COLORADO
Parks and Wildlife
Department of Natural Resources

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commissioners

FROM: Jeff Davis, Director

DATE: April 18, 2024

SUBJECT: Limited license recommendations for deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, and black bear

This letter is a summary and explanation of the enclosed Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) annual limited big game license recommendations for the 2024 big game hunting season.

CPW is recommending a total of 236,500 limited licenses for deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, and bear. The statewide total is nearly identical to last year, with an important caveat described in the elk summary. These licenses will populate 2,800 individual hunt code quotas and represent the majority of the hunting opportunity for over 700,000 big game animals.

While there does not appear to be substantial changes this year, the 2024 recommendations are a continuation of reductions made last year (~32,000 licenses) in response to winter mortality in the Northwest Region. The unprecedented reductions made in 2023 and 2024 in the Northwest Region will allow herds to recover as quickly as possible. For 2024, substantial reductions extended beyond the Severe Winter Zone to include Middle Park, which has had 2 severe winters in a row.

For the other 3 CPW Regions, it is business as usual with license recommendations intended to manage those herds to Herd Management Plan (HMP) population and sex ratio objectives.

Thankfully, the winter of 2023-2024 was average in severity on the entire Western Slope.

Additional details are included in both regulation form and in a series of table summaries titled 2024 Big Game License Recommendations Summary. The summary tables were sent to the Parks and Wildlife Commissioners and posted to the CPW Commission webpage. They can be found at the following link:

https://cpw.state.co.us/Documents/Commission/2024/May/Item.20.a_DRAFT_2024_Big_Game_License_Recommendation_Summary.pdf

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Information in these tables, hereafter referred to as Summary Tables, transitions from a high-level summary to increasingly species-specific. Page 1 includes bulleted highlights and Page 2 has Regional and Statewide totals that are particularly informative. After that, each species has a table with license totals and changes for every population as well as figures and data demonstrating factors important to license setting.

The 2024 license recommendations are based on evaluation of previous harvest, age and sex classification data, survival estimates from GPS-collared animals, population estimates, herd performance and trends, hunter distribution, Big Game Season Structure (BGSS) dates and timing, past licensing trends, and social considerations for each big game herd in Colorado.

The Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission (PWC) publicly approves each Herd Management Plan (HMP), Bear Management Plan, BGSS dates, and all limited license recommendations. The HMP for each herd incorporates the capability of the habitat to support big game populations, other social and biological limiting factors, and input from the public, organizations, and other agencies about their issues and concerns regarding hunting management and herd objectives. Annual harvest objectives and the resulting license recommendations for all hunts are designed to achieve the management objectives approved in the HMP. Female license increases are recommended in herds that are performing well and are within or above population objective ranges and female license reductions are recommended in herds that are within or below population objective ranges. CPW staff use previous 3-year averages of hunter success rates to predict current year harvest rates for setting license recommendations necessary to achieve harvest objectives.

A Data Analysis Unit (DAU) is the geographic area and identifying number of a relatively discrete big game population or herd. DAUs can contain multiple Game Management Units (GMUs), which are geographic areas delineated to distribute hunters.

Deer

Approximately 225,000 hunters applied for Colorado deer licenses in 2024. The majority of deer hunting in Colorado is managed by limited licenses; the only exceptions are over-the-counter (OTC) white-tailed deer licenses available in the Southeast Region.

Statewide, CPW is recommending 88,000 deer licenses, which is 1,400 (-2%) fewer than last year. For the Northwest Region, we are recommending a reduction of 900 (-4%) deer licenses.

For all rifle seasons, we are recommending statewide total reductions of 600 (-1%) buck, 70 (-1%) either-sex, and 500 (-4%) antlerless licenses.

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Plains deer quota recommendations are somewhat lower than last year by 1,100 (-5%).

Buck license recommendations were reduced in herds that are now within or below HMP sex ratio objective ranges. Examples include D-5 (North Tablelands), D-9 (Middle Park), and D-17 (Bailey).

Buck license recommendations were increased in herds that are within or above HMP sex ratio objectives. Examples include D-8 (State Bridge), D-24 (Disappointment), and D-30 (San Juan).

In DAUs where CWD prevalence is greater than 5%, management actions were taken to reduce prevalence, including buck license increases. An example is D-51 (South Grand Mesa) (9% prevalence).

These recommendations keep regular season doe licenses at the minimum of 10 licenses per hunt code for all deer DAUs west of I-25 that are below population objective. In these below-objective herds, the majority of doe licenses are private-land-only licenses to address game damage. Private-land-only licenses and licenses with special restriction to address deer conflicts near towns make up the vast majority of the doe licenses in below-objective herds.

Antlerless license reductions are recommended in herds that are within or below HMP population objective ranges. Examples include D-5 (North Tablelands), D-9 (Middle Park), and D-17 (Bailey).

Antlerless license increases are recommended in herds that are within or above HMP population objective ranges. Examples include D-8 (State Bridge) and D-30 (San Juan).

The statewide post-hunt 2023 deer population estimate is 376,000, down from 392,000 last year. Over the last 3 years, even prior to the severe winter, the statewide population estimate for mule deer was on a declining trend. The sum of statewide population objective ranges is 389,000-494,000 for all 54 deer herds combined. In 2023, 18 of 54 (33%) deer herds are within their HMP population objective ranges. Population objectives that are appreciably higher than population estimates reflect CPW's desire to stabilize, sustain, and increase mule deer populations.

The statewide deer population has averaged 415,000 over the last 10 years. The decade prior to that was marked by significant declines in the some of the large westernmost herds in the state. Diverse habitat types and environmental conditions around the state create considerable geographic variability in population performance.

CPW annually monitors well over 1,000 GPS-collared mule deer in five Intensive Mule Deer Monitoring Areas to estimate survival. CPW also conducts post-hunt herd inventories, primarily with helicopters, to estimate the sex ratios of males/100 females and the age ratios of young/100 females. In addition to survival rates, these ratios are needed to estimate

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population size using population models. The Summary Tables include the number of animals classified and sex ratios by DAU, Region, and statewide.

The average of sex ratio objectives for deer herds statewide is approximately 30 bucks/100 does. During the post-hunt herd inventories in 2023, CPW staff classified 60,800 deer and observed an average sex ratio of 30 bucks/100 does, which is the same as 2022. The statewide average observed age ratio from helicopter inventory was 60 fawns/100 does, the same as observed in 2021 and 2022.

Some deer herds are performing well and others are stable but at much lower population sizes than desired. CPW has concerns about declines in many deer populations; however, statewide post-hunt averages of 30 bucks/100 does and 60 fawns/100 does are excellent and indicate that overall, deer herds are responding to management actions. Colorado remains a premier destination for deer hunters.

Elk

In 2024, approximately 246,000 hunters applied for Colorado limited elk licenses. All rifle antlerless, muzzleloader, first, fourth, and late season elk licenses are limited.

Statewide, CPW is recommending 109,500 limited elk licenses.

Converting what were previously over-the-counter unlimited antlered rifle licenses to limited antlered rifle licenses in the Severe Winter Zone in DAUs E-2 (Bears Ears) and E-6 (White River) actually results in an increase of 6,950 limited antlered rifle licenses. Although this is an increase in limited licenses, there will be fewer hunters in E-2 and E-6 during the second and third rifle seasons compared to when OTC licenses were available. This limitation will result in approximately 1,600 fewer antlered elk license sales in E-2 and 1,700 fewer antlered elk license sales in E-6 from 2023 hunter numbers. Reductions were not as large proportionally in E-6 because the central and southern section had lower winter severity and mortality than the northern section of E-6 and E-2. The southern tier of E-6 is outside of the Severe Winter Zone and remains OTC for 2nd and 3rd antlered elk hunting. After accounting for these new E-2 and E-6 limited hunt code quotas, total statewide limited elk licenses are actually reduced by 5,000 (-5%).

Continuing with a 20-year trend, antlerless elk license recommendations are reduced from last year by 1,200 (-3%) to 42,800. The statewide total for antlerless elk licenses is now 32% of what it was at its peak in 2004 of 132,500.

CPW is reducing female and either-sex licenses by 4,100 (-11%) in the Northwest Region.

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Antlerless license reductions are recommended in herds that are within or below HMP population objective ranges. Examples include E-2 (Bears Ears), E-6 (White River), E-7 (Gore Pass), E-8 (Troublesome), and E-13 (Williams Fork).

CPW is recommending few changes in female and either-sex licenses in other 3 Regions of the state.

Antlerless license reductions are the result of a combination of mortality from the severe winter of 2022-2023, herds achieving HMP population objectives through antlerless harvest, low calf/cow ratios reducing population productivity, and increases in HMP population objective ranges.

Antlerless license increases are recommended in herds that are within or above HMP population objective ranges. Examples include E16 (Frying Pan River) and E-20 (Uncompahgre).

The 2023 post-hunt population estimate is 303,000 elk. This is similar to the 2022 estimate as declines in the Northwest Region were offset by increases in other Regions. The statewide population had been increasing for 7 years until 2022, an expected response to reductions in antlerless harvest.

The sum of Colorado's post-hunt HMP population objective ranges for elk statewide is 259,600-317,300 for all 42 elk herds combined. Fifteen of 42 (36%) elk populations are within their HMP population objective ranges. The sum of statewide objective ranges is partially based on historic HMPs. Plans written before 2001 were written with outdated population models that underestimated elk numbers; as we update plans, many population objectives and achievement will change. Because season and license setting is designed to use antlerless harvest to bring elk populations to herd objectives, further reductions in antlerless licenses are anticipated in the future as more elk populations reach objectives or population objectives increase. Long-term experience with balancing stakeholder interests has informed CPW on the upper and lower social thresholds for elk population size in many herds, which benefits us greatly in herd management planning efforts.

CPW monitors nearly 800 GPS-collared elk combined in 3 Research study areas E-2 (Bears Ears), E-15 (Avalanche), and E-20 (Uncompahgre Plateau), 3 Elk Monitoring Areas (Middle Park, Gunnison, and South Park) that were initiated in 2022, and as part of numerous other projects.

The average of post-hunt sex ratio objectives in totally limited elk DAUs and expected sex ratios in over-the-counter DAUs for elk herds statewide is approximately 21 bulls/100 cows. In 2023, during the post-hunt herd inventories, CPW staff used primarily helicopter surveys to classify an incredible 109,000 elk, down only 1,000 from the 110,000 classified in 2022. The

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observed statewide average sex ratio was 20 bulls/100 cows, down from 21 bulls/100 cows last year.

In E-2, post-hunt 2023, CPW classified 9,200 elk. As expected, observed sex ratios were low at 11 bull/100 cows compared to the 3-year average of 15 bulls/100 cow prior to the severe winter. CPW observed a calf ratio of 49 calves/100 cows, identical to the previous 3-year average.

CPW classified 13,900 elk in E-6. We observed 20 bulls/100 cows compared to the 3-year average of 22 bull/100 cows prior to the severe winter. CPW observed 43 calves/100 cows on these flights compared to the 3-year average of 44 calves/100 cows prior to the severe winter.

These two herds are among our most productive elk herds. Excellent forage conditions and lower animal densities resulted in high body condition this winter. In combination with license reductions, these factors point to a positive future for elk and elk hunters in E-2 and E-6.

During primarily aerial surveys over the past 20 years, CPW has documented declining calf/cow ratios in the southern half of the state. Northern Colorado historically has had higher calf ratios by about 10 calves/100 cows. In 2023, we observed a statewide average of 40 calves/100 cows during post-hunt herd inventories, the same as 2021 and 2022. Elk research and continued management changes are necessary since calf production remains low in many herds. Low calf ratios reduce the number of elk licenses CPW can issue.

Having a combination of units that are limited in all seasons and units with both limited and over-the-counter hunting seasons allows us to offer a wide range of hunting opportunities on the nation’s largest elk population.

Pronghorn

In 2024, approximately 102,000 hunters applied for limited pronghorn licenses. The majority of pronghorn licenses are limited, with the notable exception of over-the-counter archery licenses available in 70% of GMUs.

CPW is recommending 18,200 limited pronghorn licenses, down 500 (-3%) licenses from last year.

Pronghorn license reductions are the result of a combination of mortality from the severe winter of 2022-2023 in the Northwest Region, new updated HMPs which increased population objective ranges, previously high licenses to intentionally reduce populations, and lower fawn/doe ratios due to drought reducing population productivity.

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Doe license reductions are recommended in herds that are within or below HMP population objective ranges. Examples include PH-9 (Great Divide), PH-3 (North Park), and PH-7 (Thatcher).

Doe license increases are recommended in herds that are within or above HMP population objective ranges. Examples include PH-20 (Wet Mountains).

The estimated statewide post-hunt pronghorn population is 59,000, down from 74,000 in 2022. This staggering decline is from the Northwest Region pronghorn estimate dropping from 22,700 to 10,100 (-55%) from winter mortality.

The sum of statewide population objective ranges for hunted pronghorn herds is 71,200-98,700 combined. Thirteen of 29 (45%) pronghorn DAUs are within HMP population objective ranges.

Pronghorn are productive and will respond quickly to improved habitat conditions and lower animal densities. Colorado offers some excellent hunting for one of North America's most iconic animals.

Moose

In 2024, approximately 60,000 hunters applied for Colorado moose licenses.

CPW is recommending 668 limited moose licenses, an increase of 24 (+4%) from last year.

These recommendations include 285 (+17, +6%) bull and either-sex licenses and 383 (+7, +2%) antlerless licenses.

Antlerless moose license recommendations are designed to manage moose populations toward HMP population objectives and keep moose populations within the capability of their habitat. Additionally, antlerless licenses have considerably lower success rates than antlered licenses.

The estimated statewide 2023 post-hunt moose population is 3,500, the same as in 2022.

We now have moose hunting in 74 GMUs, up from 39 GMUs in 2013. We are fortunate our moose populations continue to do well because many other states are experiencing declines in moose. The growing number and distribution of moose in Colorado have resulted in greater hunting and viewing opportunities.

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Black Bear

In 2024, CPW is recommending 20,000 limited licenses for all seasons and methods of take for black bear. This is 80 less than last year and represents a <1% decrease in limited licenses. In 2024, statewide harvest is projected to be about 1,400 bears with a statewide total mortality of approximately 1,900 bears. As in recent years under the current Big Game Season Structure (BGSS), the availability of add-on OTC bear licenses in half of Colorado's 17 DAUs is expected to continue to help reach harvest objectives in those specific units.

Bear season structure changes implemented as part of the BGSS in 2020 were designed to remove unnecessary barriers to bear hunting whenever possible to achieve DAU harvest objectives, while still managing bear hunter crowding during the early seasons or in quality deer and elk units.

Current management objectives are to reduce bear populations in 9 DAUs and stabilize populations at present levels in the remaining 8 DAUs. These DAU objectives are what guided managers' selection between one of the two bear licensing strategies that are available to structure hunting opportunity under the 2020-2024 BGSS. Over-the-counter licenses will be available during archery, muzzleloader and concurrent rifle seasons in 9 DAUs (plus B-99 Eastern Plains), as well as in most PLO hunts.

License sales in 2023 appear to have stabilized around the levels seen in 2020 & 2021 and are no longer increasing. In fact, license sales in 2023 declined 4% from 2022, suggesting a level of demand saturation. This follows the large gains in hunter numbers seen in 2019 and 2020 due to the non-resident fee reduction and availability of OTC bear licenses in many DAUs. With the increased pricing for bear licenses in 2024, license sales may decline again this fall, particularly for non-residents. In general, increased hunter numbers in the DAUs identified for the unlimited add-on license strategy have provided additional harvest towards management goals.

Conclusion

The 2024 big game license recommendations are based on substantial biological data in relation to Herd Management Plans, and provide for an economically significant and diverse amount of big game hunting throughout Colorado. These recommendations and the associated OTC licenses provide the opportunity for more than 300,000 hunters to enjoy the tremendous big game resources of the State. They also represent thousands of hours of employees' collective efforts to conduct herd inventories, obtain harvest estimates, incorporate this information into predictive models, and finally to set limited license recommendations. I am pleased to present these recommendations as a testament to the incredible wildlife resources CPW manages for the enjoyment of the people of Colorado and its visitors.

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If you have any questions on this information, or anything else about limited license numbers, feel free to give me a call prior to the Commission meeting. Thank You.

C: R. DeWalt
Regional Managers
B. Dreher
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2024 BIG GAME LICENSE RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY BY SPECIES

April 12, 2024

SUMMARY

- CPW is recommending a total of 236,500 limited licenses for deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, and bear. This is nearly identical to last year, with a caveat described in the elk summary.
- CPW is recommending reductions in deer, elk, pronghorn, and bear licenses.
- CPW is recommending increases in moose licenses.
- Most of the reductions in deer, elk, and pronghorn licenses are a continuation of cuts made in response to the winter of 2022-2023 in the Northwest Region.
- Changes are smaller this year because of the 32,000 license reduction last year.

DEER

- CPW is recommending 1,400 (-2%) fewer deer licenses than last year.
- For the Northwest Region, we are recommending a reduction of 900 (-4%) deer licenses.
- For all rifle seasons, we are recommending statewide total reductions of 600 (-1%) buck, 70 (-1%) either-sex, and 500 (-4%) antlerless licenses.
- Buck license recommendations were reduced in herds that are now within or below HMP sex ratio objective ranges. Examples include D-5 (North Tablelands), D-9 (Middle Park) and D-17 (Bailey).
- Buck license recommendations were increased in herds that are within or above HMP sex ratio objectives. Examples include D-8 (State Bridge), D-24 (Disappointment), and D-30 (San Juan).
- In DAUs where CWD prevalence is greater than 5%, management actions were taken to reduce prevalence, including buck license increases. An example is D-51 (South Grand Mesa) (9% prevalence).
- Antlerless license reductions are recommended in herds that are within or below HMP population objective ranges. Examples include D-5 (North Tablelands), D-9 (Middle Park) and D-17 (Bailey).
- Antlerless license increases are recommended in herds that are within or above HMP population objective ranges. Examples include D-8 (State Bridge) and D-30 (San Juan).

DEER

in 2024

# of DAUs	# Hunt Codes
51	1,001

ELK

- Statewide, CPW is recommending 109,500 limited elk licenses.
- Converting what were previously over-the-counter unlimited antlered rifle licenses to limited antlered rifle licenses in the Severe Winter Zone in DAUs E-2 (Bears Ears) and E-6 (White River) results in an increase of 6,950 limited antlered rifle licenses. These new quotas mask the actual reduction in total limited licenses.
- After accounting for these new E-2 and E-6 hunt code quotas, limited elk licenses are actually reduced by 5,000 (-5%).
- Continuing with a 20-year trend, antlerless elk license recommendations are reduced from last year by 1,200 (-3%) to 42,800. The statewide total for antlerless elk licenses is now 32% of what it was at its peak in 2004 of 132,500.
- CPW is reducing female and either-sex licenses by another 4,100 (-11%) in the Northwest Region.
- CPW is recommending few changes in female and either-sex licenses in other 3 Regions of the state.
- Antlerless license reductions are recommended in herds that are within or below HMP population objective ranges. Examples include E-2 (Bears Ears), E-6 (White River), E-7 (Gore Pass), E-8 (Troublesome), and E-13 (Williams Fork).
- Antlerless license increases are recommended in herds that are within or above HMP population objective ranges. Examples include E16 (Frying Pan River) and E-20 (Uncompahgre).

ELK

in 2024

# of DAUs	# Hunt Codes
42	1,042

PRONGHORN

- CPW is recommending 18,200 limited pronghorn licenses, down 500 (-3%) licenses from last year.
- Pronghorn license reductions are the result of a combination of mortality from the severe winter of 2022-2023 in the Northwest Region, new updated HMPs which increased population objective ranges, previously high licenses to intentionally reduce populations, and lower fawn/doe ratios due to drought reducing population productivity.
- Doe license reductions are recommended in herds that are within or below HMP population objective ranges. Examples include PH-9 (Great Divide), PH-3 (North Park, and PH-7 (Thatcher).
- Doe license increases are recommended in herds that are within or above HMP population objective ranges. Examples include PH-20 (Wet Mountains).

PRONGHORN

in 2024

# of DAUs	# Hunt Codes
28	310

MOOSE

- CPW is recommending 668 limited moose licenses, an increase of 24 (+4%) from last year.
- These recommendations include 285 (+17, +6%) bull and either-sex licenses and 383 (+7, +2%) antlerless licenses.
- Antlerless moose license recommendations are designed to manage moose populations toward HMP population objectives and keep moose populations within the capability of their habitat. Additionally, antlerless licenses have considerably lower hunter success rates than antlered licenses.

MOOSE

in 2024

# of DAUs	# Hunt Codes
13	168

BLACK BEAR

- CPW is recommending 20,000 limited black bear licenses, a decrease of 80 (less than 1%) from last year.
- Similar to previous years under the 2020-2024 BGSS, ten bear DAUs will have OTC licenses available during archery, muzzleloader and concurrent rifle seasons.
- The increases in bear license sales seen in 2019-2021 seem to have stabilized in 2022, with a small decrease in sales recorded in 2023 (-4%). Increases in bear license pricing for this upcoming fall, particularly for non-residents, might be expected to further decrease the number of licenses sold in 2024.

BLACK BEAR

in 2024

# of DAUs	# Hunt Codes
17	210

2024 BIG GAME LICENSE RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY BY REGION & SPECIES

April 12, 2024

Recommended Quotas for Established Hunts including Ranching for Wildlife, Auction & Raffle hunts, and hunts approved annually by PWC.

Species	Region	All Limited Licenses 2023	All Limited Licenses 2024	Change #	Change %	All Limited Rifle Licenses 2023	All Limited Rifle Licenses 2024	Change #	Change %	All Limited Rifle Female & Either Sex Licenses 2023	All Limited Rifle Female & Either Sex Licenses 2024	Change #	Change %	All Limited Archery Licenses 2023	All Limited Archery Licenses 2024	Change #	Change %	All Limited Muzzleloader Licenses 2023	All Limited Muzzleloader Licenses 2024	Change #	Change %	Post Hunt Populations 2022 Estimate	Post Hunt Populations 2023 Estimate	Post Hunt Populations 2024 Projection	2024 Population Objective Min	2024 Population Objective Max	2024 Population Objective Target	Post-Hunt Inventory & Objectives: Number of Animals Classified in 2023**	Sex Ratio (Males/100 Females): 2024 Objective Range*** Min	2024 Objective Range*** Max	Observed*** 2023	Observed*** 3 Yr Avg	Region	Species
DEER ****																																		**DEER ******
	NW	26,277	25,344	-933	-4%	20,040	19,312	-728	-4%	4,236	4,219	-17	0%	3,576	3,451	-125	-3%	2,661	2,581	-80	-3%	135,750	119,910	123,310	138,400	195,100	160,000	30,804	23	27	26	25	NW	
	SW	20,920	22,145	1,225	6%	16,340	17,280	940	6%	2,405	2,630	225	9%	2,595	2,735	140	5%	1,985	2,130	145	7%	127,320	133,610	138,480	125,500	152,600	146,150	26,537	27	30	32	33	SW	
	NE	14,180	13,400	-780	-6%	10,265	9,655	-610	-6%	3,170	2,730	-440	-14%	2,380	2,265	-115	-5%	1,535	1,480	-55	-4%	42,090	38,140	37,850	37,000	43,900	40,700	6,274	24	26	34	34	NE	
	NE Plains	11,075	10,235	-840	-8%	8,795	8,000	-795	-9%	5,485	5,020	-465	-8%	1,435	1,420	-15	-1%	845	815	-30	-4%	18,890	16,650	17,520	17,300	20,200	19,700	3,079	31	34	37	41	NE Plains	
	SE	7,905	8,049	144	2%	5,950	6,094	144	2%	742	887	145	20%	1,230	1,230	0	0%	725	725	0	0%	44,480	43,890	42,580	52,600	61,000	56,500	5,028	40	43	32	36	SE	
	SE Plains	9,076	8,851	-225	-2%	5,976	5,851	-125	-2%	3,317	3,272	-45	-1%	2,000	1,915	-85	-4%	1,100	1,085	-15	-1%	23,420	23,510	24,540	17,700	21,200	19,450	1,263	41	44	21	22	SE Plains	
	TOTAL	**89,437**	**88,028**	**-1,409**	**-2%**	**67,370**	**66,196**	**-1,174**	**-2%**	**19,359**	**18,762**	**-597**	**-3%**	**13,216**	**13,016**	**-200**	**-2%**	**8,851**	**8,816**	**-35**	**0%**	**391,940**	**375,710**	**384,280**	**388,500**	**494,000**	**442,500**	**60,812**	**26**	**29**	**30**	**29**		
ELK																																		**ELK**
	NW	55,883	57,344	1,461	3%	44,367	46,568	2,201	5%	36,882	32,743	-4,139	-11%	6,077	5,687	-390	-6%	5,439	5,089	-350	-6%	129,510	115,390	120,410	103,770	131,570	119,870	54,153	21	28	22	22	NW	
	SW	28,800	28,905	105	0%	18,450	18,530	80	0%	10,855	11,035	180	2%	7,430	7,430	0	0%	2,920	2,945	25	1%	124,360	138,320	142,070	116,200	139,400	129,950	37,467	17	21	17	18	SW	
	NE	12,392	12,695	303	2%	8,997	9,235	238	3%	4,772	4,960	188	4%	1,890	1,910	20	1%	1,505	1,550	45	3%	17,680	18,750	18,620	12,200	14,400	13,600	4,924	34	39	12	16	NE	
	SE	10,409	10,571	162	2%	8,121	8,288	167	2%	6,301	6,468	167	3%	833	833	0	0%	1,455	1,450	-5	0%	31,630	30,930	32,670	27,450	31,900	30,750	12,312	31	37	25	25	SE	
	TOTAL	**107,484**	**109,515**	**2,031**	**2%**	**79,935**	**82,621**	**2,686**	**3%**	**58,810**	**55,206**	**-3,604**	**-6%**	**16,230**	**15,860**	**-370**	**-2%**	**11,319**	**11,034**	**-285**	**-3%**	**303,180**	**303,390**	**313,770**	**259,620**	**317,270**	**294,170**	**108,856**	**21**	**26**	**20**	**20**	**TOTAL**	
PRONGHORN																																		**PRONGHORN**
	NW	1,843	1,509	-334	-18%	1,133	909	-224	-20%	528	360	-168	-32%	335	290	-45	-13%	375	310	-65	-17%	22,700	10,110	12,200	23,100	23,500	23,400	6,319	53	54	44	46	NW	
	SW	341	349	8	2%	232	237	5	2%	40	40	0	0%	89	92	3	3%	20	20	0	0%	2,950	3,530	3,750	3,450	4,450	3,700	1,154	29	34	33	31	SW	
	NE	3,782	3,812	30	1%	3,112	3,142	30	1%	1,577	1,577	0	0%	240	240	0	0%	430	430	0	0%	15,580	14,010	13,560	13,500	16,700	15,350	4,741	29	34	48	34	NE	
	SE	12,749	12,559	-190	-1%	11,084	10,899	-185	-2%	7,033	6,917	-116	-2%	140	150	10	7%	1,525	1,510	-15	-1%	31,010	30,240	28,780	30,175	42,075	36,150	8,257	28	40	43	37	SE	
	TOTAL	**18,722**	**18,236**	**-486**	**-3%**	**15,565**	**15,191**	**-374**	**-2%**	**9,182**	**8,898**	**-284**	**-3%**	**807**	**775**	**-32**	**-4%**	**2,350**	**2,270**	**-80**	**-3%**	**73,470**	**59,080**	**59,440**	**71,225**	**98,725**	**79,700**	**20,471**	**36**	**43**	**44**	**39**	**TOTAL**	
MOOSE																																		**MOOSE**
	NW	433	447	14	3%					259	266	7	3%									2,250	2,340	2,200	1,175	1,565	1,430						NW	
	SW	35	38	3	9%					12	12	0	0%									480	500	510	400	500	450						SW	
	NE	157	164	7	4%					106	108	2	2%									630	440	310	440	490	465						NE	
	SE	19	19	0	0%					5	5	0	0%									190	190	170	235	235	235						SE	
	TOTAL	**644**	**668**	**24**	**4%**					**382**	**391**	**9**	**2%**									**3,550**	**3,470**	**3,190**	**2,250**	**2,790**	**2,580**						**TOTAL**	
BEAR																																		**BEAR**
	NW	11,827	11,390	-437	-4%	8,457	8,140	-317						2,500	2,415	-85	-3%	870	835	-35	-4%												NW	
	SW	4,855	4,795	-60	-1%	3,480	3,420	-60						975	975	0	0%	400	400	0	0%												SW	
	NE	1,365	1,365	0	0%	940	940	0	0%					280	280	0	0%	145	145	0	0%												NE	
	SE	2,041	2,456	415	20%	1,418	1,833	415						439	439	0	0%	184	184	0	0%												SE	
	TOTAL	**20,088**	**20,006**	**-82**	**0%**	**14,295**	**14,333**	**38**						**4,194**	**4,109**	**-85**	**-2%**	**1,599**	**1,564**	**-35**	**-2%**												**TOTAL**	
GRAND TOTAL		**236,375**	**236,453**	**78**	**0.0**	**177,165**	**178,341**	**1,176**	**0.7**	**87,733**	**83,257**	**-4,476**	**-5.1**	**34,447**	**33,760**	**-687**	**-2.0**	**24,119**	**23,684**	**-435**	**-1.8**	**772,140**	**741,650**	**760,680**				**190,139**					**GRAND TOTAL**	

*For moose Antlerless and Either Sex licenses included for all manners of take

**Number of Animals Classified includes both flight & ground surveys

***Pronghorn inventory is pre hunt

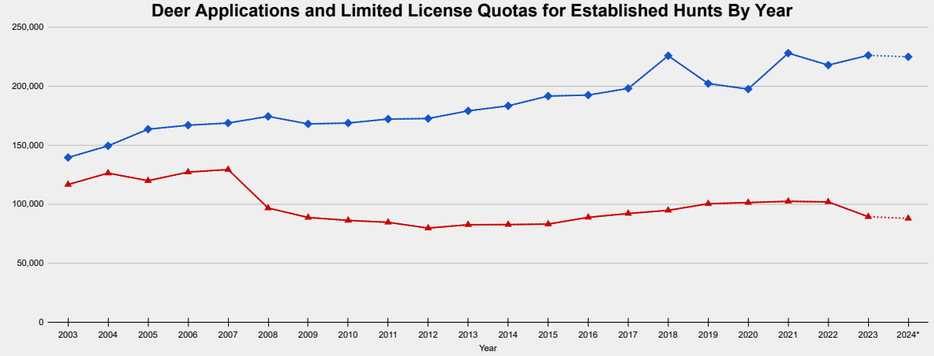
****NE & SE rows do not include Plains units. They contain units west of I-25.

BIG GAME HISTORY BY SPECIES

Established Hunts are Ranching for Wildlife, Auction & Raffle hunts, and hunts approved annually by PWC.

April 12, 2024

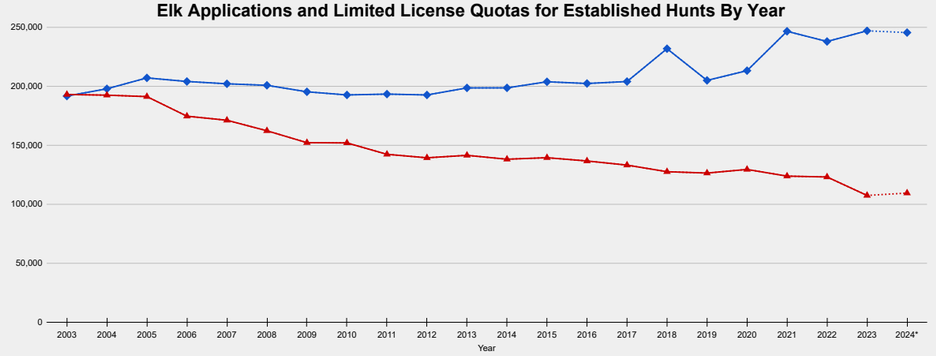
Deer Applications and Limited License Quotas for Established Hunts By Year



	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Applications	139,629	149,532	163,636	166,993	168,862	174,465	168,107	168,862	172,234	172,650	179,182	183,431	191,708	192,538	198,205	225,855	202,305	197,604	228,087	217,937	226,240	224,970
License Quota	116,742	126,410	120,005	127,257	129,426	96,791	88,820	86,328	84,713	79,813	82,680	82,806	83,204	88,919	92,187	94,855	100,483	101,457	102,507	102,011	89,437	88,024

*Projected Estimate

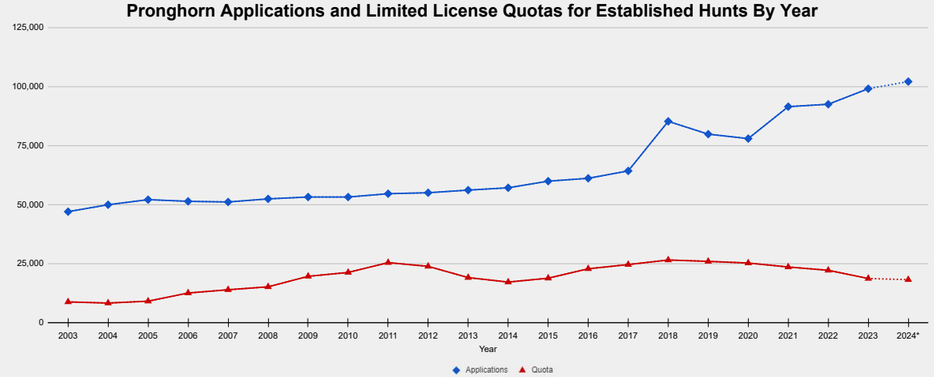
Elk Applications and Limited License Quotas for Established Hunts By Year



	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Applications	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	245,506
License Quota	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	107,484	109,511

*Projected Estimate

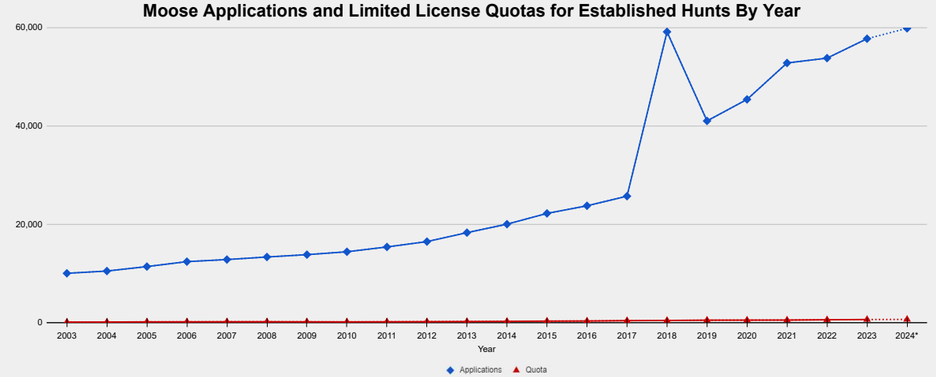
Pronghorn Applications and Limited License Quotas for Established Hunts By Year



	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Applications	47,043	49,977	52,136	51,426	51,149	52,456	53,252	53,242	54,647	55,065	56,174	57,163	59,968	61,178	64,309	85,317	79,886	78,007	91,540	92,554	99,140	102,160
License Quota	8,802	8,314	9,116	12,573	13,957	15,196	19,651	21,286	25,454	23,866	19,113	17,202	18,853	22,844	24,625	26,563	25,981	25,278	23,596	22,199	18,722	18,232

*Projected Estimate

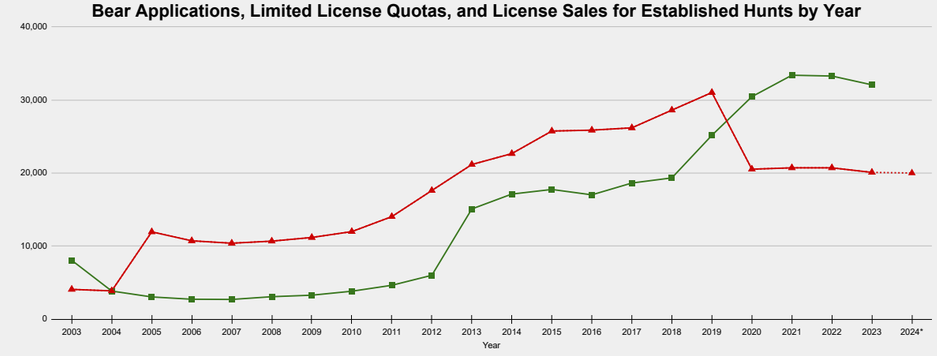
Moose Applications and Limited License Quotas for Established Hunts By Year



	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Applications	10,044	10,504	11,412	12,417	12,842	13,361	13,836	14,425	15,404	16,494	18,311	20,037	22,226	23,776	25,728	59,157	41,037	45,412	52,823	53,808	57,757	59,872
License Quota	120	132	165	174	187	190	177	162	181	203	233	266	321	343	417	454	510	522	534	594	646	668

*Projected Estimate

Bear Applications, Limited License Quotas, and License Sales for Established Hunts by Year



	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Applications	11,788	12,349	11,292	11,036	11,106	11,997	12,168	12,616	12,753	13,737	15,248	16,614	16,021	17,118	17,152	31,994	27,801	30,873	36,718	37,264	39,175	40,289
License Quota	4,070	3,863	11,949	10,721	10,390	10,675	11,177	11,980	14,032	17,604	21,167	22,663	25,751	25,872	26,190	28,617	31,025	20,527	20,715	20,714	20,088	20,006
Total License Sales	8,048	3,838	3,034	2,718	2,691	3,066	3,272	3,816	4,628	5,995	15,082	17,121	17,751	17,016	18,633	19,336	25,165	30,458	33,396	33,284	32,080	

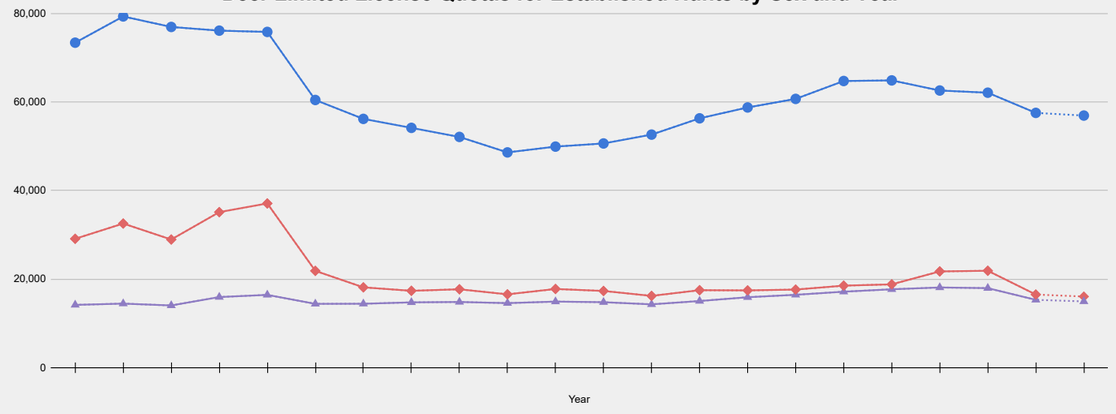
*Projected Estimate

BIG GAME QUOTA HISTORY FOR ESTABLISHED HUNTS BY SPECIES

Established Hunts are Ranching for Wildlife, Auction & Raffle hunts, and hunts approved annually by PWC.

April 12, 2024

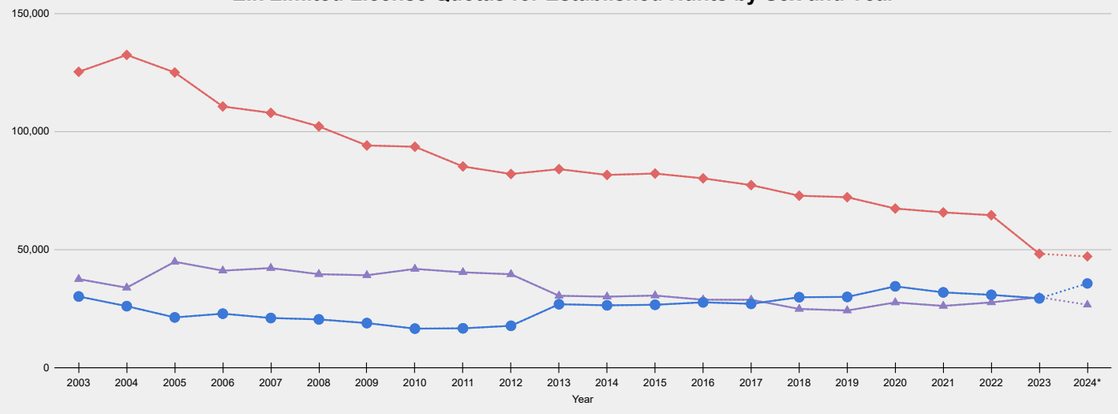
Deer Limited License Quotas for Established Hunts by Sex and Year



	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Female Quota	29,122	32,575	28,962	35,150	37,114	21,881	18,159	17,376	17,723	16,580	17,791	17,343	16,227	17,515	17,470	17,654	18,541	18,833	21,756	21,905	16,531	16,082
Either-sex Quota	14,195	14,483	14,066	15,962	16,458	14,430	14,451	14,767	14,854	14,593	14,941	14,804	14,319	15,069	15,925	16,475	17,175	17,720	18,131	17,979	15,338	14,981
Male Quota	73,425	79,352	76,977	76,145	75,854	60,480	56,210	54,185	52,136	48,640	49,948	50,659	52,658	56,335	58,792	60,726	64,767	64,904	62,620	62,127	57,568	56,961

*Projected Estimate

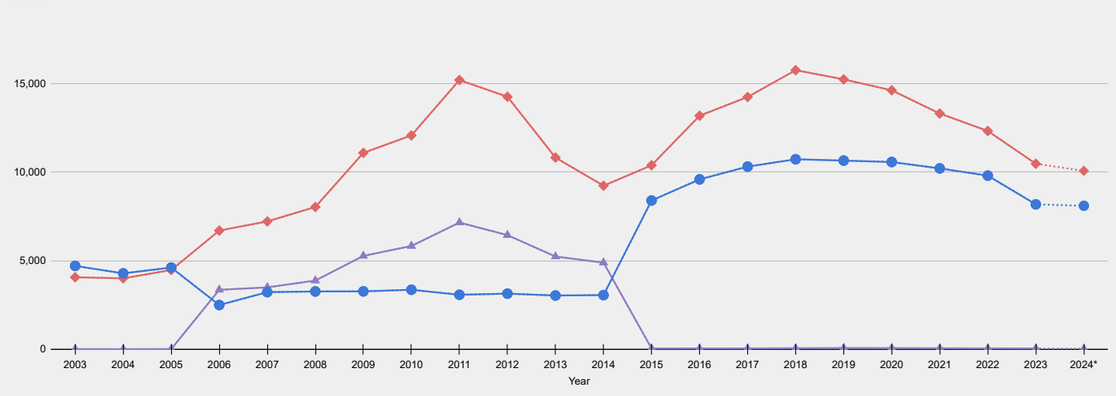
Elk Limited License Quotas for Established Hunts by Sex and Year



	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Female Quota	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	47,137
Either-sex Quota	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	29,854	26,670
Male Quota	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	35,704

*Projected Estimate

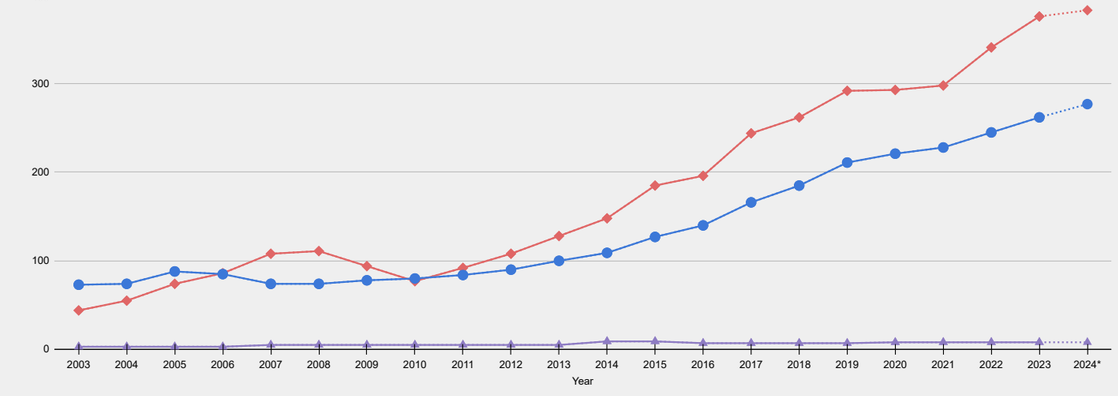
Pronghorn Limited License Quotas for Established Hunts by Sex and Year



	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Female Quota	4,072	4,011	4,481	6,707	7,225	8,041	11,097	12,082	15,209	14,266	10,830	9,241	10,396	13,193	14,253	15,766	15,248	14,630	13,318	12,334	10,481	10,083
Either-sex Quota	15	12	16	3,363	3,500	3,885	5,279	5,838	7,162	6,452	5,242	4,897	50	52	52	62	72	68	59	54	51	41
Male Quota	4,715	4,291	4,619	2,503	3,232	3,270	3,275	3,366	3,083	3,148	3,041	3,064	8,407	9,599	10,320	10,735	10,661	10,580	10,219	9,811	8,190	8,108

*Projected Estimate

Moose Limited License Quotas for Established Hunts by Sex and Year



	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Female Quota	44	55	74	86	108	111	94	77	92	108	128	148	185	196	244	262	292	293	298	341	376	383
Either-sex Quota	3	3	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	9	9	7	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	8
Male Quota	73	74	88	85	74	74	78	80	84	90	100	109	127	140	166	185	211	221	228	245	262	277

*Projected Estimate

2024 BIG GAME LICENSE RECOMMENDATION DEFINITIONS

April 12, 2024

Add-on Black Bear License: Archery and muzzleloader unlimited OTC black bear licenses only available to purchase by hunters who have a deer or elk license for the same manner of take and GMU.

Age Ratio: Number of young-of-the-year per 100 females in a herd. Age ratios are observed during big game surveys and provide an estimate of the number of young that were born in summer and survived until the survey. Age ratios are a measure of herd productivity and are used in population modeling.

Antlered License: A deer, elk, or moose license that is valid for the take of any animal with an antler or antlers of at least five inches in length.

Antlerless License: A deer, elk, or moose license that is valid for the take of any animal without antlers or with antlers of less than five inches in length.

Black Bear Age and Gender Composition: Metrics used as indicators of black bear population trajectory in relation to harvest levels. Harvested black bears are divided into 4 age-sex classes (adult male, adult female, subadult male, and subadult female).

% Adult Male in Harvest: The adult male segment of a population is the first to be reduced under increasing hunter pressure, therefore proportions of adult males (>5 yr old) in the harvest can indicate stability, increase or decrease in the population.

% Female in Harvest: As harvest levels increase and additional adult and sub-adult males are removed, the proportion of females of all ages in the harvest begins to increase. Therefore, proportions of females of all ages in the total harvest can indicate stability, increase or decrease in the population.

% Adult Females in Female Harvest: With increasing harvest, younger females are removed and older females (>5 yr old) become more common in the harvest. Thus, the proportion of adult females in the female harvest should rise with increasing harvest rates, indicating stability, increase or decrease in the population.

Classified Animals: During big game surveys, animals are categorized by age and sex. That is, animals are identified as adult males, adult females and young-of-the-year. These classifications are then used to calculate sex and age ratios.

Concurrent Rifle Season: Limited and unlimited black bear seasons that occur during the regular deer and elk rifle seasons. There are both regular concurrent and PLO concurrent black bear seasons.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD): A fatal neurological disease that attacks the brains of deer, elk and moose.

Data Analysis Unit (DAU): The geographic area that represents the year-round range of a specific big game herd/population. Each DAU is composed of one or more Game Management Units (GMUs). DAUs are used to monitor distinct herds/populations.

Either-sex License: A license that is valid for the take of either male or female animals.

Established Hunts: Ranching for Wildlife and Auction & Raffle hunts or hunts approved annually by PWC.

Game Management Unit (GMU): A defined geographic area that provides a practical framework where management goals can be refined and applied on a finer scale than a DAU, typically through hunting regulations. GMUs are used to monitor hunter distribution.

Leftover Draw: Deer and elk applicants unsuccessful in the primary draw have the first chance at the limited licenses that are remaining after the primary draw by selecting Leftover Draw on their application.

Limited Licenses: A set (limited) number of licenses are available for specific units and dates for each species, and are initially issued through an application and draw process.

Manner of Take: Colorado hunting seasons are based on hunting methods (i.e., archery, muzzleloader and rifle/associated) permissible during each season.

Modeled Estimates: Mathematical models that integrate observed data (e.g., sex ratios, age ratios, population estimates, survival estimates, harvest estimates) are used to estimate the population size and demographic composition of each herd. Estimates derived from these models are referred to as modeled estimates.

Non-Established Hunts: Hunts and quota not specified in regulation and approved by PWC, or Ranching for Wildlife or Auction & Raffle hunts. Non-Established hunts include game damage, dispersal, youth and novice outreach, etc.

Over-the-Counter (OTC) Season: In contrast to limited seasons, licenses in OTC seasons are not available through the draw. They do not require buying/having a qualifying license, do not use preference points and may be purchased any time through the end of the season. Prior to 2020, the number of licenses available in OTC seasons were either unlimited or capped at a predetermined number. Starting in 2020, there are no longer OTC with caps seasons.

Plains Units: GMUs east of Interstate I-25 except unit 140.

Private Land Only (PLO) License: Licenses that are only valid on private land.

Population Estimate: The estimate of the number post-season (winter) animals in a herd. CPW estimates the size of each herd annually based on population models.

Population Objective: The target number of animals in a herd. Population objectives are expressed as ranges and are established in the Herd Management Plan (HMP) for each herd. License numbers and hunting strategies are designed to reach or maintain the population objective of each herd.

Post-hunt: The period after the hunting seasons. Most big game populations are surveyed post-hunt (in the winter), when they are concentrated at lower elevations in open terrain by snow, in order to estimate winter population levels and demographics.

Pre-hunt: The period before the hunting season. Many pronghorn surveys are conducted pre-hunt (in the summer) to estimate summer population levels and demographics.

Primary Draw: The first, main big game draw of the year for hunters applying for limited hunting licenses.

September Rifle Season: Limited rifle black bear seasons that occur during the month of September (before the regular deer and elk rifle seasons). The majority of black bear harvest occurs during these seasons and, therefore, they have the largest effect on black bear management.

Sex Ratio: Number of males per 100 females in a herd. Sex ratios are observed during big game surveys and used in population models. Sex ratio objectives are established for each herd in a Herd Management Plan. Hunting licensing numbers and strategies are established to achieve and maintain these objectives.

Unlimited Licenses: Licenses that are not restricted in number. They are not available through the draw.

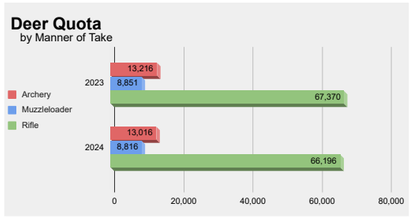
Weighted Average: An average that is calculated taking population size into account, so that larger populations contribute more to the average than smaller populations (i.e., populations influence the average in proportion to their size).

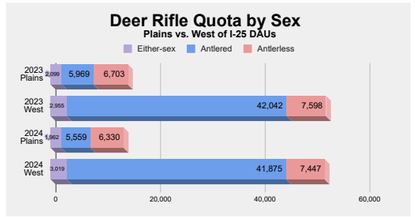
West of I-25 Units: GMUs west of Interstate I-25 and unit 140.

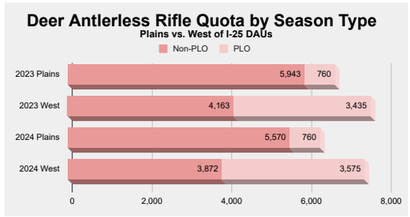
2024 DEER

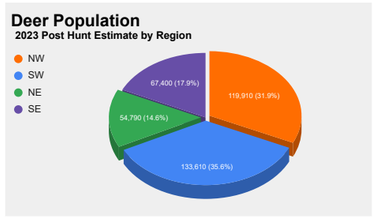
Colorado Parks and Wildlife

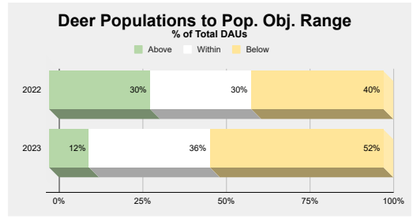
April 12, 2024

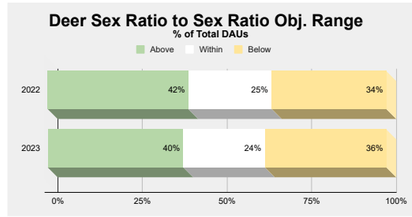












Prevalence

< 1% (Not detected)
1% - 5%
5% - 10%
> 10%

Estimated Population to Population Objective Range

% of Total DAUs

	2022	2023	% Change
Above	30%	12%	-18%
Within	30%	36%	6%
Below	40%	52%	12%

Estimated Sex Ratio to Sex Ratio Objective Range

% of Total DAUs

	2022	2023	% Change
Above	42%	40%	-2%
Within	25%	24%	-1%
Below	34%	36%	2%

			LIMITED ARCHERY SEASONS			LIMITED MUZZLELOADER SEASONS			LIMITED RIFLE SEASONS*																CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD) TESTING				POPULATION OBJECTIVES				MODELED POST-HUNT POPULATIONS			SEX RATIO OBJECTIVES				MODELED POST-HUNT SEX RATIOS					
									ALL LIMITED RIFLE			EITHER-SEX LICENSES			ANTLERED LICENSES			ANTLERLESS LICENSES**			PLO ANTLERLESS RIFLE				Adult Bucks Tested																				
Region	DAU	Units Involved	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	DAU	Mandatory Testing Year(s)	Sample Size	Prevalence (%)	Confidence Interval (%)	2023 Pop. Relative to Obj. Range	2023 Min.	2023 Max.	2023 Target	2022 ESTIMATE	2023 ESTIMATE	2024 PROJECTION	2023 Sex Ratio Relative to Obj. Range	2023 Min.	2023 Max.	2023 Target	2022 ESTIMATE	2023 ESTIMATE	2024 PROJECTION	Number of Animals Classified in 2023***	DAU	Region
NW	01	1, 2, 201	16	16	0%	16	16	0%	106	106	0%	0	0	0%	106	106	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	01	2023	42	5%	1% - 16%	Below	1,500	3,500	3,500	1,090	1,180	1,020	Below	15	25	25	18	12	11	208	01	NW
NW	02	3, 4, 5, 14, 214, 301, 441	510	510	0%	110	110	0%	2,665	2,420	-9%	1,070	1,066	0%	1,490	1,244	-17%	105	110	5%	0	0	0%	02	2023	411	21%	17% - 25%	Below	30,000	40,000	30,000	27,700	18,470	20,300	Within	15	25	25	20	20	22	7,246	02	NW
NW	03	6, 16, 17, 161, 171	185	185	0%	115	115	0%	662	662	0%	0	0	0%	652	652	0%	10	10	0%	10	10	0%	03	2023	117	15%	9% - 23%	Within	4,400	6,400	6,000	5,260	4,550	5,320	Within	30	40	40	37	30	33	327	03	NW
NE	04	7, 8, 9, 19, 191	1,000	1,000	0%	825	825	0%	3,100	3,180	3%	0	0	0%	2,320	2,400	3%	780	780	0%	100	100	0%	04	2022	362	5%	3% - 7%	Within	13,000	15,000	14,000	15,170	14,510	14,090	Above	25	30	28	37	43	42	878	04	NE
NE	05	87, 88, 89, 90, 95	85	70	-18%	80	55	-31%	1,645	1,150	-30%	330	310	-6%	620	360	-42%	695	480	-31%	0	0	0%	05	2023	70	24%	15% - 36%	Below	2,500	3,000	3,000	2,560	1,870	2,010	Below	30	35	35	34	25	32	17	05	NE
NW	06	10	5	10	100%	5	10	100%	27	52	93%	0	0	0%	27	52	93%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	06	2023	15	7%	0% - 32%	Below	1,500	3,500	1,500	700	790	780	Above	15	25	25	33	35	34	636	06	NW
NW	07	11, 12, 13, 22, 23, 24, 131, 211, 231	525	525	0%	305	305	0%	2,882	2,882	0%	868	868	0%	1,930	1,930	0%	84	84	0%	0	0	0%	07	2022	1,144	24%	21% - 26%	Below	25,000	35,000	30,000	21,640	18,610	19,430	Within	18	25	20	21	20	22	5,861	07	NW
NW	08	15, 35, 36, 45	350	350	0%	425	505	19%	2,825	3,225	14%	105	105	0%	2,320	2,320	0%	400	800	100%	0	0	0%	08	2022	442	3%	2% - 6%	Within	10,000	14,000	12,000	13,670	13,110	13,050	Below	26	30	28	21	24	24	4,586	08	NW
NW	09	18, 27, 28, 37, 181, 371	510	255	-50%	535	220	-59%	3,325	1,395	-58%	75	35	-53%	2,665	1,320	-50%	585	40	-93%	0	0	0%	09	2022	312	8%	5% - 12%	Below	10,500	14,000	12,500	9,930	7,540	8,260	Below	30	35	32	28	23	32	795	09	NW
NE	10	20	300	300	0%	120	120	0%	2,085	2,035	-2%	0	0	0%	1,505	1,505	0%	580	530	-9%	550	500	-9%	10	2022	212	8%	5% - 13%	Below	8,000	10,000	9,000	7,470	7,670	7,790	Above	25	30	25	40	38	38	776	10	NE
NW	11	21, 30	135	135	0%	25	25	0%	575	585	2%	0	0	0%	555	565	2%	20	20	0%	0	0	0%	11	2023	260	3%	1% - 5%	Within	5,000	8,000	7,000	7,960	7,840	8,120	Above	27	32	30	31	35	29	1,125	11	NW
NW	12	41, 42, 421	410	410	0%	260	260	0%	1,700	1,750	3%	0	0	0%	1,680	1,730	3%	20	20	0%	0	0	0%	12	2023	434	5%	3% - 8%	Below	17,000	23,000	20,000	17,180	16,830	16,320	Within	25	30	27.5	25	28	22	2,473	12	NW
NW	13	43, 47, 471	180	180	0%	180	180	0%	665	665	0%	50	50	0%	575	575	0%	40	40	0%	0	0	0%	13	2023	122	2%	1% - 7%	Below	7,000	9,000	7,000	4,900	5,790	5,690	Within	27	32	29.5	22	27	29	1,507	13	NW
NW	14	44	65	80	23%	70	85	21%	190	190	0%	20	20	0%	120	120	0%	50	50	0%	0	0	0%	14	2023	26	0%	0% - 13%	Within	1,500	3,500	2,500	2,230	2,480	2,500	Within	35	45	40	38	41	41	1,302	14	NW
SE	15	48, 56, 481, 561	200	200	0%	110	110	0%	670	670	0%	0	0	0%	560	560	0%	110	110	0%	90	90	0%	15	2020	94	0%	0% - 4%	Below	6,300	7,700	7,000	4,100	3,520	3,030	Below	30	35	30	26	23	14	186	15	SE
SE	16	49, 57, 58, 581	330	330	0%	175	175	0%	1,490	1,490	0%	0	0	0%	1,350	1,350	0%	140	140	0%	100	100	0%	16	2020	302	0%	0% - 1%	Below	16,000	20,000	18,000	13,120	12,640	12,630	Below	30	35	30	31	29	30	1,026	16	SE
NE	17	39, 46, 51, 391, 461	530	480	-9%	295	275	-7%	2,110	1,835	-13%	0	0	0%	1,480	1,305	-12%	630	530	-16%	525	455	-13%	17	2022	275	3%	1% - 5%	Below	7,500	8,300	7,900	8,310	6,800	6,700	Above	20	30	25	37	32	30	613	17	NE
NW	18	40	70	70	0%	30	30	0%	284	284	0%	0	0	0%	284	284	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	18	2023	107	1%	0% - 5%	Below	4,300	6,500	4,300	3,800	3,940	3,870	Within	30	40	35	28	32	28	591	18	NW
SW	19	61, 62	250	250	0%	170	170	0%	1,380	1,380	0%	100	100	0%	1,260	1,260	0%	20	20	0%	20	20	0%	19	2022	278	14%	10% - 19%	Below	36,000	38,000	36,000	10,340	11,210	11,200	Below	34	36	34	33	32	32	935	19	SW
SW	20	53,63	100	100	0%	45	45	0%	695	735	6%	0	0	0%	605	605	0%	90	130	44%	90	130	44%	20	2020	191	0%	0% - 2%	Within	7,500	9,500	9,500	8,750	8,690	9,460	Above	33	38	35	41	40	43	1,702	20	SW
SW	23	60	50	50	0%	10	10	0%	235	255	9%	0	0	0%	225	235	4%	10	20	100%	10	20	100%	23	2020	15	27%	8% - 55%	Below	2,500	3,000	2,500	1,530	1,710	1,690	Above	25	30	30	32	32	30		23	SW
SW	24	70, 71, 711	245	270	10%	140	155	11%	1,865	2,060	10%	0	0	0%	1,835	2,030	11%	30	30	0%	30	30	0%	24	2020	424	3%	2% - 5%	Above	15,000	19,000	17,000	17,650	20,980	23,990	Above	23	28	25	24	29	35	1,879	24	SW
SW	26	68, 681, 682	115	115	0%	115	115	0%	555	555	0%	0	0	0%	555	555	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	26	2020	130	0%	0% - 3%	Below	5,500	6,500	6,000	5,460	5,390	5,390	Within	26	29	28	29	27	27	963	26	SW
NE	27	29, 38	350	300	-14%	180	180	0%	2,395	2,155	-10%	220	220	0%	1,335	1,335	0%	840	600	-29%	325	325	0%	27	2022	111	20%	13% - 28%	Within	6,000	7,500	7,000	7,690	6,110	6,210	Above	25	30	27	55	50	50	445	27	NE
SE	28	122, 125, 126, 127, 130, 132, 137, 138, 139,	675	590	-13%	170	155	-9%	1,455	1,340	-8%	370	330	-11%	665	590	-11%	420	420	0%	0	0	0%	28	2019	262	9%	6% - 13%	Within	6,000	8,000	7,000	6,370	6,800	7,270	Below	30	35	33	25	24	25	1,138	28	SE
SW	29	72, 73	145	145	0%	120	120	0%	1,250	1,350	8%	0	0	0%	1,070	1,070	0%	180	280	56%	180	280	56%	29	2020	175	2%	1% - 6%	Above	5,500	7,000	7,000	8,720	9,470	9,930	Above	23	28	25	30	30	32	613	29	SW
SW	30	75, 77, 78, 751, 771	525	600	14%	450	540	20%	3,240	3,825	18%	0	0	0%	2,815	3,250	15%	425	575	35%	285	345	21%	30	2020	578	0%	0% - 1%	Within	23,000	27,000	25,000	22,740	24,700	24,830	Above	26	30	28	32	34	33	1,239	30	SW
SE	32	85, 140, 851	190	190	0%	70	70	0%	1,075	1,074	0%	0	0	0%	950	949	0%	125	125	0%	125	125	0%	32	2019	209	0%	0% - 3%	Within	9,800	10,800	10,000	9,820	9,860	9,110	Above	25	29	27	38	39	34	1,024	32	SE
SE	33	143, 144, 145	25	25	0%	25	25	0%	330	330	0%	25	25	0%	195	195	0%	110	110	0%	25	25	0%	33	2019-20	137	0%	0% - 3%	Below	2,000	3,500	2,750	2,750	1,950	1,950	Within	20	50	35	50	50	40		33	SE
SE	34	69, 84, 86, 691, 861	335	335	0%	280	280	0%	2,080	2,225	7%	0	0	0%	1,875	1,875	0%	205	350	71%	130	250	92%	34	2019	396	0%	0% - 1%	Below	16,500	17,500	17,000	13,670	14,040	14,010	Above	20	25	23	31	32	30	1,481	34	SE
SW	35	80, 81	250	260	4%	200	210	5%	650	690	6%	0	0	0%	650	650	0%	0	40	100%	0	0	0%	35	2020	146	0%	0% - 2%	Above	5,500	6,500	6,000	6,820	6,720	6,670	Above	23	25	25	30	30	29	1,135	35	SW
SW	36	76, 79, 791	35	35	0%	45	45	0%	330	330	0%	0	0	0%	255	255	0%	75	75	0%	75	75	0%	36	2020	75	0%	0% - 5%	Within	2,200	2,800	2,500	2,630	2,750	2,760	Above	23	28	26	30	30	30	923	36	SW
NE	38	50, 500, 501	200	185	-8%	115	80	-30%	575	450	-22%	0	0	0%	455	380	-16%	120	70	-42%	0	0	0%	38	2020	145	1%	0% - 4%	Within	2,500	3,100	2,800	3,450	3,050	3,060	Within	25	30	28	27	29	29	483	38	NE
SW	40	64, 65	165	165	0%	85	85	0%	880	830	-6%	50	50	0%	830	780	-6%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	40	2022	205	4%	2% - 8%	Below	6,500	8,500	8,500	5,850	6,480	6,480	Below	25	30	25	22	21	21	417	40	SW
NW	41	31, 32	135	135	0%	100	100	0%	485	485	0%	0	0	0%	485	485	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	41	2023	134	7%	3% - 12%	Below	6,500	8,500	7,500	4,170	3,880	3,760	Below	25	30	27	20	18	11	1,168	41	NW
NW	42	33	150	150	0%	160	160	0%	1,130	1,130	0%	0	0	0%	970	970	0%	160	160	0%	160	160	0%	42	2022	156	9%	5% - 15%	Below	6,200	8,200	7,200	6,210	5,340	5,240	Below	25	32	29	27	20	15	695	42	NW
NW	43	25, 26, 34	210	320	52%	240	390	63%	1,919	2,941	53%	147	185	26%	1,575	2,370	50%	197	386	96%	0	0	0%	43	2022	193	7%	4% - 11%	Within	4,000	6,000	6,000	5,200	5,700	5,440	Within	18	25	21.5	23	23	14	1,810	43	NW
NE	44	91, 92, 94, 96, 951	405	405	0%	235	235	0%	2,060	2,115	3%	0	0	0%	835	860	3%	1,225	1,255	2%	575	575	0%	44	2023	115	26%	18% - 35%	Within	3,500	4,000	4,000	3,690	3,730	3,970	Above	30	35	35	38	38	24	1,535	44	NE
SE	45	128, 129, 133, 134, 135, 136, 141, 142, 147	280	280	0%	85	85	0%	661	651	-2%	64	62	-3%	344	339	-1%	253	250	-1%	0	0	0%	45	2019-20	131	1%	0% - 4%	Below	3,400	3,400	3,400	3,290	3,190	3,310	Below	70	70	70	27	28	31		45	SE
SE	46	107, 112, 113, 114, 115, 120, 121	300	300	0%	215	215	0%	1,295	1,295	0%	300	300	0%	530	530	0%	465	465	0%	0	0	0%	46	2019	206	18%	13% - 24%	Above	2,500	2,500	2,500	4,320	4,460	4,780	Below	50	50	50	37	42	43	20	46	SE
SE	47	103, 109, 116, 117	375	375	0%	380	380	0%	1,540	1,540	0%	320	320	0%	570	570	0%	650	650	0%	100	100	0%	47	2019	169	26%	20% - 33%	Above	2,000	2,000	2,000	3,320	3,860	3,720	Below	40	40	40	35	33	28	105	47	SE
SE	48	110, 111, 118, 119, 123, 124	345	345	0%	225	225	0%	695	695	0%	90	90	0%	355	355	0%	250	250	0%	0	0	0%	48	2019-20	195	6%	3% - 10%	Above	1,800	1,800	1,800	3,370	3,250	3,510	Below	45	45	45	11	18	15		48	SE
NE	49	104, 105, 106	700	700	0%	260	255	-2%	2,325	2,185	-6%	100	100	0%	945	870	-8%	1,280	1,215	-5%	0	0	0%	49	2019	278	10%	7% - 15%	Below	5,500	6,500	6,000	6,610	5,110	5,340	Above	30	35	33	47	44	40	884	49	NE
SE	50	59, 511, 512, 591	175	175	0%	90	90	0%	635	635	0%	0	0	0%	473	473	0%	162	162	0%	80	80	0%	50	2019-20	316	5%	3% - 8%	Below	4,000	5,000	4,500	3,770	3,830	3,800	Below	35	40	37.5	31	29	29	48	50	SE
SW	51	52, 411, 521	130	140	8%	80	90	13%	1,780	1,905	7%	100	170	70%	1,230	1,355	10%	450	380	-16%	450	380	-16%	51	2020-21	381	7%	5% - 10%	Within	8,000	10,000	10,000	9,150	9,210	9,950	Above	25	30	27	36	34	33	704	51	SW
SW	52	74, 741	135	135	0%	105	105	0%	570	570	0%	0	0	0%	530	530	0%	40	40	0%	40	40	0%	52	2020	95	0%	0% - 4%	Within	4,000	6,000	6,000	4,580	4,690	4,570	Within	25	30	30	24	29	29	365	52	SW
NW	53	444	120	120	0%	85	70	-18%	600	540	-10%	150	150	0%	370	370	0%	80	20	-75%	0	0	0%	53	2023	96	0%	0% - 4%	Below	4,000	6,000	5,000	4,110	3,860	4,210	Below	32	40	36	33	28	24	474	53	NW
NE	54	93, 97, 98, 99, 100	155	155	0%	180	180	0%	2,020	1,870	-7%	300	250	-17%	685	685	0%	1,035	935	-10%	0	0	0%	54	2023	144	37%	29% - 45%	Within	3,500	4,000	4,000	3,800	3,680	3,780	Above	30	35	35	35	35	34	72	54	NE
NE	55	101, 102	90	90	0%	90	90	0%	745	680	-9%	200	175	-13%	225	205	-9%	320	300	-6%	60	60	0%	55	2023	89	40%	30% - 51%	Below	2,300	2,700	2,700	2,230	2,260	2,420	Below	35	40	35	35	30	35	571	55	NE
SW	56	82, 83	65	65	0%	70	70	0%	440	440	0%	0	0	0%	440	440	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	56						Below	4,300	5,500	4,500	4,200	3,100	3,080	Below	30	35	35	34	28	27	939	56	SW
SW	57	54, 55, 551	385	405	5%	350	370	6%	2,470	2,355	-5%	0	0	0%	1,635	1,635	0%	835	720	-14%	60	60	0%	57						Within	17,000	20,000	20,000	18,900	18,510	18,480	Above	35	40	37.5	47	47	47	6,892	57	SW
		STATEWIDE TOTALS	13,216	13,016	-2%	8,851	8,816	0%	67,370	66,196	-2%	5,058	4,985	-1%	48,011	47,434	-1%	14,301	13,777	-4%	4,195	4,335	3%								405,500	510,700	458,850	391,940	375,710	384,280		28	34	31	29	30	31	60,812		

positive % change = increase in licenses

negative % change = decrease in licenses

Plains DAUs

Quotas for 2023 and Estimates for 2022 in DAUs 56 and 57 are the combined values for DAUs 31 & 37 and 21, 22, & 25 respectively

* Rifle license numbers include regular rifle, Ranching for Wildlife, PLO, early rifle, late rifle, and Season Choice seasons

** Includes PLO Antlerless licenses

*** Number of Animals Classified includes both flight & ground surveys

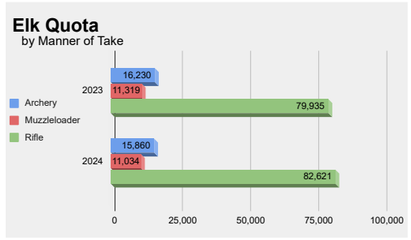
Plains DAUs

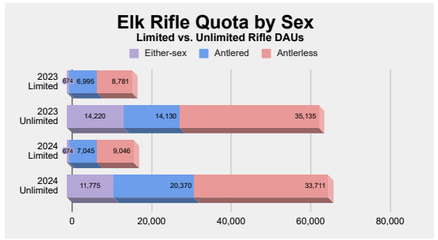
Region DAU Units Involved | 2023 LICENSES | 2024 LICENSES | 2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE | 2023 LICENSES | 2024 LICENSES | 2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE | 2023 LICENSES | 2024 LICENSES | 2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE | 2023 LICENSES | 2024 LICENSES | 2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE | 2023 LICENSES | 2024 LICENSES | 2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE | 2023 LICENSES | 2024 LICENSES | 2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE | 2023 LICENSES | 2024 LICENSES | 2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE | DAU | Mandatory Testing Year(s) | Sample Size | Prevalence (%) | Confidence Interval (%) | 2023 Pop. Relative to Obj. Range | 2023 Min. | 2023 Max. | 2023 Target | 2022 ESTIMATE | 2023 ESTIMATE | 2024 PROJECTION | 2023 Sex Ratio Relative to Obj. Range | 2023 Min. | 2023 Max. | 2023 Target | 2022 ESTIMATE | 2023 ESTIMATE | 2024 PROJECTION | Number of Animals Classified in 2023*** | DAU | Region

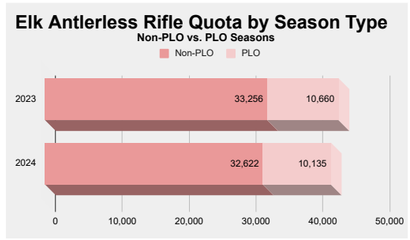
LIMITED ARCHERY SEASONS | LIMITED MUZZLELOADER SEASONS | LIMITED RIFLE SEASONS* | ALL LIMITED RIFLE | EITHER-SEX LICENSES | ANTLERED LICENSES | ANTLERLESS LICENSES** | PLO ANTLERLESS RIFLE | CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD) TESTING | POPULATION OBJECTIVES | MODELED POST-HUNT POPULATIONS | SEX RATIO OBJECTIVES | MODELED POST-HUNT SEX RATIOS

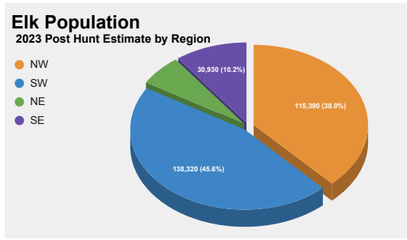
2024 ELK

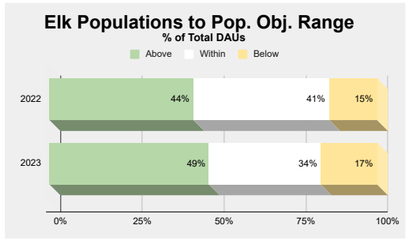
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
April 12, 2024





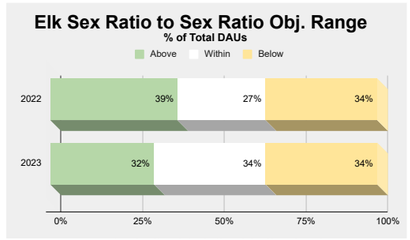






Estimated Population to Population Objective Range
% of Total DAUs

	2022	2023	% Change
Above	44%	49%	5%
Within	41%	34%	-7%
Below	15%	17%	2%



Estimated Sex Ratio to Sex Ratio Objective Range
% of Total DAUs

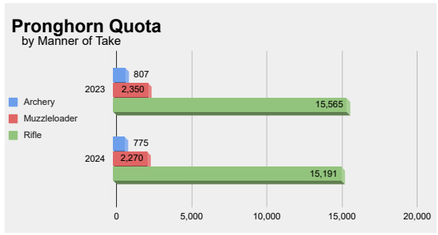
	2022	2023	% Change
Above	39%	32%	-7%
Within	27%	34%	7%
Below	34%	34%	0%

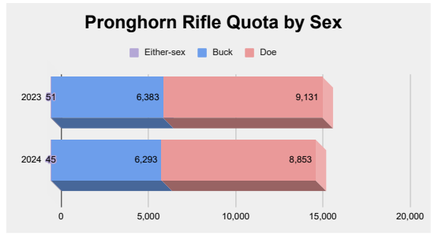
| | | | LIMITED ARCHERY SEASONS | | | LIMITED MUZZLELOADER SEASONS | | | LIMITED RIFLE SEASONS* | | |

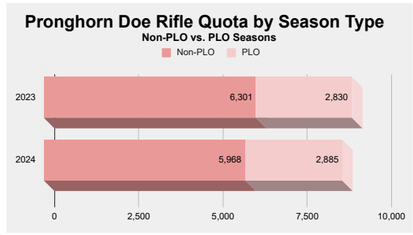
2024 PRONGHORN

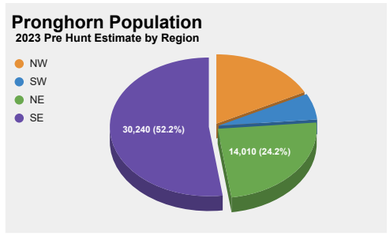
Colorado Parks and Wildlife

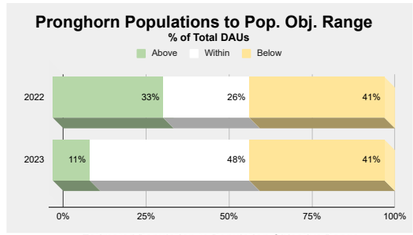
April 12, 2024

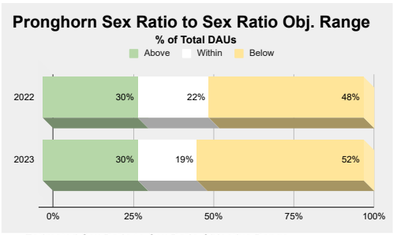












Estimated Population to Population Objective Range
% of Total DAUs

	2022	2023	% Change
Above	33%	11%	-22%
Within	26%	48%	22%
Below	41%	41%	0%

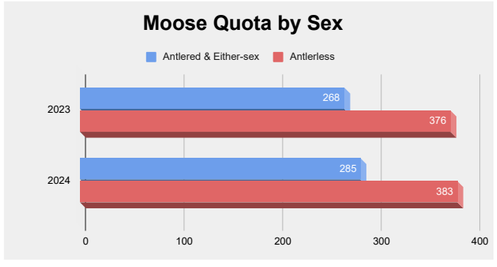
Estimated Sex Ratio to Sex Ratio Objective Range
% of Total DAUs

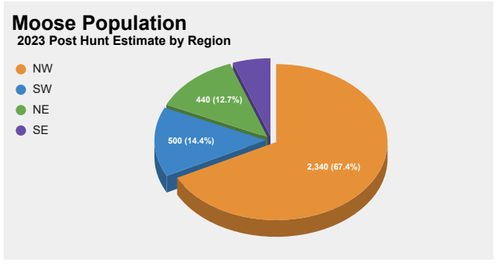
	2022	2023	% Change
Above	30%	30%	0%
Within	22%	19%	-4%
Below	48%	52%	4%

| | | | LIMITED ARCHERY SEASONS | | | LIMITED MUZZLELOADER SEASONS | | | LIMITED RIFLE SEASONS* | | |

2024 MOOSE

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
April 12, 2024





			ANTLERED & EITHER-SEX SEASONS						ANTLERLESS SEASONS						TOTAL LICENSES FOR ALL SEASONS							POPULATION OBJECTIVES				MODELED POST-HUNT POPULATIONS			POST-HUNT SEX RATIO OBJECTIVES				MODELED POST-HUNT SEX RATIOS				
			Nonresident Licenses			Resident Licenses*			Nonresident Licenses			Resident Licenses*			Antlered & Either-sex			Antlerless																		
Region	DAU	Units Involved	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	DAU	2023 Pop. Relative to Pop. Obj. Range	Minimum	Maximum	Target	2022 ESTIMATE	2023 ESTIMATE	2024 PROJECTION	2023Sex Ratio Relative to Obj. Range	Minimum	Maximum	Target	2022 ESTIMATE	2023 ESTIMATE	Number of Animals Classified in 2023**	DAU	Region
NW	01	6, 16, 17, 161, 171	5	5	0%	64	66	3%	12	10	-17%	100	102	2%	69	71	3%	112	112	0%	01	Above	500	600	550	690	670	650	Above	60	70	65	76	73	280	01	NW
NE	02	7, 8, 19, 191	3	3	0%	20	20	0%	6	6	0%	44	39	-11%	23	23	0%	50	45	-10%	02	Within	200	250	225	250	200	90	Above	70	85	75	154	187		02	NE
NW	03	15, 18, 27, 28, 36, 37, 181, 361, 371	7	7	0%	51	51	0%	9	8	-11%	65	66	2%	58	58	0%	74	74	0%	03	Above	190	190	190	360	420	380	Below	65	65	65	29	47	86	03	NW
SW	04	65, 66, 67, 68, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 681, 682, 711, 741, 751, 771, 791	3	2	-33%	21	25	19%	0	1	100%	11	10	-9%	24	27	13%	11	11	0%	04	Within	400	500	450	480	500	510	Below	55	65	60	50	50		04	SW
NW	05	41, 42, 43, 52, 53, 54, 63, 64, 411, 421, 521	2	2	0%	15	16	7%	3	3	0%	29	30	3%	17	18	6%	32	33	3%	05	Above	300	400	400	840	840	810	Above	55	65	60	57	161	70	05	NW
NW	06	12, 13, 23, 24, 25, 26, 33, 34, 35, 131, 231	1	1	0%	8	8	0%	1	2	100%	17	18	6%	9	9	0%	18	20	11%	06	Within	100	200	150	150	150	140	Within	50	50	50	50	50	34	06	NW
NE	07	20, 29, 38	0	0	0%	9	10	11%	2	2	0%	23	24	4%	9	10	11%	25	26	4%	07	Within	90	90	90	150	90	120	Within	80	80	80	100	80		07	NE
NE	08	39, 46, 49, 60, 391, 500, 501	2	3	50%	17	20	18%	2	3	50%	29	34	17%	19	23	21%	31	37	19%	08	Within	150	150	150	230	150	100	Below	65	65	65	100			08	NE
NW	09	4, 5, 14, 214, 441	2	2	0%	18	23	28%	2	2	0%	13	13	0%	20	25	25%	15	15	0%	09	Above	40	100	80	150	180	140	Above	50	80	70	74	127	105	09	NW
NW	10	1, 201	0	0	0%	1	1	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	1	1	0%	0	0	0%	10	Above	15	15	15	20	20	10	Below	100	100	100	50	50		10	NW
NW	11	44, 45, 47, 444, 471	1	1	0%	4	5	25%	0	0	0%	3	5	67%	5	6	20%	3	5	67%	11	Within	30	60	45	40	60	70	Within	0	100	65	109	82	30	11	NW
SE	12	48, 55, 56, 471, 481, 551, 561	0	1	100%	11	10	-9%	0	0	0%	2	2	0%	11	11	0%	2	2	0%	12	Within	110	110	110	110	110	100	Within	50	50	50	50	50		12	SE
SE	14	51, 59, 511, 512, 581, 591	0	0	0%	3	3	0%	0	0	0%	3	3	0%	3	3	0%	3	3	0%	14	Below	125	125	125	80	80	70	Within	65	65	65	133	65			SE
		STATEWIDE TOTALS	26	27	4%	242	258	7%	37	37	0%	339	346	2%	268	285	6%	376	383	2%			2,250	2,790	2,580	3,550	3,470	3,190		59	68	64	71	92	605		

positive % change = increase in licenses
negative % change = decrease in licenses

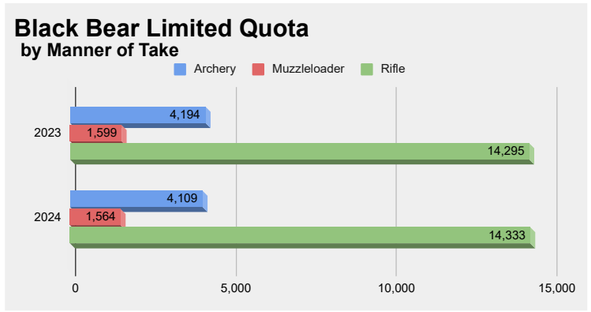
*Ranching for Wildlife quota are included in resident licenses
**Number of Animals Classified includes both flight & ground surveys

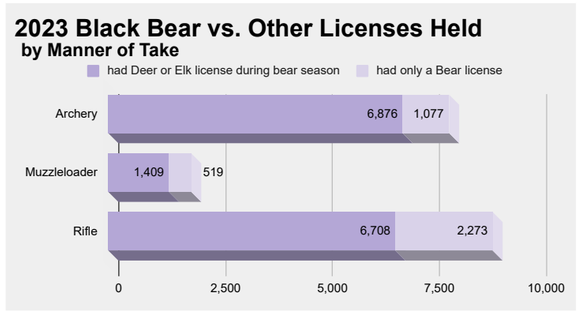
Region	DAU	Units Involved	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 PERCENT CHANGE	DAU	2023 Pop. Relative to Pop. Obj. Range	Minimum	Maximum	Target	2022 ESTIMATE	2023 ESTIMATE	2024 PROJECTION	2023Sex Ratio Relative to Obj. Range	Minimum	Maximum	Target	2022 ESTIMATE	2023 ESTIMATE	Number of Animals Classified in 2023**	DAU	Region
			Nonresident Licenses			Resident Licenses*			Nonresident Licenses			Resident Licenses*			Antlered & Either-sex			Antlerless																		
			ANTLERED & EITHER-SEX SEASONS						ANTLERLESS SEASONS						TOTAL LICENSES FOR ALL SEASONS							POPULATION OBJECTIVES				MODELED POST-HUNT POPULATIONS			POST-HUNT SEX RATIO OBJECTIVES				MODELED POST-HUNT SEX RATIOS				

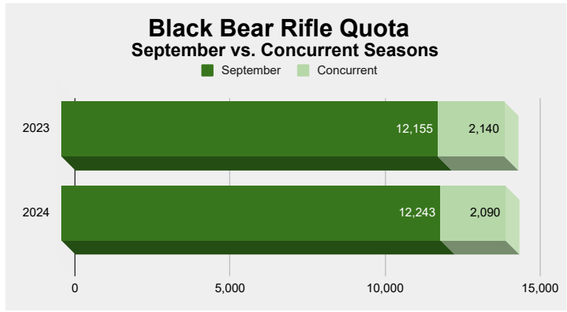
2024 BEAR

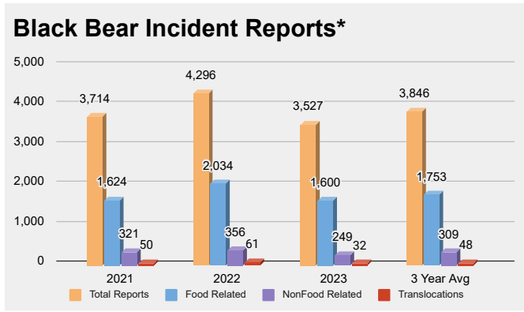
Colorado Parks and Wildlife

April 12, 2024









*The 2020-2024 Big Game Season Structure created unlimited OTC black bear licenses in DAUs which have a management strategy of reducing bear populations and where harvest objectives are not being met.

* Each incident report may be counted in more than one category.

				HAS UNLIMITED OTC SEASONS				LIMITED ARCHERY SEASONS			LIMITED MUZZLELOADER SEASONS			LIMITED RIFLE SEASONS						2024 PREDICTED		3 YEAR (2021-2023) AVERAGE		2020-2022 AGE/GENDER COMPOSITION				
				ARCHERY, MUZZLELOADER, & CONCURRENT RIFLE		PRIVATE LAND ONLY (PLO)								SEPTEMBER RIFLE ***			CONCURRENT RIFLE							% IN HARVEST				
Region	DAU	Units Involved	DAU Management Goal	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 CHANGE	2023 LICENSES	2024 LICENSES	2023-2024 CHANGE	HARVEST	TOTAL MORTALITY	HARVEST	TOTAL MORTALITY	ADULT MALE	FEMALES	ADULT FEMALES IN FEMALE HARVEST	DAU	Region
NW	01	21, 22, 30, 31, 32	Slight Decrease	YES	YES	YES	YES	175	175	0%	60	60	0%	775	775	0%	0	0	0%	73	93	63	83	23%	41%	52%	01	NW
SE	02	58, 59, 511, 512, 581, 591	Stable following Decrease	no	no	YES	YES	175	175	0%	70	70	0%	170	170	0%	175	175	0%	26	53	26	53	17%	54%	62%	02	SE
NE	03	7, 8, 9, 19, 20, 29, 38, 191	Stable	no	no	YES	YES	130	130	0%	55	55	0%	225	225	0%	320	320	0%	27	54	28	54	21%	39%	55%	03	NE
NW	04	4, 5, 6, 14, 16, 17, 161, 171, 214, 441	Decrease	YES	YES	YES	YES	300	300	0%	100	100	0%	1,200	1,200	0%	0	0	0%	93	131	95	131	15%	45%	50%	04	NW
SW	05	40, 60, 61, 62, 64, 65, 70	Decrease	mixed	mixed	YES	YES	430	430	0%	140	140	0%	1,310	1,250	-5%	10	10	0%	167	199	173	205	30%	38%	62%	05	SW
SW	06	71, 72, 73, 74, 711, 741	Decrease	YES	YES	YES	YES	120	120	0%	35	35	0%	780	780	0%	0	0	0%	94	110	97	113	32%	38%	63%	06	SW
SE	07	69, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 140, 691, 851, 861	Stable following Decrease	no	no	YES	YES	154	154	0%	69	69	0%	323	678	110%	260	320	23%	110	160	156	207	27%	40%	61%	07	SE
NW	10	12, 13, 23, 24, 25, 26, 33, 34, 131, 231	Slight Decrease	YES	YES	YES	YES	510	510	0%	150	150	0%	1,340	1,340	0%	0	0	0%	149	265	128	242	15%	42%	48%	10	NW
NW	11	35, 36, 43, 44, 45, 47, 444, 471	Stable	no	no	YES	YES	570	485	-15%	270	235	-13%	1,370	1,165	-15%	720	610	-15%	107	152	111	155	20%	41%	57%	11	NW
SW	12	54, 55, 66, 67, 551	Stable	no	no	no	no	160	160	0%	120	120	0%	190	190	0%	130	130	0%	20	23	18	20	33%	33%	50%	12	SW
SW	13	68, 76, 79, 80, 81, 681, 682, 791	Stable	no	no	no	no	140	140	0%	60	60	0%	250	250	0%	110	110	0%	17	21	15	18	44%	33%	67%	13	SW
SE	14	48, 49, 56, 57, 481, 561	Stable	no	no	YES	YES	110	110	0%	45	45	0%	250	250	0%	240	240	0%	9	15	10	16	30%	30%	67%	14	SE
NW	15	1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 201, 211, 301	Stable	no	no	no	no	95	95	0%	40	40	0%	177	175	-1%	175	175	0%	12	16	11	15	20%	33%	40%	15	NW
NW	16	15, 18, 27, 28, 37, 181, 371	Slight Decrease	YES	YES	YES	YES	150	150	0%	50	50	0%	200	200	0%	0	0	0%	63	79	64	79	23%	37%	54%	16	NW
NW	17	41, 42, 52, 53, 63, 411, 421, 521	Decrease	YES	YES	YES	YES	700	700	0%	200	200	0%	2,500	2,500	0%	0	0	0%	287	349	268	330	18%	41%	54%	17	NW
SW	18	75, 77, 78, 751, 771	Decrease	YES	YES	YES	YES	125	125	0%	45	45	0%	700	700	0%	0	0	0%	132	148	130	146	26%	38%	65%	18	SW
NE	19	39, 46, 50, 51, 104, 391, 461, 500, 501	Decrease	YES	YES	YES	YES	150	150	0%	90	90	0%	395	395	0%	0	0	0%	16	46	18	48	15%	35%	57%	19	NE
ALL	99	eastern plains units not in a DAU	None	YES	YES	no	no			0%			0%	0	0	0%			0%	10	20	10	20	33%	33%	67%	99	ALL
			STATEWIDE TOTALS					4,194	4,109	-2%	1,599	1,564	-2%	12,155	12,243	1%	2,140	2,090	-2%	1,402	1,914	1,411	1,915					

DAUs with OTC Archery, Muzzleloader, & Concurrent Rifle Licenses

positive % change = increase in licenses
negative % change = decrease in licenses

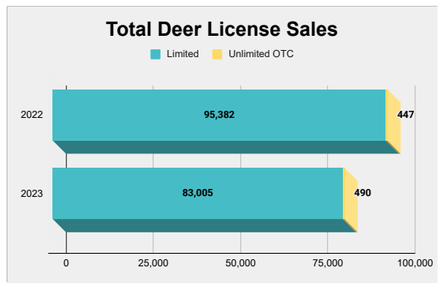
***Limited September rifle numbers include early rifle and Ranching for Wildlife seasons

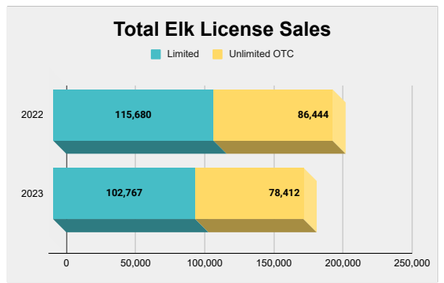
Harvest Composition Monitoring Standards			
Decreasing	<25%	>40%	>55%
Stable	25-35%	30-40%	45-55%
Increasing	> 35%	< 30%	< 45%

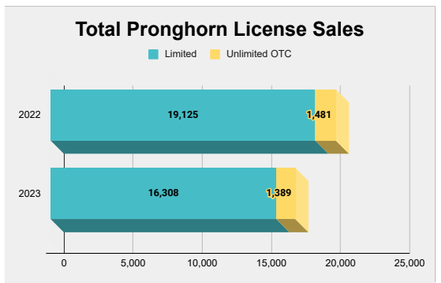
2022-2023 BIG GAME LICENSE SALES COMPARISON BY LICENSE TYPE*

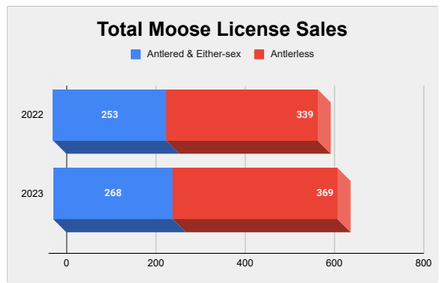
* Includes license sales for both established and non-established hunts

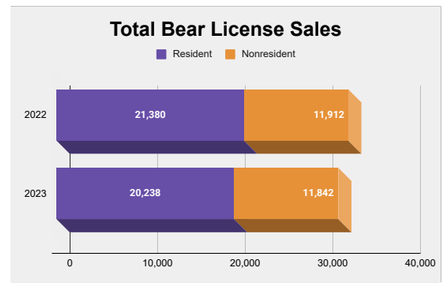
April 12, 2024











DEER

License Type	TOTAL Licenses Sold 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	ARCHERY SEASONS Licenses Sold 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	MUZZLELOADER SEASONS Licenses Sold 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	ALL RIFLE SEASONS * Licenses Sold: TOTAL RIFLE 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	EITHER-SEX ONLY RIFLE 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	ANTLERED ONLY RIFLE 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	ANTLERLESS ONLY RIFLE 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	LIMITED LICENSE DRAWS Applications Submitted: PRIMARY DRAW 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	SECONDARY DRAW 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	License Type
Limited *	95,382	83,005	-13%	12,790	12,129	-5%	8,176	7,718	-6%	74,416	63,158	-15%	6,014	4,286	-29%	50,070	45,623	-9%	18,332	13,249	-28%	217,937	226,240	4%	21,076	22,712	8%	Limited *
Unlimited	447	490	10%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	447	490	10%	447	490	10%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%							Unlimited
Total	95,829	83,495	-13%	12,790	12,129	-5%	8,176	7,718	-6%	74,863	63,648	-15%	6,461	4,776	-26%	50,070	45,623	-9%	18,332	13,249	-28%	217,937	226,240	4%	21,076	22,712	8%	Total

*Rifle license numbers include all rifle and Season Choice seasons

ELK

License Type	TOTAL Licenses Sold 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	ARCHERY SEASONS Licenses Sold 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	MUZZLELOADER SEASONS Licenses Sold 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	ALL RIFLE SEASONS * Licenses Sold: TOTAL RIFLE 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	EITHER-SEX ONLY RIFLE 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	ANTLERED ONLY RIFLE 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	ANTLERLESS ONLY RIFLE 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	LIMITED LICENSE DRAWS Applications Submitted: PRIMARY DRAW 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	SECONDARY DRAW 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	License Type
Limited *	115,680	102,767	-11%	12,824	16,093	25%	11,268	10,960	-2.7%	91,588	75,714	-17%	13,657	12,893	-6%	21,659	20,016	-8%	56,272	42,805	-24%	237,959	247,015	4%	23,325	25,585	9.7%	Limited *
Unlimited	86,444	78,412	-9%	32,002	27,294	-15%	0	0	0%	54,442	51,118	-6%	1,783	1,858	4%	52,659	49,260	-6%	0	0	0%							Unlimited
Total	202,124	181,179	-10%	44,826	43,387	-3%	11,268	10,960	-3%	146,030	126,832	0	15,440	14,751	0.0	74,318	69,276	-7%	56,272	42,805	-24%	237,959	247,015	4%	23,325	25,585	10%	Total

*Rifle license numbers include all rifle and Season Choice seasons

PRONGHORN

License Type	TOTAL Licenses Sold 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	ARCHERY SEASONS Licenses Sold 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	MUZZLELOADER SEASONS Licenses Sold 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	ALL RIFLE SEASONS * Licenses Sold: TOTAL RIFLE 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	EITHER-SEX ONLY RIFLE 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	ANTLERED ONLY RIFLE 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	ANTLERLESS ONLY RIFLE 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	LIMITED LICENSE DRAWS Applications Submitted: PRIMARY DRAW 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	SECONDARY DRAW 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	License Type
Limited *	19,125	16,308	-15%	859	720	-16%	1,944	2,074	6.7%	16,322	13,514	-17%	80	80	0%	7,267	5,819	-20%	8,975	7,615	-15%	92,554	99,140	7%	5,863	4,531	-23%	Limited *
Unlimited	1,481	1,389	-6%	1,481	1,389	-6%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%							Unlimited
Total	20,606	17,697	-14%	2,340	2,109	-10%	1,944	2,074	0.1	16,322	13,514	-17%	80	80	0%	7,267	5,819	-20%	8,975	7,615	-15%	92,554	99,140	7%	5,863	4,531	-23%	Total

*Rifle license numbers include all rifle and Season Choice seasons

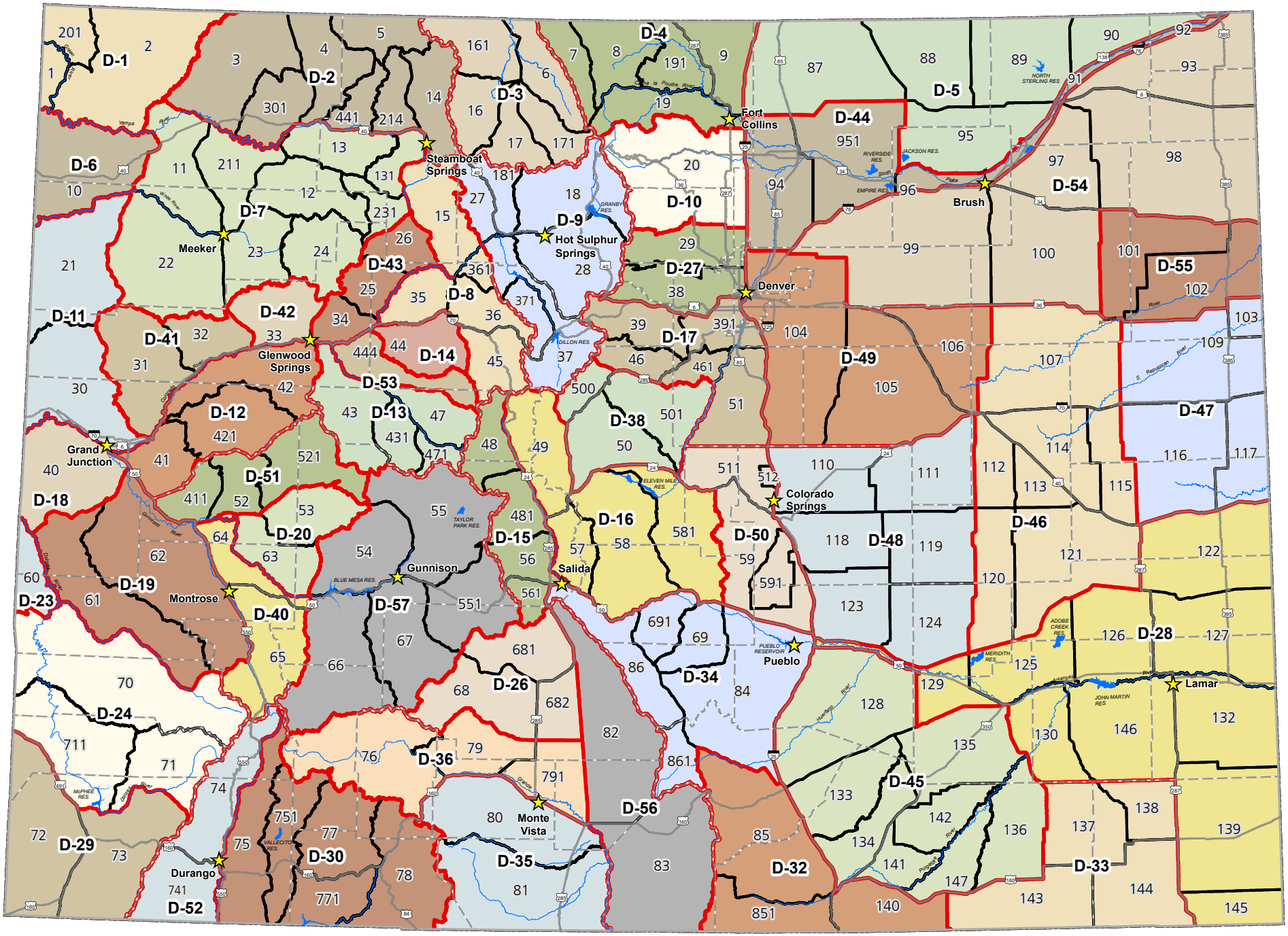
MOOSE

License Type	TOTAL Licenses Sold 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	ANTLERED & EITHER-SEX SEASONS ** Licenses Sold 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	ANTLERLESS SEASONS Licenses Sold 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	LIMITED LICENSE DRAWS Applications Submitted: PRIMARY DRAW 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	SECONDARY DRAW 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	License Type
Resident	533	576	8%	227	239	5%	306	337	10%							Resident
Nonresident	59	61	3%	26	29	12%	33	32	-3%							Nonresident
Total	592	637	8%	253	268	6%	339	369	9%	53,808	57,757	7%				Total

** Includes Auction and Raffle licenses

BEAR

Residency	License Type	TOTAL Licenses Sold 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	ARCHERY SEASONS Licenses Sold 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	MUZZLELOADER SEASONS Licenses Sold 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	SEPTEMBER RIFLE SEASONS Licenses Sold: SEPTEMBER RIFLE 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	SEPTEMBER PLO 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	CONCURRENT RIFLE SEASONS Licenses Sold: CONCURRENT RIFLE 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	CONCURRENT PLO 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	LIMITED LICENSE DRAWS Applications Submitted: PRIMARY DRAW 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	SECONDARY DRAW 2022	2023	2022-2023 PERCENT CHANGE	License Type	License Type
Resident	Limited *	14,439	13,960	-3%	2,488	2,481	0%	892	863	-3%	9,305	8,977	-4%	0	0	0%	1,754	1,639	-7%	0	0	0%							Limited *	Resident
	Unlimited OTC	6,941	6,278	-10%	2,112	1,841	-13%	323	292	-10%	0	0	0%	516	535	4%	3,255	2,941	-10%	735	669	-9%							Unlimited OTC	
	Total	21,380	20,238	-5%	4,600	4,322	-6%	1,215	1,155	-5%	9,305	8,977	-4%	516	535	4%	5,009	4,580	-9%	735	669	-9%							Total	
Nonresident	Limited *	4,190	4,399	5%	1,155	1,211	5%	427	414	-3%	2,209	2,276	3%	0	0	0%	399	498	25%	0	0	0%							Limited *	Nonresident
	Unlimited OTC	7,722	7,443	-4%	2,777	2,420	-13%	360	359	0%	0	0	0%	398	380	-5%	3,924	4,036	3%	263	248	-6%							Unlimited OTC	
	Total	11,912	11,842	-1%	3,932	3,631	-8%	787	773	-2%	2,209	2,276	3%	398	380	-5%	4,323	4,534	5%	263	248	-6%							Total	
OVERALL	Limited *	18,629	18,359	-1%	3,643	3,692	1%	1,319	1,277	-3%	11,514	11,253	0.0	0	0	0%	2,153	2,137	-1%	0	0	0%	37,264	39,175	5%	3,089	3,081	0%	Limited *	OVERALL
	Unlimited OTC	14,663	13,721	-6%	4,889	4,261	-13%	683	651	-5%	0	0	0%	914	915	0%	7,179	6,977	-3%	998	917	-8%							Unlimited OTC	
	Total	33,292	32,080	-4%	8,532	7,953	-7%	2,002	1,928	0.0	11,514	11,253	0.0	914	915	0%	9,332	9,114	-2%	998	917	-8%	37,264	39,175	16%	3,089	3,081	36%	Total	



2024 Deer DAU and GMU

Miles
0 25 50 75 100

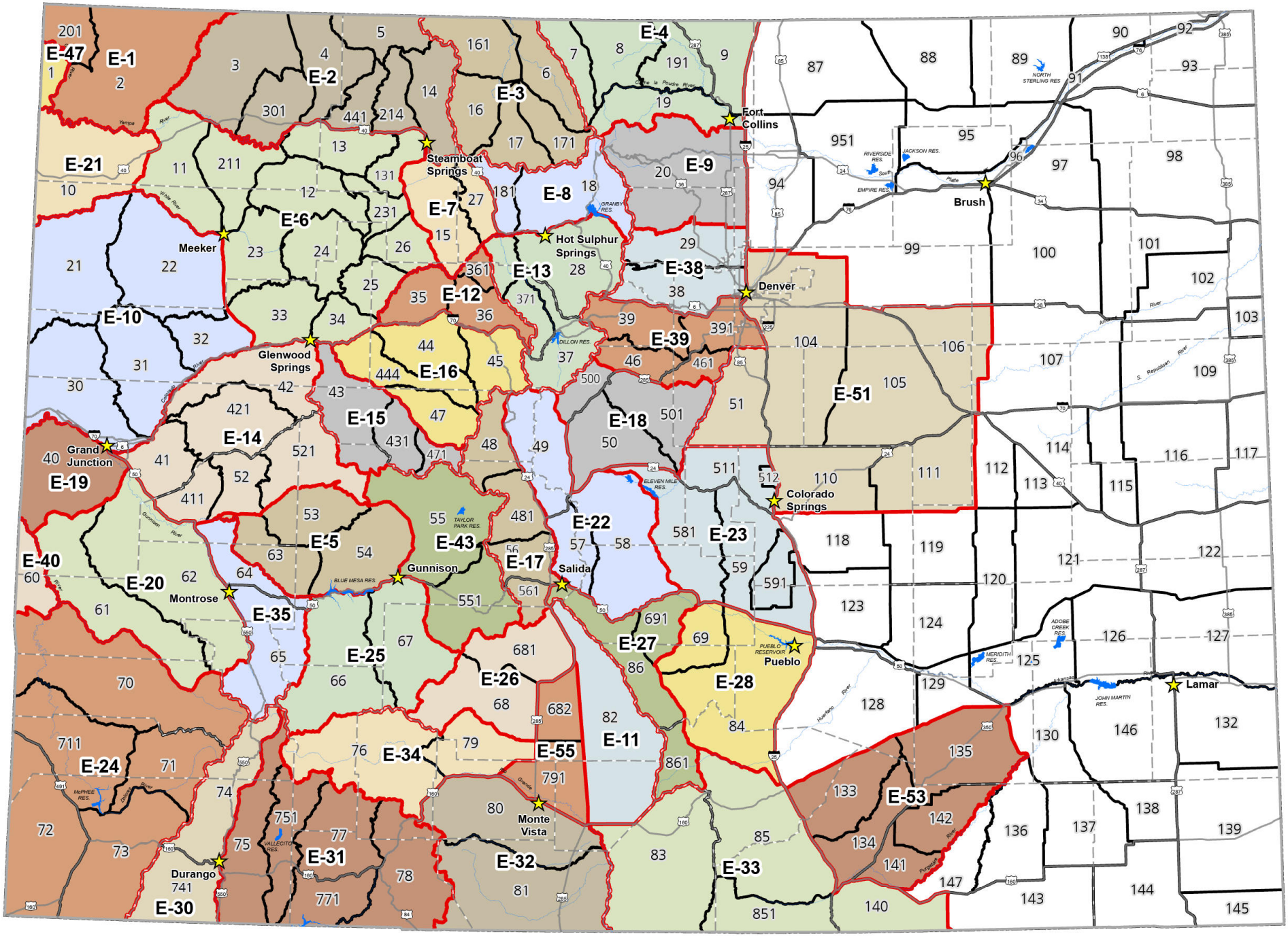
N

COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE
GIS Unit
April 2024

CPW Office

GMU (Game Management Unit) Boundary

DAU (Data Analysis Unit) Boundary



2024 Elk DAU and GMU

Miles
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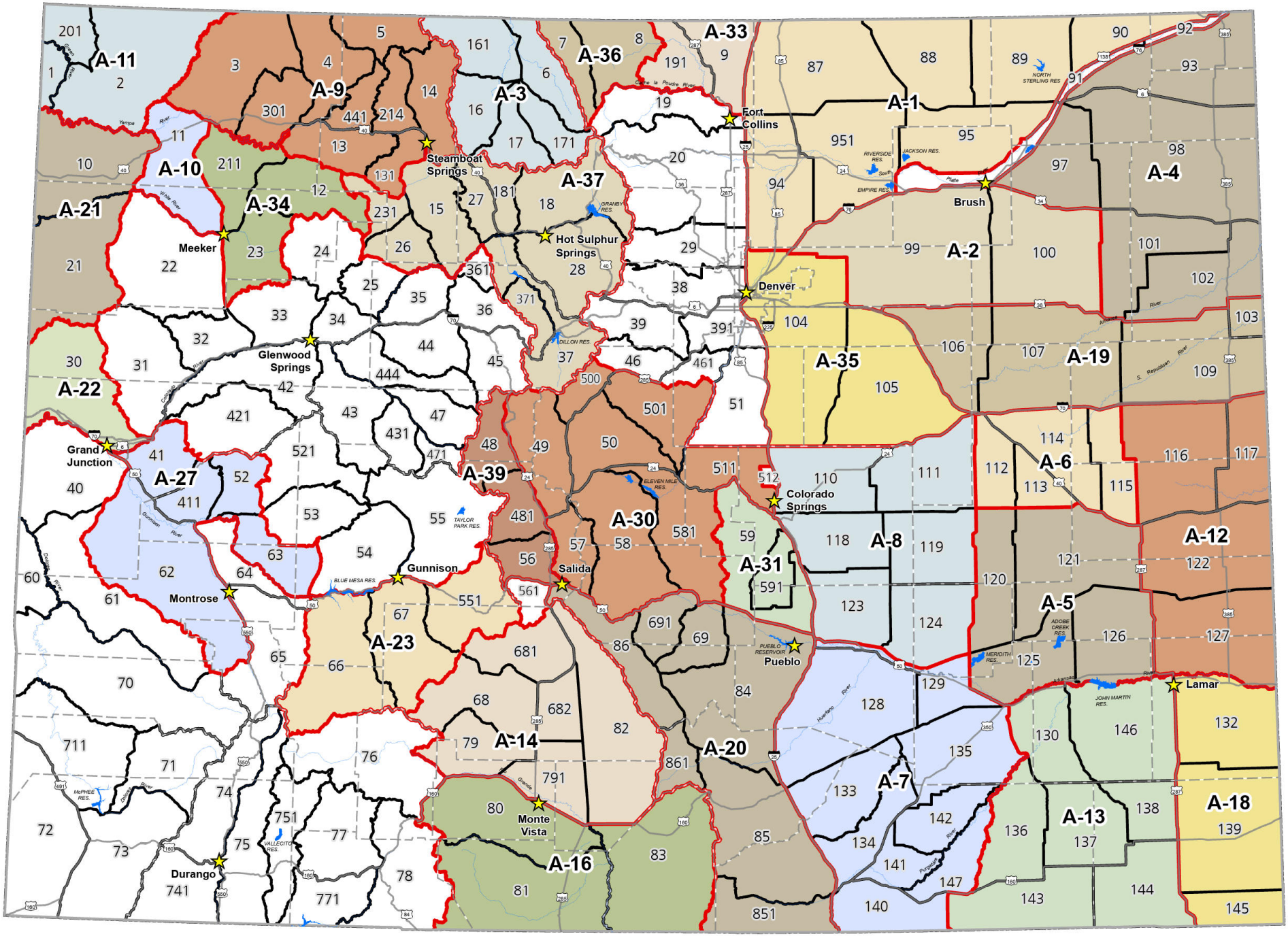
N

GIS Unit
March 2024

CPW Office

GMU (Game Management Unit) Boundary

DAU (Data Analysis Unit) Boundary



2024 Pronghorn DAU and GMU

Miles
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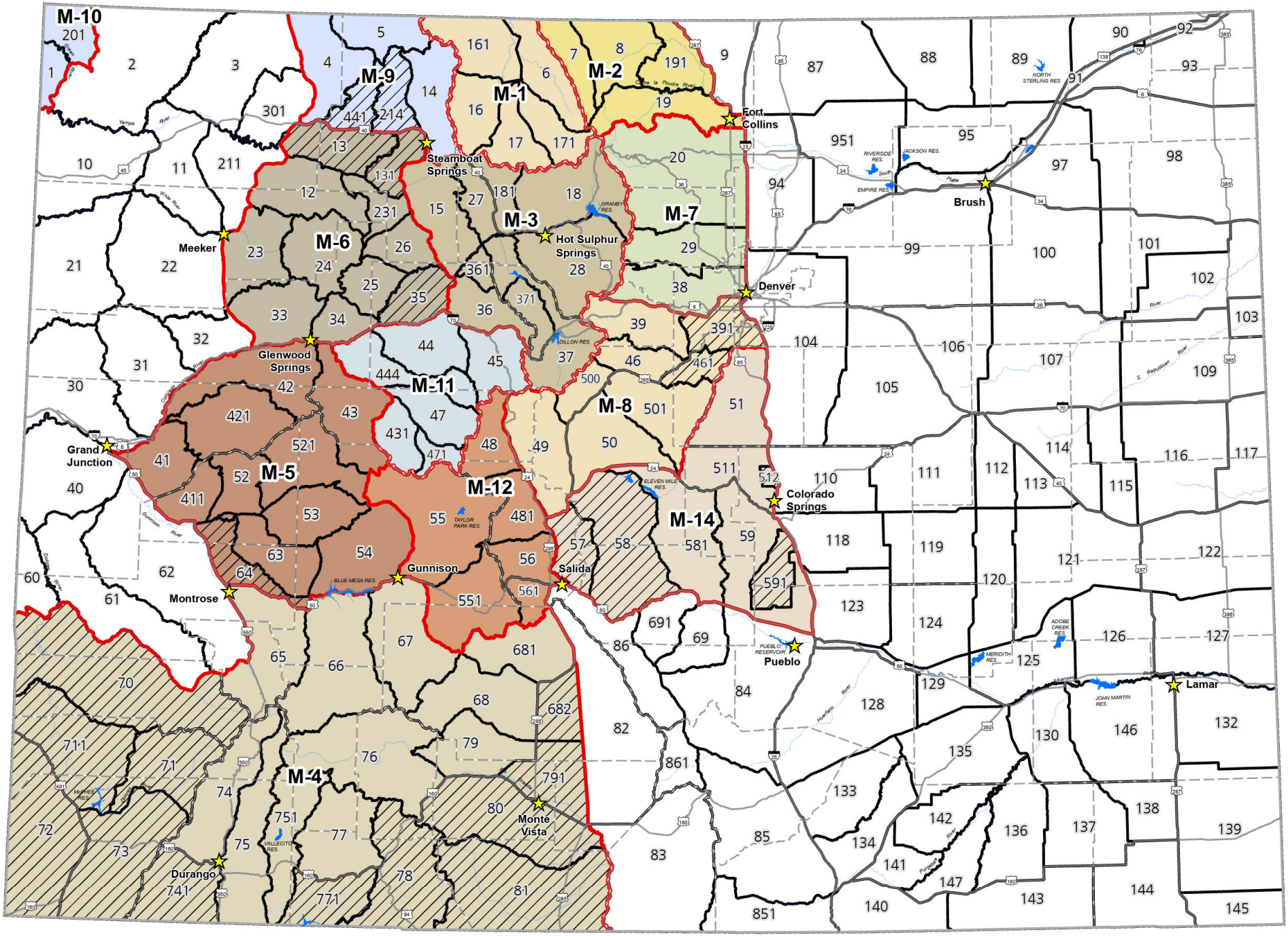
CPW Office

GMU (Game Management Unit) Boundary

DAU (Data Analysis Unit) Boundary

GIS Unit

February 2024



2024 Moose DAU and GMU

Miles
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N

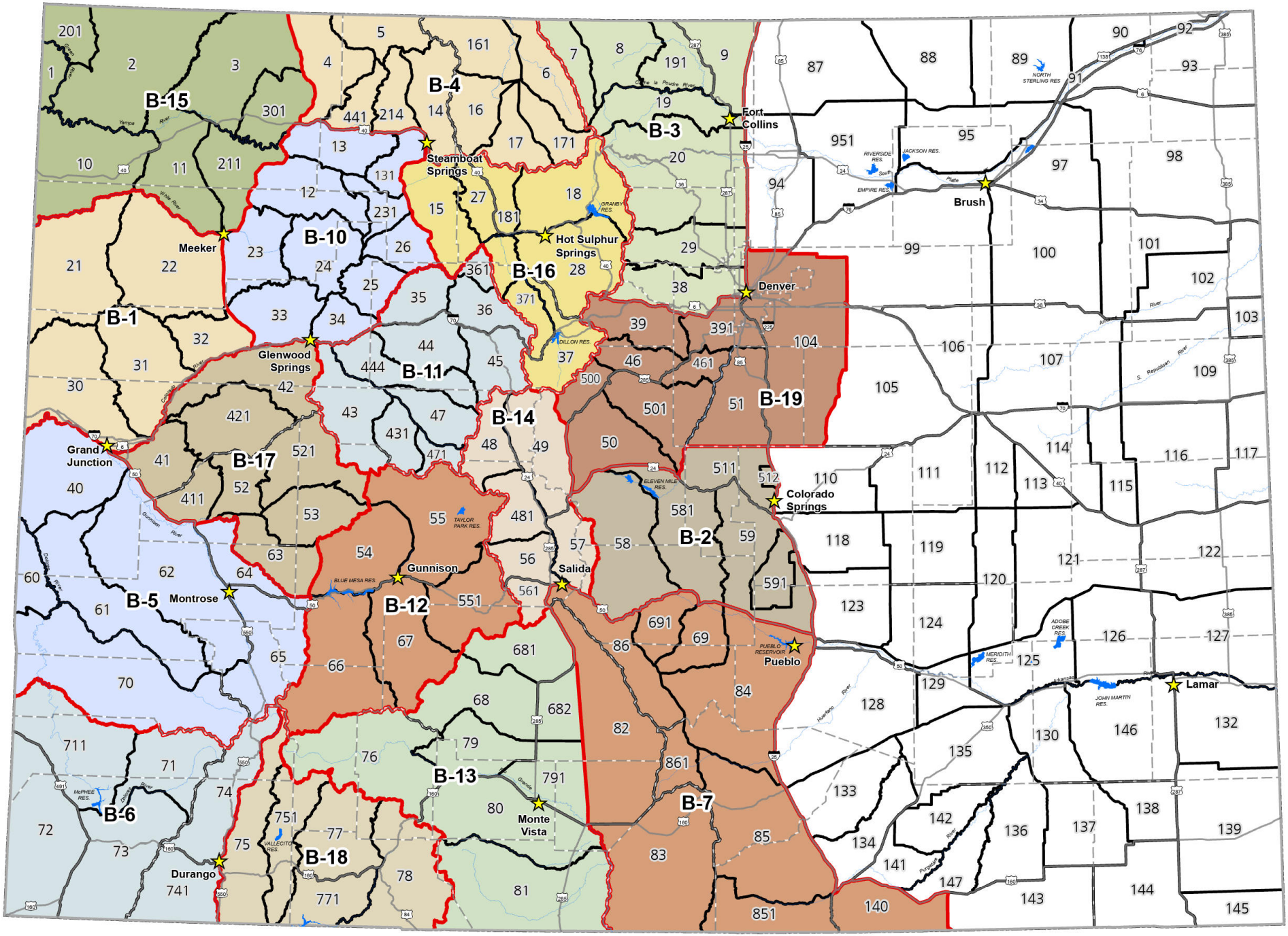
GIS Unit
March 2024

CPW Office

GMU (Game Management Unit) Boundary

DAU (Data Analysis Unit) Boundary

Non-Hunted GMUs



2024 Bear DAU and GMU

Miles
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N

GIS Unit
February 2024

CPW Office

GMU (Game Management Unit) Boundary

DAU (Data Analysis Unit) Boundary