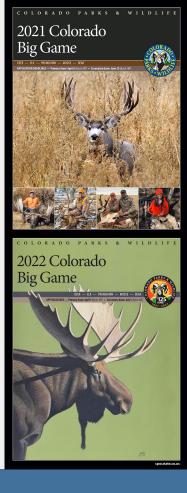


# Big Game Season Structure 2025-2029



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# Big Game Season Structure (BGSS)

Establishes a framework to guide annual big game hunting regulations statewide:

- > Sets the dates and length of big game hunting seasons
- > Specifies hunting seasons by method of take
- > Provides consistency in management and predictability for the public
- > Framework is reassessed every 5 years
- > Includes extensive staff and public involvement







## Public Involvement (completed 2022)

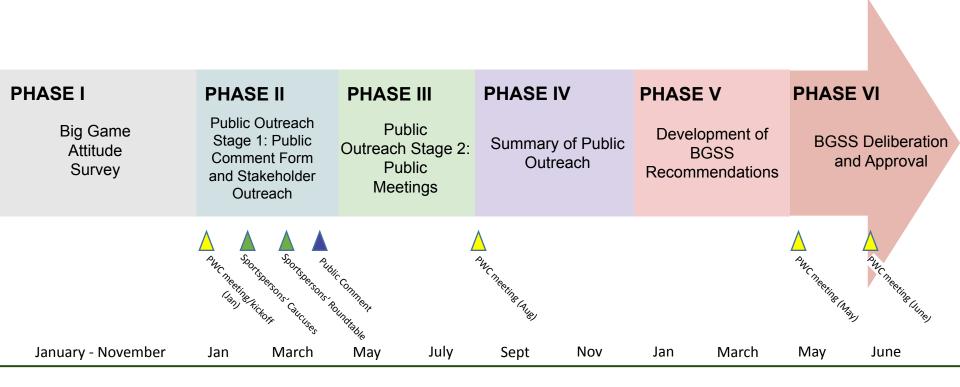
#### Informing the License Distribution and BGSS Processes:

- ➤ Big Game Attitudes Survey (BGAS)
- > Public comment form
- > Staff comment form
- > Public focus groups
- > Stakeholder involvement





#### **Big Game Season Structure Timeline**



2022 2023 2024

#### **Primary BGSS Topics**

- 1) Limitation of Over-the-Counter Elk Licenses
  - > Archery, rifle, both, or none
  - > Nonresidents only, or resident and nonresidents

- 2) Dates and Length of Early Seasons and Rifle Seasons
  - > Preference between 2020-2024 BGSS and 2015-2019 BGSS
  - > Additional alternatives

- 3) Weighted-Point Draw Process Modification
  - ➤ Commission to consider improving the likelihood of high-point holders to draw a sheep, goat, or moose tag





## Administrative BGSS Changes

- a) Private Land Only (PLO) Black Bear Season
  - ➤ Clarify intention of 2020-2024 BGSS Section XI. OO.
  - > Better align PLO bear license setting with DAU management strategy
- b) Mountain Lion
  - > Clean-up of 2020-2024 BGSS Section X.II. (Fall concurrent lion season)
- c) Regional Management Issues
  - > Flexibility requested in BGSS for the option to make cow moose season choice (NW and NE Regions)
  - > Flexibility requested in BGSS to allow opting out of the fourth rifle seasonal for elk







### Topics Not Included in the 2025-2029 BGSS

- > Preference points
- Preference point banking
- Group preference point averaging
- > License allocation





#### Discussion

 Limitation of OTC Elk Licenses

- Dates and Length of Early and Rifle Seasons
- 3) Weighted-Point Draw Process Modification

#### Administrative Changes:

- a) OTC PLO Black Bear Season
- b) Mountain Lion Fall Concurrent Season
- c) Regional Issues
  - Cow Moose Season Choice Optional
  - Fourth Rifle Elk Season Opt-Out Optional



