

R657. Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources.

R657-43. Landowner Permits.

R657-43-1. Purpose and Authority.

(1) Under authority of Sections 23-14-18 and 23-14-19, this rule provides the standards and procedures for private landowners to obtain landowner permits for:

(a) taking buck deer within the general [regional]unit hunt boundary area where the landowner's property is located during the general deer hunt only; and

(b) taking bull elk, buck deer or buck pronghorn within a limited entry unit.

(2) In addition to this rule, any person who receives a landowner permit must abide by Rule R657-5 and the proclamation of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(3) The intent of the general landowner buck deer permit is to provide an opportunity for landowners, lessees, or their immediate family, whose property provides habitat for deer, to purchase a general deer permit for the general [regional]unit hunt boundary area where the landowner's property is located.

(4) The intent of the limited entry landowner permit is to provide an opportunity for landowners, whose property provides habitat for deer, elk, or pronghorn, to be allocated a restricted number of permits for a limited entry bull elk, buck deer, or buck pronghorn unit, where the landowner's property is located. Allowing landowners a restricted number of permits:

(a) encourages landowners to manage their land for wildlife;

(b) compensates the landowner for providing private land as habitat for wildlife; and

(c) allows the division to increase big game numbers on specific units.

R657-43-2. Definitions.

(1) Terms used in this rule are defined in Section 23-13-2.

(2) In addition:

(a) "Eligible property" means:

(i) private land that provides habitat for deer, elk or pronghorn as determined by the division of Wildlife Resources;

(ii) private land that is not used in the operation of a Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit;

(iii) private land that is not used in the operation of an elk farm or elk hunting park;

(iv) land in agricultural use as provided in Section 59-2-502 and eligible for agricultural use valuation as provided in Sections 59-2-503 and 59-2-504; and

(v) for the purpose of receiving general buck deer permits, a minimum of 640 acres of private land owned or leased by one landowner within the general [regional]unit hunt boundary; or

(vi) private land, including crop land owned by members of a landowner association for limited entry permits.

(b) "Immediate family" means the landowner's or lessee's spouse, children, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother, sister, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepchildren, and grandchildren.

(c) “Landowner” means any person, partnership, or corporation who owns property in Utah and whose name appears on a deed as the owner of eligible property or whose name appears as the purchaser on a contract for sale of eligible property.

(d) “Landowner association” means an organization of private landowners who own property within a limited entry unit, organized for the purpose of working with the division.

(e) “Lessee” means any person, partnership, or corporation whose name appears as the Lessee on a written lease, for at least a one-year period, for eligible property used for farming or ranching purposes, and who is in actual physical control of the eligible property.

(f) “Limited entry unit” means a specified geographical area that is closed to hunting deer, elk or pronghorn to any person who has not obtained a valid permit to hunt in that unit.

(g) “Voucher” means a document issued by the division to a landowner, landowner association, or Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit operator, allowing a landowner, landowner association, or Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit operator to designate who may purchase a landowner big game hunting permit from a division office.

R657-43-5. Application for General Landowner Buck Deer Permits.

(1) Applications for general landowner buck deer permits are available from division offices.

(2) Only one eligible landowner or lessee may submit an application for the same parcel of land within the respective general [regional]unit hunt boundary area.

(3) In cases where more than one application is received for the same parcel of land, all applications will be rejected.

(4) Applications must include:

(a) total acres owned within the respective general [regional]unit hunt boundary area;

(b) signature of the landowner; and

(c) location of the private lands, acres owned, county and region.

(5) In cases where the landowner’s or lessee’s land is in more than one general [regional]unit hunt boundary area, the landowner or lessee may select one of those [regions]units from which to receive the permit.

(6) a non-refundable handling fee must accompany each application.

(7) a landowner may not apply for or obtain a general landowner buck deer permit without possessing a Utah hunting or combination license.

(8) Applications will be available by January 7.

(9) Applications must be completed and returned to the regional division office.

(10) The signature on the application will serve as an affidavit certifying ownership.

KEY: wildlife, landowner permits, big game seasons

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