# Deer, Elk, Pronghorn, and Moose Limited License Recommendations and State of the Herds Update 

Andy Holland - Big Game Manager
Colorado Parks and Wildlife


Severe Winter Zone
$A_{N}^{N}$

## Severe Winter Zone Deer License Recommendations

- Male and either-sex deer license recommendations are reduced by 5,000 (-48\%) combined in D-2 (Bears Ears), D-6 (Rangely), and D-7 (White River).
- Female licenses are reduced by 2,900 (-94\%) combined and to the minimum of 10 licenses per hunt code in D-2 (Bears Ears) and D-7 (White River).
- Explanation of minimum of 10 licenses per hunt code.


## Severe Winter Zone

## Antlerless Elk License Recommendations

- E-2 (Bears Ears) antlerless licenses reduced by 5,600 (-89\%) with all public cow hunts reduced to the minimum of 10 licenses per hunt code.
- E-6 (White River) antlerless licenses reduced by 8,700 (-63\%).
- E-21 (Rangely) antlerless licenses reduced by 400 (-60\%).


## Severe Winter Zone Pronghorn License Recommendations

- Pronghorn male and female license quotas are reduced to the minimum of 10 per hunt code.
- Male licenses are reduced by 1,100 (-74\%)
- Female licenses are reduced by 700 (-83\%).
- Affected DAUs include PH-9 (Great Divide), PH-10 (Maybell), PH-11 (Sand Wash), and PH-34 (Axial Basin).


## Statewide Overview

- Limited license recommendations
- 217,000 limited licenses ( $-31,000,-13 \%$ )
- 2,500 hunt quotas
- 770,000 total big game animals
- 136 herds or Data Analysis Units (DAUs)
- Acknowledgments



## Tiered Approach of Presenting Recommendations

- This presentation (most general)
- Statewide summary by species
- Highlighting select Regional and DAU specific changes
- Commission Mailing
- Letter to Commission
- Summary by Region and Species Table
- Species specific tables
- DAU level summary
- Chapter 2, recommended quotas for all 2,500 hunts (most detailed)


## Information Supporting Recommendations

- Herd Management Plan (HMP) objectives
- Herd performance and trends
- Age and sex classification data
- Survival rates
- Population estimates
- Chronic wasting disease
- Field observations
- Public input and reports
- Past licensing trends
- Previous year's harvest





## Deer Applications and Limited License Quotas for Established Hunts By Year



Statewide Average of Post-hunt Deer Buck/Doe Ratios 2005-2022



## Elk Applications and Limited License Quotas for Established Hunts By Year



50,000


|  | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023* |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Applications | 198,245 | 191,714 | 197,866 | 207,108 | 204,074 | 202,111 | 200,826 | 195,332 | 192,655 | 193,380 | 192,638 | 198,621 | 198,649 | 203,823 | 202,364 | 204,024 | 231,846 | 204,984 | 213,230 | 246,602 | 237,959 | 247,015 |
| License Quota | 193,245 | 193,049 | 192,474 | 191,249 | 174,663 | 171,210 | 162,303 | 152,214 | 152,012 | 142,347 | 139,397 | 141,483 | 138,186 | 139,482 | 136,706 | 133,199 | 127,608 | 126,458 | 129,532 | 123,866 | 123,137 | 107,685 |

## Elk Limited License Quotas for Established Hunts by Sex and Year




|  | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023* |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Female Quota | 122,329 | 125,339 | 132,489 | 125,062 | 110,657 | 107,938 | 102,221 | 94,136 | 93,599 | 85,246 | 82,049 | 84,118 | 81,657 | 82,247 | 80,209 | 77,353 | 72,843 | 72,224 | 67,424 | 65,785 | 64,606 | 48,246 |
| Either-sex Quota | 32,185 | 37,537 | 33,905 | 44,875 | 41,117 | 42,212 | 39,615 | 39,168 | 41,853 | 40,411 | 39,593 | 30,470 | 30,097 | 30,571 | 28,798 | 28,777 | 24,901 | 24,245 | 27,639 | 26,177 | 27,667 | 30,055 |
| Male Quota | 38,731 | 30,173 | 26,080 | 21,312 | 22,889 | 21,060 | 20,467 | 18,910 | 16,560 | 16,690 | 17,755 | 26,895 | 26,432 | 26,664 | 27,699 | 27,069 | 29,864 | 29,989 | 34,469 | 31,904 | 30,864 | 29,384 |

*Projected Estimate


## Pronghorn Applications and Limited License Quotas for Established Hunts By Year




Moose Limited License Quotas for Established Hunts by Sex and Year


|  | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023* |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Female Quota | 34 | 44 | 55 | 74 | 86 | 108 | 111 | 94 | 77 | 92 | 108 | 128 | 148 | 185 | 196 | 244 | 262 | 292 | 293 | 298 | 341 | 376 |
| Either-sex Quota | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 9 | 9 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 6 |
| Male Quota | 83 | 73 | 74 | 88 | 85 | 74 | 74 | 78 | 80 | 84 | 90 | 100 | 109 | 127 | 140 | 166 | 185 | 211 | 221 | 228 | 245 | 262 |






Detected CWD in Harvested Adult \& Yearling Elk
Estimated CWD Infection Rates for Harvest Data in Colorado 2017-2021


