

FINAL REGULATIONS - CHAPTER W-2 - BIG GAME

ARTICLE I - GENERAL PROVISIONS

#201 - LICENSE FEES

A. Big Game License Fees

1. Nonresident Big Game Licenses

In accordance with the provisions of §33-4-102, C.R.S., nonresident big game fees for the year ~~2019~~2018 shall be as follows:

Nonresident License Type	2018 2017 License Fee	2018 Statutory Maximum License Fee*	2019 2018 License Fee*
Pronghorn	\$395 385	\$398.16	\$395
Deer	\$395 385	\$398.16	\$395
Elk	\$660 640	\$663.61	\$660
Bear	\$660 640	\$663.61	\$660
Mountain lion	\$660 640	\$663.61	\$660
Moose	\$2,210 2,145	\$2,212.02	\$2,210
Mountain goat	\$2,210 2,145	\$2,212.02	\$2,210
Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep	\$2,210 2,145	\$2,212.02	\$2,210
Desert bighorn sheep	\$1,470 1,430	\$1,474.68	\$2,210* 1,470

~~*Based on cumulative Consumer Price Index increase since 2000.
*Adjustment after fee was raised to new statutory limit established in the Future Generations Act. Adjusted after application of Consumer Price Index by rounding down to the nearest \$5.00 increment, in whole numbers.~~

a. All licenses sold through March ~~2019~~2018 shall be sold at ~~2018~~2017 license fees.

2. Nonresident License Fee Reduction:

In accordance with the provisions of §33-4-102, C.R.S., the following nonresident big game license fees shall be reduced to the fee specified herein, from the level set forth in §33-4-102, C.R.S.:

Nonresident License Type	2018 2017 License Fee	2019 2018 License Fee
Nonresident Bear	\$350.00	\$100 350.00
Nonresident Mountain Lion	\$350.00	\$350.00
Nonresident Antlerless Elk	\$495.00 480.00*	\$495.00*

*Nonresident Antlerless Elk license fee is set at 75% of the Nonresident Elk license fee, set at 75% of Elk Nonresident License Fee rounded down to the nearest \$5.00 increment, in whole numbers.

B. Combination Big Game/Annual Fishing Licenses for Nonresidents

1. Big game licenses issued to non-residents shall be issued as combination Big Game/Annual Fishing licenses, and for each such combination license purchased each year by a nonresident \$10 of the above license fee shall be allocated to the fishing portion of such combination license.

#206 - APPLICATIONS AND DRAWINGS FOR LIMITED LICENSES

A. Exceeding of Quota: The Division shall only exceed the number of licenses authorized by the Commission:

1. If there is proof of Division error in the application for or issuance of a limited license, provided that the director or his designee determines there will be no detrimental impact to the subject wildlife population.
2. To issue licenses to hunters with mobility impairments or United States Armed Services Wounded Warrior hunters, who qualify for such licenses in accordance with regulation #206(B)(4)(e) or #206(B)(4)(f), provided there is no detrimental impact to the established herd population and sex ratio objectives. For each of these two programs:
 - no more than 100 limited antlerless deer, 100 limited doe pronghorn, and 200 limited antlerless elk licenses may be issued each year.
 - no more than 100 total antlered or either-sex licenses for deer or elk and buck pronghorn licenses in the aggregate may be issued each year.Provided further, that limited license numbers for wildlife ranching properties cannot exceed the levels established by the Division and the landowner on the Ranching for Wildlife Seasons Form.

B. Application and Drawing Provisions and Restrictions:

1. General Provisions and Restrictions
 - a. Number of Applications: No person may submit more than one application per year for the regular drawing process for a limited license for any big game species, nor more than one application per year for a leftover limited license for any species.
 - b. Additional Choice Applications: Any additional choice on any application must be for the same species as the first choice.
 - c. Valid Applications: Only complete and correct application forms will be accepted. Any forms involved in a violation of (a) or (b) above will be considered to be incorrect. Any incorrect application by one member of a group will invalidate the entire application.
 - d. To be eligible for any big game license draw an individual must have first purchased either an annual small game license, an annual small game/fishing

4. Preference Systems

Note: see also §33-4-103, C.R.S.

a. Landowner Preference: General Provisions

1. Preference for hunting licenses under the Landowner Preference Program shall only be given to eligible landowners who apply using the Landowner registration form(s) provided by the division. Only complete and correct registration forms will be accepted. Except for the carryover registration provided in § 33-4-103(2)(c), C.R.S., registration in the Landowner Preference Program is valid for 5 years. All landowners shall re-register their properties every 5 years (or on or before July 1, 2016 for carryover registrations) to continue participation, if desired, in the Landowner Preference Program.
2. As a condition of registration and participation in the Landowner Preference Program, landowners shall provide and maintain accurate ownership information with the division for all lands registered in the Program. During the statutory period of carryover registration provided in §33-4-103(2)(c), C.R.S., and any five-year registration period, landowners shall notify the division of any changes to required registration information in writing within 30 days.
3. Landowner preference is species specific and available only in units that are totally limited for all rifle licenses for deer, elk or pronghorn and vouchers will be allocated to eligible landowners by unit, species, sex and season. In units where vouchers remain after the initial allocation, eligible landowners may apply for the unused vouchers and shall pay \$25 for each reallocated female (antlerless/doe) and \$40 for each either-sex or male (antlered/buck) voucher. Unsuccessful applicants will receive a refund check.
4. Vouchers not otherwise allocated to landowners as part of the Landowner Preference Program shall be made available as licenses to the general public in the remaining limited licenses draws or sales.
5. All landowners and hunters participating in the Landowner Preference Program shall file reports using the forms provided by the division. Reports must be complete and correct, and submitted to the Division by within 30 days after the close of the season.
6. Landowners and their registered properties may be audited for compliance with eligibility requirements of the Landowner Preference Program during any carryover or 5-year registration period. Notice of any noncompliance will be provided in writing to the landowner and the landowner shall have 30 days to resolve the noncompliance or withdraw the property from the Landowner Preference Program.

b. Landowner Preference: Voucher Requirements and Restrictions

1. Vouchers shall only be transferred by the landowner or the landowner's land manager, if any, directly to an individual to be used by that individual for the purchase of a license. Landowners may only designate one land manager for all lands registered in the Landowner Preference Program in any one unit.

2. The transfer of any voucher must include permission to access and hunt all lands in the unit registered in the Landowner Preference Program for the entire season for which the voucher was awarded. Such access shall be allowed without discrimination between hunters accessing the property, and without restriction other than manner of access restrictions (foot, horseback, vehicular) that are reasonably necessary to prevent damage to property.
3. The transfer of a voucher by any person other than the landowner or the landowner's land manager to any person other than an individual for purchase of a license is prohibited. Violation of this prohibition shall void the voucher and any license purchased with it.
4. No person shall broker a voucher on behalf of any landowner or person, or use or possess any brokered voucher. Violation of this prohibition shall void the voucher and any license purchased with it.

c. Landowner Preference: Disqualification

1. Landowners, or the landowner's land manager, who fail to comply with any requirements of the Landowner Preference Program, may be disqualified from participation in the Program from one to five years. Disqualification of a joint or co-owner of property registered with the Landowner Preference Program shall disqualify all other joint or co-owners of the registered properties from participation in the Program.
2. Disqualification of a landowner from the Landowner Preference Program shall invalidate all preference points associated with property registered by the landowner in the Program.
3. Any landowner, or the landowner's land manager, that has been disqualified from the Landowner Preference Program shall not register properties, apply for vouchers or acquire or use any vouchers during the term of disqualification. Landowners that have been disqualified from participation in the Landowner Preference Program shall be required to re-register at the end of their period of disqualification and prior to further participation, if desired, in the Program.
4. Any other person that fails to comply with any requirements of the Landowner Preference Program may also be disqualified from participation in the Landowner Preference Program from one to five years. Any person disqualified shall not participate in the Landowner Preference Program in any manner, including, but not limited to, as a landowner, as a landowner's land manager, enrolling properties in any name, submitting applications for vouchers, receiving vouchers, transferring vouchers, redeeming vouchers or using licenses obtained with vouchers.
5. Any person convicted of a violation of the Landowner Preference Program will be given notice in writing of their possible disqualification from the Landowner Preference Program and the opportunity to appear and show cause why they should not be disqualified from participation in the Program. Any such disqualification hearing shall be held in the Denver office of the division, or at another location acceptable to the

division. Notice of any resulting disqualification shall be sent to the person by certified mail, return receipt requested.

- d. Youth Preference - a minimum of 15 percent of the number of the limited doe pronghorn licenses, limited either-sex and antlerless deer licenses and limited antlerless elk licenses established for each GMU shall be made available for purchase by qualified youth applicants. Licenses shall be available through application and computer selection from the Division headquarters, 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216. Licenses not allocated to youth shall be made available to the general public in the remaining drawings.
 - 1. Any eligible hunter, ages 12-17 is entitled to youth hunt preference for all seasons and methods of take for the license types listed in the preceding paragraph, except that public Ranching for Wildlife and Air Force Academy licenses shall not be included in this preference. The applicant must submit an individual application for the desired, eligible license on forms provided by the Division. Group applications will not be accepted for youth preference. Where more than one (1) hunt code choice is shown on the application, all hunt codes must be youth preference-eligible hunt codes.
 - 2. Youth preference will be set at 50% for all antlerless deer licenses in GMUs 55, 66, 67, and 551.
- e. Youth Outreach Hunting Licenses – The Director may make additional youth outreach program deer, elk and pronghorn licenses available to qualified organizations sponsoring youth hunting activities.
 - 1. There will be no more than 300 elk licenses (50 antlered or either-sex, 250 antlerless), no more than 200 deer licenses (50 antlered or either-sex, 150 antlerless) and no more than 200 pronghorn licenses (30 buck or either-sex, 170 doe) issued annually under this subsection.
 - 2. Licenses in game management units with at least one hunt code requiring 6 or more resident preference points to draw, excluding Ranching for Wildlife properties, will not be authorized for use under this subsection.
 - 3. Licenses are issued on a first come, first served basis to qualified organizations. No more than 10 licenses may be issued per event to any single requesting organization.
 - 4. Requested dates for hunting events must occur between August 15 and January 31 each year.
 - 5. Organizations who wish to request a Youth Outreach license must submit the request in writing to Colorado Parks and Wildlife, State Hunter Outreach Coordinator, 6060 Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80216 no later than 60 days prior to the planned hunting event.
 - 6. Licenses are limited to youth hunters 12 to 17 years of age.
- f. Hunting Licenses for Hunters with Mobility Impairments - The Director may make certain deer, elk, and pronghorn licenses available to qualified hunters with mobility impairments.

1. Applicants for hunting licenses for hunters with mobility impairments must have a mobility impairment resulting from permanent medical conditions, which makes it physically impossible for them to hunt without the assistance of an attendant. Evidence of an impossibility to participate in the hunt without the assistance of an attendant may include, but is not limited to, prescribed use of a wheel chair; shoulder or arm crutches; walker; two canes; or other prescribed medical devices or equipment.
2. Applications for antlerless deer and elk and doe pronghorn licenses for hunters with mobility impairments shall be made on the form available from, and submitted with the applicable license fee to, the Division, Limited License Office, 6060 Broadway, Denver, Colorado, 80216. Applications for antlered deer and elk and pronghorn buck licenses for hunters with mobility impairments shall be made on the form available from, and submitted with the applicable license fee to, the applicable Division regional service center. Hunters may apply from the Monday after the May Commission meeting through the last day of the rifle seasons.
3. Applications for hunting licenses for hunters with mobility impairments shall contain a statement from a licensed medical doctor or a certified physical, occupational, or recreational therapist describing the applicant's mobility impairment and the permanent medical condition which makes it impossible for the applicant to hunt without the assistance of an attendant. Additional documentation may be required if necessary to establish the applicant's eligibility for a hunting license for hunters with mobility impairments. For the 2001 seasons and thereafter, once certified by the Division as mobility-impaired according to these regulations, applicants will not be required to submit the medical statement.
4. Antlerless deer and elk and doe pronghorn licenses will be available in all game management units with a total allocation of more than 100 antlerless deer or 100 antlerless elk or 50 doe pronghorn during the rifle seasons described in #250, #257, and #262 of these regulations. For any one game management unit no more than 10 licenses or 2 percent of the total number of limited antlerless deer or elk or doe pronghorn licenses for the game management unit, whichever number is greater, shall be issued as hunting licenses for hunters with mobility impairments for the species in question.
5. Antlered or either-sex licenses for deer or elk and buck pronghorn licenses will be private land only licenses and will be available for hunt codes requiring four or fewer resident preference points to draw in the previous year in all game management units with a total allocation of more than 100 antlered or either-sex deer, 100 antlered or either-sex elk, or 50 buck pronghorn during the rifle seasons described in #250, #257 and #262 of these regulations. For any one game management unit no more than 5 licenses or 2 percent of the total number of limited antlered, either-sex or buck licenses for the game management unit, whichever is greater, shall be issued as hunting licenses for hunters with mobility impairments for the species in question.
6. Antlered or either-sex licenses for deer or elk and buck pronghorn licenses will be approved by the applicable Regional Manager on a case-

by-case basis for hunters who qualify as mobility-impaired in instances where an organization assisting hunters with mobility impairments has coordinated a hunting opportunity specifically for this program and where all other avenues of obtaining a license have been exhausted.

7. Hunting licenses for hunters with mobility impairments will be valid only for the season dates and any units included in the authorized hunt code. Licenses for hunters with mobility impairments may not be issued for Ranching for Wildlife properties unless otherwise provided in the ranch contract.
- g. Wounded Warrior Hunting Licenses - The Director may make certain deer, elk, and pronghorn licenses available to qualified participants in any United States Armed Services Wounded Warrior programs.
1. Applicants must be members of the United States Armed Forces, who are residents of, or stationed in, Colorado returning from post-September 11, 2001 overseas contingency operations who have been so severely injured during combat, including combat-related support activities, that they will require years of intense, ongoing care or assistance. Additionally, applicants must be members of a United States Armed Services Wounded Warrior program, as defined in 33-4-102(1.9) C.R.S., and must be assigned to a military medical treatment facility at the time of application for this program.
 2. Applications shall contain a statement from a licensed medical doctor certifying the applicant's eligibility under the criteria in 1 above. Additional documentation may be required if necessary to establish the applicant's eligibility under this program.
 3. Applications for antlerless deer and elk and doe pronghorn licenses shall be made on the form available from the Division, Limited License Office, 6060 Broadway, Denver, Colorado. Applications for antlered deer and elk and pronghorn buck licenses shall be made on the form available from the applicable Division regional service center. Hunters may apply from the Monday after the May Commission meeting through the last day of the rifle seasons. Licenses issued under this program shall be issued as free licenses.
 4. Antlerless deer and elk and doe pronghorn licenses will be available in all game management units with a total allocation of more than 100 antlerless deer or 100 antlerless elk or 50 doe pronghorn during the rifle seasons described in 250, 257, and 262 of these regulations. Licenses issued for military installations will be exempted from these minimum license requirements. Wounded Warrior licenses issued for military installation property will be approved by the applicable Regional Manager. For any one game management unit no more than 10 licenses or 2 percent of the total number of limited antlerless deer or elk or doe pronghorn licenses for the game management unit, whichever number is greater, shall be issued as Wounded Warrior hunting licenses for the species in question.
 5. Antlered or either-sex licenses for deer or elk and buck pronghorn licenses will be private land only licenses and will be available for hunt codes requiring four or fewer resident preference points to draw in the previous year in all game management units with a total allocation of

more than 100 antlered or either-sex deer, 100 antlered or either-sex elk, or 50 buck pronghorn during the rifle seasons described in #250, #257 and #262 of these regulations. Licenses issued for military installations will be exempted from these preference point and minimum license requirements. Wounded Warrior licenses issued for military installation property will be approved by the applicable Regional Manager. For any one game management unit no more than 5 licenses or 2 percent of the total number of limited antlered, either-sex or buck licenses for the game management unit, whichever is greater, shall be issued as Wounded Warrior hunting licenses for the species in question.

6. Antlered or either-sex licenses for deer or elk and buck pronghorn licenses will be approved by the applicable Regional Manager on a case-by-case basis for hunters who qualify under this program in instances where an organization assisting Wounded Warrior hunters has coordinated a hunting opportunity specifically for this program and where all other avenues of obtaining a license have been exhausted.
 7. Wounded Warrior hunting licenses will be valid only for the season dates and any units included in the authorized hunt code. Wounded Warrior hunting licenses may not be issued for Ranching for Wildlife properties unless otherwise provided in the ranch contract.
- h. Dream Hunt Hunting Licenses – The Director may make available additional deer, elk, pronghorn, mountain lion and black bear licenses to individuals qualified under this subsection.
1. Applicants for Dream Hunt licenses must be at least 12 and under 22 years of age, and must have a terminal illness or a life-threatening disease or injury.
 2. A request for a Dream Hunt license must be made, in writing, by a sponsoring organization, documenting the individual's life-threatening or terminal condition, desired, hunt experience, desired location, time frame and logistical considerations. Requests should be sent to the Division of Parks and Wildlife, Hunter Outreach Coordinator, 6060 Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80216.
 3. Requested dates for hunting events must occur between August 15 and January 31 each year, with preferred dates occurring during an existing season for the requested species. However, alternate dates may be approved by the Director on a case-by-case basis as an applicant's condition requires.
 4. Written landowner permission must be obtained prior to issuance of a license under this subsection if the individual will be hunting on private land.
- i. Preference Points and Chances
1. Preference will be given for qualifying applications for first choice hunt codes only and shall be subject to the following provisions:
 - aa. Deer, Elk, Pronghorn, and Bear: one preference point will be awarded to each person who qualifies for and fails to draw a limited license for deer, elk, pronghorn, or bear as a first choice in the

regular drawing or who applies using a first choice hunt code established for the purpose of accumulating a preference point only. Preference points will be used in future drawings for the same species and will accumulate until the applicant obtains a first choice license. When an applicant obtains a first choice license, all accumulated preference points for that species become void. If an applicant both fails to apply for a species and has not purchased a license for that same species during any given 10-year period, all accumulated preference points for that species become void. If an applicant accepts a first choice license that has been returned and reissued manually, all accumulated preference points for that species become void. No preference points are required for purchasing a returned license placed on the leftover list. In those hunt codes requiring 10 or more resident preference points to draw, up to 20 percent of available licenses for deer, elk, pronghorn and bear shall be issued through a random drawing. The number of preference points required to draw shall be determined by a three-year average for the 2007, 2008, and 2009 limited license draws. A minimum of five individual preference points is required for an applicant to participate in the random drawing. Group applications shall not be eligible to participate in the random drawing.

~~bb. In addition to the \$3 application fee, an unsuccessful applicant (except youth as defined by 33-4-117 C.R.S., lifetime license holders, and Colorado resident military personnel on active duty outside Colorado), or one who applies using a first choice hunt code established for the purpose of accumulating a preference point only, for deer, elk, pronghorn or bear will be assessed a \$40 fee (\$30 for resident deer and pronghorn) to receive a preference point unless they have purchased one of the following: an annual license (fishing (including free senior annual), small game or resident combination small game/fishing license, furbearer) for the year previous to which they are seeking a preference point; any big game license for the previous year or a current draw license for the species for which they are seeking a preference point. The fee, per species, shall entitle the hunter to preference points for any unsuccessful deer, elk, pronghorn or bear application in that year.~~

bbcc. Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep, Mountain Goat, and Moose: One preference point will be awarded to each person who qualifies for and fails to draw a first choice license, until three preference points have been accumulated. Each time an applicant with three (3) points qualifies for and fails to draw a first choice license for rocky mountain bighorn sheep, mountain goat or moose the applicant will be awarded one (1) weighted preference point to be used in future drawings for that species. Applicants with at least three (3) preference points or any number of weighted preference points will be given weighted preference during the license drawings for each applicable species. Weighted preference is calculated by converting the applicant's original application number into a new random application number, then dividing that random application number by the number of weighted preference points the applicant currently has for that species plus one. The resulting number is the applicant's final and only application number. Final application numbers are sorted from lowest number to highest number, with licenses awarded to applicants starting on the top of the list (lowest number), working

down the list until no licenses for that species remain. When an applicant obtains a first choice license, all accumulated preference points for that species become void. If an applicant both fails to apply for a species and has not purchased a license for that same species during any given 10-year period, all accumulated preference points for that species become void. If an applicant accepts a first choice license that has been returned and reissued, all accumulated preference points for that species become void.

cc. In addition to the \$7 application fee, an unsuccessful resident applicant (except youth as defined by 33-4-117 C.R.S., lifetime license holders, and Colorado resident military personnel on active duty outside Colorado), or a resident who applies using a first choice hunt code established for the purpose of accumulating a preference point or weighted preference point only, for moose, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, or mountain goat will be assessed a \$50 fee to receive a preference point or weighted preference point. In addition to the \$9 application fee, an unsuccessful nonresident applicant (except youth as defined by 33-4-117 C.R.S.), or a nonresident who applies using a first choice hunt code established for the purpose of accumulating a preference point or weighted preference point only, for moose, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, or mountain goat will be assessed a \$100 fee to receive a preference point or weighted preference point. The fee, per species, shall entitle the hunter to preference points or weighted preference points for any unsuccessful moose, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, or mountain goat application in that year.

dd. Applications receiving preference points will be given priority over all applications with fewer points. Group applications will receive preference at the level of the group member with the fewest accumulated preference points, and, where applicable, the fewest accumulated chances, except that group applications will not be successful, regardless of preference point level or number of chances, when there are fewer licenses remaining in the hunt code quota than the number of applicants in the group.

ee. In lieu of applying through the regular limited license draw, any active duty member of the United States Armed Forces who is stationed at any military facility in Colorado and actively deployed outside the United States, or any active duty member of the United States Armed Forces who is a Colorado resident and is deployed outside the United States, shall, upon their return to the United States, be eligible to apply for preference points for any limited license draw that occurred during their absence. Applications for preference points shall be made on forms provided by the Division and filed within six months upon the member's return to the United States.

5. Drawing Processes

- a. Applications using landowner preference and youth preference shall be drawn, in that order, prior to drawing general public applications for the same species.
- b. Except as otherwise provided, applicants who applied properly for deer, elk, or pronghorn in the regular drawing and are unsuccessful will be given the option to apply for a leftover drawing.

- c. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified of their accumulated preference points on their on-line account.
 - d. Nonresident hunter drawing limitations (first choice applications only)
 - 1. Nonresidents hunters shall receive no more than 10% of available moose, bighorn sheep and mountain goat licenses for all hunt codes. In the event there are an insufficient number of nonresident applications for the allocated number of moose, bighorn sheep or mountain goat licenses in any hunt code, the excess nonresident licenses will be issued to residents through the regular drawing process. These drawing limitations do not apply to the issuance of Bighorn Sheep Access Program (BSAP) licenses.
 - 2. Unless there is an insufficient number of resident applications, nonresident hunters shall receive no more than 35% of available deer and elk licenses for hunt codes requiring fewer than six preference points for resident hunters to draw in the regular drawing, and no more than 20% of available deer and elk licenses for hunt codes requiring six or more preference points for resident hunters to draw in the regular drawing as calculated using a three-year average for the 2007, 2008, and 2009 limited license draws. These drawing limitations do not apply to the issuance of Private Land Only and Ranching for Wildlife licenses.
6. Leftover Licenses, Drawing Provisions and Restrictions
- a. Elk, deer, pronghorn and bear licenses which are not issued through the regular drawing will be issued as "leftover" licenses, (through one "leftover" drawing process if the number of "leftover" licenses is sufficient to justify the administrative cost).
 - b. Only persons who apply for a limited license and who are unsuccessful are eligible for the leftover license drawing. Applicants for the leftover drawing may only apply for the same species that they applied for in the initial drawing.
 - c. Any eligible hunter, ages 12 – 17 shall receive preference for leftover deer and elk licenses.
 - d. Any active duty member of the United States Armed Forces stationed at any military facility in Colorado and actively deployed outside the United States, or any active duty member of the United States Armed Forces who is a Colorado resident and is deployed outside the United States, shall be allowed a preference for the purchase of leftover licenses prior to their sale to the general public.
 - e. Group applications are not accepted for leftover licenses.
 - f. Applicants must apply on-line or over the phone following the regular drawing.
 - g. Applications must be submitted no later than the first Tuesday in July, annually.
 - h. Applications not submitted by the first Tuesday in July, annually, will become void.
 - i. Leftover Ranching for Wildlife licenses will not be available through the standard over-the-counter leftover process. For information regarding the availability of

these licenses on a first-come, first-served basis, please refer to the big game drawing brochure or call the Division at (303) 297-1192.

AS APPROVED – 11/16/2018
Basis and Purpose
Chapter W-2 - Big Game

Basis and Purpose:

With the passage of the Hunting, Fishing, and Parks for Future Generations Act (SB 18-143), the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission now has the authority to raise most wildlife license prices to the new statutory maximum amounts established by the Act and adjust them annually with the Consumer Price Index (CPI). For 2019, nonresident big game licenses will remain at the 2018 license price, which is also the price established in the Future Generations Act. Starting in 2020, the Commission will consider making annual CPI adjustments to all wildlife license prices.

At present, the Division faces significant financial challenges. With increasing operational costs, changes to minimum wage and temporary benefits, additional vendor and technology costs, as well as property maintenance needs, these increases to wildlife license prices will help the agency face our financial challenges, while implementing new outreach efforts and enhancing the management of Colorado's wildlife and habitats.

All wildlife license prices have been raised to the amounts established in state statute. Discounts have been retained for nonresident furbearer, mountain lion, and antlerless elk licenses to continue incentivizing the purchase of these licenses or keep them equitable with similar license types (such as small game and furbearer licenses). Further discounts have been applied for nonresident bear licenses, in an effort to sell more bear licenses to nonresidents, particularly those who are already hunting deer or elk. The practice of rounding down nonresident license prices to the nearest \$5.00 amount has also been eliminated, which was estimated to cost the Division around \$5.7 million annually.

The nonrefundable application fee for limited licenses has also been raised from \$3 to \$7 for residents and \$9 for nonresidents, consistent with the new statutory authority, but lower than the maximum amount allowed by statute. The purpose of the application fee is to cover the operational and administrative costs of running the draw, so the new application fees have been set appropriately to cover those costs without generating additional revenue.

Previous preference point fees/pay-to-play requirements have also been modified. Requiring every big game limited license draw applicant to purchase either an annual small game, annual small game/fishing combination, or spring turkey license for that licensing year (as a base hunting license) ensures that all big game license applicants are contributing to wildlife management, while also keeping Colorado's Pittman-Robertson federal aid apportionment (from the number of reported hunters) as high as possible. This base hunting license concept is modeled off of other western states and replaces CPW's previous pay-to-play fee for deer, elk, pronghorn and bear applicants. Additionally, charging a new preference point fee to every unsuccessful Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, mountain goat, or moose applicant in order to receive a preference point or weighted preference point (per species), should help stabilize application rates for these three highly desirable species. After implementing a pay-after-you draw approach in 2018, application numbers jumped between 130-176% for these three species alone, leading to additional concerns with preference point creep. The new preference point fee for sheep, goat, and moose has a secondary benefit of raising additional revenue for management of these three species, particularly since little revenue is generated based solely on the number of these licenses sold.

The statements of basis and purpose for these regulations can be viewed and copies obtained from the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife, Office of the Regulations Manager, Policy and Planning Unit, 1313 Sherman, Room 111, Denver, CO 80203.

The primary statutory authority for these regulations can be found in § 24-4-103, C.R.S., and the state Wildlife Act, §§ 33-1-101 to 33-6-209, C.R.S., specifically including, but not limited to: §§ 33-1-106, C.R.S.

EFFECTIVE DATE - THESE REGULATIONS SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2019 AND SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT UNTIL REPEALED, AMENDED OR SUPERSEDED.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE PARKS AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO THIS 16TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2018.

**APPROVED:
John V. Howard
Chairman**

**ATTEST:
James Vigil
Secretary**