AS APPROVED 11/04/2026

FINAL REGULATIONS - CHAPTER W-2 - BIG GAME

ARTICLE I – General Provisions

#200 – Definitions

See also §33-1-102 C.R.S. and Chapter 0 of these regulations for other applicable definitions.

A. “Antlered” means any deer, elk, or moose with an antler or antlers of at least five (5) inches in length as measured on the outside curve of the antler from the skull to the tip.

B. “Antlerless” means any deer, elk, or moose; including fawn deer and calf elk or moose; without antlers or with antlers of less than five (5) inches in length.

C. “Antler Point” means a projection of the antler at least one (1) inch long and which is longer than the width of its base.

D. “Bait” means any salt, mineral, grain, or other feed. Salt or mineral blocks used for normal agricultural practices are not considered bait.

E. Bighorn Sheep:

1. “One-half (1/2) curl ram” means: A male sheep with a horn or horns that have one (1) or both tips grown at least through one-half (1/2) or 180 degrees of a circle to be measured by first establishing a reference line which bisects the eye and the base of the ear; and which has horn tips which have grown at least as far as the projection of this reference line.

2. “Three-quarter (3/4) curl ram” means: A male sheep with a horn or horns that have one or both tips grown at least through three-quarters (3/4) or 270 degrees of a circle to be measured by first establishing a reference line which bisects the eye and the base of the ear; then by establishing a line which intersects the reference line at the base of the ear, and is perpendicular thereto; and which has horn tips which have grown at least as far as the downward projection of the perpendicular line.

3. “Ewe” means: any female sheep having a horn or horns of at least five (5) inches in length as measured on the outside curve of the horn from the skull to the tip.

F. “Brow tine” means a projection of the antler at least five (5) inches long located on the lower half of the antler.

G. “Buck” means any pronghorn with a black cheek patch and a horn or horns of at least five (5) inches in length as measured on the outside curve of the horn from the skull to the tip, excluding any prong or point occurring between base (skull) and tip.

H. “Doe” means any pronghorn; including fawn pronghorn; without horns, or with a horn or horns of less than five (5) inches in length.

I. "Game Management Objectives" means specific data analysis unit (DAU) objectives relative to long- term population and/or sex ratio objectives.

J. "Intermingled Lands" means lands where: 1) private land deeded to one landowner completely surrounds public land, or 2) public land is intermingled with private lands owned by a landowner

where a quantified access component exists, the landowner possesses some ability to affect game management on the adjacent public land, and the issuance of licenses valid on both private and public lands would help to achieve game management objectives.

K. "Habitat Evaluation Committee (HEC)" means local advisory committees established in units where the Wildlife Landowner Conservation pilot program is implemented.

L. Definitions related to Landowner Preference Program.

1. "**Agricultural Land**" means lands classified for the purposes of taxation as agricultural.

2. "**Broker**" means for a third party to transfer a voucher for compensation or any other consideration, or otherwise arrange for such transfer, on behalf of the landowner, or land manager or on behalf of any individual.

3. **"Land manager"** means an individual designated in writing to CPW by the landowner who is 1) a ranch manager, property manager, business partner, employee, or relative of the landowner who has control of the property or 2) a licensed outfitter or other individual who has entered into a written agreement with the landowner for control of the hunting operations on the property, and who has a working knowledge of the property, including but not limited to, boundaries and access points.

4. "**Landowner**"- means a person that owns private agricultural land in Colorado, as shown by a recorded deed.

5. "**Transfer**"- means to buy, sell, assign, trade, exchange, acquire or otherwise arrange to buy, sell, assign, trade, exchange, acquire or dispose of a voucher.

6. "**Immediate family**"- means the landowner's spouse, parents, grandparent, children, grandchildren, and sibling including in-law and step relations.

7. "**Voucher**"- means a purchase authorization or document issued by the division, authorizing the landowner or any individual to whom the authorization~~document~~ is lawfully transferred to purchase a hunting license for the unit, species, sex and season specified~~printed on the document.~~

8. **"Landowner Preference Program"** – means the license preference program for owners of private agricultural land established by § 33-4-103, C.R.S., and any implementing regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

#201 – License Fees

A. Big Game License Fees

1. License Fee Reduction:

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

a) Nonresident Bear ……...$310.65~~299.81~~

b) Resident Bear (Youth) ……..$17.80~~17.18~~

c) Nonresident Bear (Youth) …….....$63.55~~61.35~~

B. Combination Big Game/Annual Fishing Licenses for Nonresidents

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

#206 – Applications and Drawings for Limited Licenses

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

1. If there is proof of Division error in the application for or issuance of a limited license, provided that the director or their~~his~~ designee determines there will be no detrimental impact to the subject wildlife population.

2. To issue licenses to hunters with mobility impairments or United States Armed Services Wounded Warrior hunters, who qualify for such licenses in accordance with regulation #206(B)(4)(g) or #206(B)(4)(h), provided there is no detrimental impact to the established herd population and sex ratio objectives. For each of these two programs:

- no more than 100 limited antlerless deer, 100 limited doe pronghorn, and 200 limited antlerless elk licenses may be issued each year.

- no more than 100 total antlered or either-sex licenses for deer or elk and buck pronghorn licenses in the aggregate may be issued each year.

Provided further, that limited license numbers for wildlife ranching properties cannot exceed the levels established by the Division and the landowner on the Ranching for Wildlife Seasons Form.

B. Application and Drawing Provisions and Restrictions:

1. General Provisions and Restrictions

a. Number of Applications: No person may submit more than one application per year for the regular drawing process for a limited license for any big game species, or more than one application per year for the secondary draw for any species.

b. Additional Choice Applications: Any additional choice on any application must be for the same species as the first choice.

c. Valid Applications: Only complete and correct application forms will be accepted. Any forms involved in a violation of (a) or (b) above will be considered to be incorrect. Any incorrect application by one member of a group will invalidate the entire application.

d. To be eligible for any big game license draw an individual must have first purchased either a veterans lifetime resident combination license, a first responder lifetime resident combination license, an annual small game license, an annual small game/fishing combination license, an annual senior small game/fishing combination license, a senior lifetime fishing upgrade to an annual combination small game/fishing combination license, or an annual spring turkey license valid for the same license year as the big game license for which they are applying. Individuals that do not hold one of these qualifying licenses may not apply.

1. To be eligible for the Secondary Draw, an individual must have first purchased either an annual fall turkey license valid for the same license year as the big game license

for which they are applying or any one of the licenses listed in #206.B.1.d. valid for the same license year as the big game license for which they are applying. Individuals that do not hold one of these qualifying licenses may not apply for the Secondary Draw.

e. Until January 1, 2028, Group Applications: Group applications are accepted for the regular drawing for all species except moose and desert bighorn sheep, with no limit on the number of applicants per group except as follows:

Bighorn Sheep	2 applicant maximum
Mountain Goat	2 applicant maximum

Provided further that residents and nonresidents may not apply for the sheep or mountain goat on the same group application.

Beginning January 1, 2028, Group Applications: Group applications are accepted for the regular drawing for all species with no limit on the number of applications per group except as follows:

Bighorn Sheep	2 applicant maximum
Mountain Goat	2 applicant maximum
Moose	2 applicant maximum

Provided further that residents and nonresidents may not apply for the sheep, mountain goat, or moose hunt codes on the same group application.

f. Ranching for Wildlife: Non-residents are not eligible to apply for public Ranching for Wildlife licenses for any big game species.

g. Bighorn Sheep Access Program: Non-residents are not eligible to apply for public Bighorn Sheep Access Program licenses.

2. Restrictions by Species

a. Until January 1, 2028, Bighorn Sheep: Any person who harvests a Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep ram, except one taken on an auction or raffle license, a rewards program license, or a license issued in accordance with regulation #271 or #272, shall not be eligible to apply for, or participate in the drawing for a Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep ram license for the five years following the year in which the harvest occurred. During this five-year period a person may apply for a ewe license, but if unsuccessful will not receive preference points or chances. Any person who harvests a desert bighorn sheep, shall never again be eligible to apply for or participate in a desert bighorn sheep license drawing.

Bighorn Sheep: Any person who harvests a Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep ram, on or after January 1, 2028, except one taken on an auction or raffle license, a rewards program license, or a license issued in accordance with regulation #271 or #272, shall not be eligible:

1. to apply for, or purchase another license for a Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep ram.

2. to apply for a point, or participate in the drawing for a ewe-only license for the five years following the year in which the harvest occurred.

   Any person who harvests a desert bighorn sheep, shall never again be eligible to apply for or participate in a desert bighorn sheep license drawing.

b. Until January 1, 2028, Mountain Goat: Any person who harvests a mountain goat, except one taken on an auction or raffle license, a special goat management license, a rewards program license, or a license issued in accordance with regulation #271 or #272, shall not be eligible to apply for or participate in the drawing for a mountain goat license for the five years following the year in which the harvest occurred.

   Mountain Goat: Any person who harvests a mountain goat on a male or either-sex license on or after January 1, 2028, except one taken on an auction or raffle license, a special goat management license, a rewards program license, or a license issued in accordance with regulation #271 or #272, shall not be eligible:

   1. to apply for or purchase a male or either-sex mountain goat license.

   2. to apply for a point, or participate in the drawing for a nanny-only license for the five years following the year in which the harvest occurred.

c. Until January 1, 2028, Moose: Any person who harvests an antlered moose, except one taken on an auction or raffle license, a rewards program license, or a license issued in accordance with regulation #271 or #272 shall never again be eligible to apply for or participate in an antlered or either-sex moose license drawing.

   Beginning January 1, 2028, Moose: Any person who harvests an antlered moose, except one taken on an auction or raffle license, a rewards program license, or a license issued in accordance with regulation #271 or #272, shall never again be eligible:

   1. to apply for or purchase an antlered or either-sex moose license.

   2. to apply for a point or participate in the drawing for an antlerless moose license for the five years following the year in which the harvest occurred.

3. Application Submittal

   a. Applications for limited licenses will be accepted only by methods (on-line or by phone) provided by the Division.

   b. Application submittal shall include a non-refundable application fee for residents and nonresidents in accordance to the fee structure in Chapter W-0 Appendix F.

   c. Applications for the regular drawing must be submitted appropriately no later than 8:00 PM Mountain Time on the first Tuesday in April. Applications not submitted by this deadline are void.

4. Preference Systems

   Note: see also §33-4-103, C.R.S.

   a. Landowner Preference: General Provisions

1. Preference for hunting licenses under the Landowner Preference Program shall only be given to eligible landowners who apply using the Landowner registration form(s) provided by the division. Only complete and correct registration forms will be accepted. Except for the carryover registration provided in § 33-4-103(2)(c), C.R.S., registration in the Landowner Preference Program is valid for 5 years. All landowners shall re-register their properties every 5 years (or on or before July 1, 2016 for carryover registrations) to continue participation, if desired, in the Landowner Preference Program.

2. As a condition of registration and participation in the Landowner Preference Program, landowners shall provide and maintain accurate ownership information with the division for all lands registered in the Program. During the statutory period of carryover registration provided in §33-4-103(2)(c), C.R.S., and any five-year registration period, landowners shall notify the division of any changes to required registration information in writing within 30 days.

3. Landowner preference is species specific and available only in units that are totally limited for all rifle licenses for deer, elk or pronghorn and vouchers will be allocated to eligible landowners by unit, species, sex and season. In units where vouchers remain after the initial allocation, eligible landowners may apply for the unused vouchers and shall pay $25 for each reallocated female (antlerless/doe) and $40 for each either-sex or male (antlered/buck) voucher. Unsuccessful applicants will receive a refund ~~check~~.

4. Vouchers not otherwise allocated to landowners as part of the Landowner Preference Program shall be made available as licenses to the general public in the remaining limited licenses draws or sales.

~~5. All landowners and hunters participating in the Landowner Preference Program shall file reports using the forms provided by the division. Reports must be complete and correct, and submitted to the Division by within 30 days after the close of the season.~~

~~6.~~5. Landowners and their registered properties may be audited for compliance with eligibility requirements of the Landowner Preference Program during any carryover or 5-year registration period. Notice of any noncompliance will be provided in writing to the landowner and the landowner shall have 30 days to resolve the noncompliance or withdraw the property from the Landowner Preference Program.

b. Landowner Preference: Voucher Requirements and Restrictions

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

2. The transfer of any voucher must include permission to access and hunt all lands in the unit registered in the Landowner Preference Program for the entire season for which the voucher was awarded. Such access shall be allowed without discrimination between hunters accessing the property, and without restriction other than manner of access restrictions (foot, horseback, vehicular) that are reasonably necessary to prevent damage to property.

3. The transfer of a voucher by any person other than the landowner or the landowner's land manager to any person other than an individual for purchase of a license is prohibited. Violation of this prohibition shall void the voucher and any license purchased with it.

4. No person shall broker a voucher on behalf of any landowner or person, or use or possess any brokered voucher. Violation of this prohibition shall void the voucher and any license purchased with it.

c. Landowner Preference: Disqualification

1. Landowners, or the landowner's land manager, who fail to comply with any requirements of the Landowner Preference Program, may be disqualified from participation in the Program for up to five years. Disqualification of a joint or co-owner of property registered with the Landowner Preference Program shall disqualify all other joint or co-owners of the registered properties from participation in the Program.

2. Disqualification of a landowner from the Landowner Preference Program shall invalidate all preference points associated with property registered by the landowner in the Program.

3. Any landowner, or the landowner's land manager, that has been disqualified from the Landowner Preference Program shall not register properties, apply for vouchers or acquire or use any vouchers during the term of disqualification. Landowners that have been disqualified from participation in the Landowner Preference Program shall be required to re-register at the end of their period of disqualification and prior to further participation, if desired, in the Program.

4. Any other person that fails to comply with any requirements of the Landowner Preference Program may also be disqualified from participation in the Landowner Preference Program for up to five years. Any person disqualified shall not participate in the Landowner Preference Program in any manner, including, but not limited to, as a landowner, as a landowner's land manager, enrolling properties in any name, submitting applications for vouchers, receiving vouchers, transferring vouchers, redeeming vouchers or using licenses obtained with vouchers.

5. Any person convicted of a violation of the Landowner Preference Program will be given notice in writing of their possible disqualification from the Landowner Preference Program and the opportunity to appear and show cause why they should not be disqualified from participation in the Program. Any such disqualification hearing shall be held in the Denver office of the division, or at another location acceptable to the division. Notice of any resulting disqualification shall be sent to the person by certified mail, return receipt requested.

d. Landowner Preference: Ute Mountain Ute Tribe and Pinecrest Ranch

1. The Ute Mountain Ute Tribe (UMU Tribe) owns the Pinecrest Ranch, identified by the Gunnison County assessor as Parcel Id. Nos. 4049-000-00-005, 4049-000-00-018, 3983-000-00-046 and 3981-000-00045.

2. The UMU Tribe may transfer LPP vouchers yielded by the Pinecrest Ranch to any person consistent with § 33-4-103, C.R.S. and the Commission's implementing regulations. If the UMU Tribe transfers such a voucher to a nonresident, enrolled member of the UMU Tribe, such member may elect to redeem the voucher for a reduced price equal to the price a resident would pay for the same license. Provided, however, any license obtained at a reduced price is only valid on the Pinecrest Ranch.

3. In order to redeem a voucher at a reduced price, the recipient must visit a CPW office in person, present a valid voucher, and show proof of

enrollment by presenting UMU Tribal identification. The Division shall manually issue licenses redeemed at the reduced price.

e. Youth Preference - a minimum of 15 percent of the number of the limited doe pronghorn licenses, limited either-sex and antlerless deer licenses and limited antlerless elk licenses established for each GMU shall be made available for purchase by qualified youth applicants. ~~Licenses shall be available through application and computer selection from the Division headquarters, 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216.~~ Licenses not allocated to youth shall be made available to the general public in the remaining drawings.

   1. Any eligible hunter, ages 12-17 is entitled to youth hunt preference for all seasons and methods of take for the license types listed in the preceding paragraph, except that public, non-youth only Ranching for Wildlife and Air Force Academy licenses shall not be included in this preference. The applicant must submit an individual application for the desired, eligible license ~~on forms provided by the Division~~. Group applications will not be accepted for youth preference. Where more than one (1) hunt code choice is shown on the application, all hunt codes must be youth preference-eligible hunt codes or youth-only hunt codes.

   2. Youth preference will be set at 50% for all antlerless deer licenses in GMUs 54, 55, 66, 67, and 551.

   3. Youth preference will be set at 50% for licenses issued under hunt code DF006P5R.

f. Outreach Hunting Licenses – The Director may make additional outreach program deer, elk and pronghorn licenses available to qualified organizations sponsoring youth, novice adult, or disabled veteran hunting activities.

   1. There will be no more than 600 elk licenses (100 antlered or either-sex, 500 antlerless), no more than 400 deer licenses (100 antlered or either-sex, 300 antlerless) and no more than 400 pronghorn licenses (60 buck or either-sex, 340 doe) issued annually under this subsection.

   2. Licenses in game management units with at least one hunt code requiring 6 or more resident preference points to draw, excluding Ranching for Wildlife properties, will not be authorized for use under this subsection unless the request is for a hunt exclusively on private land.

   3. Licenses are issued on a first come, first served basis to qualified organizations. No more than 10 licenses may be issued per event to any single requesting organization.

   4. Requested dates for hunting events must occur between August 15 and January 31 each year.

   5. Organizations who wish to request an Outreach license must submit the request in writing to Colorado Parks and Wildlife, State Hunter Outreach Coordinator, 6060 Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80216 no later than 60 days prior to the planned hunting event.

   6. Licenses are limited to the following:

      a. Youth Outreach Hunting Licenses - Limited to youth hunters 12 to 17 years of age.

b. Novice Adult Hunting Licenses - For the purpose of these regulations a novice adult hunter is defined as a Colorado resident 18 years of age or older, who has either: no big game license purchase history, only held a big game hunting license(s) in the current or previous year, or has no big game license purchase history in the previous five years.

c. Disabled Veterans Outreach Hunting License - A disabled veteran for this purpose is defined as a honorably-discharged veteran with written proof to the Division of the following:

i. DD 214 Form or other documentation indicating the veteran received an Honorable Discharge from a branch of the Armed Services of the United States, AND

ii. A qualification letter, on official stationary/letterhead, from the Veteran's Administration, Department of Veteran's Affairs, or the branch of service from which the veteran is receiving compensation, that states one of the following:

1. 50% or greater, service-connected permanent disability;

2. Loss of use of one or both feet;

3. Loss of use of one or both hands; or a

4. Loss of vision in both eyes

g. Hunting Licenses for Hunters with Mobility Impairments - The Director may make certain deer, elk, and pronghorn licenses available to qualified hunters with mobility impairments.

1. Applicants for hunting licenses for hunters with mobility impairments must have a mobility impairment resulting from permanent medical conditions, which makes it physically impossible for them to hunt without the assistance of an attendant. Evidence of an impossibility to participate in the hunt without the assistance of an attendant may include, but is not limited to, prescribed use of a wheelchair; shoulder or arm crutches; walker; two canes; or other prescribed medical devices or equipment.

2. ~~Applications for antlerless deer and elk and doe pronghorn licenses for hunters with mobility impairments shall be made on the form available from, and submitted with the applicable license fee to, the Division, Limited License Office, 6060 Broadway, Denver, Colorado, 80216. Applications for antlered deer and elk and pronghorn buck licenses for hunters with mobility impairments shall be made on the form available from, and submitted with the applicable license fee to, the applicable Division regional service center.~~ Hunters may apply for the mobility impaired program from the Monday after the May Commission meeting through the last day of the rifle seasons.

3. Applications for hunting licenses for hunters with mobility impairments shall contain a statement from a licensed medical doctor or a certified physical, occupational, or recreational therapist describing the applicant's mobility impairment and the permanent medical condition which makes it impossible for the applicant to hunt without the assistance of an attendant. Additional documentation may be required if necessary to establish the applicant's eligibility for a hunting license for hunters with mobility impairments. For the 2001 seasons and thereafter, once certified by the Division as mobility-impaired according to these regulations, applicants will not be required to submit the medical statement.

4. Antlerless deer and elk and doe pronghorn licenses will be available in all game management units with a total allocation of more than 100 antlerless deer or 100 antlerless elk or 50 doe pronghorn during the rifle seasons described in #250, #257, and #262 of these regulations. For any one game management unit no more than 10 licenses or 2 percent of the total number of limited antlerless deer or elk or doe pronghorn licenses for the game management unit, whichever number is greater, shall be issued as hunting licenses for hunters with mobility impairments for the species in question.

5. Antlered or either-sex licenses for deer or elk and buck pronghorn licenses will be private land only licenses and will be available for hunt codes requiring four or fewer resident preference points to draw in the previous year in all game management units with a total allocation of more than 100 antlered or either-sex deer, 100 antlered or either-sex elk, or 50 buck pronghorn during the rifle seasons described in #250, #257 and #262 of these regulations. For any one game management unit no more than 5 licenses or 2 percent of the total number of limited antlered, either-sex or buck licenses for the game management unit, whichever is greater, shall be issued as hunting licenses for hunters with mobility impairments for the species in question.

6. Antlered or either-sex licenses for deer or elk and buck pronghorn licenses will be approved by the applicable Regional Manager on a case-by-case basis for hunters who qualify as mobility-impaired in instances where an organization assisting hunters with mobility impairments has coordinated a hunting opportunity specifically for this program and where all other avenues of obtaining a license have been exhausted.

7. Hunting licenses for hunters with mobility impairments will be valid only for the season dates and any units included in the authorized hunt code. Licenses for hunters with mobility impairments may not be issued for Ranching for Wildlife properties unless otherwise provided in the ranch contract.

h. Wounded Warrior Hunting Licenses - The Director may make certain deer, elk, and pronghorn licenses available to qualified participants in any United States Armed Services Wounded Warrior programs.

1. Applicants must be members of the United States Armed Forces, who are residents of, or stationed in, Colorado returning from post-September 11, 2001, overseas contingency operations who have been so severely injured during combat, including combat-related support activities, that they will require years of intense, ongoing care or assistance. Additionally, applicants must be members of a United States Armed Services Wounded Warrior program, as defined in 33-4-102(1.9) C.R.S., and must be assigned to a military medical treatment facility at the time of application for this program.

2. Applications shall contain a statement from a licensed medical doctor certifying the applicant's eligibility under the criteria in 1 above. Additional documentation may be required if necessary to establish the applicant's eligibility under this program.

3. ~~Applications for antlerless deer and elk and doe pronghorn licenses shall be made on the form available from the Division, Limited License Office, 6060 Broadway, Denver, Colorado. Applications for antlered deer and elk and pronghorn buck licenses shall be made on the form available from the applicable Division regional service center.~~ Hunters may apply from the Monday after the May Commission meeting through the last day of the rifle seasons. Licenses issued under this program shall be issued as free licenses.

4. Antlerless deer and elk and doe pronghorn licenses will be available in all game management units with a total allocation of more than 100 antlerless deer or 100 antlerless elk or 50 doe pronghorn during the rifle seasons described in 250, 257, and 262 of these regulations. Licenses issued for military installations will be exempted from these minimum license requirements. Wounded Warrior licenses issued for military installation property will be approved by the applicable Regional Manager. For any one game management unit no more than 10 licenses or 2 percent of the total number of limited antlerless deer or elk or doe pronghorn licenses for the game management unit, whichever number is greater, shall be issued as Wounded Warrior hunting licenses for the species in question.

5. Antlered or either-sex licenses for deer or elk and buck pronghorn licenses will be private land only licenses and will be available for hunt codes requiring four or fewer resident preference points to draw in the previous year in all game management units with a total allocation of more than 100 antlered or either-sex deer, 100 antlered or either-sex elk, or 50 buck pronghorn during the rifle seasons described in #250, #257 and #262 of these regulations. Licenses issued for military installations will be exempted from these preference point and minimum license requirements. Wounded Warrior licenses issued for military installation property will be approved by the applicable Regional Manager. For any one game management unit no more than 5 licenses or 2 percent of the total number of limited antlered, either-sex or buck licenses for the game management unit, whichever is greater, shall be issued as Wounded Warrior hunting licenses for the species in question.

6. Antlered or either-sex licenses for deer or elk and buck pronghorn licenses will be approved by the applicable Regional Manager on a case-by-case basis for hunters who qualify under this program in instances where an organization assisting Wounded Warrior hunters has coordinated a hunting opportunity specifically for this program and where all other avenues of obtaining a license have been exhausted.

7. Wounded Warrior hunting licenses will be valid only for the season dates and any units included in the authorized hunt code. Wounded Warrior hunting licenses may not be issued for Ranching for Wildlife properties unless otherwise provided in the ranch contract.

i. Dream Hunt Hunting Licenses – The Director may make available additional deer, elk, pronghorn, mountain lion and black bear licenses to individuals qualified under this subsection.

1. Applicants for Dream Hunt licenses must be at least 12 and under 22 years of age, and must have a terminal illness or a life-threatening disease or injury.

2. A request for a Dream Hunt license must be made, in writing, by a sponsoring organization, documenting the individual's life-threatening or terminal condition, desired, hunt experience, desired location, time frame and logistical considerations. Requests should be sent to the Division of Parks and Wildlife, Hunter Outreach Coordinator, 6060 Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80216.

3. Requested dates for hunting events must occur between August 15 and January 31 each year, with preferred dates occurring during an existing season for the requested species. However, alternate dates may be approved by the Director on a case-by-case basis as an applicant's condition requires.

4. Written landowner permission must be obtained prior to issuance of a license under this subsection if the individual will be hunting on private land.

j. Preference Points and Chances

1. Preference will be given for qualifying applications for first choice hunt codes only and shall be subject to the following provisions:

a. Until January 1, 2028, Deer, Elk, Pronghorn, and Bear: one preference point will be awarded to each person who qualifies for and fails to draw a limited license for deer, elk, pronghorn, or bear as a first choice in the regular drawing or who applies using a first choice hunt code established for the purpose of accumulating a preference point only. Preference points will be used in future drawings for the same species and will accumulate until the applicant obtains a first choice license. When an applicant obtains a first choice license, all accumulated preference points for that species become void. If an applicant both fails to apply for a species and has not purchased a license for that same species during any given 10-year period, all accumulated preference points for that species become void. If an applicant accepts a first choice license that has been returned and reissued manually, all accumulated preference points for that species become void. No preference points are required for purchasing a returned license placed on the leftover list. In those hunt codes requiring 10 or more resident preference points to draw, up to 20 percent of available licenses for deer, elk, pronghorn and bear shall be issued through a random drawing. The number of preference points required to draw shall be determined by a three-year rolling average for the previous three limited license draws with a one year lag. A minimum of five individual preference points is required for an applicant to participate in the random drawing. Group applications shall not be eligible to participate in the random drawing.

Beginning January 1, 2028, Deer, Elk, Pronghorn, and Bear: one preference point will be awarded to each person who qualifies for and fails to draw a limited license for deer, elk, pronghorn, or bear as a first choice in the regular drawing or who applies for a preference point only (no hunt codes) in the regular drawing. Preference points gained will be used in future drawings for the same species and will accumulate until the applicant obtains a first choice license. A split draw will be used in the regular drawing where the quota for each hunt code will be divided with half of the quota going to a preference point draw, and half going to a bonus draw. In the bonus draw, for every species preference point an applicant holds, the applicant will have one application entered into the bonus drawing, plus one. If the quota can’t be evenly split, the extra license will go to the preference point draw. If there is only a single license available, it will be issued through the preference point draw. When an applicant obtains a first choice license in the regular drawing, all accumulated preference points for that species become void. If an applicant both fails to apply for a species and has not purchased a license or a point for that same species during any given 10-year period, all accumulated preference points for that species become void. If an applicant accepts a first choice license that has been returned and reissued all accumulated preference points for that species become void.

b. Until January 1, 2028, Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep, Mountain Goat, and Moose: One preference point will be awarded to each person who qualifies for and fails to draw a first choice license, until three preference points have been accumulated. Each time an applicant with three (3) points qualifies for and fails to draw a first choice license for rocky mountain bighorn sheep, mountain goat or moose the applicant will be awarded one (1) weighted preference point to be used in future drawings for that species. Applicants with at least three (3) preference points or any number of weighted preference points will be given

weighted preference during the license drawings for each applicable species. Weighted preference is calculated by converting the applicant's original application number into a new random application number, then dividing that random application number by the number of weighted preference points the applicant currently has for that species plus one. The resulting number is the applicant's final and only application number. Final application numbers are sorted from lowest number to highest number, with licenses awarded to applicants starting on the top of the list (lowest number), working down the list until no licenses for that species remain. When an applicant obtains a first choice license, all accumulated preference points for that species become void. If an applicant both fails to apply for a species and has not purchased a license for that same species during any given 10-year period, all accumulated preference points for that species become void. If an applicant accepts a first choice license that has been returned and reissued, all accumulated preference points for that species become void.

Beginning January 1, 2028, Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep, Mountain Goat, and Moose: One preference point will be awarded to each person who qualifies for and fails to draw a first choice license or who applies for a preference point only (no hunt codes) in the regular drawing. In order to draw a male or either-sex license the person must have a minimum of three (3) preference points for that species. For every species preference point an applicant holds, the applicant will have one application entered into the bonus drawing, plus one. When an applicant obtains a first choice license, all accumulated preference points for that species become void. If an applicant both fails to apply for a species and has not purchased a license or point for that same species during any given 10-year period, all accumulated preference points for that species become void. If an applicant receives a first choice license that has been returned and reissued, all accumulated preference points for that species become void.

c. Until January 1, 2028, in addition to the application fee, found in Chapter W-0 Appendix F, a resident applicant who is unsuccessful on their first choice (except youth as defined by 33-4-117 C.R.S., lifetime license holders, and Colorado resident military personnel on active duty outside Colorado), or a resident who applies using a first choice hunt code established for the purpose of accumulating a preference point or weighted preference point only, for moose, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, or mountain goat will be assessed a $50 fee to receive a preference point or weighted preference point. In addition to the application fee, found in Chapter W-0 Appendix F, a nonresident applicant who is unsuccessful on their first choice (except youth as defined by 33-4-117 C.R.S.), or a nonresident who applies using a first choice hunt code established for the purpose of accumulating a preference point or weighted preference point only, for moose, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, or mountain goat will be assessed a $100 fee to receive a preference point or weighted preference point. The fee, per species, shall entitle the hunter to preference points or weighted preference points for any unsuccessful first choice moose, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, or mountain goat application in that year. If the applicant chooses to not pay the preference point fee, the applicant will not receive a preference point or weighted preference point for that application.

Beginning January 1, 2028, in addition to the application fee, found in Chapter W-0 Appendix F, a resident applicant who is unsuccessful on their first choice or a resident who applies for a preference point only (no hunt codes), for moose, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, or mountain goat will be assessed a $50 fee to receive a preference point. For deer, elk, bear, and pronghorn a $~~X~~ 5 fee will be

assessed to receive a preference point for those species. In addition to the application fee, found in Chapter W-0 Appendix F, a nonresident applicant who is unsuccessful on their first choice or a nonresident who applies for a preference point only (no hunt codes), for moose, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, or mountain goat will be assessed a $100 fee to receive a preference point. For deer, elk, bear, and pronghorn a $~~Y~~ 10 fee will be assessed to receive a preference point for those species. Landowner preference points for deer, elk, and pronghorn obtained through registration and application in the Landowner Preference Program will be issued at zero cost.

The fee, per species, shall entitle the hunter to a preference point for any unsuccessful first choice regular drawing application. If the applicant chooses to not pay the preference point fee, the applicant will not receive a preference point for that application. Youth as defined by 33-4-117 C.R.S., lifetime license holders, and Colorado resident military personnel on active duty outside Colorado are exempt from preference point fees.

d. Until January 1, 2028, applications receiving preference points will be given priority over all applications with fewer points. Group applications will receive preference at the level of the group member with the fewest accumulated preference points, and, where applicable, the fewest accumulated chances, except that group applications will not be successful, regardless of preference point level or number of chances, when there are fewer licenses remaining in the hunt code quota than the number of applicants in the group.

   Beginning January 1, 2028, applications with higher preference points will be given priority over all applications with fewer points in the preference point half of the draw. In the preference point half of the draw, group applications will receive preference at the level of the group member with the fewest accumulated preference points, and, where applicable, the fewest accumulated chances, except that group applications will not be successful, regardless of preference point level or number of chances, when there are fewer licenses remaining in the hunt code quota than the number of applicants in the group. In the bonus half of the split draw, group applicants will receive one application per preference point held by the group member with the lowest number of preference points, plus one. Group applications will not be successful when there are fewer licenses remaining in the hunt code quota than the number of applicants in the group.

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

5. Drawing Processes

   a. Applications using landowner preference and youth preference shall be drawn, in that order, prior to drawing general public applications for the same species.

   b. Beginning January 1, 2028, for the general public drawing for deer, elk, bear and pronghorn, a split draw will be used where the remaining quota (after the landowner and

youth preference draws) for each hunt code will be divided, with half of the quota going to a preference point draw, and half going to a bonus draw. If the quota can't be evenly split, the extra license will go to the preference point draw. If there is only a single license available, it will be issued through the preference point draw. The regular drawing shall be run processing all first choice applications for the preference point draw first, followed by all first choice applications for the bonus points draw before moving to second choice applications. The regular drawing will continue in that order, until all choices are processed.

c. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified of their accumulated preference points on their on-line account.

d. Nonresident hunter drawing limitations (until January 1, 2028, first choice applications only, beginning January 1, 2028, first and second application only)

1. Nonresident hunters shall receive no more than 10% of available moose, bighorn sheep and mountain goat licenses for all hunt codes. In the event there are an insufficient number of nonresident applications for the allocated number of moose, bighorn sheep or mountain goat licenses in any hunt code, the excess nonresident licenses will be issued to residents through the regular drawing process. These drawing limitations do not apply to the issuance of Bighorn Sheep Access Program (BSAP) licenses.

2. Until January 1, 2028, unless there is an insufficient number of resident applications, nonresident hunters shall receive no more than 25% of available deer, elk, bear and pronghorn licenses for hunt codes requiring fewer than six preference points for resident hunters to draw in the regular drawing, and no more than 20% of available deer, elk, bear and pronghorn licenses for hunt codes requiring six or more preference points for resident hunters to draw in the regular drawing as calculated using a rolling three-year average for the previous three limited license draws with a one year lag. These drawing limitations do not apply to the issuance of Private Land Only and Ranching for Wildlife licenses.

Beginning January 1, 2028, unless there is an insufficient number of resident applications, nonresident hunters shall receive no more than 25% of available deer, elk, bear, and pronghorn licenses per hunt code in the regular drawing during the first and second choices of the draw. These drawing limitations do not apply to the issuance of Private Land Only and Ranching for Wildlife licenses.

6. Secondary Draw, Leftover Licenses, Drawing Provisions and Restrictions

a. Elk, deer, pronghorn and bear licenses which are not issued through the regular drawing will be issued through a secondary drawing process if the number of remaining licenses is sufficient to justify the administrative cost, except the following licenses will not be issued through a secondary drawing process:

1. Until January 1, 2028, any license that required five (5) or more resident preference points to draw as determined by the current year's limited license draw unless the license cannot be manually reissued to one of the first five (5) people on the regular draw list prior to the opening of the secondary drawing application period, and

Beginning January 1, 2028, any surrendered or returned license that was drawn during the regular drawing that can be automatically reissued to the applicant next up in line in the draw order by residency prior to the opening of the secondary drawing application period. During the regular draw application the applicant will have the

opportunity to opt-in/opt-out of being added to the automatic reissue list by hunt code~~, and~~

2. Public Ranching for Wildlife licenses.

b. Any eligible hunter, ages 12 – 17 shall receive preference for the secondary draw for elk, deer, pronghorn and bear licenses.

c. There is no landowner preference for the secondary draw.

d. Any active duty member of the United States Armed Forces stationed at any military facility in Colorado and actively deployed outside the United States, or any active duty member of the United States Armed Forces who is a Colorado resident and is deployed outside the United States, shall be allowed a preference for the purchase of leftover licenses prior to their sale to the general public.

e. Group applications are not accepted for the secondary draw.

f. Applicants for the secondary draw must apply online or over the phone following the regular drawing.

g. Secondary draw applications must be submitted no later than 8:00 PM Mountain Time, the last business day in June. Applications not submitted by this deadline are void.

~~h. Secondary draw applications not submitted by 8:00 PM Mountain Time the last business day in June will become void.~~

~~i.~~h. Until January 1, 2028, except for Ranching for Wildlife licenses, any licenses remaining after the secondary draw, will be placed on the leftover license list and will become available through the standard over-the-counter leftover process. Leftover or returned Ranching for Wildlife licenses will be reissued up to 14 days prior to the start of the season.~~For information regarding the availability of leftover Ranching for Wildlife licenses available on a first-come, first-served basis, please refer to the big game drawing brochure or call the Division at (303) 297-1192.~~

Beginning January 1, 2028, except for Ranching for Wildlife licenses, any deer, elk, bear or pronghorn licenses remaining after the secondary draw, that cannot be auto-reissued will be placed on the leftover license list and will become available through the standard over-the-counter leftover process. Leftover or returned Ranching for Wildlife licenses will be reissued up to 14 days prior to the start of the season.~~For information regarding the availability of leftover Ranching for Wildlife licenses available on a first-come, first-served basis, please refer to the big game drawing brochure or call the Division at (303) 297-1192.~~

#210 – Ranching for Wildlife – Deer, Elk, Pronghorn, Black Bear, Moose, and Bighorn Sheep

A. Implementation Authority

1. The Director is authorized to implement the Ranching for Wildlife program, including the authority to determine ranch enrollment status, enter into cooperative agreements with ranches, establish and modify public and private season dates on each ranch, and establish and modify license allocations to each ranch including the subsequent distribution of licenses to the public and private share annually, and may establish additional Ranching for Wildlife operating guidelines subject to the following provisions.

B. Ranch Entry and Maintenance

1. Ranches must have a minimum of 10,000 acres of privately owned land in one contiguous unit. Ranches that meet this 10,000-acre minimum requirement may include privately owned non-contiguous parcels in the program if the Director determines that their inclusion will contribute to meeting the performance standards for the ranch.

2. Ranches must develop a Ranching for Wildlife Management Plan that includes goals, objectives, and strategies for achieving such goals and objectives for wildlife habitat management, species management, and public hunting management. The Management Plan shall identify the Tier category in which the ranch seeks to be placed and what specific actions the ranch will take to achieve the appropriate Tier placement criteria. The Management Plan must be approved by the Division prior to execution of a Cooperative Agreement for Ranching for Wildlife.

3. Ranches may not charge public hunters an access fee for hunting.

4. Except as agreed to in writing by the Division when necessary to meet the ranch performance standards or as mutually agreed and contained in the Management Plan, ranches must provide for equality of access in terms of geographical area and mode of transportation for both public and private hunters. No closure or restriction of land or roads shall apply to public hunters that do not also apply to private hunters.

5. Public hunts must be established at a time when the species to be hunted are present and available for harvest. No public seasons shall be established during times when normal winter conditions would prevent access to most of the ranch, nor when normal migration patterns of the species to be hunted result in the species having migrated off the ranch.

6. Ranches that establish coinciding or overlapping public and private hunts may not exclude public hunters from any portion of the ranch due to the presence of private hunters.

7. The Ranch and the Division will mutually agree to ranch rules regarding access to and hunting on the ranch by public hunters. The ranch rules will be provided to hunters prior to seasons on the ranch in accordance with other provisions contained in this regulation.

8. Enrolled ranches shall not be eligible for game damage payments or materials for those species hunted in the program when damage occurs within the boundaries of the enrolled portions of the ranch.

9. The Division may, at its sole discretion, require ranches with public bighorn sheep hunting seasons to provide scouting access to those hunters and their companions prior to such seasons. Provisions for this scouting access shall be contained in the Management Plan.

C. Cooperative Agreements, Enrollment, Denial of Enrollment, Termination of Enrollment

1. The Division is authorized to enter into Cooperative Agreements with ranches.

2. Ranches may appeal enrollment decisions to the Commission.

3. Cooperative Agreements shall incorporate approved Ranching For Wildlife Management Plans as part of the Cooperative Agreement.

4. The Division shall periodically evaluate ranches for enrollment, contract performance, and Tier placement, and shall establish minimum performance standards for ranches enrolled in the program, including wildlife habitat management and improvement, public recreation

opportunity and experience, and any factors intended to contribute to meeting Data Analysis Unit (DAU) management objectives. Such performance standards shall be incorporated into the Cooperative Agreement with the ranch.

D. Season Structures, Manner of Take, License Restrictions

1. Public and private seasons opening and closing date parameters

a. Deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, and bighorn sheep seasons may not begin before the first day of the statewide archery season for that species, nor extend beyond January 31.

b. Black bear season may not begin before September 2, nor extend beyond October 31.

2. Private season length

a. Deer, elk, or pronghorn private seasons are restricted to a maximum of ninety (90) days.

b. Moose or bighorn sheep private seasons are restricted to a maximum of 30 days.

3. Public season length

a. Deer and elk public season length

1. Antlered or either sex public hunting seasons shall be a minimum of ten (10) days in length for every licensed public hunter, either as a minimum of ten (10) consecutive days in length or divided into two (2) or more five (5) day periods.

2. Ranches must offer a total of at least ten (10) days of antlerless public hunting. The season may run a minimum of ten (10) consecutive days; or may be split into two (2) or more five (5) day periods in which a hunter's license is valid in each period; or may be split into two (2) or more five (5) day seasons in which a hunter's license is valid in one but not any other five (5) day season. Ranches electing to split seasons and limit hunter participation to a single five (5) day season must assure that total public hunter harvest and licenses available are as much or more than would be achieved in the other two antlerless season alternatives.

3. All public seasons or periods will include one full weekend, but seasons need not open on weekend days.

b. Pronghorn public season length

1. Buck or doe hunting seasons shall be a minimum of five (5) days in length. All public seasons shall include one full weekend, but seasons need not open on weekend days.

c. Black Bear public season length

1. Shall be a minimum of fifteen (15) days in length.

d. Moose public season length

1. Antlered or antlerless public hunting seasons shall be a minimum of ten (10) days in length. Antlered seasons shall include a minimum of five (5) consecutive days without overlapping any antlerless moose hunting season on the ranch.

e. Bighorn sheep public season length

1. Public hunting seasons for rams shall be a minimum of thirty (30) days in length and shall include a minimum of fifteen (15) consecutive days of hunting without overlapping any ewe hunting season on the ranch.

2. Public hunting seasons for ewes shall be a minimum of fifteen (15) days in length.

f. Additional primitive weapon seasons may be established provided that the season is structured so there is a minimum of 5 days of opportunity in which the method of take is restricted to archery or muzzleloading rifles.

1. These seasons shall be in addition to the previously mentioned minimum season lengths. Hunters drawing licenses for these seasons shall be allowed to hunt in the season with the restricted method of take and also in at least 10 additional days of opportunity with rifle method of take for moose, or antlered or either sex deer, elk, or black bear licenses; at least 5 additional days of opportunity with rifle method of take for pronghorn, or antlerless deer or elk licenses; at least 30 additional days of opportunity with rifle method of take for ram bighorn sheep licenses; and at least 15 additional days of opportunity with rifle method of take for ewe bighorn sheep. Additional primitive weapon seasons will include one full weekend.

4. Manner of Take

a. Rifle hunting shall be the designated manner of take. Provided further that additional public hunting seasons beyond the previously mentioned minimum levels may be established with more restricted manner of take. Any such seasons and licenses allocated to those seasons are additional public hunting opportunity and shall not reduce licenses that would otherwise be allocated for the rifle seasons.

5. License Restrictions

a. Ranching for Wildlife licenses are the only licenses valid for hunting of species under contract on the ranch, except as follows:

1. Auction and raffle licenses may be used when there is not a public season for the same species in progress on the ranch.

2. Antlerless deer or elk licenses may be used on a ranch when authorized in writing by the Division, subject to the following provisions:

a. There is an established season in which such licenses would be valid in the Game Management Unit (GMU) in which the ranch is located.

b. Such licenses shall not be used concurrently with any Ranching for Wildlife season, or at any other time when the Division determines that it would result in elk, deer, pronghorn, bighorn sheep, moose, or black bear not being available to Ranching for Wildlife public hunters.

c. The Division determines that any resulting harvest achieved will contribute to achieving DAU management objectives.

3. Any Dream Hunt or Youth Outreach license may be used on a ranch when authorized in writing by the Division, subject to the following provisions:

a. Such licenses shall not be used concurrently with any public Ranching for Wildlife season, or at any other time when the Division determines that it would result in species under contract on the ranch not being available to Ranching for Wildlife public hunters.

E. License Allocation

1. A maximum of 1,000 licenses of each species and sex for deer, elk, and pronghorn, a maximum of 30 black bear licenses, a maximum of 20 licenses of each sex for bighorn sheep, and a maximum of 50 licenses of each sex for moose may be allocated to each ranch annually, and subsequently distributed to the public and private share according to the distribution table established in this regulation.

2. Division staff recommendations regarding license allocations for each ranch shall be forwarded to and approved by the Director based upon Data Analysis Unit harvest objectives, relative ranch land base and occupied habitat for each species on the ranch to that of the Data Analysis Unit, hunter crowding, enhancement of hunter harvest, and relative densities of the species on the ranch.

3. Substitution of licenses of one species or sex for licenses of another species or sex shall not be permitted.

4. For purposes of determining distribution of licenses allocated to each ranch, either sex licenses will be treated as antlered licenses for deer and elk and buck licenses for pronghorn.

5. Landowner preference shall not be used for any public or private Ranching For Wildlife license. In addition, Ranching for Wildlife property may not be used to qualify for or receive landowner preference pursuant to §33-4-103, C.R.S.

6. The public share of the licenses in the following distribution tables represents the minimum for each species. Fractions of licenses shall be rounded up for public distribution licenses.

	DEER, ELK, AND PRONGHORN			
	Private Share of Licenses		Public Share of Licenses	
	% of total allocation to each ranch		% of total allocation to each ranch	
Tier	Buck, Antlered, or Either Sex	Doe or Antlerless	Buck, Antlered, or Either Sex	Doe or Antlerless
A	90	0	10	100
B	85	0	15	100
C	80	0	20	100

BLACK BEAR			
Private Share of Licenses		Public Share of Licenses	
% of total allocation to each ranch		% of total allocation to each ranch	
Either Sex		Either Sex	
60		40	
BIGHORN SHEEP			
Private Share of Licenses		Public Share of Licenses	
% of total allocation to each ranch		% of total allocation to each ranch	
Ram	Ewe	Ram	Ewe
50	0	50	100

MOOSE			
Private Share of Licenses		Public Share of Licenses	
% of total allocation to each ranch		% of total allocation to each ranch	
Antlered, or Either Sex	Antlerless	Antlered, or Either Sex	Antlerless
50	0	50	100

F. Youth Licenses

1. The Division and the ranch may formulate and implement youth hunting opportunities on any ranch through Division approved youth hunting programs. The Division must approve the youth hunting program on the ranch prior to any season or license allocation for such youth hunts.

2. A maximum of 15% of the total number for deer, elk, pronghorn, or black bear licenses allocated for a ranch may be allocated as youth hunting licenses on each ranch, over and above the total number of licenses allocated for a ranch.

3. Youth hunting seasons may occur at any time within the broad parameters for seasons within the Ranching For Wildlife program.

4. Youth licenses shall be distributed to individual youth hunters by mechanisms of the approved youth hunting program on the ranch. Youth licenses shall not count as either private or public licenses for purposes of calculating the relative share of other licenses allocated for the ranch.

G. Novice Adult Licenses

1. Starting in 2020, the Division and the ranch may formulate and implement novice adult hunting opportunities on any ranch through Division approved novice adult hunting programs. The Division must approve the novice adult hunting program on the ranch prior to any season or license allocation for such novice adult hunts.

2. A maximum of 15% of the total number for deer, elk, pronghorn, or black bear licenses allocated for a ranch may be allocated as novice adult hunting licenses on each ranch, over and above the total number of licenses allocated for a ranch.

3. Novice adult hunting seasons may occur at any time within the broad parameters for seasons within the Ranching for Wildlife program.

4. Novice adult licenses shall be distributed to individual novice adult hunters by mechanisms of the approved novice adult hunting program on the ranch. Novice adult licenses shall not count as either private or public licenses for purposes of calculating the relative share of other licenses allocated for the ranch.

H. License Distribution

1. Applications

a. Applications for private hunter licenses stamped with the ranch name and season dates shall be available to the landowner for distribution. Beginning June 8, 2027, with the launching of the Division's new integrated sales system, private hunter licenses will be issued in the form of vouchers to the landowner for distribution to redeeming hunters.

b. Public hunter licenses shall be available through application and selection from the Division during the annual limited license drawing process, except as provided in this regulation.

c. Leftover Ranching for Wildlife Licenses: Ranching for Wildlife licenses which are not issued through the regular drawing will be issued as "leftover" licenses using the reissue process~~, only through the "leftover" drawing process, rather than through the over-the-counter leftover license process~~.

I. Special Restrictions

1. Unless otherwise provided in these Ranching for Wildlife regulations all hunters must comply with other applicable regulations, including, but not limited to, manner of take (except that private hunters may use any legal weapon during private seasons), hunting hours, application requirements and deadlines, bag limits, season participation, mandatory checks, OHV restrictions, and other generally applicable regulations for big game hunting.

2. A copy of the mutually agreed upon ranch rules will be provided to all public hunters prior to their hunting season. All public hunters will be required to sign a statement acknowledging that they have read, understand, and agree to comply with all ranch rules, before the hunter is allowed access to the ranch.

a. Compliance with ranch rules is a specific condition of the Ranching For Wildlife public licenses and subsequent access to the ranch. In addition to criminal penalties, non-compliance with ranch rules constitutes grounds for suspension and revocation of the license and/or being prohibited from further participation in hunting on the ranch, and/or in the Ranching For Wildlife program as a public hunter.

b. Final determination on any legal action taken towards hunters found in non-compliance with ranch rules shall be made solely by officers of the Division. This includes any citation that may be issued for non-compliance with the provisions of a license, or directing a hunter to leave a ranch. Ranch personnel may not direct a hunter to leave a ranch without specific authorization of a Division officer.

#211 – Bighorn Sheep Access Program

A. Implementation Authority

1. The Director is authorized to implement the Bighorn Sheep Access Program (BSAP), including the authority to determine private land enrollment status, enter into cooperative agreements with legal landowners, establish and modify public and private season dates on each property, and establish and modify license allocations to each property including the subsequent distribution of licenses to the public and private share, and may establish additional BSAP operating guidelines subject to the following provisions. All new or renewed contracts must be signed by the Director by October 15 in order to participate in the program the following year.

B. Property Enrollment Constraints

1. Properties must have a minimum of 5,000 acres of privately owned land.

2. Except under the provisions of regulation #211(E)(5), there must be a sustainable population of Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep that are predictably present on the private lands and at times for which public hunting seasons may be set. All sheep on the property must be a part of a single bighorn sheep herd (DAU). Land under contract may not cross sheep herd boundaries. At least 60% of the sheep herd within the bighorn sheep game management unit to be hunted must be located on private land or State Trust Land.

3. Properties may not charge public hunters an access fee for hunting.

4. Except as agreed to in writing by the Division, enrolled properties must provide for equality of access in terms of geographical area and mode of transportation for both public and private hunters. No closure or restriction of land or roads shall apply to public hunters that do not also apply to private hunters.

5. Public hunts must be established at a time when sheep are present and available for harvest. No public seasons shall be established during times when normal winter conditions would prevent access to most of the property, nor when normal migration patterns would result in sheep having migrated off the property.

6. Ranches that establish coinciding or overlapping public and private hunts may not exclude public hunters from any portion of the property due to the presence of private hunters.

7. The private landowner(s) will provide to each public hunter a property information packet which includes, but is not limited to, property maps showing access routes and camping areas, and landowner contact information.

8. Enrolled properties shall not be eligible for game damage payments or materials for damage caused by Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep.

C. Cooperative Agreements, Enrollment, Termination of Enrollment

1. The Division is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with private property owners. Multiple private property owners may participate in the program under a single contract as long as all legal owners agree to the same terms and requirements.

2. The Division shall establish minimum performance standards or requirements for properties enrolled in the program. Such performance standards shall be incorporated into the cooperative agreement with each property owner(s). Each cooperative agreement will include an option to renew at the end of the contract period if agreed to by both the Division and private landowner.

3. Each cooperative agreement will also contain a termination clause. Potential termination will be based on public hunter satisfaction that is within the control of the property owner or manager. No future private ram licenses will be allocated to a property after their contract is terminated.

D. Season Structures, Manner of Take, License Restrictions

1. Public and private seasons opening and closing date parameters

   a. Ram seasons may not begin before August 1 and may not extend beyond December 31.

   b. Ewe seasons may not begin before September 1 and may not extend beyond January 15.

   c. Public ram seasons shall always precede private ram seasons. When necessary for private and public seasons to be conducted in the same year, public ram seasons will occur prior to private seasons.

2. Private season length

   a. Private ram seasons shall not be less than 20 days nor greater than 60 days.

3. Public season length

   a. Public ram seasons shall be equal or greater in length to the private ram seasons, but not less than 30 days nor greater than 60 days. If multiple ram seasons are necessary to spread out hunting pressure, then season length may be shortened to not less than 20 days per season.

   b. Ewe seasons shall be not less than 10 days in length with no more than a 5 day overlap with public ram seasons.

4. Method of take for ram hunting will be hunter's choice in accordance with regulation #203 of this chapter. Method of take for ewe hunting will be determined by contract negotiation.

5. License Restrictions

   a. BSAP licenses are the only licenses valid for hunting sheep on the property, except that auction and raffle licenses may be used when there is not a public season in progress on the property.

E. License Allocation

1. Division staff recommendations regarding license allocations for each property shall be approved by the Director.

2. All ewe licenses allocated are public licenses. The Division shall determine if ewe hunting is needed or desired for sheep management on the property.

3. The public share of the licenses in the following distribution table represents the minimum number of licenses provided to the public. Fractions of licenses shall be rounded up for public distribution licenses.

	ROCKY MOUNTAIN BIGHORN SHEEP			
	Private Share of Licenses		Public Share of Licenses	
	% of total allocation to each enrolled property		% of total allocation to each enrolled property	
Option	Ram	Ewe	Ram	Ewe
A	67	0	33	100
B	75	0	25	100
C	50	0	50	100

4. Enrolled properties with a sustainable Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep population already present will have the choice between two license distribution options (option A or B). In order to receive the license allocation percentages listed in option B, a competent, skilled guide will be provided for free to the public ram hunter. The guide must be competent and knowledgeable of the property and of bighorn sheep behavior and use patterns on the property. The guide provided to the public ram hunter must be the same guide provided to the private ram hunter, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Division. In order to receive the license allocation percentages listed in option A, each public sheep hunter will receive free access to the property and a free area for camping if the property is located 40 minutes or more from public accommodations. No free guiding services are provided under option A.

5. Option C is available for property owners who would like their land evaluated for bighorn sheep transplant or augmentation for inclusion in the BSAP under option C. Notice of interest must be submitted in writing to the local district wildlife manager by April 1 annually. If the Division approves the transplant and property enrollment, the Division and landowner will share the costs of the trap and transplant operation. Prior to the transplant, the Division and the ranch will enter a cooperative agreement under option C. The cooperative agreement will extend 10 years beyond the time of transplant. The cooperative agreement may be amended to extend it for additional years if hunting was not initiated within the 10-year cooperative agreement period. When the Division and property owner determine that the herd can sustain hunting harvest, the original cooperative agreement will be amended to include provisions for season dates, licenses and any bighorn sheep habitat management plans agreed to by the landowner and the Division. When hunting is initiated, ram licenses will be issued at a 1:1 public/private ratio for 10 hunting seasons. After the 10 hunting seasons, the landowner may choose to withdraw from the program or re-enroll in a new contract under option A or B.

6. Public ram hunters will be allowed to bring a maximum of two additional non-hunting persons with them onto the property during their hunt. Ewe hunters will be allowed to bring a maximum of one additional non-hunting person with them onto the property during their hunt.

7. Landowners are not required to provide pre-draw or pre-season scouting access in any license allocation option.

F. License Distribution

1. Applications

a. Applications for private ram licenses stamped with the ranch name and season dates shall be available to the landowner for distribution. Beginning June 8, 2027, with the launching of the Division's new integrated sales system, private ram licenses will be issued in the form of vouchers to the landowner for distribution to redeeming hunters.

b. Public hunter licenses shall be available through application and selection from the Division during the annual limited license drawing process.

ARTICLE VI – Mountain Lion

#242 – Rifle and Associated Methods Mountain Lion Seasons

A. General and Extended Seasons

1. Dogs may be used to hunt mountain lion. However, the pack size shall be limited to no more than eight (8) dogs.

2. The hunter that takes a mountain lion shall be present at the time and place that any dogs are released on the track of a mountain lion and must continuously participate in the hunt until it ends. After a mountain lion has been pursued, treed, cornered or held at bay, a properly licensed person shall take or release the mountain lion immediately. No person shall in any manner restrict or hinder the mountain lion's ability to escape for the purpose of allowing a person who was not present at the time and place that any dogs were released, to arrive and take the mountain lion.

3. Hunt Type, Dates, Units (as described in Chapter 0 of these regulations), and Harvest Limit Quotas.

a. Mountain Lion, Either-sex Season and Harvest Limits – In Game Management Units, as follows, with seasons as specified starting mid November 2025:

Units	Seasons	Lion Harvest Limit
1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 21, 22, 30, 31, 32, 201, 211, 301	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	85
4 , 5, 12, 13, 14, 23, 24, 33, 131, 214, 231, 441	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	75
6, 15, 16, 17, 18, 25, 26, 27, 28, 34, 35, 36, 37, 161, 171, 181, 361, 371	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	36

Units	Seasons	Lion Harvest Limit
7, 8, 9, 19, 20, 29, 38, 191	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	28
39, 46, 50, 51, 391, 461, 500, 501	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	19
40, 41, 42, 47, 421, 471	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	31
43, 44, 45, 431, 444	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	33
48, 49, 56, 57, 58, 481, 561, 581	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	30
52, 53, 63, 411, 521	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	31
54, 55, 66, 67, 551	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	20
59, 511, 591	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	9
60, 61, 70	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	24
62, 64, 65	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	25
68, 76, 79, 82, 681, 682, 791	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	16
69, 84, 85, 86, 691, 851, 861	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	47
71, 72, 73, 711	Mid November* - March 31 of the following year, annually	30

Units	Seasons	Lion Harvest Limit
74, 75, 77, 78, 741, 751, 771	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	23
80, 81, 83	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	18
87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 106, 107, 109, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 132, 139, 145, 951	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	5
104, 105, 110, 128, 129, 130, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 146, 147	Mid November* – March 31 of the following year, annually	22
TOTAL		**607**

* The November opening date is the day after the close of the final combined deer and elk rifle season annually.

B. Licenses and GMU Harvest Limit Status

1. A valid mountain lion license is required to hunt any mountain lion.

2. Except as provided in 33-3-106 C.R.S., it is unlawful for any person to purchase or obtain a mountain lion hunting license or hunt mountain lions unless the person obtains a mountain lion education certificate issued by the Division attesting to the person's successful completion of the Division's certified mountain lion education and identification course. Any person required to obtain such a certificate shall have proof of the certificate on his or her person while hunting or taking mountain lion.

3. Prior to each hunting trip in any game management unit, but not earlier than 5:00 p.m. of the day before hunting, lion hunters must check the *Available Lion Harvest Limit Report* on the Division website or any Division office to determine which game management units have not reached the unit harvest limit and are open to hunting. It shall be unlawful to hunt in a unit after it is closed.

C. Special Restrictions

1. Reporting and Sealing

a. The taking of mountain lions by licensed hunters shall be reported to the Division within 48 hours after the taking thereof, and except as provided in these regulations, the lion shall be personally presented by the hunter for inspection and sealing within five (5) days after the taking thereof. Mountain lion heads and hides must be unfrozen when presented for inspection. If not unfrozen, the Division may retain heads and hides as necessary for

thawing sufficient to extract a premolar tooth. A mandatory check report shall be completed at the time of inspection.

b. At the time of the mandatory check, the Division shall be authorized to extract and retain a premolar tooth.

2. The legal possession seal when attached to the mountain lion skull or hide shall authorize possession, transportation, tanning or mounting thereof. No fee shall be required for the inspection and issuance of a legal possession seal which shall remain attached to the skull or hide until processed. Mountain lions shall not be transported, shipped or otherwise taken out of Colorado until the hide and skull are inspected and sealed.

3. Lions with Kittens – No person shall kill a mountain lion accompanied by one or more kittens or kill a kitten.

4. "Kitten" shall mean a lion with spots.

Special Seasons

ARTICLE XII – Special Hunting Seasons/Licenses for Big Game

#271 – Big Game Animals Causing Damage and Big Game Populations Over Objective

A. Special Population Management Seasons for Big Game Ungulates

1. The Director shall have the authority to establish special management seasons for antlerless or female big game ungulates in specific game management units or portions thereof which significantly exceed the population objective, when the anticipated harvest from the current year's archery, muzzle-loading and regular rifle seasons did not occur. Provided further that the Director shall have the authority to establish these hunts between November 16 and February 28, to specify a time period for each of these hunts but not to exceed ten days each, and shall authorize hunters to use designated unfilled big game licenses for these hunts and units.

2. The Director shall have the authority to allocate antlerless deer and/or elk licenses on existing Ranching for Wildlife properties located in game management units where deer or elk populations significantly exceed the population objective. These licenses shall be in addition to the number of licenses allocated to each ranch pursuant to the Cooperative Agreement established in #210(A)(2). The additional allocation and use of the antlerless licenses provided for in this section shall be allocated by season(s) and quota(s) established in the ranch's respective Cooperative Agreement and subject to the following provisions:

a. No ranch shall be required to accept any additional antlerless licenses.

b. The public allocation of such additional antlerless licenses shall only be offered to hunters who have successfully drawn antlered, either-sex or antlerless licenses for the same species on the ranch. Public hunters who choose to purchase one additional antlerless license from the Division shall be required to use the additional license during the season established for the license for which they drew. No more than one additional antlerless license will be available to any public hunter.

c. The allocation of such additional antlerless licenses for private seasons shall be equal to, and not to exceed, the total number of additional antlerless licenses allocated to public hunters.

B. Special Game Damage Seasons for Big Game Ungulates

1. The Director shall have the authority to establish special hunting seasons for big game ungulates when necessary to control damage to property. Seasons shall be for the taking of antlerless or female animals unless the Director has determined that the taking of antlered or male animals is necessary to alleviate the damage. These seasons may occur year-round for male wild bison, between August 15 and January 31 for female wild bison, and between August 15 and February 28 for other ungulates.

    a. Game damage hunts are limited to a maximum of 50 licenses per species per Game Management Unit or 30 percent of the antlerless, either-sex, or doe licenses issued for the DAU (whichever is greater), unless a distribution management plan establishing a different percentage has been approved by the Parks and Wildlife Commission or additional permits are approved by the Director or their~~his~~ designee.

    b. On private lands and Russell Lakes, Rio Grande and Higel State Wildlife Areas, the Area Wildlife Manager (AWM) is authorized to conduct these seasons based upon the following criteria:

        1. The AWM finds that such a season would be consistent with the distribution management plan approved by the Parks and Wildlife Commission.

        2. When there is no approved distribution management plan, the AWM finds that a season will reduce or eliminate damage for which the Division is liable, and that holding a season would be desirable considering

            a. The species and number of animals involved.

            b. The number of animals that would have to be removed to reduce or eliminate damage.

            c. The location of the damage problem.

            d. The type and extent of damage.

            e. The time of year and its relationship to the life history of the animals.

            f. The length of time such damage will continue without big game removal.

            g. Management closures, hunting seasons and other public use.

            h. The effect on population objectives for the GMU and DAU.

            i. Whether landowner operations (e.g., harvesting) or critical wildlife biological activities (e.g., fawning) would be interrupted.

            j. Safety risks.

            k. Any other pertinent factors.

        3. The Area Wildlife Manager shall provide the landowner with special application forms for distribution to individuals of their choice. Participants shall submit the completed application form with payment to the Division office indicated on the application.

        4. In the event the landowner cannot secure enough people to effect an adequate harvest the Division can assist in locating individuals.

a. The Division shall

1. Verify that damage or conflicts are occurring or can reasonably be anticipated to occur.

2. Designate what area shall be open to hunting.

3. Determine the manner of hunting that will be permitted.

4. Determine the number of hunters allowed to hunt in each designated area.

b. Hunting will be done under the direction of a District Wildlife Manager, following approval by the owner of land where such damage is occurring.

c. Hunters shall hunt in designated areas and on the dates indicated on the license.

1. A map or a written description of the designated area open to hunting (which would include, but would not be limited to landowner(s) name, game management unit, township, range and section(s) and/or identification of landmarks such as roads, rivers, or fence lines which coincide with boundaries), will be provided to each licensed hunter by the Division.

d. Any person who purchases a license for a game damage season shall be required to complete a Division harvest survey form and return it to the Area office that is nearest the location of the hunt no later than 5 days after the season ends.

C. Special Game Damage Licenses for Bear and Mountain Lion

1. The Director shall have the authority to establish special hunting licenses for mountain lion and bear, which allow for take in excess of the otherwise applicable limited license numbers or quotas, when necessary to control damage to private property.

a. AWMs are authorized to issue these bear and mountain lion licenses to address specific animals determined after an investigation to be causing damage to private property.

1. Bear or mountain lion licenses above the established limited license numbers or quota for the area may be issued only where necessary to take specific animals determined after an investigation to be causing damage to private property.

2. Bear hunting authorized under this provision will be conducted between September 2 and the end of the fourth regular rifle season annually.

3. Mountain lion hunting authorized under this provision will be conducted during established lion seasons.

4. Licenses will be issued only if licenses are not otherwise available for purchase under standard license distribution methods or where mountain lion quotas have been reached in the area.

5. License will be restricted by manner of take, period of time within the dates specified above, and location within the GMU(s) or DAU(s) in question as necessary to ensure the offending animal is appropriately targeted.

6. Hunting will be conducted under the direction of a District Wildlife Manager.

b. Any person who purchases a license shall be required to complete a Division harvest survey form and return it to the Area office that is nearest the location of the hunt no later than 5 days after the end of the hunting period authorized by the license.

c. Bear and mountain lion taken pursuant to a license issued under this provision shall not be counted against the annual bag and possession limit for the species in question.

D. Special Hunting Season In Game Management Unit 20 For Cow Elk Normally Not Available For Harvest During Regular Or Late Big Game Seasons:

1. Season dates, license types, permit numbers will be established by the Director or their~~his~~ designee.

2. The Division will designate the area open to hunting, manner of take, and season dates which are necessary to achieve its population management objective for this population of elk. Hunting shall occur only during the designated time periods indicated on the hunter's license and only in those areas specifically designated on the map provided by the Division. Special Unit 20 cow elk hunts shall be established based on the following criteria: (a) the hunt does not fall within the criteria established for game damage hunts; (b) snow ground cover and/or other conditions favor are expected to favor successful hunting; (c) elk must be available to hunters in portions of Unit 20 which are open to hunter access; and (d) no special season will be created under this regulation which would extend beyond February 15th.

3. Eligible hunters will be selected in the following priority: a) from the list of hunters who applied for a Unit 20 limited elk license and were unsuccessful; and b) from a new list of hunters established by the Division Northeast Regional office pursuant to notice in local newspapers. Such list will be established on a first-come, first-served basis.

4. Individuals who participate in this special hunt may also participate in any other season for elk if otherwise eligible to do so.

E. Special Hunting Licenses and Seasons For Deer and Elk in Urbanized Areas:

1. The Division Director (or designee) shall have the authority to establish special deer and elk hunting seasons between August 15 and February 28 annually to achieve population management objectives as specified in Division approved county or ~~municiple~~ municipal management plans. Seasons shall be for the taking of antlerless animals unless the Director determines~~determins~~ that the taking of antlered animals is necessary per the issues and goals brought forth in the Division approved management plan.

2. Counties or municipalities must submit a proposed management plan to the Division, which includes the following:

   a. Explanation~~Explaination~~ of the need and scope of the issues (i.e. habitat degradation~~degredation~~, human conflicts, human health and safety issues, etc);
   b. Estimated population of deer or elk creating the issue and a target population number being sought post removal;
   c. Season dates;
   d. Manner of take;
   e. Numbers of licenses and projected harvest;
   f. Geographic location and description of hunting area(s); and
   g. Method for selecting eligible hunters.

3. Management plans will be evaluated on the merits of furthering goals for suburban deer or elk management and in relation to the appropriate Division Big Game Herd (DAU) Management Plan. The Director (or designee) shall provide the county or municipality with special application forms for distribution to individuals as specified within the submitted and approved management plan. Participants shall submit the completed application to the Division to obtain the appropriate hunting license.

4. The participating county or municipality will assume full responsibility for the plans and elements therein. The Division will be available to provide technical assistance to the county or municipality in preparing the management plan.

5. The county or municipality may not charge hunters a fee beyond what is required to cover their administrative costs to run the program.

6. All participating counties, municipalities and individuals are required to follow all applicable state statutes~~statutues~~ and regulations. No county or municipality will allow, encourage, or otherwise promote violations thereof.

7. The Division can unilaterally, without prior notification, terminate or void any applications given to a county or municipality prior to their redemption~~redemtion~~ for a license for issues related to human health, safety, or any wildlife related violations associated with the management plan implementation, or documented deviation from the management plan as it was submitted to the Division. Management plans may be amended with Division approval.

8. Individuals who participate in these special hunts may also participate in any other season for deer or elk if otherwise eligible to do so.

9. Any county or municipality receiving licenses for a special hunting season for deer and elk in urbanized areas shall be required to complete a Division harvest survey form and return it to the Area office that is nearest to the location of the hunt no later than 5 days after the season ends.

Basis and Purpose:

Differential pricing for nonresident black bear, youth black bear, and nonresident mountain lion

Following the passage of the Hunting, Fishing, and Parks for Future Generations Act (SB 18-143), the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission has the authority to adjust most wildlife licenses annually with the Consumer Price Index (CPI). While most resident and nonresident wildlife license fees have been adjusted to the statutory maximum, differential pricing has been retained for nonresident black bear and youth resident and nonresident black bear.

Updating regulations to implement the new licensing system in June of 2027

In June of 2027 CPW will be moving to a new licensing system. As part of the change most of the CPW products will be changing from physical products to electronic products or e-products. To make this switch to e-products the regulations need to be updated with the new terminology and procedures. These changes remove references to paper forms where they are no longer going to be accepted as customers will instead fill out paperwork electronically.

E-tag numbers will also replace the current carcass tags. In order to get an e-tag number a person who has killed a wildlife species for which an e-tag is required must immediately report their harvest by e-tagging either through the Division's mobile phone app, online through the CPWShop website, or by calling the harvest in. If a person does not have access to report their harvest, they must immediately sign and date a paper copy of their license as a temporary measure, until e-tagging is possible. E-tagging must be completed within 48 hours in circumstances when a paper license is being used a temporarily tag. A harvested animal may be transported without physical documentation on the animal so long as the hunter is present. If the hunter is not present, the harvested animal should be marked with the hunter's name and e-tagging number or the signed and dated paper copy of the license. If a license is inadvertently or accidentally electronically voided, the tag can be reactivated by contacting the Division for assistance.

Adopting preference point fees for bear, elk, deer, pronghorn, and turkey

Starting in 2028 with the implementation of the Draw Working Group changes, the allocation rules will apply to the first and second choice hunt codes. This policy change will result in more residents drawing limited licenses than they do currently once the second choice hunt codes also have a nonresident cap. As nonresidents pay more per license than residents, this will lead to a revenue loss for CPW. What is unknown at this time is how much exactly that revenue loss will be. Existing draw reports do not allow CPW to calculate how much revenue could be lost after the first two choices. To help offset this range of revenue loss, the Commission asked for new preference point fees to be implemented for deer, elk, bear, pronghorn, and turkey. Currently, preference points for these species are free of charge, unlike the $50 and $100 residents and nonresidents pay, respectively, for moose, sheep, and goat preference points. Currently the Commission feels it is best to start with a small preference point fee of $5.00 for residents and $10.00 for nonresidents. Then if this fee does not offset the revenue loss from the allocation change the fee could be modified later. It is important to note that preference point fees are optional fees that customers can opt out of paying if they do not wish to obtain an additional species preference point for the year. Landowner preference points for deer, elk and pronghorn obtained through registration, enrollment and application in the Landowner Preference Program(LPP) will be exempt from the approved

preference point fees as LPP regulations and program changes were determined to be out-of-scope for the 2025 Draw Working Group process and associated public engagement.

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 JANUARY 1, 2027, 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 4TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026.