitter) Special Licence	500.00	in 2024 may not purchase a Class 1 Sheep Special Licence in 2025.	each from this list of two.
Class 1 Antelope Special Licence ³	250.00		
Black Bear Licence	100.00	A non-resident accompanied by a	A non-resident may obtain one of
Non-resident Black Bear Partner Licence	50.00	hunter host may obtain both of these licences.	each licence from this list of two. However, non-residents purchasing
Supplemental Black Bear Licence ⁴	100.00		one of these two licences may not purchase a Black Bear Special Licence.
			A non-resident black bear partner licence will be available for outfitters to purchase for clients accompanying the primary allocated licence holder.
Black Bear Special Licence ⁵	100.00	Non-residents must purchase these licences through an outfitter.	Non-residents purchasing this licence may not purchase a Black Bear Licence or a Supplemental Black Bear Licence.
Cougar	150.00		One licence only from this list of
Cougar Special Licence	150.00		two.
Game Bird	70.00		
Pheasant	45.00		
Bowhunting Permit (not required for cross-bows)	20.00		
WiN Activation	8.00		
Physical WiN Card	3.00		
Licence Reprint ⁶	2.00		
Tag Replacement ⁷	11.00		

see footnotes on next page

- These licences are available through the draw system or through an outfitter. If purchased through an outfitter, an additional service fee may be charged. Please refer to the sections that deal with Non-resident (Canadian) Licence Availability (page 24) and Outfitting and Guiding Requirements (page 20).
- Non-resident Class 1 Sheep Special Licences are available through Class S Outfitters or through a draw. Only 2 licences are available through a draw, and each hunter successful in the draw must be accompanied by a Hunter Host.
- Non-resident Class 1 Antelope Special Licences are available through an outfitter or through a draw. Please refer to the sections that deal with Non-resident (Canadian) Licence Availability (page 24) and Outfitting and Guiding Requirements (page 20).
- ⁴ This licence is valid only in the following WMUs where two black bear licences may be used: 224, 250, 258, 260, 320-360, 429, 445, 500-544 and 841. Please see page 58 for more information.
- ⁵ These licences are valid for two black bears if the outfitter's allocation is valid for a WMU where the Supplemental Black Bear Licence is valid (i.e., two-bear areas).
- ⁶ All purchased licences can be reprinted either at a licence issuer for a \$2.00 fee or online at no charge.
- You are required to bring your licence and identification to a licence issuer and obtain the authorization for the tag replacement. An \$11.00 fee is applicable per licence.

Non-resident Alien Licence Availability

All Non-resident Alien hunters of big game, wolf or coyote require either a big game designated guide or a hunter host. See Outfitting and Guiding Requirements on page 20.

Non-resident aliens who hunt with a hunter host may obtain antlered white-tailed deer, antlered mule deer, antlered moose, antlered elk, black bear special licences and wolf/coyote licences (see table below) online at albertarelm.com or at any licence issuers. See Outfitting and Guiding Requirements on page 20 for a summary of the circumstances under which these licences may be used and the limitations that apply.

Non-resident Aliens contracting a hunt with a big game outfitter must obtain special licences by using an allocation, available from their outfitter. Wolf/coyote licences can be purchased without an allocation. Non-resident aliens using the services of an outfitter must be guided by a big game designated guide. These licences are only available at licence issuers.

Non-resident Alien Licence Costs and Combinations

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

Prior to purchasing any licence, each hunter must possess a valid WiN (see page 17) and a Non-Resident Alien Wildlife Certificate, which costs \$75.00. Hunters wishing to hunt with a bow and arrow must also purchase a Bowhunting Permit (not required for hunting with a cross-bow).

Licence	Price (\$)	Licence Combination Restrictions	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter
Antlered White-tailed Deer	250.00	A non-resident alien may not obtain more	A non-resident alien may obtain nine
Antlered White-tailed Deer Special Licence	250.00¹	than one of these two licences.	different licences from this list of 14, but not more than one licence for any one
Antlered Mule Deer	250.00	250.00 A non-resident alien may not obtain more species.	
Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence	250.00¹	than one of these two licences.	
Antlered Elk	350.00	A non-resident alien may not obtain more	
Antlered Elk Special Licence	350.00¹	than one of these two licences.	
Antlered Moose Archery	350.00	A non-resident alien may not obtain more	
Antlered Moose Special Licence	350.00¹	than one of these two licences.	
Black Bear Licence	150.00	A non-resident alien may not obtain more	
Non-resident Black Bear Partner Licence	50.00	than one of these two licences.	
Black Bear Special Licence ²	150.00¹	A non-resident alien black bear partner licence will be available for outfitters to purchase for clients accompanying the primary allocated licence holder."	
Class 1 Sheep Special Licence ³	500.001	A non-resident alien who killed a sheep in 2024 may not purchase a Class 1 Sheep Special Licence in 2025.	
Cougar Special Licence ³	300.001		
Class 1 Antelope Special Licence ₃	350.001		
Game Bird – Guided	125.00		
Game Bird – Unguided	175.00		
Pheasant	45.00		
Bowhunting Permit (not required for cross-bows)	25.00]	
WiN Activation	8.00		
Physical WiN Card	3.00		

continued on next page

Licence	Price (\$)	Licence Combination Restrictions	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter
Licence Reprint ⁴	2.00		
Tag Replacement ⁵	11.00		

- 1 If purchased through an outfitter, additional service fees may be charged.
- ² This licence is valid for 2 black bears where the Resident and Non-resident (Canadian) Supplemental Black Bear Licences are valid (2-bear areas).
- Class 1 Sheep, Cougar and Class 1 Antelope Special Licences are available to Non-resident Aliens only through an outfitter.
- ⁴ All purchased licences can be reprinted either at a licence issuer for a \$2.00 fee or online at no charge.
- ⁵ You are required to bring your licence and identification to a licence issuer and obtain the authorization for the tag replacement. \$11.00 fee is applicable per licence.

GAME BIRD LICENCES

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

- a Game Bird Licence to hunt grouse, partridge and ptarmigan;
- a Game Bird Licence and a Pheasant Licence to hunt pheasant;
- a Game Bird Licence and a Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit to hunt waterfowl;
- a Wild Turkey Special Licence and a Game Bird Licence to hunt wild turkey.

 (NOTE: Wild Turkey Special Licences are available only through a draw. See page 63 for more information.)

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

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

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

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

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

Prior to purchasing any licence, each hunter must possess a valid WiN (see page 17) and a Wildlife Certificate. The Wildlife Certificate costs \$30.00 or \$75.00 for a Non-Resident Alien Wildlife Certificate, or \$12.00 for a Resident Youth/Senior Wildlife Certificate (see page 19). Hunters wishing to hunt with a bow and arrow (but not a cross-bow) must also purchase a Bowhunting Permit.

Licence Costs

Game Bird Licence	Price (\$)			
	Resident	Non-resident (Canadian)	Non-resident alien	
Game Bird ¹	15.00	70.00	Guided ⁷ – 125.00	
			Unguided ⁸ – 175.00	
Pheasant	25.00	45.00	45.00	
Wild Turkey Special Licence ^{2,3}	60.00	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
Special Wild Turkey Partner Licence (Youth/Senior) ²	12.00	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
Bowhunting Permit	10.00	20.00	25.00	
WiN Renewal	8.00	8.00	8.00	
Licence Reprint ⁵	2.00	2.00	2.00	
Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit ^{4,6}	17.00	17.00	17.00	

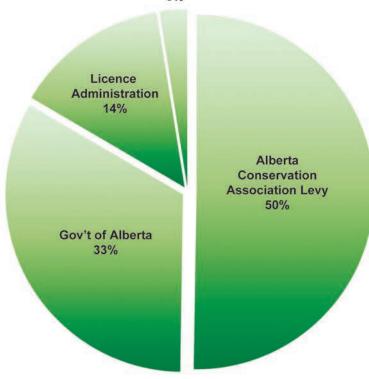
Youth under 10 are exempt from a provincial game bird licence, however they must be supervised by a licenced adult and birds they harvest are considered part of the adult's limit.

- A Resident youth or senior may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.
- ³ Available only through a draw, page 63.
- 4 Available at Post Offices, certain private licence issuers or ordered online at permis-permits.ec.gc.ca/.
- ⁵ All purchased licences can be reprinted either at a licence issuer for a \$2.00 fee or online at no charge.
- 6 Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit is free of charge for youth (under 18) if purchased online.
- ⁷ If you contract an outfitter to guide you for game birds you must purchase the Guided NRA Game Bird Licence.
- ⁸ If you hunt game birds without the service of an outfitter you must purchase the Unguided NRA Game Bird Licence. The Unguided NRA Game Bird Licence is valid in 3 WMUs and for 7 continuous days. A person may purchase 2 of the Unguided Game Bird Licences during a year.



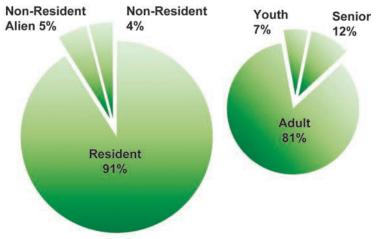
2024/25 ALBERTA HUNTING REPORT

Alberta Professional Outfitters Society Levy 3%



Hunters in Alberta in 2024

- 168,656 total hunters hunted in Alberta.
- 5,889 Non-Residents
- 9,197 Non-Resident Aliens



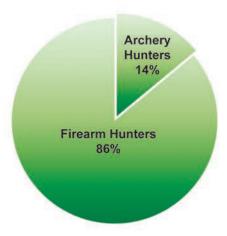
Where did your 2024/25 hunting licence dollars go?

- Over \$21.9 million in revenue was collected from the sale of hunting licences, hunting draw applications and WiN cards.
- 50% of hunting licence revenue goes directly to the Alberta Conservation Association levy in support of programming (For more information please visit ab-conservation.com).
- Licence and administration fees accounted for 14% and provides compensation to licence issuers, pays for licensing services including the annual hunter harvest & effort survey delivered through AlbertaRelm.com
- The Government of Alberta receives 33% of hunting licence revenue collected; 70% goes to General Revenue while 30% goes to a dedicated fund to deliver wildlife management programs such as annual ungulate surveys. For more information visit: Alberta.ca and search "wildlife survey".

For more information, visit mywildalberta.ca/BuyLicences/Annual-Sales-Statistics

Resident Hunters in Alberta in 2024

- There were 153,579 resident hunters in Alberta.
- 14% purchased Bowhunting Permits.
- 50% purchased Game Bird Licences.



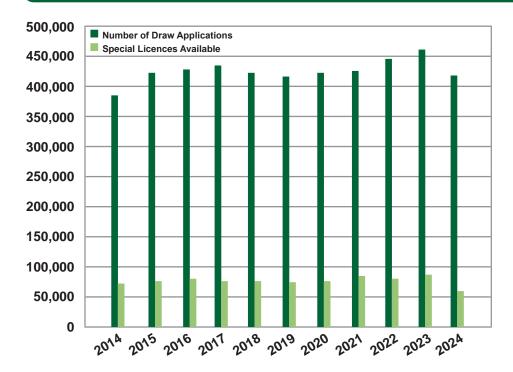
Hunter Hosts in Alberta in 2024

- Over 2,900 Albertans hosted over 7,600 friends and family to hunt with them in Alberta.
- Over 3,800 hosted hunters were Canadian.

Youth and Senior Hunters in Alberta in 2024

- Youth/senior wildlife certificates, which include a game bird licence, are available for \$12.00 in 2025.
 Over 29,000 were sold, 11,200 youth and 18,000 senior.
- Youth/senior white-tailed deer and youth mule deer are available for \$12.00.
 Over 19,000 white-tailed deer were sold, 7,600 youth and 11,500 senior.
 Over 800 youth mule deer licences were sold.
- Did you know that you can legally share almost any big game special licence opportunity
 with a youth or senior hunter using the partner licence for only \$12.00. Over 250 youth
 and 500 senior hunters took advantage of this opportunity allowing them to hunt elk,
 moose, bighorn sheep, pronghorn antelope and wild turkey.

2024/25 ALBERTA HUNTING REPORT



ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

Fish and Wildlife Officers help conserve and protect the province's wildlife by ensuring everyone understands and complies with the laws in Alberta. Hunters are reminded to ensure that they are familiar with the hunting regulations and season dates for the areas and species that they plan to hunt.

In 2024, the top 5 offenses were:

- 1. Unlawful possession of wildlife.
- 2. Loaded firearm on vehicle/boat/aircraft.
- 3. Hunt wildlife without a licence.
- 4. Fail to retain evidence on sex/species on animal carcass.
- 5. Fail to immediately affix tag as prescribed.

Source: Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Services, Public Safety and Emergency Services.



Mandatory Harvest and Effort Reporting

Regulation requires mandatory reporting of harvest and effort on all special hunting licences purchased. Visit AlbertaRelm.com for more information on how convenient it is to report harvest and effort including through the AlbertaRELM App.

Harvest and effort information is essential to providing resource managers indicators of overall wildlife populations. Without this information, the department must rely on more intensive and costly wildlife surveys.

Hunters failing to submit harvest and effort survey results for 2025 special licences purchased will be subject to a \$15 survey surcharge payable on their next wildlife certificate purchase.

Congratulations to the lucky hunter that has been awarded a free 2025 special licence just for completing their 2024 hunter harvest and effort survey!.



Hunters will continue to be entered for a chance to win a special licence hunting opportunity for either a moose, mule deer, antelope or elk for each harvest and effort survey completed.

Please visit mywildalberta.ca to see 2024 hunter harvest and effort survey results.



GENERAL REGULATIONS

Prohibitions

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

General

It is unlawful to:

- 1. Apply on draws, obtain or use recreational licences in Alberta if:
 - i) your hunting privileges are under a licence suspension/cancellation in Alberta (or elsewhere) or
 - ii) if you fail to pay your fine after being convicted of a provincial hunting or provincial sportfishing offence.
 - Carry or use another person's licence or tag or allow another person to use your licence or tag.
 - Fail to carry a hunting licence when the hunter is hunting under the authority of that licence or when the hunter is transporting game taken under it.
 - Fail to produce a licence when requested by a wildlife officer.
 - * For hunters that carry licences electronically (instead of paper), the AlbertaRelm app is the only acceptable means of doing so.
 Tags cannot be carried electronically; they are a component part of many licences and must also be carried when required and produced to an officer upon request.
- 2. Harass, injure or kill any wildlife with a vehicle, aircraft or boat.
- 3. Hunt any wildlife with or from an aircraft, or communicate, for the purpose of hunting, the signs or whereabouts of wildlife seen during a flight on an aircraft, including the use of unmanned aerial vehicles.
- 4. Transport dead wildlife taken by others without an accompanying bill of lading (see page 66) signed by the licence or permit holder and providing the following details:
 - the kind and number of the licence under which the wildlife was killed or possessed,
 - a description of the wildlife,
 - the points of origin and destination, and
 - the date on which the wildlife is to be transported.

A bill of lading is no longer required if sharing legally hunted game animal parts after the tag has been removed. A tag may only be removed at a residence or commercial facility like a butcher when the animal is processed.

- 5. Set out, use or employ any of the following items for the purpose of **hunting any wildlife:**
 - an arrow equipped with an explosive head,
 - a firearm that is capable of firing more than one bullet during one pressure of the trigger or a firearm that can be altered to operate as such,
 - a light,
 - a shotgun of a gauge greater than 10,
 - a device designed to deaden the sound of the report of a firearm,
 - recorded wildlife calls or sounds, or an electronically operated calling device except; 1) when hunting migratory game birds with the use of calls or sounds that mimic snow geese, or 2) using electronic calls to hunt crows, magpies, coyote, red fox and wolf (using sounds that mimic these animals, rabbits, hares, or rodents).
 - a pistol or revolver unless
 - the person is a licenced trapper (holding a federal authorization)
 who is dispatching an animal caught in a trap, or
 - it is an air powered pistol or revolver that discharges a projectile at less than 500 feet per second (often used for hunting small game).
 - live wildlife,
 - a swivel set or spring gun, or
 - a poisonous substance or an immobilizing drug.

- 6. Abandon, destroy or allow the four quarters, the loins and the neck flesh on big game animals, or breasts on game birds to become unfit for human consumption (except for cougar or bear if salvaging the hide).
- 7. Have a loaded firearm (live ammunition in breech, chamber or magazine) in or on, or discharge a **weapon** from
 - a boat that is moving due to the momentum imparted by a motor or sail, or
 - any kind of aircraft or vehicle whether it is moving or stationary. Note: Ammunition may be carried in a magazine that is not attached to the firearm. Refer to page 16 for contact information regarding federal firearms legislation.
- 8. Discharge a **weapon** within 183 m (200 yards) or cause a projectile from a **weapon** to pass within 183 m (200 yards) of any occupied building. Owners, occupants, or persons authorized by the owner or occupant are excepted, subject to local bylaws.
- 9. Discharge a firearm from or cause a projectile from a firearm to pass along or across:
 - a) a provincial highway (this designation applies to all former primary and secondary highways),
 - b) a road that is paved, oiled, graded or regularly maintained, unless
 - O the road is held under any active disposition under the *Public Lands Act* or under an order under the *Surface Rights Act*, or
 - the person is hunting game birds with a shotgun under the authority of a licence.

Note: if there is no identifiable ditch or fence to mark the outside edge of the roadway, then the roadway extends 20 feet from the edge of the traveled portion.

- 10. Hunt any wildlife while impaired by alcohol or drugs.
- Hunt any wildlife or discharge a firearm between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise.
- 12. Alter, destroy or remove any sign or notice that has been posted under the authority of the *Wildlife Act, Petty Trespass Act* or the *Migratory Birds Regulations*.
- 13. Hunt any wildlife or discharge any firearm on or over occupied land or enter on to such land for the purpose of doing so without the consent of the owner or occupant of the land (page 34).
- Possess a firearm of a calibre larger than .22 in a helicopter over WMUs 400-446.
- 15. Hunt with a firearm if you are under 18 years of age and not in possession of a federal minors firearm permit, or are accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or by a person 18 years of age or older who has the written permission of the parent or legal guardian. See page 16 for Canadian Firearms Centre contact information..
- 16. Disturb traps, sets or trapping cabins.
- 17. Feed black bears, grizzly bears, cougars, wolves and coyotes, unless while legally hunting where baiting is permitted.
- Be accompanied by domestic sheep or goats (e.g. 'pack goats') while hunting in Wildlife Management Units 302, 303, 306, 308, and 400 through 446.

Big Game

It is unlawful to

- 1. Hunt big game with any weapon other than:
 - a bow or cross-bow, and arrow or bolt, that are lawful for hunting big game (see page 44),
 - a rifle and ammunition that are lawful for hunting big game,

- a muzzle-loading firearm .44 calibre or greater, or
- a shotgun and ammunition that are lawful for hunting big game.
- Set out, use or employ any of the following items for the purpose of hunting big game:
 - all rimfire ammunition. Any centerfire ammunition with a bullet less than .22 calibre,
 - ammunition that contains non-expanding bullets,
 - an auto-loading firearm that has the capacity to hold more than 5 cartridges in the magazine,
 - a shotgun having a gauge of .410 or less,
 - a shotgun in a bird sanctuary,
 - bait, except as permitted for the hunting of black bears (page 58),
 - a rifle or shotgun in WMUs 212, 247, 248 or 410 (persons hunting under the authority of a WMU 248 white-tailed deer licence, a foothills deer licence, or an antlerless moose special licence in Strathcona County may hunt with a bow and arrow, cross-bow, muzzle loader or shotgun),
 - a trap.
 - a cross-bow and arrow that is not authorized (see page 44).
- 3. Discharge a weapon at a big game animal while it is swimming.
- 4. Discharge an arrow from a bow or cross-bow at big game, from, along or across a highway or road specified in Item 9 on page 30.
- 5. Be accompanied by a dog while hunting big game except;
 - in WMUs 400 446 where a pack dog may accompany
 a hunter if leashed, or within 50 m of the hunter and if under
 direct command and control. The dog is prohibited from tracking,
 scenting, pursuing or chasing big game, or
 - when hunting cougar under the authority of a cougar licence, from December 1 to the last day of March (the winter season).
 - when hunting black bear in September and October under the authority of a black bear licence, in WMUs 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446, 511, 524, 525, 527 and 537.
 - When using a leashed tracking dog that is brought into the area only after a big game animal has been shot at and that remains leashed at all times while in the field during an open big game season.
- 6. Possess the carcass of a male elk, male antelope or male Class 2 sheep unless the complete skull plate, with horns or antlers intact, is also retained with the carcass until it is delivered to
 - the usual residence of the person who killed it, and the animal is butchered, cut and packaged for consumption, or
 - a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or a Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*.
- Possess the carcass of a calf moose taken under authority of a Calf Moose Special Licence unless its head is also retained with the carcass until it is delivered to
 - the usual residence of the person who killed it, and the animal is butchered, cut and packaged for consumption, or
 - a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or a Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*.
- 8. Allow the skin of any bear or cougar to be wasted, destroyed, spoiled or abandoned if the edible portions of the meat of those animals are not recovered. A hunter may thus abandon the skin or meat of a cougar or black bear, but not both. If skins are abandoned, the meat must be tagged like other big game animals, such as deer, elk or moose. See exception for salvaging skin on page 34 Access for Control of Livestock Predation.
- 9. Remove the distinctive evidence of sex and species from the carcass of

any big game until

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

In the case of cougar, the evidence of sex must remain attached and be retained until the animal has been registered (page 46).

10. Remove the tag from the carcass of a big game animal until authorized (as outlined on page 43).

11. Hunt:

- a black bear under the age of one year,
- a female black bear accompanied by a cub under the age of one year,
- a female cougar accompanied by a kitten with spotted fur, or
- a cougar kitten with spotted fur.
- Transport big game hunters, except those requiring medical aid, or big game by helicopter over WMUs 400-446.
- 13. Land or take off in a fixed-wing aircraft that is carrying big game, big game hunters or firearms of a calibre larger than .22 at or from any location in WMUs 400-446 except those locations where aircraft routinely land and take off.
- 14. Hunt big game within 6 hours of having disembarked from an aircraft, except for a jet or turbo-propeller driven aircraft.
- 15. Hunt big game on Sundays:
 - in WMUs 102 160,
 - in WMUs 624, 728, 730 and 936.
- 16. Be within 50 yards of a vehicle when discharging a weapon at an antelope.

Game Bird

It is unlawful to:

- 1. Possess, before it has been transported to the usual residence of the person who killed it or is prepared for immediate cooking, a game bird which does not bear evidence of sex and species. Evidence of sex and species consists of one completely feathered wing or head attached to the carcass of the game bird, except for wild turkey for which evidence of sex and species consists of the complete head and beard attached to the carcass (see reverse/back side of tag for tagging instructions for wild turkey).
- 2. Hunt a migratory game bird using:
 - a firearm loaded with a single bullet,
 - shot, other than non-toxic shot,
 - a cross-bow,
 - a shotgun that is of a larger size than 10 guage.
- 3. Hunt any game bird (including turkey) using:
 - a shotgun in which the magazine and chamber combined will hold more than three rounds of ammunition,
 - a trap, or
 - bait.

Note: see item 11 (next page) for additional restrictions for hunting wild turkey.

- Have more than one shotgun, for personal use, at any time while hunting migratory game birds unless each shotgun, in excess of one, is unloaded and disassembled or unloaded and cased.
- Hunt game birds in WMU 410 with other than a bow and arrow or falconry bird.

continued on next page

- 6. Hunt game birds in WMU 212, 247 or 248 with other than a bow and arrow, a cross-bow, shotgun or falconry bird.
- 7. Exceed the daily or possession limit for any game bird (see game bird bag limits on page 63).
- 8. Hunt game birds within 400 m (1/4 mi.) of a baited lure area operated under the Crop Damage Control Program.
- 9. Transport unprocessed migratory game birds belonging to others unless carcasses have a label showing:
 - the signature, name and address of the owner,
 - the licence number under which the bird was taken, and
 - the date the birds were taken.
- 10. Fail to make every effort possible to immediately retrieve a migratory game bird that a person has killed or wounded. A hunter must have adequate means to retrieve any migratory bird that he or she may kill, cripple or injure.
- 11. Remove the tag from a wild turkey until authorized (page 43).
- 12. To hunt or guide for migratory game birds within 6 hours after flying over any portion of the same WMU, unless;
 - it is a direct jet or turbo prop commercial flight,
 - a direct flight solely to transport hunters to a hunting destination,
 - it is a round trip no shorter than 12 hours in duration undertaken with direct flights to one or more locations outside the WMU.

EXPORTING

Alberta Export Permit

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

- 1. Hunters who lawfully harvest game birds, coyotes, white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose, elk, pronghorn antelope or black bear* under the authority of a hunting licence or a right that is protected under Canadian Constitution, may export those species without an Alberta export permit if
 - in the case of upland game birds, the bird has been processed as a mounted specimen, or
 - the shipment is accompanied by the hunter who killed the animal, and
 - the appropriate licence is carried by the hunter who killed the animal being exported.
 - * Alberta prohibits the export of gall bladder of black bear. See CITES Export Permit at right.
- 2. Coyote that have been lawfully hunted by residents do not require a provincial export permit.

Note: United States migratory bird hunting regulations state that it is unlawful for a person to import into the United States migratory game birds belonging to another person. Evidence of sex and species must remain attached to the bird until the final U.S. destination is reached. For further information on the export of wildlife, contact a Fish and Wildlife office (page 14).

Commercial Export of Wildlife to the U.S.

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

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

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

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

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

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

SALE OF WILDLIFE

The selling, buying, bartering, soliciting or trading in wildlife or wildlife parts, or offering to do so, is regulated under the *Wildlife Act* and Regulations. Many transactions are strictly prohibited, while others are regulated. Wildlife parts approved for sale will be permanently marked for sale. Once marked, the wildlife parts may be sold immediately. The processed skins of grizzly bear, or cougar, or the horns or antlers of a big game animal that have been registered for sale may be sold as is or as part of an artisan product. For further information, contact a Fish and Wildlife office (page 14).

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

FOUND DEAD WILDLIFE

When driving or walking, hunters often find dead wildlife that they would like to keep. In most cases it is unlawful to possess such wildlife or parts of wildlife without first obtaining a permit. Contact a Fish and Wildlife office to apply for such a permit before taking possession of the wildlife. All tracking devices attached to animals that are found dead must be reported and returned to Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Services.

Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance in Alberta

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) kills deer. Alberta has wrestled with this fact since 1998.

Initial aggressive disease control programs seemed to limit the rate at which this prion disease moved into eastern Alberta in the early 2000s. However, in 2008 the province switched to monitoring the spread and effects of CWD in deer populations. Alberta's CWD surveillance evolved to three primary objectives: detect CWD in wild cervids, limit CWD spread in wild cervids, and learn about CWD in Alberta landscapes and ecosystems. Our surveillance data provide strong patterns to show how this prion disease builds in local deer populations and how it moves

across the landscape. They also provide a strong foundation for game managers and stakeholders to consider the potential to change future patterns of CWD increase and spread.

Previous results and reports are on the CWD pages www.alberta.ca/chronic-wasting-disease Hunter harvest samples are the backbone of the wild CWD surveillance program. We also test opportunistic samples such as found dead, road-kill, or emaciated cervids anywhere in the province. Annual CWD data are provided on our web pages and are not repeated here.

Clear patterns in the data include:

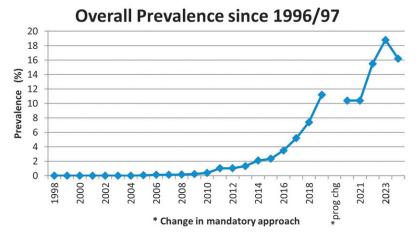
- Once CWD establishes in an area, overall prevalence (% infected) rises each year
- CWD occurs throughout eastern Alberta south of Cold Lake and central Alberta east of Hwy 2 south of Edmonton, into the foothills in the southwest, and into the boreal forest fringe in the north.
- · Most CWD occurs in mule deer, particularly bucks
- Prevalence differs among WMUs and changed significantly after 2010. Check out the new maps on the CWD web pages

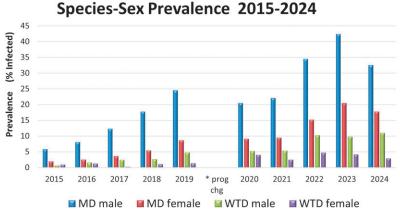
In over 117,000 heads tested since 1998, we detected CWD in 5532 mule deer, 1033 whitetails, 48 elk, and 22 moose. This includes 472 cases identified in 2915 heads tested in 2024 (16.2%): 353 mule deer, 103 whitetails, 9 elk, and 7 moose. In 2025, we would like to increase the number of heads tested.

While the overall proportion of infected wild cervids remains low, prevalence of CWD in some mule deer populations is a significant concern to deer managers. Hunters and landowners are concerned about fewer deer, particularly older male mule deer, in local areas where CWD is well established. Once infected, deer with CWD die within two years. With prevalence over 50% in mule deer bucks in some local areas, it is not surprising that fewer older bucks are on the landscape. Similarly, rising prevalence in does is reducing fawn production in such areas.

Risk models using Alberta data reveal ongoing geographic spread, largely in relation to riparian areas and proximity to previous cases. CWD is now well-established throughout much of eastern and central Alberta. As CWD becomes more common in mule deer males, prevalence increases in mule deer females and spills over into more whitetails, elk, and some moose.

What comes next? With CWD occurring west of Hwy 2, mule deer populations in the foothills seem at greatest risk of invasion with CWD. On the northern edge of the CWD area, dense boreal forest may limit the rate of disease spread. If this is the case, it may also provide a buffer between caribou and CWD. However, CWD recently arrived at the northern forest fringe in Alberta and what comes next is still unknown.





Hunters are encouraged to take a close look at the CWD Surveillance Program details. The modified approach taken by game managers since 2020 better informs their deer management decisions, and your hunting decisions.

AB# 405: Most deer with CWD look healthy.

CWD surveillance is a robust and complicated program with many challenges. Most deer submitted for testing are harvested in November. We test heads generally reflecting the time frame they are submitted – that is, early November heads before mid Nov heads before late Nov heads. However, the number of heads submitted in November exceeds the monthly laboratory testing capacity. All testing generally is completed in March.

In Alberta, long-term surveillance improves our ability to track CWD occurrence and patterns. Armed with this information, big game managers more fully understand the potential effects of the disease, and hunters concerned about CWD can make informed decisions about their hunt.

While there are a few cases of CWD in elk and moose, these occur as spillover from infected deer. Thus deer remain the best surveillance sample to indicate CWD occurrence. However, as always, we will test the head of any cervid harvested legally in Alberta.

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

For more information on CWD surveillance in Alberta, CHECK PAGE 3 of this guide.



HUNTING PRIVILEGES ON OCCUPIED, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC LAND

Access to Public and Private Lands

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

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

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

Access to Public Lands

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

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

- Indian reserves (from appropriate band council),
- Métis settlements (from appropriate Métis settlement association)
- Public land under agricultural or grazing lease (from leaseholder), please see page 16.

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

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

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

For more information regarding access to Agricultural Leased Land and Provincial Grazing Reserves, refer to page 16.

For more information, please contact your local Alberta Forestry and Parks office by dialing 310-0000 or visit https://www.alberta.ca/public-land-use.aspx.

Wildlife Act

Section 38 of the Wildlife Act now refers directly to the access conditions described in section 2 of Petty Trespass Act. A person shall not hunt wildlife or discharge a firearm on or over land to which entry is prohibited under the Petty Trespass Act or enter onto that land for the purpose of doing so unless that person has permission of the owner or occupier of the land to enter the land AS WELL AS express consent of the owner or occupier of the land to hunt or discharge any firearm on or over that land. This means that you need permission to access private or occupied land and when asking permission you must also be clear that you intend to hunt and shoot.

The occupied lands described in the above legislation do not need to be posted with signs to receive protection under Section 38 of the *Wildlife Act*.

Petty Trespass Act

Amendments to the *Petty Trespass Act* came into force June 1, 2004. While it is still possible for a landowner to prohibit entry on to his or her land by giving oral or written notice or by posting signs prohibiting entry, the amendments now set out certain kinds of property where entry is prohibited without any notice required. These lands include those privately owned lands (and leased public lands not associated with grazing or cultivation – these are addressed on page 16) that are under cultivation, fenced or enclosed by a natural boundary or enclosed in a manner that indicates the landholder's intention to keep people off the premises or animals on the premises. **Importantly, hunters or others who access those lands must have permission before entering.**

Federal Criminal Code

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

Access for Guiding

A Hunter Host, Big Game Designated Guide or Bird Game Designated Guide, when guiding on any privately held land, requires permission authorizing access from the landholder for conducting those guiding services on that land. It may be prudent for a guide to identify themselves as such to a landowner.

Access for Control of Livestock Predation

Black Bear and Coyote*

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

Timber Wolf*

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

*Cougar

Any person who is the owner or occupant of privately owned land, or authorized in writing by the owner of occupant, may at any time of year, hunt (but not trap) cougar on such lands without a licence. Hunting with dogs is prohibited under this authority. Under this authority, registration is required within one week of the kill by bringing the skin and skull (or intact carcass) to a Fish and Wildlife office (see page 14). A premolar tooth will be retained for aging.

* It is not legally necessary to salvage pelts of furbearing animals (includes coyote and wolf) or black bear taken in accordance with regulations authorizing the control of problem wildlife set out in this part. The skin and skull of cougar taken on privately-owned land as described must be submitted at time of registration as noted, but the cougar pelt does not need to be further salvaged. Refer to page 60 for information about seasons for coyote and wolf.

HUNTING IN ALBERTA PROVINCIAL PARKS AND PROTECTED AREAS

Alberta's Parks Division provides hunting opportunities on over 85% of the land base managed as a Provincial Park or Protected Area. In protected areas where hunting is allowed, some activities are restricted in order to protect sensitive areas and species or to address public safety or wildlife management issues. Section 15 of the Provincial Parks (General) Regulation prohibits dogs off leash in Provincial Parks, Wildland Provincial Parks and Provincial Recreation Areas. Dogs need to be controlled via a restraining leash not greater than 2m long, with some exemptions to support the use of dogs in the lawful hunting of cougars and game birds in Wildland Provincial Parks and Castle Provincial Parks. For detailed information on hunting in Provincial Parks and protected areas contact your local Alberta Forestry and Parks office or visit albertaparks.ca and as it relates to hunting with dogs visit https://open.alberta.ca/publications/provincial-parks-general-directive.

Classification of Protected Area	Hunting	Exceptions	OHV (including snowmobile) Use
Ecological Reserves	No	No	No
Wilderness Areas	No	No	No
Provincial Parks	No	Castle Provincial Park, Elk seasons in Cypress Hills, Game birds over water in Winagami Lake Provincial Park and Kleskun Hills Provincial Park	No
Provincial Recreation Areas (PRA)	No	Big game and game bird seasons in Blue Rapids, Cooking Lake-Blackfoot, Evan Thomas (Marmot Basin area), Fickle Lake, Lakeland, North Bruderheim, Redwater, Saskatoon Mountain, Sulphur Gates, and Wapiabi PRAs	Lakeland PRA - Yes on designated trails only. North Bruderhein PRA
Wildland Parks	Yes	Bison hunting is not permitted in Wildland Parks outside the special bison season in Hay Zama or other permitted harvest within Caribou Mountains. Access and other management conditions may apply.	On designated trails in a select number of Wildland Parks. For a complete listing visit albertaparks.ca
Willmore Wilderness Park	Yes	No	No
Heritage Rangelands	Yes	Entry is subject to grazing lease access conditions.	Subject to grazing lease access conditions
Natural Areas	Yes	Access and other management conditions may apply. For a complete listing visit albertaparks.ca	Dependant on access conditions. For a complete listing visit albertaparks.ca

Ecological Reserves

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

Wilderness Areas

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

Provincial Parks and Recreation Areas

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

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

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

Wildland Provincial Parks

Wildland Provincial Parks preserve and protect natural heritage and provide opportunities for backcountry recreation. Hunting is permitted in Wildland Provincial Parks. However, bison hunting is not permitted in Wildland Provincial Parks outside the special bison season in the Hay-Zama Wildland Park for holders of a Bison Special Licence. Additional bison harvest opportunities may be available in some specified areas, such as Caribou Mountains Wildland Park, to achieve conservation and management objectives. Special access restrictions apply to all motorized vehicles.

Willmore Wilderness Park

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

Heritage Rangelands

Heritage Rangelands preserve and protect natural features that are representative of Alberta's prairies and grazing is used to maintain the grassland ecology. Two heritage rangelands have been established in Alberta - Black Creek Heritage Rangeland in the Whaleback area and OH Ranch Heritage Rangeland near Longview. These lands are cooperatively managed with Alberta Forestry and Parks and grazing

lease holders. Hunting is permitted, however entry is subject to grazing lease access conditions. For access conditions please visit https://www.alberta.ca/public-land-use.aspx, select Recreation and Public Use, then select Recreation on Agricultural Public Land.

Natural Areas

Natural Areas preserve and protect sites of local significance and provide opportunities for recreation and nature appreciation activities. Hunting is permitted in Natural Areas, however, there are some sites with special management and safety considerations that restrict hunting and access, e.g. Wagner Natural Area, Riverlot 56, Sherwood Park Natural Area. Bison hunting is not permitted within the Harper Creek Natural Area. For more information please visit albertaparks.ca. To find access conditions for Natural Areas that are subject to a grazing lease please visit https://www.alberta.ca/public-land-use.aspx. Go to Recreation on agricultural public land.

Kananaskis Country

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

Hunters – Please be Aware:

Baiting

Baiting of all wildlife, including bears, wolves and coyotes, is not permitted in all Provincial Parks, Provincial Recreation Areas and Wildland Provincial Parks. There are two exceptions: 1) A limited number of Registered Fur Management Area (RFMA) holders (registered trappers) and 2) A limited number of hunting guides who were historically authorized to conduct commercial guiding activities that used baits in an area prior to the area being established as a Wildland

Provincial Park. Both exceptions are managed through permits and approvals issued by Alberta Forestry and Parks. For more information contact your local Parks Division office.

Found Dead Wildlife in Parks

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

Hanging and Storage of Big Game

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

Be Respectful of Others

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

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

Edmonton: 780-427-3582 Northwest Region: 780-538-5350 Northeast Region: 780-623-5235 West Central Region: 780-960-8170 East Central Region: 403-340-7691 Kananaskis Country: 403-678-5508 South Region: 403-382-4097

RESTRICTED AREAS

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

ALL HUNTING

Wildlife Sanctuaries

Sanctuaries are intended to provide secure habitat for wildlife and thus allow populations to either increase or remain at desired levels. They include areas of high quality habitat, often where populations of some wildlife species have been significantly lowered or dispersed because of disturbance at some time in the past. Sanctuary status allows these areas to realize their potential to support wildlife and to act as core areas of production for animals that will disperse to surrounding areas. It also increases the opportunities for Albertans to view wildlife.

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

Road Corridor Wildlife Sanctuaries

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

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

Mountain and Foothills

- Highwood within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of

 (a) Highway 40 between the southern boundary of Peter Lougheed
 Provincial Park and Secondary Road 541,
 - (b) Secondary Road 541 between Highway 40 and the eastern boundary of the Rocky Mountain Forest Reserve;
- Harold Creek within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that
 portion of the road locally known as the Harold Creek Road between
 the eastern boundary of the Rocky Mountain Forest Reserve and
 Secondary Road 734;
- Ya Ha Tinda within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the road locally known as the Ya Ha Tinda Ranch Road between the Red Deer River Provincial Recreation Area and the Ya Ha Tinda Ranch headquarters building;
- 4. Forestry Trunk Road within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of Provincial Highway 734 between its intersection with the road locally known as the Lynx Creek Road in section 26, township 36, range 14, west of the 5th meridian and the Seven Mile Provincial Recreation Area;
- Cutoff Creek within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the road locally known as the Cutoff Creek Road between Provincial Highway 734 and the Cutoff Creek Equestrian Staging Forest Recreation Area;
- 6. North Ram within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of Secondary Road 734 that is in Township 38, Range 15, West of the 5th Meridian and north of the North Ram River;
- Onion Creek Road within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the road locally known as the Onion Creek Road in section 9, township 36, range 14, west of the 5th meridian to its intersection with Provincial Highway 734;
- 8. Kootenay Plains within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of Highway 11 between Allstones Creek and the eastern boundary of Banff National Park;



Hunting is prohibited in national parks in Alberta, which include:

Banff — Waterton Lakes — Elk Island — Wood Buffalo* — Jasper

Close to the national park boundary?

It is your responsibility to know where you are in relation to the park boundaries. Not all areas are clearly marked. Unsure? Obtain appropriate maps from your nearest outdoor store or contact the national park closest to your planned hunting area.

It is illegal to:

- Possess a firearm within a national park, except in a vehicle on a through highway, or at a person's primary residence, where it must be unloaded and encased.
- Disturb, chase or entice wildlife to move outside national park boundaries.
- Take "shortcuts" through national park land while in possession of a firearm.
- Enter a national park while in the act of hunting, trapping, pursuing or searching for wildlife to hunt, even without a firearm.
- · Remove or possess natural objects (e.g. antlers or skulls).

If you wound an animal and it enters a national park, DO NOT ENTER THE PARK. Contact Parks Canada immediately.

To report incidents, wounded animals or for more information:

Banff and Waterton Lakes: 1-888-927-3367 Elk Island and Jasper: 1-877-852-3100 Wood Buffalo: 1-867-872-0404

*This notice does not apply to Indigenous Rights' holders who are eligible to hunt and harvest in Wood Buffalo National Park. For more information, please contact 1-867-872-7900.

La chasse est interdite dans les parcs nationaux de l'Alberta, ce qui inclut les parcs nationaux suivants :

Banff — Lacs-Waterton — Elk Island — Wood Buffalo* — Jasper

À proximité de la limite d'un parc national?

Vous avez la responsabilité de vous informer à quel endroit se trouvent les limites du parc national. Toutes les limites ne sont pas clairement indiquées. Vous avez un doute? Obtenez les cartes appropriées auprès de votre magasin de plein air le plus près ou communiquez avec le parc national se trouvant à proximité de la zone où vous prévoyez de chasser.

Il est illégal :

- De se trouver en possession d'une arme à feu dans un parc national, sauf si elle se trouve dans un véhicule circulant sur une route de transit, ou dans la résidence principale d'une personne, où elle doit être déchargée et rangée dans un étui.
- De perturber, de pourchasser ou d'attirer un animal sauvage à l'extérieur des limites d'un parc national.
- De prendre des « raccourcis » à l'intérieur des limites d'un parc national tout en étant en possession d'une arme à feu.
- D'entrer dans un parc national pendant la pratique d'une activité de chasse, de piégeage, de poursuite ou de recherche d'animaux sauvages aux fins de la chasse, même sans arme à feu.
- D'enlever des objets naturels ou être en possession de tels objets (p. ex. bois de cervidés ou crânes).

Si vous blessez un animal et qu'il entre dans un parc national, N'ENTREZ PAS DANS LE PARC. Communiquez avec Parcs Canada immédiatement.

Pour signaler des incidents ou des animaux blessés, ou pour obtenir plus d'information :

Banff et Lacs-Waterton: 1-888-927-3367 Elk Island et Jasper: 1-877-852-3100 Wood Buffalo: 1-867-872-0404

"Le présent avis ne s'applique pas aux titulaires de droits ancestraux qui sont admissibles à la chasse et à la récolte dans le parc national Wood Buffalo, Pour plus d'information, téléphonez au 1-867-872-7900.

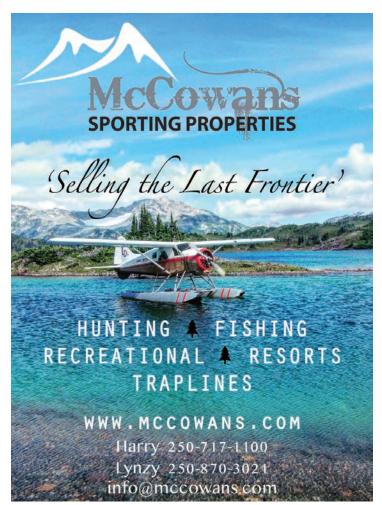




- 9. Nordegg within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of Provincial Road 734 where it intersects the North Saskatchewan River in section 34, township 39, range 15, west of the 5th meridian to where it crosses Shunda Creek and within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of Provincial Highway 11 from where it intersects Provincial Highway 734 to where it crosses Shunda Creek;
- 10. Highway 40/Little Smoky/Simonette within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of Highway 40 between the Berland River and the Muskeg River.
- 11. Highway 40 Cadomin within 1 kilometre (1094 yards)
 - (a) west of the centre-line of Provincial Highway 40 between the intersection of Provincial Highway 40 and the northern boundary of the southwest quarter of section 8, township 48, range 24, west of the 5th meridian at its northerly extent and the intersection of Provincial Highway 40 and the northern boundary of section 5, township 48, range 24, west of the 5th meridian, and
 - (b) of the centre-line of Provincial Highway 40 between the intersection of Provincial Highway 40 and the northern boundary of section 5, township 48, range 24, west of the 5th meridian at its northerly extent and the intersection of Provincial Highway 40 and the eastern boundary of section 24, township 47, range 24, west of the 5th meridian at its southeasterly extent.

Boreal Region

- 12. Whitemud Hills within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the Peace River Pulp Road locally known as the Whitemud Hills Haul Road from Highway 35 to the western boundary of Section 14, Township 85, Range 2, West of the 6th Meridian;
- 13. Sulphur Lake within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the Peace River Pulp Road locally known as the Sulphur Lake Haul Road from the southeast corner of Township 88, Range 1, West of the 6th Meridian to its junction with the road locally known as the



- Canfor East Road in Township 89, Range 3, West of the 6th Meridian;
- 14. Peace River Pulp Mill within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the road locally known as the Peace River Pulp Resource Road from its intersection with secondary road 986 in the south-east quarter of section 17, township 85, range 19, west of the 5th meridian northerly to the centre of the north-east quarter of section 23, township 90, range 20, west of the 5th meridian (gate at Whiskey Jack Creek).

Seasonal Sanctuaries

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

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

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

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

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

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

Métis Settlements

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

Forest Recreation Areas

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

National Parks

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

Bison Protection and Special Bison Areas

Except for the special seasons provided in WMUs 536 and 539, all bison hunting is prohibited in designated Bison Protection Areas. Bison Protection Areas are located in (*or portions of) the following WMUs:

BISON PROTECTION AREAS							
WMU	Sanctuary						
524*, 536, 537*, 539	Northwest Bison Protection Area						
540*	Wabasca Bison Protection Area						
416*, 418*	Upper Red Deer River Special Bison Area						

For more information and detailed map/description of the Bison Protection Areas, please visit https://www.alberta.ca/wood-bison-regulation or contact the Peace River Fish and Wildlife Office.

Other Restricted Areas

Except for the special seasons provided in WMUs 728, 730 and 732, hunting is not permitted in the following areas:

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

BIG GAME HUNTING

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

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

Saskatoon Mountain Primitive Weapons Area

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



Restricted Areas for Class 1 and Class 2 Sheep

It is unlawful to hunt Class 1 or Class 2 sheep within the following areas:

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

GAME BIRD HUNTING

Game Bird Sanctuaries

Hunting game birds and carrying shotguns are prohibited in game bird sanctuaries except with a special permit. Descriptions of these sanctuaries are available from the Alberta King's Printer in Edmonton (page 16). Game bird sanctuaries are located in the following WMUs:

WMU	Sanctuary	WMU	Sanctuary
102	Pakowki Lake	242	Miquelon Lake
148	Many Island Lake	357	Saskatoon Lake*
212	Inglewood*	503	Lac La Biche
220	Red Deer*	530	Richardson Lake*
238	Birch Lake	523	Kimiwan Lake
242	Ministik Lake		

^{*}These areas are designated as a Federal Migratory Bird Sanctuary.



VEHICLE RESTRICTIONS

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

Vehicle Use and Restrictions

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

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

Public Land Use Zones (PLUZ)

Several areas in the province are designated as PLUZs to allow for the management of recreational interests and pressures on local ecology. On and off highway vehicle restrictions apply in all PLUZs and may limit vehicle type, trail access and seasons open to vehicle use. WMU and PLUZ boundaries may overlap and all – or portions of – WMUs may have vehicle access restrictions. Please refer to PLUZ maps available at your local Alberta Forestry and Parks office or visit https://www.alberta.ca/public-land-use-zones.aspx.

Wildland Provincial Parks

Hunting is allowed in the Wildland Provincial Parks shown on the enclosed WMU map. However, special access restrictions apply to all motorized vehicles. For example, Bob Creek Wildland Provincial Park provides a network of designated trails on which only specific OHVs (quads and snowmobiles) may be operated from May 1 to December 15. For more detailed information, contact Alberta Forestry and Parks or visit albertaparks.ca/

Hunting with Motorized Vehicles

It is unlawful to

- discharge a **weapon** at antelope from within 46 m (50 yards) of a vehicle:
- use motorized travel within Willmore Wilderness Park; and
- carry a weapon (see definition on page 17) on an OHV **between 1 hour before sunrise and the following noon** during an open season for big game* on public land in the following WMUs: 400-446. This does not apply to a person who is traveling on a direct route to or from a location accessible by vehicles designed for highway travel and his or her isolated campsite, and the weapons and ammunition are carried out of view in separate locked containers (and remain locked during the trip).

Also, the restriction does not apply in a WMU when the only big game season open is a spring black bear season or a cougar season.

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

Use of Aircraft

The use of aircraft for the purpose of hunting and hunting after flight is controlled by various regulations which are summarized under the "general" and "big game" prohibitions area within this Guide. For further clarity, it is unlawful to:

- 1. Use any aircraft for the purpose of hunting wildlife, including unmanned aerial vehicles.
- 2. Hunt big game within six hours* of having disembarked from an aircraft, except for a jet or turbo-propeller driven aircraft (regardless of the purpose of the flight).
- 3. Communicate, for the purpose of hunting, the whereabouts or signs of wildlife from knowledge gained from a manned or unmanned aircraft flight to anyone at any time during or after the flight.

4. To hunt, guide or outfit for migratory game birds within 48 hours of flying within the same WMU (excluding jet and turbo prop flights).

*NOTE: Hunting big game after the six hour timeframe as indicated in #2 above does not negate the potential application of #1 above.

Public Land Use Zone (PLUZ)	Off-Highway Vehicles	Associated WMUs
Allison Chinook	Seasonal access on designated trails only	402
Athabasca Ranch	Seasonal access only	344
Brule Lake	Designated corridors only	438
Castle	Seasonal access on designated trails only	400
Cataract Creek Snow Vehicle	Snowmobiles only with additional conditions	404
Coal Branch	Seasonal access on designated trails only	436-438
Dormer / Sheep	Designated trails only	416
Ghost	Designated trails only	316, 412, 414, 416
Job / Cline	Seasonal access on designated trails only	426, 430, 432, 434
Kiska / Willson	Designated trails only with some seasonal restrictions	326, 328, 416-418, 420, 422, 426, 428-430
Livingstone	Designated trails only	302, 303, 306, 308, 400, 402
McLean Creek Off-Highway	Permitted with conditions	406
Porcupine	Designated trails only	304, 305, 308
Sibbald Snow Vehicle	Snowmobiles only with additional conditions	406
Blackstone / Wapiti	NOT PERMITTED	430, 434
Holmes Crossing	NOT PERMITTED	507
Kananaskis Country	NOT PERMITTED	404, 406, 408
Panther Corners	NOT PERMITTED	416, 418
Whitecourt Sandhills X-Country Ski	NOT PERMITTED	507

Recreation Trails

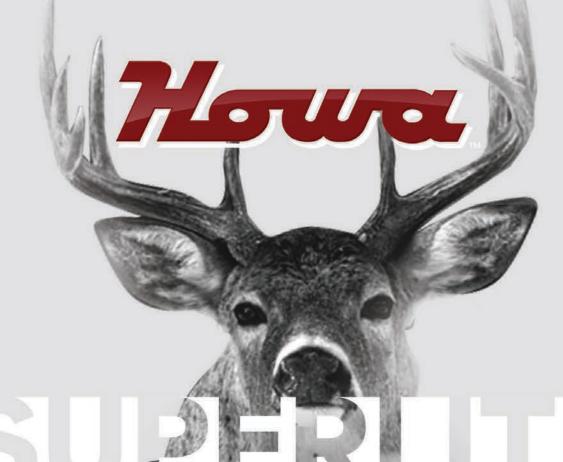
A number of forested areas throughout Alberta have designated recreation trails. These areas allow a variety of activities, including hiking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling. Trail users and backcountry travellers should be aware of current land use restrictions. For more information on recreation trails, contact the Information Centre in Edmonton (see page 14).

When accessing Alberta's public land whether motorized or non-motorized, hunters are reminded to respect the land.

Trappers' Trails

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





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BIG GAME REGULATIONS

Big Game Identification —

Class 1 Sheep - A male bighorn sheep with horns, one of which is of sufficient

size that a straight line drawn from the most anterior point of the visible base of the horn to the tip of the horn extends beyond the anterior edge of the eye when viewed in profile.

Full-Curl Class 1 Sheep - A male bighorn sheep with horns, one of which is of sufficient size that when viewed in profile, its tip extends upward beyond a straight line drawn

from the rear-most point of the base of the horn to the centre of the nostril.

Be Careful! Some rams may not be legal even if they are old due to having horns severely broomed. For more details, hunters should review the 10-page "Alberta Harvested Bighorn Sheep Registration Procedures" which was developed in 2021. This can be found on Open Alberta by searching the above term.

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

Class 1 Antelope - a male

pronghorn antelope that has

Class 2 Antelope - a female pronghorn antelope or a male

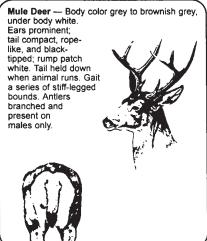
pronghorn antelope having

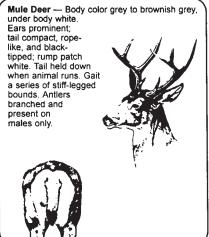
(3 in.) in length.

horns not more than 7.6 cm

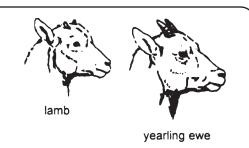
a horn at least 12.6 cm (5

in.) in length.

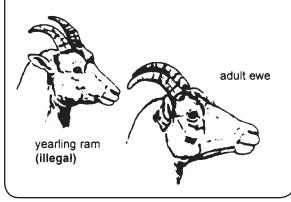




Woodland Caribou - Woodland Caribou are classified as Threatened animals in Alberta. THERE IS NO OPEN **SEASON FOR** CARIBOU. female



Class 2 Sheep - a female bighorn sheep or a male bighorn sheep under one year of age.

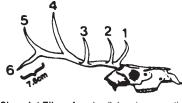


Antlered

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

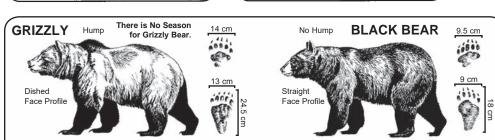
Antlerless

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



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

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



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



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

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

Moose

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

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



EVIDENCE OF SEX, SPECIES AND CLASS

In the case of **moose**, **elk**, **deer**, **antelope**, **bison and Class 2 sheep** the evidence of sex, species and class must remain attached to the carcass (cannot be surgically or otherwise removed) until:

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

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

- moose, elk, deer, antelope, bison and Class 2
 sheep attached to the same part of the animal to which the tag is affixed, one of the following:
 - O testicles, scrotum, or udder, and in the case of deer only, the completely haired tail, or
 - O the head with horns or antlers attached if the animal has horns or antlers, or
 - the head (complete with the skin on it) if the animal has no horns or antlers, and in addition

- the complete skull plate with horns or antlers intact must be retained with the carcass of the male antelope, male elk or male Class 2 sheep.
- the complete head must be retained with the carcass of a calf moose harvested under authority of a Calf Moose Special Licence.
- cougar one of the following attached to the skin and visible until compulsory registration is complete:
 - O in the case of a male, the scrotum.
 - in the case of a female, a teat or a portion of a mammary gland.

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

Deboning: a hunter can debone a carcass while in the field and still follow the requirements described above for moose, elk, deer, antelope, bison and Class 2 sheep. It's not necessary for the full hind quarter of meat to remain intact while still bearing the required evidence, provided that portion of the leg and tendon where the tag is attached also has the evidence of sex, species or class still attached to it.

TAGGING

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

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

- Class 1 sheep, goat one tag through the nostril and, as soon as the skin is removed from the skull, one tag around the lower bone of the eye socket leaving the horns and eye intact.
- moose, elk, deer, antelope, bison and Class 2 sheep

 through the space between the bone and the tendon of
 a hind leg directly above the hock and around either the
 bone or the tendon.
- bear and cougar to the skin.

Partner Licence

Upon killing an animal, a partner must immediately inform the primary licence holder (and vice versa – if the primary licence holder kills the animal, he or she must immediately inform the partner) of the killing. The primary licence holder must, immediately upon arriving at the carcass, tag the animal in the normal fashion (See page 19 for more information).

Tags must remain affixed until, in the case of

- Class 1 sheep, goat the animal is registered (page 46) and the skin is processed
- moose, elk, deer, antelope, bison, Class 2 sheep or turkey the carcass is delivered to a place where it is cut up and packaged for consumption, including:
- a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*,
 - the usual residence of the person who killed the animal, or the usual residence (a residence that is neither a business premises nor attached to such a premises) of a resident of Alberta and that resident is in attendance.
 - bear and cougar the skin is processed. If only the meat is retained, affix tag through the space between the bone and the tendon of a hind leg directly above the hock and around either the bone or the tendon.

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

WILD GAME PROCESSING

Hunters are reminded that when big game (including boned meat) or game birds are taken to a business for butchering or other related processing services, there are requirements for the business to keep a record of the wildlife that has been submitted. This includes recording the date, the name and address of the person who delivered the wildlife, the name and address of the person who killed the wildlife and their wildlife certificate number or wildlife identification number (WiN), the number of the licence under whose purported authority the wildlife was killed, and (if applicable) the tag number, and a description of the wildlife that in the case of a big game animal includes its sex.

BOWHUNTING

Note: The following applies to bowhunting other than with a crossbow. For information about hunting with cross-bows, see page 62.

Except for the hunting of black bear, coyote, cougar or wolf under the circumstances outlined on page 34, a Bowhunting Permit is required by anyone who hunts big game, game bird, wolf or coyote with a bow and arrow. Bowhunters with appropriate general or special licences may hunt during the general seasons, archery-only seasons and primitive weapon seasons. A Bowhunting Permit is required in combination with a big game licence. In some areas of the province, hunters require special licences to hunt certain species of big game – see season tables. A bowhunter who obtains an Antlered Moose Special Licence, Antlerless Moose Special Licence, Calf Moose Special Licence, Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence, Antlerless Mule Deer Special Licence, Antlered White-tailed Deer Special Licence, Antlerless White-tailed Deer Special Licence, Antlered Elk Special Licence, Antlerless Elk Special Licence or Landowner Special Licence may, if an open early archery season is offered, hunt under the authority of that licence during the archery season but only in the WMU specified on the licence and only for the type and species of animal for which the licence was issued. Holders of a Landowner Special Licence are subject to the terms/ conditions of their licence. Bowhunters are reminded that, in some situations, archery-only seasons for some species may be in progress at the same time as primitive weapon and rifle seasons for other species in the same WMU.

Persons hunting big game must use an authorized bow and an authorized arrow. An authorized bow is one that is held, drawn and released by muscular power and has a draw weight of not less than 16 kg (35 lb.). This is the number of kilograms (pounds) required to draw an arrow of 71 cm (28 in.) to its head. An authorized arrow is one that is not less than 61 cm (24 in.) in length that has a tip that bears a head that is not

intentionally designed to resist being withdrawn after it has penetrated an object. Furthermore, it must either have a solid, sharp cutting head of at least 7/8 inch in width, or a head that, when the arrow impacts, opens to present sharp cutting edges at least 7/8 inch in width.

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

HUNTING WITH CROSS-BOWS

Cross-bows may not be used to hunt big game during archery-only seasons. The only exception is for an eligible handicapped hunter who is in possession of a properly completed medical assessment form signed by an authorized medical practitioner.

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

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

Persons hunting big game with a cross-bow must use an authorized cross-bow and arrow (bolt). An authorized cross-bow is one that requires 100 pounds or more of pull to draw the string or cable to its cocked position. There is no restriction on arrow length, however it must have a tip that bears a head that is not intentionally designed to resist being withdrawn after it has penetrated an object. Furthermore, it must either have a solid, sharp cutting head of at least 7/8 inch in width, or a head that, when the arrow impacts, opens to present sharp cutting edges at least 7/8 inch in width.





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WILDLIFE COMPULSORY REGISTRATION

After harvesting any of the animals listed below, a hunter or guide who has personally accompanied a Non-resident or Non-resident Alien hunter must register the kill at a Fish and Wildlife office (page 14) within the specified time period. For a male sheep killed under the authority of an allocated licence, a hunter or a third party designate may deliver the head provided that the designate carries a bill of lading. For all other species, where parts are required to be submitted, they must be submitted at the time the animal is registered in person by the hunter who killed the animal. In order to register an animal, hunters must call one of the designated Fish and Wildlife offices (see page 14) to book an appointment date and time prior to arriving.

- Goat:
- Male sheep over 1 year of age (the complete unaltered skull with horns and eyes intact, and cape and lower jaw removed) to a designated Fish and Wildlife Office. See page 14 for Designated Offices for registering sheep. You must call ahead to arrange a time to complete the registration process;
- Cougar (the skull and skin must be submitted, complete with evidence of sex attached and visible, to a Fish and Wildlife Office. See page 14 for offices). A premolar tooth will be retained for aging.
- Bobcat (the skin must be submitted complete with the evidence of sex attached and visible);

Registration Deadlines – Deadlines for registering harvests are:

- Male sheep over 1 year of age not later than 14 days after the close
 of the open season in which the animal was killed or 30 days after the
 date on which the animal was killed, whichever occurs first.
- Goat not later than 14 days after the close of the open season in which the animal was killed or 30 days after the date on which the animal was killed, whichever occurs first.
- Cougar if taken on privately owned land by a landowner or occupant, see page 34 for requirements; if taken under any other authority, within 5 business days of the date of the kill.
- Bison taken in WMU 536 or 539 (NO SEASON FOR 2025) not later than the end of the fifth usual business day after the animal was killed.
- **Bobcat** before the skin is sold, processed or exported from Alberta or before the expiration of the period of 30 days after the bobcat was killed, whichever event comes first.



- Log observations and harvests
- Contribute to trackable trends in wildlife populations in WMUs
- Plan future hunts and draws
- Promote the value of hunting to Alberta's economy

Input and impact in the palm of your hand. **ABHuntLog.com**

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

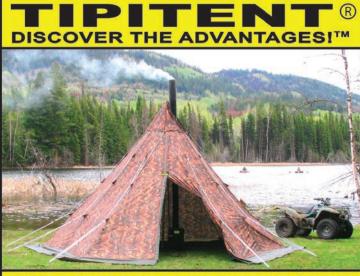
- species and sex of the animal,
- date and location of the kill.

As part of the registration process, Class 1 sheep horns will be fitted with a permanent identification marker. Fish and Wildlife has incorporated improvements to the sheep registration protocol which include the use of a new jig as well as allowing a Non-resident/Non-resident Alien hunter to have their guide register their ram on their behalf. Other animals may be marked in another manner or retained for examination.

Compulsory registration provides information about the relative numbers of males, females and young in big game populations. It also provides the dates and locations of the harvest. Age structure and sex ratios provide an indication of population productivity (how many young survive to become adults) and status (increasing, decreasing or stable). The population and harvest data can then be used to determine the harvest goals or quotas for following years. This valuable information, provided by hunters, is essential for managing cougars, goats and Class 1 sheep in Alberta.

It is a mandatory requirement to submit the heads of deer harvested from specific WMUs for CWD testing and research purposes within 30 days of when it was killed. See pages 3, 33 and 66 for details.

Summaries that include additional information on registering game animals taken under Constitutionally recognized hunting rights can be viewed at https://open.alberta.ca/publications/hunting-by-treaty-indians-in-alberta-rights-responsibilities.



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BIG GAME SEASONS



Prairie WMUs (100 Series & 732)

Albertan

Sunday hunting for big game is prohibited in Prairie WMUs (102–160).

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

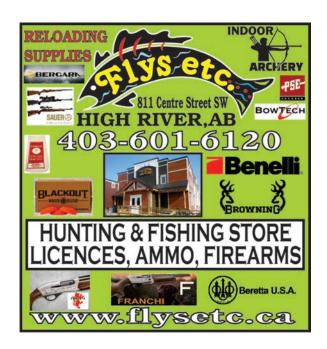
General Seasons are those where either a firearm, cross-bow or a bow and arrow may be used.

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. *Refer to the 2025 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for details*.

Note: It is a mandatory requirement to submit the heads of deer harvested from specific WMUs for CWD testing and research purposes. See pages 3, 33 and 66 for details.

		S	EASON	
Species	Туре	Archery Only	General	WMUs
White-tailed Deer	Antlered	S1 - N4	(Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8, N12 - N15, N19 - N22, N26- N29	102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160
		S1 - O31	N1 - N30	162, 163, 164, 166
	Antlerless	S1 - N4	■ (Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8, N12 - N15, N19 - N22, N26- N29	102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	162, 163, 164, 166
Mule Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S1 - N4	■ (Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8, N12 - N15, N19 - N22, N26- N29	102, 116, 118, 119, 124, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 158, 160
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	162, 163, 164, 166
	Antlered	■ S1 - N4	■ (Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8, N12 - N15, N19 - N22, N26- N29	104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 156
	Antlerless	S1 - N4	■ (Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8, N12 - N15, N19 - N22, N26- N29	104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 156
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	102, 116, 118, 119, 124, 148, 150, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166
Elk	Antlered and Antlerless		■ S1 - S23 ■ S24 - O8 ■ O9 - O23	102
			■ S1 - S30 ■ O1 - O24 ■ O25 - N16 ■ N17 - D20	104
			■ S1 - S30 ■ O1 - O24 ■ O25 - N16 ■ N17 - D20 ■ D21 - F28, 2026	108
			■ S1 - S30 ■ O1 - O24 ■ O25 - N16 ■ N17 - D31 ■ J1 - F28, 2026	(124, 128, 142, 144, 148, 150)
			■ N3 - N8 ■ N10 - N15 ■ N17 - N22 ■ N24 - N29	116, 118, 119, 624 (WMU 624 – Monday to Friday only)
			■ D1 - D31	116, 118, 119 (Monday to Saturday only)
			■ J1 - F28, 2026	116, 118, 119 (Monday to Saturday only)
		S1 - O15		116, 118, 119 (Monday to Saturday only)

Prairie WMUs continued of page 50





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SUNRISE / SI

	DATE	Ca	lgary	Coro	nation	Edr	nonton	Ft. M	cMurray	Hiah	ı Level	Н	linton	Lac La
	DAIL	Rise	Set	Rise										
	Sept. 1	6:50	8:21	6:38	8:12	6:44	8:23	6:29	8:20	6:48	8:47	7:00	8:39	6:35
	Sept. 5	6:57	8:12	6:45	8:03	6:51	8:13	6:37	8:10	6:57	8:36	7:07	8:29	6:43
	Sept. 10	7:04	8:01	6:53	7:51	6:59	8:01	6:47	7:56	7:08	8:21	7:16	8:17	6:52
	Sept. 15	7:12	7:50	6:01	7:40	7:08	7:49	6:57	7:43	7:19	8:07	7:25	8:05	7:01
	Sept. 20	7:20	7:38	7:09	7:28	7:17	7:36	7:07	7:29	7:30	7:52	7:33	7:53	7:10
l l	Sept. 25	7:28	7:27	7:17	7:16	7:26	7:24	7:18	7:15	7:41	7:38	7:42	7:40	7:20
M	Sept. 30	7:36	7:16	7:26	7:04	7:35	7:12	7:28	7:02	7:52	7:24	7:51	7:28	7:29
	Oct. 1	7:37	7:13	7:27	7:02	7:36	7:09	7:30	6:59	7:54	7:21	7:53	7:26	7:31
D	Oct. 5	7:44	7:04	7:34	6:53	7:44	7:00	7:38	6:48	8:03	7:09	8:00	7:16	7:39
T	Oct. 10	7:52	6:53	7:43	6:42	7:53	6:48	7:49	6:35	8:14	6:55	8:09	7:04	7:48
'	Oct. 15	8:00	6:43	7:51	6:31	8:02	6:36	7:59	6:22	8:26	6:42	8:18	6:53	7:58
	Oct. 20	8:09	6:32	8:00	6:20	8:11	6:25	8:10	6:10	8:37	6:28	8:27	6:42	8:08
	Oct. 25	8:17	6:23	8:09	6:10	8:21	6:14	8:21	5:58	8:49	6:15	8:37	6:31	8:18
l !	Oct. 30	8:26	6:13	8:18	6:00	8:30	6:04		5:46	9:01	6:02	8:46	6:21	8:28
	Nov. 1	8:30	6:10	8:22	5:56	8:34	6:00	8:36	5:41	9:06	5:58	8:50	6:17	8:32
ш	Nov. 5	7:36	5:03	7:29	4:49	7:42	4:53	7:45	4:33	8:15	4:48	7:58	5:09	7:40
	Nov. 10	7:47	4:54	7:38	4:41	7:51	4:44	7:56	4:23	8:27	4:37	8:07	5:01	7:50
	Nov. 15	7:54	4:48	7:47	4:34	8:01	4:36	8:07	4:13	8:39	4:27	8:16	4:53	8:00
	Nov. 20	8:02	4:42	7:55	4:27	8:10	4:29	8:17	4:05	8:50	4:18	8:25	4:46	8:09
	Nov. 25	8:10	4:37	8:04	4:22	8:18	4:23	8:27	3:58	9:01	4:10	8:34	4:40	8:18
	Nov. 30	8:17	4:33	8:11	4:18	8:26	4:19		3:52	9:11	4:03	8:42	4:36	8:27
	Dec. 1	8:18	4:33	8:12	4:17	8:28	4:18	8:38	3:51	9:13	4:02	8:43	4:35	8:28
	Dec. 5	8:23	4:31	8:18	4:15	8:34	4:16	8:44	3:48	9:20	3:59	8:49	4:33	8:34
	Dec. 10	8:29	4:29	8:24	4:14	8:40	4:14		3:46	9:27	3:56	8:55	4:31	8:41
	Dec. 15	8:34	4:30	8:28	4:14	8:44	4:14	8:56	3:45	9:33	3:55	9:00	4:31	8:46
	Dec. 20	8:37	4:31	8:32	4:15	8:48	4:16		3:47	9:37	3:56	9:03	4:33	8:49
M	Dec. 25	8:39	4:34	8:34	4:18	8:50	4:19	9:02	3:50	9:39	3:59	9:05	4:36	8:51
I I	Dec. 30	8:40	4:39	8:34	4:23	8:50	4:23	9:02	3:55	9:39	4:04	9:06	4:40	8:52
S	Jan. 1	8:40	4:41	8:34	4:25	8:50	4:25	9:02	3:57	9:38	4:07	9:06	4:42	8:51
т	Jan. 5 Jan. 10	8:39 8:37	4:45 4:52	8:33 8:31	4:30 4:36	8:49 8:46	4:30 4:37	9:00 8:56	4:03 4:11	9:36 9:31	4:13 4:22	9:04 9:02	4:47 4:54	8:50 8:47
'	Jan. 10 Jan. 15	8:33	4:52	8:27	4:36	8:42	4:37		4:11	9:31	4:22	8:57	5:02	8:42
	Jan. 15 Jan. 20	8:28	5:07	8:22	4:44	8:36	4:45	8:44	4:20	9:25	4:32	8:52	5:02	8:36
	Jan. 25	8:22	5:15	8:16	5:01	8:30	5:03	8:36	4:41	9:08	4:54	8:45	5:20	8:29
	Jan. 30	8:16	5:24	8:09	5:10	8:22	5:13		4:52	8:58	5:06	8:38	5:30	8:21
	Feb. 1	8:13	5:28	8:05	5:14	8:19	5:17	8:23	4:56	8:54	5:11	8:34	5:34	8:17
	Feb. 5	8:06	5:35	7:59	5:21	8:12	5:25	8:15	5:05	8:45	5:21	8:27	5:42	8:10
	Feb. 10	7:58	5:44	7:50	5:31	8:02	5:35	8:04	5:17	8:33	5:33	8:18	5:52	8:00
	Feb. 15	7:49	5:53	7:40	5:40	7:52	5:45	7:52	5:28	8:21	5:45	8:08	6:01	7:49
	Feb. 20	7:39	6:02	7:30	5:49	7:41	5:55	7:40	5:39	8:08	5:58	7:57	6:11	7:38
	Feb. 25	7:29	6:11	7:20	5:59	7:30	6:04	7:28	5:50	7:54	6:10	7:46	6:21	7:26
	. 0.5. 20	1.20	0.11	7.20	5.55	7.50	0.04	7.20	5.50	7.54	0.10	7.70	0.21	1.20



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JNSET TABLE

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

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

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

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

To establish specific times for sunrise/ sunset, refer to the National Research Council Canada (nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/ services/sunrise/ advanced.html)



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		S	EASON	
Species	Туре	Archery Only	General	WMUs
Elk	Antlered	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	110, (132, 136, 138), (151, 152), (156, 158, 160), (162, 163, 164, 166)
	Antlered (3-point or larger) ¹	S1 - O31		106, 112, 130, 134, 140
	Antlerless	S1 - O31	■ N1 - J31, 2026	(151, 152), (156, 158, 160)
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - F28, 2026	110, (132, 136, 138), (162, 163, 164, 166)
	Antlered and Antlerless		■ N7 - N9 ■ N14 - N16 ■ J17 - J19, 2026 ■ J23 - J25, 2026	732 (CFB Suffield)

¹ See page 42 for descriptions of 3 point or larger elk.

Additional hunting opportunities in the Prairie WMUs:

• Either Sex Elk Special Licence, Antelope Archery Special Licence, Class 2 Antelope Special Licence and Class 1 Antelope Special Licence. Refer to page 60 for season dates or to the *2025 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for further details (note that the 2025 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet refers to Class 1 Antelope as Trophy Antelope and Class 2 Antelope as Non-trophy Antelope).

BIG GAME SEASONS



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

Albertan

Archery Only Seasons are those where only a bow and arrow may be used to hunt. **General Seasons** are those where either a firearm, cross-bow or a bow and arrow may be used.

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. *Refer to the 2025 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for details*.

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

Note: It is a mandatory requirement to submit the heads of deer harvested from specific WMUs for CWD testing and research purposes. See pages 3, 33 and 66 for details.

		SE	ASON	
Species	Туре	Archery Only	General	WMUs
White-tailed Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S1 - O31	N1 - N30	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260
		S1 - N30		212, 247, 248
		O17 - O31	N9 - N30	936 ¹
	Antlered	S1 - O31	N1 - N30	210
	Antlerless	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	210
Mule Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	200, 202, 203, 204, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260
		S1 - N30		212, 247, 248
	Antlered	■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	206, 208, 210, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 242
	Antlerless	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	206, 208, 210, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 242
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 210, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260
		S1 - N30		212, 247, 248
		■ O17 - O31	■ N1 - N23	936 ¹
			■ O25 - D7 ²	248
Elk	Antlered and	S1 - N30		212, 247, 248
	Antlerless	■ O17 - O31	■ N1 - N23	936¹
	Antlered	S1 - O24	O25 - N30	214
	(3-point or larger) ³	S1 - O31	N1 - N30	216, 221, 224
	Antlered	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	(200, 202, 203, 232, 234), (204, 228, 230), (206, 222, 226, 244, 246), (208, 210, 220), (236, 238, 256), (240, 242), 250, (252, 254, 258, 260)

		SI	EASON	
Species	Туре	Archery Only	General	WMUs
Elk	Antlerless	S1 - O31	■ N1 - F28, 2026	(200, 202, 203, 232, 234), (240, 242)
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - J31, 2026	(204, 228, 230), (206, 222, 226, 244, 246), (208, 210, 220), (236, 238, 256), (252, 254, 258, 260)
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - D20	224
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - D20 ■ D21 - F28, 2026	250
		S1 - O24	■ O25 - N20 ■ N21 - D20 ■ J1 - F28, 2026	214
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - N25 ■ N26 - D20 ■ J1 - F28, 2026	216, 221
		S1 - N30	■ N1 - N30 ² ■ D1 - D31 ² ■ J1 - F28, 2026 ²	2124
Cougar and Bla	ack Bear Seaso	ns – See pages 57	and 58.	

Hunters (including bowhunters) require a Firearms Discharge Permit to hunt in WMU 936. Hunters must contact the Cooking Lake/Blackfoot Grazing, Wildlife and Recreation Area office at **780-922-3293** for information on requirements to obtain the discharge permit. In WMU 936, vehicle access is permitted to the Staging Areas only. Horses are permitted only on designated trails and in open pastures. General area access is by muscular power only (bicycle or walking).

² This season is open to hunting only by means of archery, cross-bow, muzzle loader or shotgun.

³ See page 42 for descriptions of 3-point or larger elk.

4 WMU 212 Antlerless Elk Archery Licence will be issued with 2 tags; WMU 212 Antlerless Elk Special Licence will be issued with 1 tag.

Additional hunting opportunities in the Parkland WMUs:

- The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licences will be issued with ONE tag and be valid in the following WMU's: 200-208, 214, 220-246, 248, and 258-260.
- Antlerless Deer (WMUs 212, 247 and 248) Licence. Holders of this licence may kill two antlerless deer, either white-tailed deer or mule deer, with a bow and arrow (but not a cross-bow) in WMUs 212, 247 and 248 during the archery-only season, S1 N30.
- Foothills Deer Licence. Holders of this licence may kill 2 antlerless deer, either white-tailed deer or mule deer, with a bow and arrow, cross-bow, shotgun, or muzzle loader in WMU 212 on the following dates: D1 D20 (Monday to Friday only). When hunting, they must carry written permission from the landowner involved.
- CFB Wainwright Deer Special Licence. Refer to alberta.ca/WainwrightHunt for important information for hunters participating in the 2025 CFB Wainwright Hunt.
- WMU 248 White-tailed Deer Licence. Holders of this licence may kill **three** white-tailed deer, only 1 of which may be antlered, with a bow and arrow, cross-bow, muzzle loader or shotgun in WMU 248 between the following dates: O25 D7. Information about this hunt is available from the

Fish and Wildlife office in Edmonton and from Strathcona County Hall, 2001 Sherwood Drive, Sherwood Park. Hunters are reminded to ensure the discharge of their weapon is not prohibited by county or municipal by-laws.





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BIG GAME SEASONS



Foothills WMUs (300 Series)



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

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

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. *Refer to the 2025 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for details*.

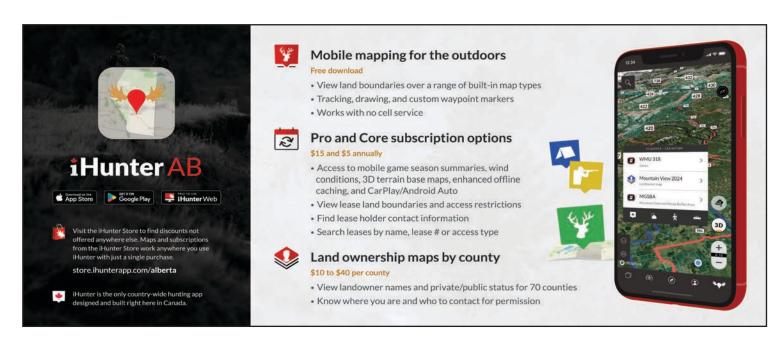
		SI	EASON			
Species	Туре	Archery Only	General	WMUs		
White-tailed	Antlered and	S1 - O31	N1 - N30	310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 348		
Deer	Antlerless	S1 - O24 O25 - N30		300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308		
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	326, 328, 330, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360		
Mule Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	310, 312, 334, 336, 348		
	Antlered	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	352, 353, 355		
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	316		
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	326, 328, 330, 347, 349, 350, 351, 354, 356		
		■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	314, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 337, 338		
		■ A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 357, 358, 359, 360		
		■ S1 - O24	■ O25 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308		
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	■ S17 - D20	357, 359, 360		
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	314, 320, 322, 332		
		S1 - O24	■ O25 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308		
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	358		
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	310, 312, 314, 316, 320, 322, 332, 334, 336, 337		
	Antlered	A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360		
		■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	318, 324, 338, 348		
		■ S1 - O24	■ O25 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 306, 308		
		■ A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	326, 328, 330, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346		
	Antlerless	A25 - S23	■ S24 - N30	352, 353 ¹ , 355		
		■ A25 - S23	■ N1 - N30	357		
	Antlerless (calf only)	■ A25 - S23	■ N1 - N30	359, 360		
Elk	Antlered (3-point or	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360		
	larger) ²	S1 - O24	O25 - N30	302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314		
		S1 - O31	N1 - N30	316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 348		
	Antlerless		■ S3 - O24 ■ O25 - D24 ■ D25 - F28, 2026	300		
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - D20	340, 342, 344 ¹		
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	330, 352		
		S1 - O24	■ O25 - D20 ■ D21 - F28, 2026	302, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310		
		S1 - O24	■ O25 - D20 ■ D21 - J31, 2026	303		

		S	EASON	
Species	Туре	Archery Only	General	WMUs
Elk	Antlerless	S1 - O24	■ O25 - N20 ■ N21 - D20 ■ J1 - F28, 2026	312, 314
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - N25 ■ N26 - D20	318, 332
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - N25 ■ N26 - F28, 2026	324
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - D20	334, 336
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - O31 ■ N1 - D20 ■ D21 - J31, 2026	346
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - O31 ■ N1 - D20 ■ D21 - F28, 2026	357, 358, 359, 360
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - N25 ■ N26 - D20 ■ J1 - F28, 2026	320, 322
			■ N1 - D20 ■ D21 - J31, 2026	337, 338 ¹ , 348
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - O31 ■ N1 - D20	353, 354, 355, 356
Class 1 Sheep ³	Resident		S3 - O31	3024, 303, 306, 308
Cougar and Bla	ack Bear Seaso	ns – See pages 57	and 58.	

- ¹ The special licence season for antlerless moose in WMU 353 and antlerless elk in WMUs 338 and 344 applies only to a portion of the WMU.
- ² See page 42 for descriptions of 3-point or larger elk.
- 3 Hunting sheep is prohibited in several areas. See Restricted Areas for Class 1 and Class 2 Sheep on page 39.
- ⁴ WMU 302 is open only for Full-Curl Class 1 Sheep.

Additional hunting opportunities in the Foothills WMUs:

- The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licences will be issued with ONE tag and be valid in the following WMU's: 300, 304, 305, 332, 334, 350-353, and 357-360.
- WMU 300 Elk Special Licence and Class 2 Sheep Special Licence. Refer to page 60 for season dates or to the 2025 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for further details.



BIG GAME SEASONS



Mountain WMUs (400 Series)



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

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

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. *Refer to the 2025 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for details*.

		SE	ASON	
Species	Туре	Archery Only	General	WMUs
White-tailed	Antlered and	S3 - S23	■ S24 - N30	404, 406, 408
Deer	Antlerless	S3 - N30		410
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	429, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
	Antlered	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434
		S1 - S23	S24 - N30	400, 402
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	N1 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434
		S1 - S23	N1 - N15	400, 402
Mule Deer	Antlered and	S3 - S23	■ S24 - N30	404, 406, 408
	Antlerless	S3 - N30		410
	Antlered	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 429, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439
		■ S1 - S23	■ S24 - N30	400, 402
	Antlerless	S1 - S23	■ S24 - N30	400, 402
Moose	Antlered and	S3 - S23	■ S24 - N30	404, 406
	Antlerless	S3 - N30		410
	Antlered	A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31	412, 414
		A25 - S23	■ S24 - N30	416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
		■ A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	429
		S3 - S23	■ S24 - N30	408
		■ S1 - S16	■ S17 - N30	400, 402
Elk	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - N30		410
	Antlered (6-point or larger)¹ and Antlerless	S3 - S16	■ S17 - N30	404, 406, 408
	Antlered	■ A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434
	(6-point or larger) ¹	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
	Antlered	S1 - O31	N1 - N30	429
	(3-point or larger) ¹	S1 - S16	S17 - N30	400, 402
	Antlerless	S1 - S16	■ S17 - N30	400, 402
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	438 ² , 439, 441 ² , 444 ²

		SEASON			
Species	Туре	Archery Only	General	WMUs	
Class 1 Sheep ³	Resident	S3 - O31		410	
		■ S3 - N30		410	
			■ A25 - S23 ■ S24 - O31	437	
			■ N1 - N10 ■ N11 - N20 ■ N21 - N30	4384	
			A25 - O31	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444 ⁵ , 445	
			■ A25 - O31	444 ⁶ , 446	
			S3 - O31	400 ⁷ , 402, 404, 406, 408	
		■ N1 - N30		408 (west of Highway 40)	
	Non-resident and Non-resident Alien ⁸	■ S3 - N30		410	
			■ S1 - O15	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444 ⁵ , 445	
Cougar and Black Bear Seasons – See pages 57 and 58.					

- See page 42 for descriptions of 3-point or larger elk and 6-point or larger elk.
- ² The draw season for antlerless elk in WMU 438, 441 and 444 applies only to a portion of the WMU (see draw booklet for maps), however, the antlerless archery season applies to the entire WMU.
- ³ Hunting of sheep is prohibited in several areas. See Restricted Areas for Class 1 and Class 2 sheep on page 39.
- ⁴ The draw season for Class 1 sheep is valid in Area 438C (See **2025** Alberta Hunting Draws Booklet).
- 5 The season for Class 1 sheep in WMU 444 applies only to the portion south of the Beaverdam Road.
- 6 The draw season for Class 1 sheep in WMU 444 applies only to the portion north of the Beaverdam Road.
- 7 WMU 400 is open only for Full-Curl Class 1 Sheep.
- 8 These seasons are only valid for hunters who have obtained Class 1 Sheep Special Licences through a Class S Outfitter or through a draw (Non-resident [Canadians] only).

Additional hunting opportunities in the Mountain WMUs:

- The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licences will be issued with ONE tag and be valid in the following WMU's: 440-446.
- Class 2 Sheep Special Licence, Class 1 Sheep Special Licence (portion of WMU 408 lying west of Highway 40 or in WMU 446 and that portion of WMU 444 north of Beaverdam Road or in WMU 438C). Refer to page 60 for season dates or to the 2025 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for further details.
- Castle Provincial Park (part of WMU 400): Hunters in WMU 400 need to be aware of the establishment of the Castle Provincial Park and Castle Wildland Provincial Park. Although hunting is permitted in both of these parks, hunting (including bowhunting) in Castle Provincial Park requires a firearm discharge permit. Firearm discharge permits are not required to hunt in Castle Wildland Provincial Park. Firearm discharge permits are available online at: albertaparks.ca/media/6493998/2017-castle-permit-to-discharge-a-firearm.pdf. For more information call: 403-627-1165 or visit albertaparks.ca/hunting.



BIG GAME SEASONS



Boreal WMUs (500 Series & 841)

Albertan

Archery Only Seasons are those where only a bow and arrow may be used to hunt. **General Seasons** are those where either a firearm, cross-bow or a bow and arrow may be used.

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. *Refer to the 2025 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for details*.

Bison – Wood Bison are designated as Threatened when found within WMUs 511, 516, 518, 519, 520, 524, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 536, 537 (portion north of Chinchaga River and west of Paddle Prairie Métis Settlement), 539, 540 (portion lying east of the Wabasca River and within the Wabasca Bison Protection Area), 541, and 542. Within these areas, no person shall hunt bison within a Bison Sanctuary (Northwest Bison Protection Area or Wabasca Bison Protection Area) at any time without a bison special license. Persons who may be beneficiaries of a constitutionally recognized right may hunt bison in connection with those rights within the prescribed areas when a bison is not within a bison sanctuary. For further details refer to the factsheet available from https://www.alberta.ca/wood-bison-regulation.

Note: It is a mandatory requirement to submit the heads of deer harvested from specific WMUs for CWD testing and research purposes. See page 3, 33 and 66 for details.

		SEASON			
Species	Туре	Archery Only	General	WMUs	
White-tailed	Antlered and	S1 - O31	N1 - N30	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510	
Deer	Antlerless	A25 - A31	S1 - N30	511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 524, 525, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 536, 539, 540, 541, 542, 544	
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 535, 537	
			S17 - N30	841	
Mule Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	500, 501, 503, 505, 507, 508	
	Antlered	A25 - A31	S1 - N30	512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 536, 539, 540, 541, 542	
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	535	
			S17 - N30	841	
		■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	502, 504, 506, 509, 510	
		■ A25 - A31	■ S1 - N30	511	
		■ A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 537	
		A25 - A31	■ S1 - N30	520, 524, 525, 544	
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	■ S17 - D20	521, 522, 523, 526, 527	
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	502, 504, 506, 509, 510	
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	537	
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 506, 507, 508, 509	
	Antlered		■ S17 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	841	
		A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 535, 537	
		A25 - A31	■ S1 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 524, 525, 528, 529, 530, 536, 541, 542, 544	
		■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	505, 510	
		A25 - A31	■ S1 - N30¹	531, 532, 534, 539, 540	
	Antlerless	■ S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	505, 510	
	(calf only)	■ A25 - S23	■ N1 - N30	521, 522, 523, 526, 527	
Elk	Antlered (6-point or larger) ²	S1 - O31	■ N1 - N30	509	
	Antlered	S1 - O31	N1 - N30	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 510, 511, 514	
	(3-point or larger) ²	S1 - O31		512, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519	

		SI	EASON	
Species	Туре	Archery Only	General	WMUs
Elk	Antlered	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 535, 537, 544
	(3-point or larger) ²	S17 - N30		841
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	■ S17 - O31 ■ N1 - D20 ■ D21 - F28, 2026	520, 521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 528, 535, 537, 544
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - F28, 2026	503
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - D20 ■ D21 - J31, 2026	500, 501, 502, 507, 508, 511, 514
		S1 - O31	■ N1 - D20 ■ D21 - F28, 2026	504, 505, 506, 509, 510

¹ If hunting with an outfitter, hunters should note these WMUs are split into two seasons: Sept. 1 – Oct. 31 or Nov. 1 – Nov. 30.

COUGAR SEASONS

Fall Season

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

Winter Season

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

4:30 p.m., hunters can confirm which units will be open the next day. The harvest of all cougars must be reported by email or text within 24 hours of the kill. Please see: mywildalberta.com for details.

It is unlawful to:

- allow the skin of any cougar to be wasted, destroyed, spoiled or abandoned unless the edible portions of meat are recovered. See exemption for salvaging skin on page 34 – Access for Control of Livestock Predation.
- hunt a female cougar accompanied by a

cougar kitten with spotted fur, or a cougar kitten with spotted fur.

Use of Predator Calls and Bait

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

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

ATTENTION: ALL RESIDENT COUGAR HUNTERS!

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

ATTENTION COUGAR HUNTERS!

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

General Season	WMUs	Archery-only Season	WMUs
September 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026 ¹ Residents only	102-106, 112, 124-130, 134-166, 200-210, 220, 222, 226-244, 250-260, 500-502, 504, 520, 528, 530-534, 536, 539-541	September 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026 ^{1,3}	212, 247, 248
August 25 – November 30 ¹ Residents only	108, 110, 116-119, 132, 214, 216, 221, 224, 246, 357-360, 412-446, 503, 506, 508, 514, 518, 519, 521-527, 529, 535, 537, 542, 544	December 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026 ^{2,3}	410
December 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026 ²	108, 110, 116-119, 132, 214, 216, 221, 224, 246, 300-360, 400-408, 412-446, 503, 505-519, 521-527, 529, 535, 537, 542, 544		

¹ The use of dogs to hunt cougars is prohibited during this season.

² See page 42 for description of 3-point or larger elk and 6-point or larger elk.

² From December 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026, hunters must call 1-800-661-3729 (toll free) prior to hunting each day to determine if the season remains open. Please see mywildalberta.com for details.

³ Residents only are allowed to hunt during this season.

BLACK BEAR SEASONS

Black Bear Baiting

Baiting of black bears is permitted in the following WMUs: 322, 330-338, 348, 358-360, 500-506, 509, 510, 512-520, 522, 523, 529-536, 539-544 and portions of WMUs 320, 324, 357, 507, 521, 526 and 528 (Check with local Fish and Wildlife offices, page 14 or visit mywildalberta.com to view the maps where black bear baiting is restricted in these WMUs). However, the following restrictions also apply:

- 1) Baiting is prohibited within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of occupied dwellings. Owners and occupants of dwellings are exempt from this restriction if they have permission to bait from the owners or occupants of all other dwellings within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of the bait. Other persons may also bait within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of an occupied dwelling if the bait has been authorized in writing by the owners or occupants of that dwelling and all other dwellings within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of the bait.
- 2) Baiting is prohibited within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of Provincial Parks that are not designated

ATTENTION BEAR AND COUGAR HUNTERS!

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

as Wildland Provincial Parks, provincial and forest recreation areas and some industrial sites. For more information on baiting in parks, see page 36.

- 3) Each bait site must have a readily observable sign legibly showing the owner's name and phone number or a Wildlife Identification Number, Big Game Outfitter Permit number, or Big Game Guide Designation Number.
- **4)** Each bait must be posted with surrounding signs to warn other people of its presence.
- **5)** Baiting is restricted to the open season and the preceding two weeks in each specific WMU.
- **6)** During November in WMUs or partial WMUs where baiting is permitted, only meat or meat products may be used for bait.

Contact a Fish and Wildlife office (page 14) for legal land descriptions or more information. Hunters are reminded that Alberta's *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act, Animal Health Act* and the *Public Health Act* apply to baiting situations. Any livestock dying other than through proper slaughter for human consumption must be disposed of in prescribed ways and may not be used for baiting bears. Containers or wrappings made of paper, cardboard, plastic or other materials should not

be left at bait sites. For the safety of others, baits should not be placed near active work sites (e.g., tree planting locations) and all bait sites must be cleaned immediately after the bear season.

Black bear hunting with dogs is now permitted in Wildlife Management Units 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446, 511, 524, 525, 527 and 537 in September and October during an open season. This is being done in order to support predator management in areas where caribou recovery is a concern.

Supplemental Black Bear Licences

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

It is unlawful to:

- allow the skin of any black bear to be wasted, destroyed, spoiled or abandoned unless the edible portions of meat are recovered. See exemption for salvaging skin on page 34 Access for Control of Livestock Predation. Refer to the Important Changes and Information for 2025 section at the beginning of this guide for more information.
- hunt a black bear under the age of one year or a female black bear accompanied by a cub under the age of one year.

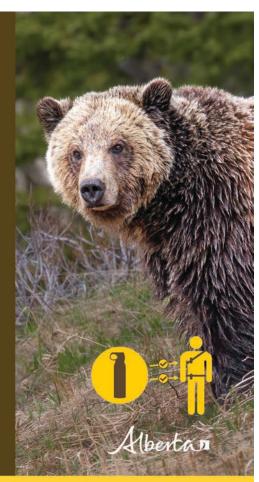
Black Bear	SEASON			
Season	Archery Only	General	WMUs	
Fall 2025	Aug. 25 – Aug. 31	Sept. 1 – Nov. 30	326, 328, 330, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 429, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446, 511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 535, 536, 537, 539, 540, 541, 542, 544	
	Sept. 1 – Nov. 30		212	
	Sept. 3 – Nov. 30		410	
		Sept. 1 – Nov. 30	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 348, 400, 402, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 841	
		Sept. 3 – Nov. 30	404, 406, 408	
Spring 2026	Apr. 1 – May 31		212, 410	
(Requires a new		Apr. 1 – May 15	400, 404, 406, 408, 841	
year licence)		Apr. 1 – June 15	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 342, 402, 429	
		Apr. 1 – June 30	344, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 535, 536, 537, 539, 540, 541, 542, 544	



Be BearSmart when hunting

- Carry bear spray year-round and keep it within reach.
- Practice drawing your bear spray and removing the safety to be better prepared if it is needed quickly.
- Using cover scents and calling game may attract bears.
- Be cautious in areas where bears might feed such as berry patches, grain fields and near dead stock.
- Be alert when handling a harvested animal.
 Remove the carcass quickly.
- If a bear finds your kill site, or if the carcass has been buried or moved, leave the area immediately and call Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Services to report it by calling 310-0000.
- When black bear hunting, always be sure of your target.
 Grizzly bears can be found in the black bear range. Colour and size alone are not good indications of a bear's species.

Alberta.ca/BearSmart



ADDITIONAL SPECIAL LICENCE DRAW HUNTS

Season Dates And Locations (refer to page 17 for month abbreviations)

Class 2 Sheep Special Licence

Areas (402 - 303, 306)*, 402 - 308*, 402A*, 404A*, 404B*, 406A*, 406B*, 408A*, 408B*, 410, 416, 418A*, 418B*, 418C*, 420, 422A*, 426A*,

*These areas comprise either a portion of one WMU or all of one WMU and a portion of an adjacent WMU. See descriptions in the 2025 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet.

CFB Wainwright Deer Special Licence (WMUs 728 and 730)

Bow and arrow or muzzle loader	· N29*
Rifle	- D13*

CFB Wainwright Moose Special Licence (WMUs 728 and 730)

Rifle D1 - D6* D8 - D13*	Bow and arrow or muzzle loader	J29*
	Rifle)13*

*Refer to alberta.ca/WainwrightHunt for important information for hunters participating in the 2025 CFB Wainwright Hunt.

Antelope Archery Special Licence

WMUs 102, 104, 106, 108, 112	12, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166	5 S1 - S27
Class 1 Antelope Specia	al Licence	
WMUs 138, 142, 144, 150, 1	151, 152, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166	S29 - O4
WMUs 102, 104, 106, 108, 1	112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 140, 148	O20 - O25

Class 2 Antelope Special Licence

WMUs 138, 142, 144, 150, 151, 152, 160, 162, 163,	5, 164, 166	O2 - O4, O6 - O8
WMUs 102, 104, 106, 108, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124,	l, 128, 140, 148	O23 - O25, O27 - O29

Either Sex Elk Special Licence

Mountain Goat Special	Licence
Areas E, I, K	
Areas O, T, U	

Refer to the 2025 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for details on what seasons will be open and how to apply for special licences.

OTHER SPECIES

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

It is not legally necessary to salvage pelts of 1) furbearing animals, cougars and bears taken in accordance with regulations authorizing control of problem wildlife; 2) coyotes harvested, by residents, outside of public lands in the Green Area; or 3) cougars and bears if the edible portions of the meat are recovered.

Timber Wolf – A Resident may, without a licence, hunt (but not trap) timber wolf from the opening of any big game season in a particular WMU to May 31, 2026, or until June 15, 2026 in WMUs where black bear seasons are open until June 15, 2026.

A Non-resident or Non-resident Alien who holds a valid wildlife certificate may hunt (but not trap) timber wolf from the opening of any big game season in a particular WMU to May 31, 2026, or until June 15, 2026 in WMUs where black bear seasons are open until June 15, 2026.

Coyote - A Resident, Non-resident or Non-resident Alien who holds a valid wildlife certificate may, except in WMUs 728 and 730, hunt (but not trap) coyote

- a) throughout the year on privately owned land and on public land in the White Area, to which he or she has the right of access to hunt;
- b) on public lands in the Green Area to which he or she has the right of access to hunt, from the opening day of a big game season in a particular WMU to May 31, 2026 or until June 15 if the hunting is in a WMU that has a spring season for black bear ending on that date.

In CFB Wainwright (WMUs 728 and 730) a Resident may hunt coyote from January 5, 2026 until February 28, 2026. A range safety briefing is required as a condition of access and will be done at Range Control (Building 581) on an as required basis. Access may be restriited to allow military training to occur. For further information please email wrtBaseHunt@forces.gc.ca.

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

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

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

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

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

Bobcat – A resident may, without a licence from November 1 - February 28, 2026, hunt (but not trap) bobcat in WMUs 102, 104, 106, 108, 112, 116, 118, 119 and in the portion of WMU 110 that lies east of highway 2 and south of highway 3. The use of dogs is prohibited. All kills must be registered at a Fish and Wildlife office (see page 14).

Muskrats and Double-crested Cormorants – A Resident may, without a licence and at all times of year, hunt muskrats and double crested cormorants on private land by the owner, an occupant, or a resident authorized in writing by the owner or occupant.

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

** Some exceptions apply. Please refer to the 2025 Alberta Guide to Trapping Regulations, available in September 2025.

WILD TURKEY DRAW

Please refer to items 1, 11 and 12 of Prohibitions, Game Bird section (page 31) for additional requirements concerning weapons and evidence of sex and species for wild turkey.

Differentiating Between Males and females

The gobbler (male) has a fleshy growth (wattle) which hangs from the under side of the throat or chin. Males also exhibit fatty growths (caruncles) located on the side and back of the neck and on the lower throat. A fleshy projection above the bill of males (snood, or dew bill) will also distinguish males from females.

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

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

Sunrise/Sunset Table (Mountain Daylight Time)				
Date	Sunrise	Sunset		
May 01, 2026	6:13 AM	8:54 PM		
May 05, 2026	6:06 AM	9:00 PM		
May 10, 2026	5:59 AM	9:07 PM		
May 15, 2026	5:51 AM	9:14 PM		
May 20, 2026	5:45 AM	9:20 PM		
May 25, 2026	5:40 AM	9:27 PM		
May 30, 2026	5:35 AM	9:32 PM		

ATTENTION TURKEY HUNTERS

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

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANTS

Double-crested cormorants are a game bird and can be legally hunted during duck seasons with a provincial game bird hunting licence. Their flesh may be abandoned or wasted BUT dead birds must be recovered from the field and disposed of.

GAME BIRD REGULATIONS

Please Remember

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

BE AWARE!

IN ALBERTA WHOOPING CRANES ARE PROTECTED

Whooping Cranes are listed as and Endangered Species in Alberta. Be sure your target is not a whooping crane.

IN ALBERTA SAGE GROUSE ARE PROTECTED

Sage grouse are listed as an endangered species in Alberta. Be sure your target is not a sage grouse.

IT IS PROHIBITED TO HUNT SHARP-TAILED GROUSE
IN MANY WMUS WITHIN ALBERTA (see page 63 for allowed WMUs) Be sure of your target. For a more detailed description of Sharp-tailed Grouse, please go to: mywildalberta.ca/hunting/game-species/default.aspx

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



SANDHILL CRANE

Falconry Hunting

Falconers are permitted to hunt upland game birds and migratory birds, by means of falconry, in all areas of the province except in national parks and those restricted areas identified on pages 36 to 39.

To hunt any game birds by means of falconry, Recreational Falconry Permit holders must possess all the same hunting licence(s) as those who would hunt game birds with firearms are required to possess (see page 26).

Seasons

The open season to hunt upland game birds by means of falconry is from August 15, 2025 to March 31, 2026. Migratory game birds may be hunted by means of falconry during the designated open season for migratory birds (page 63).

Bowhunting

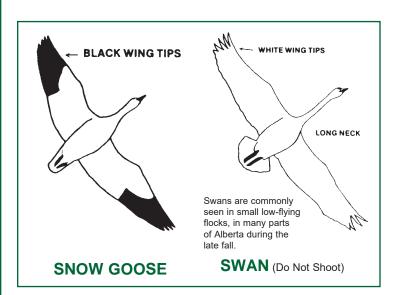
Hunters wishing to hunt game birds with a bow and arrow, other than a cross-bow, require a Bowhunting Permit in addition to the other applicable licences

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

Special Hunting Areas

In WMUs 212, 247 and 248 the hunting of game birds is only permitted with bows and arrows, cross-bows, shotguns or a falconry bird. Cross-bows cannot be used to hunt migratory birds.

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



Spring Snow/Ross's Goose Hunting Season

Alberta has a spring snow/Ross's goose hunting season from March 15 through June 15 annually. Please refer to the game bird hunting table on page 63 for valid WMUs. Regular fall hunting restrictions and daily bag limit (50) apply. As in the fall hunting season, there is no longer a possession limit for snow/Ross's geese.

NOTE: While it is illegal to hunt migratory game birds with a single projectile (e.g. .22 rim fire, or center fire rifle), it is legal to use them to hunt upland game birds and wild turkey.

WHOOPING

CRANE

GAME BIRD SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS

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

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. Refer to the 2025 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for details.

Species	Daily Limit	Possession Limit	WMUs	Season Date	Requirements	
Snow or	50	No Limit	200-208, 216-260, 316-544, 841, 936	S1 - D16 / M15 - Ju15	(a) of which not more	
Ross's Geese	combined		102-166, 210-214, 300-314	S8 - D23 / M15 - Ju15	than two ducks may be goldeneye for non-resident	
Canada or	8 combined	24 combined	200-208, 216-260, 316-544, 841, 936	S1 - D16	aliens.	
White-fronted Geese			102-166, 210-214, 300-314	S8 - D23	(b) of which not more than six ducks may be goldeneye	
Ducks, Coots,	8 (a)	24 (b) each	200-208, 216-260, 316-544, 841, 936	S1 - D16	for non-resident aliens.	
Snipe, Cormorants	each		102-166, 210-214, 300-314	S8 - D23	(c) may harvest with a	
G 11:11 G	5	15	200-208, 220, 222, 226-244, 247-260, 500	S1 - D16	special licence only.	
Sandhill Crane	3		102-106, 112-166, 210	S8 - D23	Month Abbreviations	
		6	200-260, 314-402, 412-544	S1 - J15	A – August	
Male Pheasant	2		102-166, 300-312	O15 - N30	S – September O – October	
			404-410, 841, 936	S8 - J15	N – November	
	5	15	102-402, 412-544	S1 - J15	D – December J – January	
Ruffed Grouse			404-410, 841, 936	S8 - J15	F – February M – March Ap – April	
			728, 730 (CFB Wainwright)	A30 - S1		
	5	15	102-402, 412-544	S1 - J15	Ma – May	
Spruce Grouse			404-410, 841, 936	S8 - J15	Ju – June	
Sharp-tailed Grouse	5	15	102-246, 252-256, 300-314, 334, 400- 402, 518-520, 524, 525, 528-542, 936	O1 - O31		
			728, 730 (CFB Wainwright)	A30 - S1		
Ptarmigan	5	15	300-402, 412-544	S1 - J15		
			404-410	S8 - J15		
Blue Grouse	5	15	300-402, 412-446	S1 - J15		
			404-410	S8 - J15		
Gray Partridge	5	15	102-402, 412-544	S1 - J15		
			936	S8 - J15		
Wild Turkey	1 (c)	1 (c)	300-308, 400, 402	■ Ma1 - Ma31, 2026		

ATTENTION WMU 936 HUNTERS: All hunters for WMU 936 must review an online hunter information package and require a firearms discharge permit. Information packages and firearms discharge permits may obtained online at albertaparks.ca. Please contact the Cooking Lake/Blackfoot Grazing, Wildlife and Recreation Area office, (780-922-3293) in order to receive more information.

ATTENTION WMU 728 & 730 (CFB Wainwright) HUNTERS:

All hunters and non-hunters are required to attend a mandatory safety briefing at 0700 hrs on August 30, 2025. Signs will direct hunters to the Hunter Check Station (HCS) from the main gate of CFB Wainwright. The range safety briefing will last approximately 45 minutes and the HCS doors will open to hunters at 6:00 am for registration and signing of indemnification waivers. WARNING: Hazards in the form of unexploded military munitions may exist throughout CFB Wainwright. Hunters are advised not to touch any foreign objects. CFB Wainwright officials have advised that all hunters using shotguns to hunt game birds at CFB Wainwright must use non-toxic shot. Lead shot is not allowed.

ATTENTION PHEASANT HUNTERS: A map and description of all pheasant release sites, including time restrictions can be found on the Alberta Conservation Association website at ab-conservation.com/programs/wildlife/provincial-pheasant-release-program/ or by calling 1-877-969-9091.

ATTENTION LATE SEASON BIRD HUNTERS: Later season dates for bird game may overlap with active trapping in some areas. Please take the necessary precautions to ensure the safety of hunting dogs.

YOUTH HUNTING

Youth under 10 are exempt for the need for a provincial game bird licence while hunting game birds. HOWEVER, they must be supervised by a licenced adult and any birds they harvest are considered part of the adult's limit.

Youth under 18 may apply online for a FREE migratory game bird hunting permit. To hunt with this permit, youth must be accompanied by a permitted adult who has also possessed a permit in previous years. The adult may accompany up to two (2) youth while hunting, and may also have in their possession, a firearm and participate in the hunt.

Although youth under 10 are exempt from a provincial game bird licence, they will need a youth migratory game bird permit to hunt migratory birds, and will have to share a single limit with the supervising adult licence holder.

GAME MANAGEMENT

MARKED WILDLIFE

Some species of wildlife are banded, collared or marked by other means in an ongoing effort to gain additional population biology information.

A person who kills a wildlife animal or finds a dead wildlife animal that has been fitted with a device for the purpose of tracking the animal's movements must report and return the device to Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Services.

Some of these marked wildlife, as well as certain nuisance animals (e.g.,

facilitate their capture and handling. Any such animal will be marked with a tag advising that the meat of the animal should not be consumed before contacting Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Services or Alberta Forestry and Parks.

some black bears), may have received drugs for research purposes or to

Report Waterfowl Leg Bands by Telephone or Internet

All waterfowl leg bands recovered in North America can now be reported by telephoning the toll-free number 1-800-327-BAND (1-800- 327-2263). Band recovery can also be reported by internet at the website reportband.gov.

Wild Game Public Health Advisory

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

For more information contact Alberta Health and Wellness at 780-427-7164 or visit My Wild Alberta at mywildalberta.ca/hunting/safety-procedures/harvested-wildlife-human-health.aspx.

Swan Hills Treatment Centre 15 km radius around Swan Hills Treatment Centre





IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW:

Report A Poacher can be reached all day, every day. 1-800-642-3800.

- All calls are kept strictly confidential and you can remain anonymous.
- If you see something that may be poaching, record as much information as possible:
 - Date and time
 - Location
 - Vehicle description and licence number
 - Description of who was involved in the crime
 - Details of the violation and any other details you can think of, no matter how insignificant they might seem
- The information you provide could lead to a conviction (and possibly a reward for your help).
- Poaching covers a wide range of violations including:
 - Fishing or hunting out of season
 - Night hunting
 - Hunting from the road
 - Exceeding limits
 - Hunting while intoxicated
 - Illegal sales of wildlife or fish
- The Report A Poacher line can also be used for reporting major violations to land and habitat such as tree harvesting or destruction of stream beds.
- Please familiarize yourself with Alberta's Hunting and Fishing regulations to help protect Alberta.

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CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE AND DEER MANAGEMENT

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a chronic degenerative and ultimately fatal prion disease of cervids (primarily mule deer in Alberta). It is not known to infect humans but health authorities advise against eating any animal known to have any prion disease. CWD occurs in deer throughout much of eastern and central Alberta. Previous information, including maps of known cases, is available at alberta.ca/chronic-wasting-disease-updates.

Hunters and outfitters are key in assisting big game management by helping to reduce deer numbers and by providing heads from harvested deer in designated areas for the CWD surveillance program. Alberta began looking for CWD in harvested wild cervids in 1998. Since then, we tested over 117,000 heads and found CWD in 5,532 mule deer, 1,033 white-tailed deer, 48 elk, and 22 moose.

For 2025: Mandatory requirement to submit DEER harvested in the following WMUs:

102, 108, 110, 116, 118, 119, 148, 150, 151, 200, 212, 216, 221, 224, 232, 234, 236, 238, 246, 247, 248, 250, AND 300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 320, 322, 334, 402, 404, AND 503, 504, 505, 506, 508, 509, 510, 514, 728, and 730 (see map on page 3 of this guide).

Antlers and skull plate can be removed from bucks before the head is submitted. For European mounts, watch some YouTube videos and then collect the obex AND both retropharyngeal lymph nodes. The Alberta surveillance program uses all three tissues.

All heads for testing, including samples (as above), must have a green CWD label which gives each head a unique identification number. **Be sure to include either GPS or land location as well as WMU and your WiN number for each head**. When available, test results for each head are sent to the email address in the hunter's AlbertaRELM account.

CARCASS DISPOSAL

All hunters should properly dispose of their harvested carcasses, particularly animals taken in the CWD Risk Area. Where possible, debone meat making sure you keep the required evidence of sex and species. Hunters may prefer to avoid the spinal cord when deboning. Leave remainder of carcass at the kill site. If the carcass is transported elsewhere, remove all useable meat, then burn, bury, or dispose of the remains in a landfill.

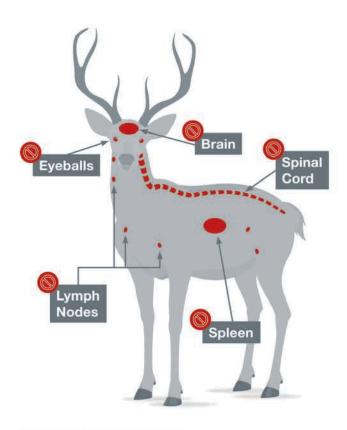
For more information about CWD, contact your local Fish and Wildlife office or visit alberta.ca/chronic-wasting-disease.

Alberta Health recommends that deer from the CWD mandatory areas be tested for CWD. For more information about potential human health risks associated with CWD contact health authorities.

BILL OF LADING - WILDLIFE (To be used when transporting wildlife taken by others)

DATE:			
I(p	address:	Ph. #	
give permission t	o address:	Ph. #	
to transport	(description of shipm	ent including sex and species)	
date of kill:	W.I.N. #:	Lic./Tag #	
taken under autho	ority of my	describe type of hunting licence)	
This wildlife is to	be transported from	(point of origin)	
to	(destination)	on (date)	
	(signature of hunter)	(signature of person transporting the wildlife)	9
			-

Carcass Transportation and Handling



Meat Processing:

- Do not process a deer that appears to be diseased.
- Process all deer individually, package separately, and label uniquely.
- Debone meat from deer and remove all fat, connective tissue, and lymph nodes.
- Avoid sawing through bone, spinal cord, brain, lymph nodes, or spleen.
- Avoid eating/handling the eyeballs, brain, spinal cord, spleen, and lymph nodes.
- Limit the amount of bodily fluids going to an area, such as a floor drain, that cannot be properly sanitized after use.

Disposal:

- Deer parts should not be rendered for use in feed for other animals, or used as compost.
- Recommended disposal methods for unwanted portions of carcasses (bones, organs, etc.) are:
- · Leave at the harvest site;
- Double-bag and send to an approved, lined landfill: or
- · Deep burial (8 feet or deeper).

Equipment Cleaning:

- Clean processing equipment between each deer.
- Thoroughly sanitize all equipment and workstations with a 50:50 solution of bleach and water.
- Soak tools for one hour in the bleach solution, and then rinse thoroughly with hot water.

Field Dressing:

- Wear rubber or latex gloves when handling carcasses.
- When field dressing an animal, leave internal organs and inedible parts at the site of harvest.
- Avoid sawing through bone, spinal cord, brain, lymph nodes, or spleen.
- Store all portions of the animal to be transported in a container such as a cooler, bin, or bag that will not leak bodily fluids into the environment.



COMMON LICENCE MISTAKES

GENERAL MULE DEER LICENCE

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

SUPPLEMENTAL ANTLERLESS WHITE-TAILED DEER LICENCE

The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licences will be issued with ONE tag and be valid in the following WMU's: 200-208, 214, 220-246, 248, 258-260, 300, 304, 305, 332, 334, 350-353, 357-360, 440-446.



YOUTH MULE DEER LICENCE

This general licence is available for resident hunters who are 10-17 years of age and who are eligible to hunt. It is a general licence that is valid during the "archery only" season, which precedes the general season. It is valid during the general season in the following WMUs: 352, 353, 355, 440-446, 512-519, 528-534, 536, 539-542 and 841. This licence is not valid during a season in which a Special Licence is required. In the Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations, special licences are required for all seasons where a small black box is located beside the season date.

YOUTH/SENIOR WHITE-TAILED DEER LICENCE

This licence is valid for resident hunters who are 10-17 and 65 years of age and over who are eligible to hunt. It is a general licence and is valid during a general season (archery or rifle). Because it is a general licence, it can not be used during the rifle season in WMUs 404, 406 and 408 (a special licence is required). In the Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations, special licences are required for all seasons where a small black box is located beside the season date.

SUPPLEMENTAL BLACK BEAR LICENCE

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

SPECIAL LICENCES

If you are drawn for a special licence, your draw priority returns to zero and that draw cannot be cancelled. You may not be able to purchase a particular general licence once you have been drawn for a special licence of that same species. Example: if you are drawn for Antlered Mule Deer, Antlered White-tailed Deer or Antlered, Antlerless, or Calf Moose you will not be able to purchase a general licence for that species. If you are drawn for Either Sex Elk, WMU 300 Elk, Antlered or Antlerless Elk, you will not be able to purchase a general elk licence. Resident hunters are able to purchase an elk licence in combination with the WMU 212 Antlerless Elk Archery and the WMU 212 Antlerless Elk Special Licence. See licence combinations on page 21.



ALBERTA'S WILDLIFE RECORDS

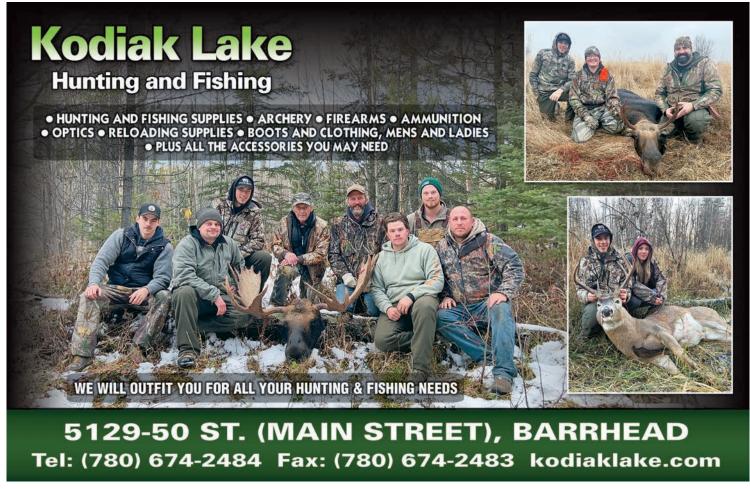
Rifle records supplied by the Alberta Wildlife Federation Bowhunting records supplied by the Alberta Bowhunters Association

BIG GAME RECORDS						
Species	Score	Hunter	Location	Year		
Bighorn Sheep	209 4/8	Picked Up	Longview	2010		
Bighorn Sheep	208 3/8	Guinn Crousen	Luscar Mtn.	2000		
Non-Typical Elk	449 4/8	Shawn O'Shea	Minburn Cnty	2020		
Typical Elk	419 5/8	Clarence Brown	Panther River	1977		
Non-Typ. Mule Deer*	355 2/8	Ed Broder	Chip Lake	1926		
Typical Mule Deer	206 2/8	Tyson Smigelski	Oyen	2017		
Non-Typ. Whitetail	279 6/8	Neil Morin	Whitemud Creek	1991		
Typical Whitetail	204 2/8	Stephen Jansen	Beaverdam Creek	1967		
Canada Moose	226 7/8	Tim Harbridge	Whitecourt	1978		
Black Bear	22 9/16	Jason Johansson	WMU 360	1997		
Grizzly Bear	26 5/16	Bella Twin & Dave Auger	Slave Lake	1953		
Grizzly Bear	26 5/16	Wilfred Hartfelder	Swan Hills	1974		
Pronghorn Antelope	90	Tannis R. Piotrowski	Manyberries	2013		
Cougar	16 2/16	Joe Gore Jr.	Sundance Lake	2005		
Mountain Goat	54	Native American	Bow Summit	1907		
Bison	133 4/8	Mike Dempsey	Slave Lake	1935		
Wolf	18 6/16	Leigh Mckain	Anselmo	2001		

BIG GAME RECORDS (ARCHERY)					
Species	Score	Hunter	Year		
Bighorn Sheep	200 6/8	Todd Kirk	1998		
Non-Typical Elk*	447 5/8	Shawn O'Shea	2020		
Typical Elk	402 5/8	Will Huppertz	2004		
Non-Typical Mule Deer	238 3/8	Cole Johnson	2020		
Non-Typical Mule Deer Velvet	254 7/8	Bradley Lynk	2022		
Typical Mule Deer	200 2/8	E. John W. Adkins	2016		
Typical Mule Deer Velvet	201 1/8	Levi Shipton	2021		
Non-Typical Whitetail	241 2/8	Dean Dwernychuk	1984		
Non-Typical Whitetail Velvet	207 4/8	Andrew Halliwell	2020		
Typical Whitetail	197 1/8	Don McGarvey	1991		
Typical Whitetail Velvet	182 4/8	Jack McNaughton	2013		
Canada Moose	217 2/8	Frederick Gimbel	1994		
Canada Moose Velvet	169 0/8	Travis Peterson	2003		
Black Bear	22 3/16	Chester Dodgson	2015		
Grizzly Bear	23 7/16	Richard Michalski	1981		
Antelope	84 4/8	Shaun Steidel	2002		
Cougar	15 13/16	Glen Roberts	2007		
Bison	108 2/8	David A. Sjodin	2015		
Mountain Goat	48 2/8	Chris Kroll	1962		

^{*} World Record

^{*} World Record



Message from the Executive Director, Hunting and Fishing Branch

Matt Besko



ello everyone, and welcome to the 2025-26 hunting season. As the Executive Director the Hunting Fishing Branch, I cannot say enough about how proud I am of what we were able to accomplish as a dedicated team of hunting professionals this past year. We have made a significant number of long-awaited changes to the Alberta Wildlife Act and to the Wildlife

Regulations that will solidify Alberta as a leader in the progressive management and allocation of hunting opportunities. I will speak to two of these changes as they relate to you as a hunter, as well as why they are important. The Hunting and Fishing Branch works to establish and maintain international partnerships, educate both hunters and non-hunters on the benefits of regulated hunting

and wildlife stewardship, and manage for healthy and abundant wildlife populations. These priorities lead to many benefits for Albertans, such as healthy, active lifestyles, access to local and nutrient-rich foods, revenue generation for conservation, connection to the land and personal growth. We're proud to maintain and celebrate Alberta's cultural heritage while bringing people closer to nature. I will close by describing the importance of consultation and how hunters in Alberta have provided the knowledge, skills, expertise and passion that has led to the hunting regulation changes this year, and how that passion is reflected by our branch staff.

I have had the honour of accompanying Minister Loewen to several international meetings, conferences and trade shows this year, and everywhere we go, from Nevada to Oatar, hunters and administrators approach me to say how wonderful Alberta is and how they would like to emulate our approach to hunting and wildlife management. In comparison to many of these jurisdictions, Alberta offers some of the most accessible, affordable and diverse set of hunting experiences in some of the most spectacular landscapes you can imagine. Unlike many other international jurisdictions, our hunting pressure is relatively low; we do not have to compete with thousands of other hunters in a small area thanks to the size of our province. Albertans can take great pride in what we have here.

Changes to Hunting Regulations

The most important changes for this



- We sell optics, ammunition, and new and consigned firearms
- ▶ We teach the Canadian Firearms Safety Course
- ► Certified Cerakote Applicators
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year's hunting season are, as I said before, related to those made to the Wildlife Act and Wildlife Regulation. You can find a synopsis of these changes in the front of this guide, but I would like to discuss a few in this article. The first change I wish to profile relates to allowing the use of .22 Calibre Centrefire ammunition for hunting big game in Alberta. Several people have expressed support of this change, while others have expressed concern. The change itself was stakeholder-driven, and expressed using the following rationale:

- .22 centrefire ammunition and firearms are used by many other jurisdictions in North America and internationally on big game, without any significant issues regrading effectiveness.
- .22 Centrefire cartridges and rifles offer lower recoil, lower noise and are often easier to shoot accurately for novice shooters or hunters of smaller stature.
- Changes in technology have resulted in .22 centrefires becoming much more effective at humanely harvesting big game with the following improvements:
 - O Better projectile (bullet) designs.
 - Rifling with faster twist rates allow for heavier calibre and longer bullets.
 - Improved optics.
 - Laser range finders can reliably measure the distance to a target, eliminating the guesswork for estimating range.

Over time, Albertans will adapt to these changes in much the same way that hunters today do not use .357 magnum cartridges for hunting moose at long distances. If you are using a .22 Centrefire cartridge and rifle on Big Game this year, this is what we recommend:

- 1. Become proficient with your rifle and confident shooting it accurately in field-related conditions. Like a shotgun, a rifle that fits you is more likely to be shot well. Make sure it fits.
- 2. Choose a reliable projectile (bullet) that is either a monolithic copper, that has a robust construction, or one that is heavier for calibre.
- 3. Make sure the projectile weighs a minimum of 50 grains.
- 4. DO NOT use any type of "varmint" ammunition designed to expand rapidly and fragment upon impact.
- 5. Be extra careful about shot placement, and aim where both lungs, or the heart and lungs may be significantly destroyed.

- 6. Avoid shooting large game species, such as antlered elk or antlered moose, unless the conditions are absolutely perfect, such as short range, an the animal is standing still at an angle where the vital organs (lungs/heart) are clearly located and obstacle-free. DO NOT attempt raking shots or shots on a moving animal.
- 7. For species such as pronghorn and deer, ensure you have the skills to shoot accurately at range, and keep ranges reasonable.

The second change I wish to speak to is that which permits the use of a leashed dog to help track wounded game following a shot (or multiple shots) by a licensed hunter. Many stakeholders asked for this change a number of years ago and we were ready to implement it, then Covid hit and we had to re-schedule the changes. Changing this regulation will support the use of highly trained, specialized dogs and handlers to assess the location of the shot and all the variables that have been observed, and skilfully track the wounded game using scent until finding the animal in question. By using dogs, we intend to minimize wound-loss in big game, resulting in lower-than-anticipated mortality rates. Hunters can reliably track wounded game rather than continue to hunt other animals after not finding the wounded individual. This change will also ensure

that wounded wildlife are efficiently located and dispatched, avoiding undue pain and suffering.

What I am asking hunters to do this year:

- Ensure appropriately trained dogs are used in the field. As Tara Normand of the Alberta Blood Tracking Dog Association writes in her article in these regulations, the dogs used for this work are often specialized breeds that have undergone years of training to develop the skills to do this work. Even more importantly, the owner will also need to learn all the skills, which take time. Hunters are encouraged to contact the Alberta Blood Trackers to learn more about appropriate hunting dog breeds, as well as information on training. If you wound a big game animal and wish to use a dog to help track and recover it, call a member of the Alberta Blood Trackers and see if someone can bring their trained dog to help you.
- Observe, listen and learn to what the tracker and owner are doing and saying.
- Read the regulations thoroughly and make sure you are not breaking any access-related regulation by following the dog onto land by which you do not have the consent of the landowner to enter.

Alberta and the CIC

In late April of this year, I accompanied Minister Loewen to Doha, Qatar, to attend the Annual General Assembly of



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"Trained tracking teams greatly increase the chances of recovering big game."

the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC). It was here that Alberta was formally accepted as the first North American member, out of over 70 international jurisdictions currently standing as member-states. The CIC was established in the 1930s in Europe as an international advocacy and conservation group which promotes hunting world-wide. The CIC is affiliated with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, and offers education and outreach programs illustrating the ecological, economic and social benefits of hunting. They are also involved with initiatives that seek to conserve biodiversity and maintain landscape health.

Alberta's rich hunting culture and incredible outdoor spaces position our

province as a world-leader in wildlife management and conservation, making us worthwhile members of the CIC. We were notified by Dr. Philipp Harmer, President of the CIC, that Alberta was accepted into the organization in early February. The Minister signed our acceptance, and we gave presentations on hunting in Alberta, inviting our new colleagues to come visit us and experience Alberta for themselves. Alberta has much to gain from our CIC membership, but also much to contribute. We are no stranger to complex challenges at the landscape level that involve numerous stakeholders. In turn, Alberta has access to a number of international experts who can offer resources and experience in future management

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scenarios. I also look forward to sharing research data, project summaries and reports that can benefit all jurisdictions who use hunting as a management tool. CIC membership will help us maintain and promote hunting as an important social and cultural activity that connects us to our heritage while sharing knowledge and resources to meet new challenges head on.

Consultation

Alberta's government works hard to consult with the public on wildlife management strategies and hunting regulations. It's through this important consultation with stakeholders that we learn about hunter needs, as well as suggestions to better manage local populations of game species. Wildlife management in Alberta is a big job, and we rely on Albertans everywhere to help us get it right.

Hunting and Fishing Branch has successfully kicked-off the Minister's Advisory Council on Hunting (MACH1), which discusses Provincial-scale issues regarding hunting regulations and policies. Interactions with the public are important, as they allow hunters to develop relationships with Hunting and Fishing Branch staff while fostering an understanding of the important work we do with Alberta's government.

Stay tuned to social media, Alberta RELM and other sources to hear when and where regional consultation opportunities will occur.

In closing, I wish you all a safe and happy hunting season. Please hunt with the attitude that all Albertans are aware of us on the landscape, and that our actions represent who we are as conservationists and people who care about our environment. Hunt with integrity, passion and the desire to share in the experience with those who may not have had the privilege of experience hunting for themselves. Share your bounty and discuss the benefits of eating game to those not fortunate enough to hunt their own. Hunt with competence; practice your skills and craft and learn as much as possible about the game you seek and the habitats in which they are found. Ensure that when you are out in the field, you practice all the safe handling and discharge of firearms rules to keep everyone around you safe from harm. And above all, go out and hunt and share the happiness you feel with people you know, value and trust.









Alberta's Fish and Wildlife officers are dedicated to conserve and protect our fish and wildlife resources.

Anyone with information on suspicious or illegal hunting or fishing activity is encouraged to call the **Report A Poacher** line.



MULE DEER UNCOVERED:

Herd Dynamics, Management & Collaboration

by Grant Chapman

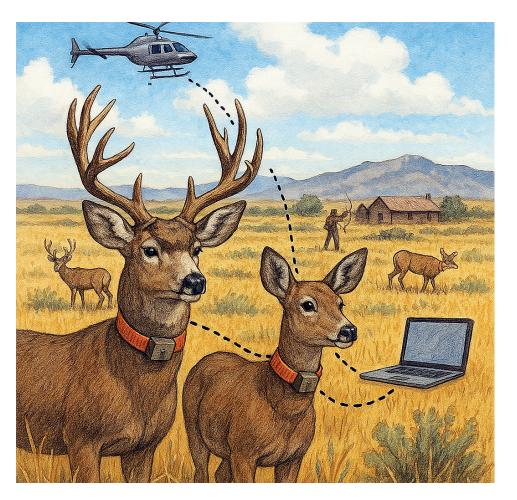
Provincial Big Game Specialist, Forestry and Parks, Hunting and Fishing Branch



ule deer are an iconic species of the west, and Alberta is home to some of the best mule deer hunting in the world. The Government of Alberta is dedicated to the sustainable management of mule deer populations, and the timeline below demonstrates how government leadership and collaboration with many stakeholders makes this happen:

Timeline of key events

- 1926 Broder buck world record nontypical mule deer harvested.
- 1982 Alberta fish and wildlife policy established.
- 1989 First Mule Deer Management Plan completed.
- 1990's Extensive public big game hunting engagement.
- 1990's General season general licence revised from point restriction to draw.
- 1998 Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) surveillance commenced with instances detected in mule deer in 2005.
- 2000 White Area Ungulate Management Plan established.
- 2005 to 2008 Mule deer population reductions implemented to reduce spread of Chronic Wasting Disease.
- 2012 Ministry commences Mule Deer Management Plan update and



engagement with the multistakeholder Alberta Game Management Advisory Group.

 2018-2020 – Ministry increases buck and doe harvest in response to CWD spread. 2020 – Minister's Mule Deer Management Plan Advisory Committee (MDMPAC) established.
 Recommendations on management plan goals and objectives submitted after 24 meetings in July 2024.





"Processing a captured mule deer."





- 2022 The University of Alberta, Government of Alberta, and the Office of Chief Scientist begin mule deer Integrated Population Model to better inform management through the multiple factors that affect population dynamics.
- 2022-2025 MDMPAC supports mule deer quota reductions to reduce population declines and restore age structure.
- 2023 Mule deer tooth aging program restored.
- 2023 Alberta Conservation Association antlered mule deer hunter survey engagement completed.
- 2024 MDMPAC Members, Hunting and Fishing Branch, Alberta Professional Outfitters Society, Environment and Protected Areas and Alberta Conservation Association establish both a steering committee and a technical committee for the new Alberta Mule Deer Project—see special update below.
- 2023-24 Mule deer surveys prioritized in Aerial Survey Program WMUs 102, 118,624, 116, 119, 124, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 158 were flown.2025 Hunting and Fishing Branch is finalizing the draft Mule Deer Management Plan.
- 2025 CWD head submissions program expanded to support mule deer management and the new Mule Deer Project.
- 2025 Alberta attends the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Deer and Elk Workshop. Continental range-wide updates for North America identifies population declines from 2015-2025 for many jurisdictions with mule deer.
- 2025 Alberta multi-stakeholder CWD structured decision-making project commences.

The Mule Deer Project

The Mule Deer Project was established as a result of the Minister's Mule Deer Management Plan Advisory Committee (MDMPAC) 2024 Mule Deer Plan recommendations, which seek to improve understanding of mule deer population dynamics. Four of the MDMPAC members, including the Hunting and Fishing Branch, Alberta Professional Outfitters Society, Environment and Protected Areas and Alberta Conservation Association, formed a steering committee and a supporting technical committee. These committees brought together mule deer experts from

article continued on page 78



























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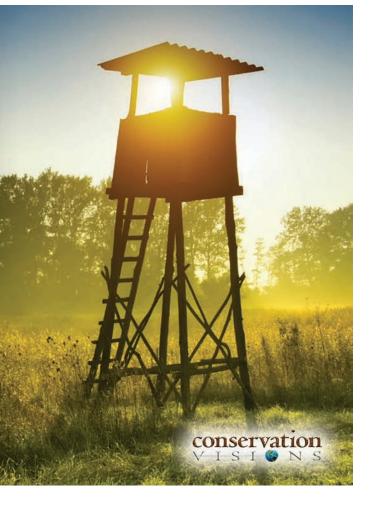
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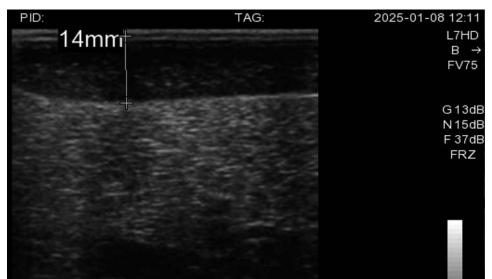
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"Ultrasound rump fat thickness testing as an additional indicator of body condition."



"Rump fat (below)."



Utah's Brigham Young University, the University of Alberta and several other agencies. The primary objectives of this project are to:

- 1. Estimate ecoregion specific mule deer buck and doe survival and mortality in southeastern and southwestern Alberta.
- **2.** Improve population monitoring and estimation methods.3. Study seasonal habitat use and movements.
- **3.** Study effects of lactation status, disease and weather on body condition.

A total of 120 satellite tracking collars were deployed in the southeast and southwest study areas in 2024, with 140 more planned for December 2025. A possible third area is being considered subject to funding.

Early results indicate that mule deer winter home ranges were 5-9 km², with spring movements of roughly 75 km occurring since May 1. As a component of this study, the team is also collecting lactation status, tooth wear via aging, CWD testing, collecting blood and biological samples, body weights and ultrasound rump fat thickness as an additional indicator of body condition scoring. Collars that send mortality signals are investigated for the cause of death. All seven mortalities as of June 2025 have been caused by coyotes.

article continued on page 80

Funders and Collaborators of the Mule Deer Project:









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2025 WILD GAME FOR THE FOODBANK PROGRAM

The Mule Deer Project

Only Elk, Moose, Deer and Antelope are eligible for donations.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Alberta Hunters Sharing the Harvest with the Foodbank Program in 2024. This is the twenty-ninth year of our program that has seen more than 325,000 pounds of high quality wild game donated to the Alberta Foodbanks. Please help us feed those in need again in 2025. All hunters and outfitters are encouraged to participate.

Important Information:

- 1. We now accept donations from Oct 15, 2025 to Dec 15, 2025.
- There are no extra wild game tags allotted for this program. You are asked to share the harvest from any one of the general season, supplementary or undersubscribed elk, moose, antelope or deer tags that are available.
- 3. Only elk, moose or deer that have been harvested between October 15 and December 15, 2025 during the regular hunting seasons are eligible for this program.
- 4. The elk, moose, deer or antelope cannot be completely frozen and it must be delivered to a participating meat processor within 72 hours from the time of harvest.
- 5. Please contact the processor to ensure whether the elk, moose, deer or antelope can be brought in skinned or unskinned.
- 6. There are no processing costs charged to the donating hunter. The processing costs are paid by the Alberta Hunters Sharing the Harvest association through financial donations by hunting organizations including our primary sponsors: Alberta Chapters of Safari Club International and Alberta Conservation Association.

To find the complete donation guidelines and participating meat processors, please visit the Hunting for Tomorrow website at www.huntingfortomorrow.ca. Our wild game donation information is found under their Resources and Fact Sheets section under Wild Game Foodbank Donation Program.

You can also contact the **Alberta Hunters Sharing the Harvest** Supervisor. Please contact:

Ryan Grajczyk at 587-983-6687 or Jim Thomson at 780-691-8907.

Thank you for sharing your harvest with those in need!!





What does the future hold?

- Continue to draft Mule Deer Management Plan.
- Alberta to complete CWD management recommendations report.
- Invest in additional aerial ungulate surveys with further focus on mule deer.
- Continue to develop, adapt and implement effective management strategies utilizing integrated management systems for big game.



Where can you learn more?

- Mule Deer Project webpage coming soon.
- My Wild Alberta: https://mywildalberta.ca/
- Aerial survey reports: https://www.alberta.ca/aerial-wildlife-surveyreports.
- Alberta Conservation Association mule deer hunter survey: https:// www.ab-conservation.com/featured-projects/communications/ antlered-mule-deer-hunter-survey/
- Draw results, resident hunter and outfitter harvest reports: https://mywildalberta.ca/ ■

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Recovering
HUNTED BIG GAME

with Leashed Tracking Dog Teams

by Tara Normand

e are fortunate to have another option for recovering legally hunted game in 2025. The Wildlife Amendment Act, passed in May, approved the use of leashed tracking dogs to assist with recovering animals presumed injured or dead. Wounded game recovery tracking is commonly called blood tracking.

What is a blood tracking team? Why are tracking teams important for the recovery of hunted game?

A blood tracking team is a dog and handler that have trained together for wounded game/blood tracking. This team is led by the dog. The dog must remain on leash and under control of the handler. Most commonly, the dog is in a harness allowing for proper body movement. At distance on a long line, the handler watches the dog's body language for signals of being 'on track' or 'working to find the track'. The handler helps the dog as needed with terrain and scenting difficulties. The handler must adjust to support what the dog needs. Trained tracking teams greatly increase the chances of recovering big

game. Dogs don't need to see signs of an injured animal. They use their amazing noses to follow different scents, including stress hormones released by the injured animal. Annually, thousands of animals are recovered with tracking teams.

What should I do if I want a tracking team to help me? What can I expect?

Historically, the 'wait half an hour before searching and go search for your animal' has been taught and practiced by many hunters. This is not advisable, often much too hasty, and leads to many animals being lost. The recommended 'WAIT TIMES' diagram (page 84) indicates the best practices to use if you want to optimize the tracking team's chance of recovering your animal. This advice is based on evidence gathered from thousands of blood tracks across North America.

You can contact a trained and tested Alberta tracking team using the 'find a tracker' link on the United Blood Trackers (UBT) website, https://www. unitedbloodtrackers.org/ or the Alberta Big Game Recovery Facebook page.

Once in contract with a handler you



"A happy hunter with tracking dog Alice after a successful white-tailed deer track.

will be interviewed about your hunt. Expect questions about your weapon, shot placement, animal behaviour, blood and other evidence at the hit site. In addition, trackers need to know details about the, property hunted, hazards, what you did after the shot,

and if anyone has searched for the animal already. You will be given a wait time to optimize the recovery of your animal.

Once in the field, the handler may have further questions and give you instructions. The handler is in control of the track and safety. Maximizing safety for everyone,



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you will be directed to unload your weapon and keep it unloaded while they track for you. It is imperative that you comply with all instructions.

A tracking team can't guarantee recovery of your animal. Many animals are not fatally shot. A tracking team can't make up for injuries that make the animal unrecoverable, or animals pushed to keep moving (searched for previously by people or animals). Follow the tracker's advice and your chances of a successful recovery increase. Most dogs will 'tell' their handler when the animal is not giving off stress hormones that indicate a fatal injury. In this case, the handler will tell you what they think has occurred.

If your animal is found deceased, continue to follow the direction of the handler. They will talk with you about what you plan to do with the animal (taxidermy-wise). Many dogs are rewarded with being allowed to tug on the rear of the animal. It does not hurt the meat, and it fulfills the dog. DO NOT move up to your animal until the handler tells you to. The dog has worked hard for you and in their mind, it is their animal. Assume dogs do not share nicely with strangers. The handler will remove the dog and allow you to safely move up to your hard-earned animal. Immediately tag your animal.

If your animal is still alive, you must prioritize the safety of the dog and handler. Do not immediately load your weapon to take a necessary follow-up shot. No big game animal harvest is worth the life of the tracking team members that are there to help you. Listen to the handler and they know that it's a priority that you can finish the animal as fast as possible, but it must be done safely.

Do not ask or expect your tracking team handler to assist you with the field dressing or taking your game out of the field. This is your responsibility. Have friends or family ready to assist you when the time comes.

What does it cost for a team to help me?

This is up to the individual team. Make an agreement before they attend. Expect to pay an amount for mileage. If the team does not charge you, please consider a donation to help with training, equipment and vet costs. These teams invest a lot to be ready to help hunters!

What can I do to help the tracking team?

• Remember the animal's behaviour before and after the shot.

- Take pictures (hit site, arrow, bolt, etc.).
- Don't step on the hit site, blood or other sign.
- DON'T GRID SEARCH the area to look for more sign. Grid searching refers to the actions of one or more people and animals walking an area after a hunt, looking for sign. Scent is spread all over. This severely impacts the team's ability to help you recover your animal.
- Mark the hit site and direction of any blood or sign with flagging or biodegradable products (toilet paper).
- Leave the area without disrupting the hit sit and initial track.
- Be honest about the projectile impact location—the tracking team are not there to judge your shooting!
- Be patient. A 'wait time' is based on all evidence of your shot.
- If you decide you won't wait, contact the team ASAP.
- Don't attempt to track with your pet or hunting dog without proper training.
 A competent tracking team trains appropriately, builds foundation, tests, and eases into real tracking.

Do you want to learn more as a group, hunter or potential tracker? Contact us at

albertateckel@ gmail.com. **Tara Normand**

has been tracking for nine years and has traveled extensively to learn, test, and assist with blood tracking training and testing. She is a proud member and Judge with the UBT and the President of the Alberta Jagdteckel Association (AJA). The UBT is a North America-wide organization that supports all members and jurisdictions with information, education, training, and



"Tara Normand and tracking dog Neo after a successful moose track."









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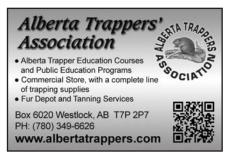
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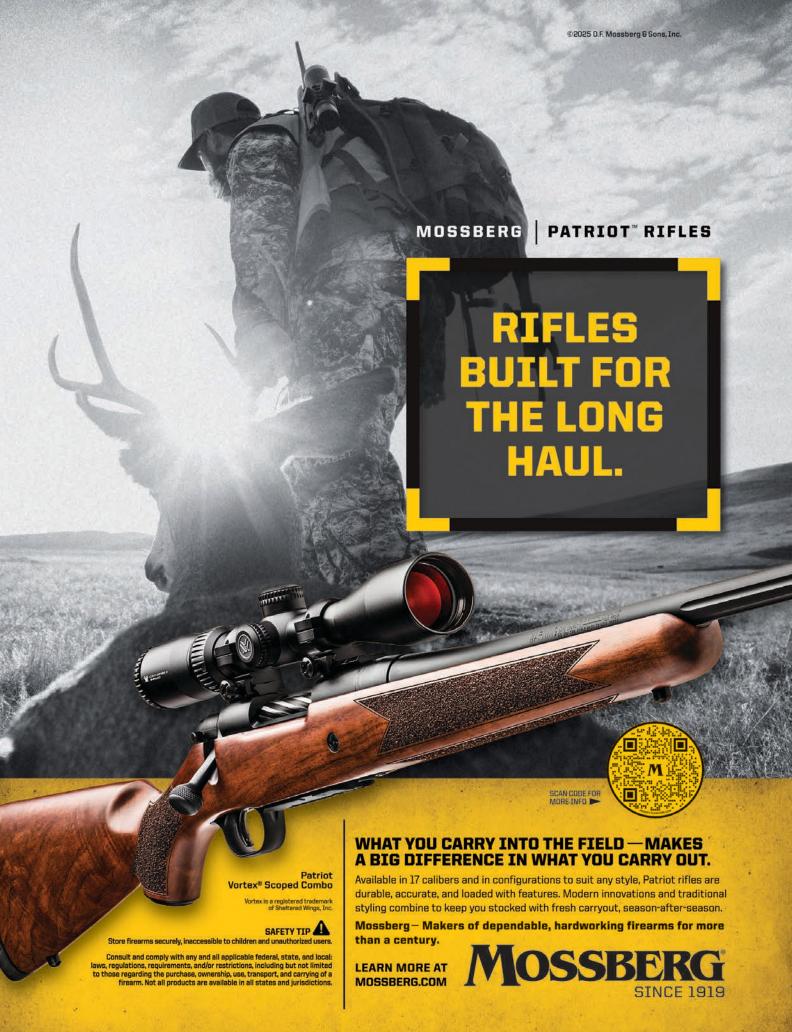
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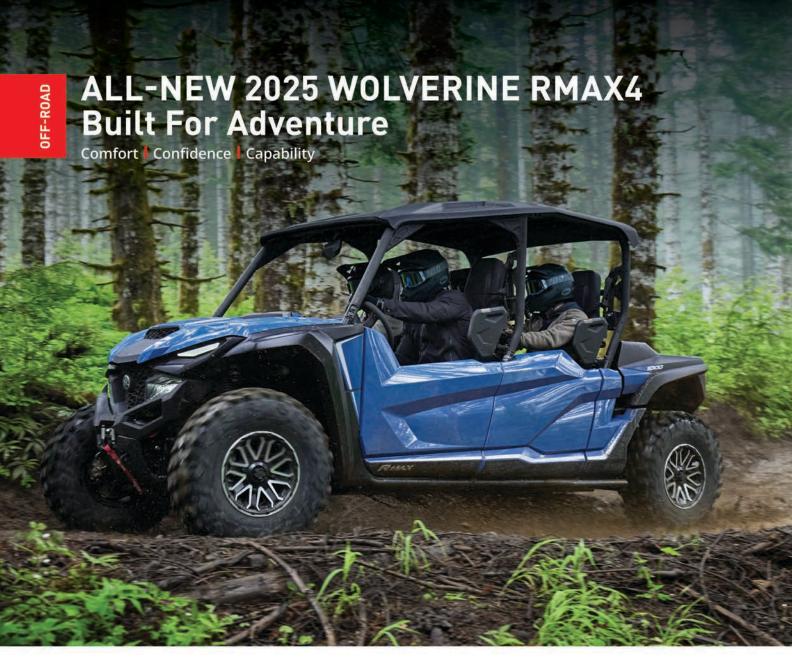


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NORTHERN SERVICES (HIGH LEVEL)

High Level 780-926-3959

NORTHSIDE MOTORSPORTS

780-723-6558 Edson

O I'S LEISURE PRODUCTS

Wainwright 780-842-3332

PRECISION POWER SPORTS

Lethbridge 403-394-6228

RED-LINE POWER CRAFT

Grande Prairie 780-532-4313

RIVERSIDE MOTOSPORTS

St. Albert 780-458-7272

S5 POWERSPORTS

Rocky MTN House 403-845-6906

SCANALTA POWER SALES

780-494-3536 Hines Creek

SHERWOOD POWERSPORTS & MARINE

Sherwood Park 780-436-7830

SOUTHLAND POWERSPORTS

403-527-7202 Medicine Hat





->> Alberta <<-**Outfitters Society**

WE ARE HERE

The Wildlife Management Fund (est. 2008) is funded through annual renewal fees paid by outfitters, and has given over \$2 million to stewardship initiatives, and is now positioned to do much more in the future.

\$400,000 in licence revenue to the Alberta Conservation Association

\$2 million donated to charitable causes by members

Sustainable science-based hunting and outfitting drive wildlife stewardship. Projects and programs that maintain, enhance, and generate resource conservation are made possible through the sale of hunting licences and permits.

FOR GOOD.





wildlife | fish | habitat

DOLLARS AT WORK: Pronghorn Collaring Project

In 2024, ACA placed GPS collars on 106 female pronghorn north and south of the Trans-Canada Highway to study their movements. The goal is to see how human development affects their migration and what this might mean for pronghorn populations.



LEARN MORE about this remarkable initiative: www.ab-conservation.com/pronghorn-projects