



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

6060 Broadway
Denver, CO 80216
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TO: Members of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission
FROM: Jonathan Boydston, Acting Regulations Manager
RE: Chapter W-3 Final Regulations for the September 2021 Parks and Wildlife Commission Meeting
DATE: August 20, 2021

Final regulatory changes for Chapter W-3 are summarized below. If there are questions about the agenda item below, or if additional information is needed, please feel free to contact me at jonathan.boydston@state.co.us.

Agenda Item 12: Chapter W-3 - "Furbearers and Small Game, Except Migratory Birds" 2 CCR 406-3

Closing the 2021 hunting season for greater sage-grouse in Game Management Unit 10 pursuant to thresholds set forth in the Northwest Colorado Greater Sage-grouse Conservation Plan

The final regulations presented below correspond to the emergency regulations presented for agenda item 11. These final regulations allow for the GMU 10 sage-grouse closure, pursuant to the Northwest Colorado Greater Sage-grouse Conservation Plan, to remain in effect until revoked.

The Northwest Colorado Greater Sage-grouse Conservation Plan (NWCO GRSG Conservation Plan) recommends a 100-male minimum threshold based on a 3-year running average of the number of male grouse counted on leks for the management of sage-grouse hunting. The 3-year running average of male sage-grouse counted at leks in Northwest Colorado Management Zone 6 is 79 males, below the threshold of 100. In addition, this year's count of 95 males in this management zone represents a decline by 87% over the past five years. Game Management Unit 10 aligns with Management Zone 6 in the NWCO GRSG Conservation Plan. As a result, we propose modifying regulation #315.A.1 to remove GMU 10 from the 2021 hunting season for greater sage-grouse. GMU 10 will remain temporarily closed until lek counts result in a 3-year average of male lek attendance that exceeds 100.



FINAL REGULATIONS - CHAPTER W-3 - FURBEARERS and SMALL GAME, EXCEPT MIGRATORY BIRDS

ARTICLE I - GENERAL PROVISIONS

#315 - Greater Sage-grouse

A. Season Dates, Units and Limits, Except North Park

- ~~1. Units 2, 3, 10, 11, 13, 18 except that portion of unit 18 east of Colo 125 in Grand County, 27, 28 except that portion of GMU 28 north and east of Grand Co Rd 50 (Church Park Rd) and US 40, 37, 181, 201, 211, 301 and 441.~~
 - ~~a. September 11 - September 17, 2021.~~
 - ~~b. Extended Falconry Season: September 1 - January 31 annually.~~
1. Units 2, 3, 11, 13, 18 except that portion of unit 18 east of Colo 125 in Grand County, 27, 28 except that portion of GMU 28 north and east of Grand Co Rd 50 (Church Park Rd) and US 40, 37, 181, 201, 211, 301 and 441.
 - a. September 11 - September 17, 2021.
 - b. Extended Falconry Season: September 1 - January 31 annually.
2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
 - a. Daily Bag Limit - Two (2) birds.
 - b. Possession Limit - Four (4) birds.

B. Season Dates, Units and Limits, North Park

1. Units 6, 16, 17, 161, and 171.
 - a. September 11 - September 12, 2021.
 - b. Extended Falconry Season: September 1 - January 31 annually.
2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
 - a. Daily Bag Limit - Two (2) birds.
 - b. Possession Limit - Two (2) birds.

Basis and Purpose:

Closing the 2021 hunting season for greater sage-grouse in Game Management Unit 10 pursuant to thresholds set forth in the Northwest Colorado Greater Sage-grouse Conservation Plan

The Northwest Colorado Greater Sage-grouse Conservation Plan (NWCO GRSG Conservation Plan) recommends a 100-male minimum threshold based on a 3-year running average of the number of male grouse counted on leks for the management of sage-grouse hunting. The 3-year running average of male sage-grouse counted at leks in Northwest Colorado Management Zone 6 is 79 males, below the threshold of 100. In addition, this year's count of 95 males in this management zone represents a decline by 87% over the past five years. Game Management Unit 10 aligns with Management Zone 6 in the NWCO GRSG Conservation Plan. As a result, regulation #315.A.1 was modified to remove GMU 10 from the 2021 hunting season for greater sage-grouse. GMU 10 will remain temporarily closed until lek counts result in a 3-year average of male lek attendance that exceeds 100.

The statements of basis and purpose for these regulations can be obtained from the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife, Office of the Regulations Manager by emailing dnr_cpw_planning@state.co.us or by visiting the Division of Parks and Wildlife headquarters at 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO, 80216.

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 NOVEMBER 1, 2021 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 1ST DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

**APPROVED:
Carrie Besnette Hauser
Chair**

**ATTEST:
Luke B. Schafer
Secretary**