UTAH DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

2012 BIG GAME

UTAH FIELD REGULATIONS

WILDLIFE.UTAH.GOV

CONTACT US

Division offices

Offices are open 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Salt Lake City
1594 W North Temple
Box 146301
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301
801-538-4700

Central Region
1115 N Main Street
Springville, UT 84663
801-491-5678

Northeastern Region
New Location
318 N Vernal Avenue
Vernal, UT 84078
435-781-9453

Northern Region
515 E 5300 S
Ogden, UT 84405
801-476-2740

Southeastern Region
319 N Carbonville Road, Ste A
Price, UT 84501
435-613-3700

Southern Region
1470 N Airport Road
Cedar City, UT 84721
435-865-6100

Washington County (Field Office)
451 N SR-318
Hurricane, UT 84737
435-879-8694

On the cover: Andrew Rappl posing with a buck deer taken in Utah's Book Cliffs during the muzzleloader hunt.

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HIGHLIGHTS

What's new this season?

New $5 predator-control fee: In 2012, the Utah Legislature passed a law that adds a $5 fee to all Utah big game hunting permits. The fee will be added to 2012 antlerless permits and any remaining big game permits sold after July 1. The money will fund a new program to control predators, particularly coyotes. For details, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/predators.*

Hunt deer in units, instead of regions: In 2012, the general-season deer hunt will take place in 30 units, instead of five regions. For detailed unit maps, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/maps.*

Nine-day rifle deer hunt in all areas: In 2012, the general-season any legal weapon (rifle) deer hunt will run from Oct. 20–28 statewide. For season dates, please see page 6.

Changes to the deer management plan: The Utah Wildlife Board amended the state's deer management plan in May 2012, allowing the Division to manage some units for 15–17 bucks per 100 does and other units for 18–20 bucks per 100 does. For details, see the article on "Changes to Utah's Deer Management Plan" on page 10.

No forfeiture of bonus points: In May 2012, the Wildlife Board revoked the rule that would have eliminated hunters' bonus points if they failed to apply for a limited-entry or once-in-a-lifetime permit at least once every three years.

Flexibility in using antlerless elk permits: Starting this year, if you obtain two antlerless elk permits for the same area—but the permits are for different seasons—you may harvest both elk during the same season. For details, see the information box on page 18.

New antlerless elk-control areas: Did you obtain a buck deer, bull elk or bison permit for an elk-control area? If so, you may be eligible to purchase an antlerless elk-control permit. This

A CLOSER LOOK AT THE RULES

This guidebook summarizes Utah's big game hunting laws and rules. Although it is a convenient quick-reference document for Utah big game regulations, it is not an all-encompassing resource.

For an in-depth look at the state's big game hunting laws and rules, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/rules*.

You can use the references in the guidebook—such as Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-24 and Utah Code § 23-20-25—to search the Division's website for the detailed statute or rule that underpins the guidebook summary.

If you have questions about a particular rule, call or visit the nearest Division office.

Who makes the rules?

The Utah Wildlife Board passes the rules and laws summarized in this guidebook.

There are seven board members, and each serves a six-year term. Appointed by the governor, board members are not Division employees.

The Division's director serves as the board's executive secretary but does not have a vote on wildlife policies.

Before board members make changes to wildlife rules, they listen to recommendations from Division biologists. They also receive input from the public and various interest groups via the regional advisory council (RAC) process.

If you have feedback or suggestions for board members, you can find their contact information online at *wildlife.utah.gov*.

Wildlife Board members

Jake Albrecht
John Bair
Calvin Crandall
Bill Fenimore
Michael King

Del Brady, *Chair*
Ernie Perkins, *Vice Chair*
James F. Karpowitz, *Division Director Executive Secretary*

year, you can use an elk-control permit in two new areas: Morgan-South Rich and South Slope, Yellowstone. See page 24 for a list of all antlerless elk-control areas.

Change for muzzleloader hunters: Starting in 2012, hunters may use black powder or black powder substitutes that contain nitrocellulose.

Using a dog to track wounded big game: Starting in 2012, if you wound a big game animal, you may use one leashed dog to track it. For details, see page 36.

Change in trespass laws: In 2012, the Utah Legislature made changes to Utah's trespass laws. Please read the Trespassing section starting on page 34 for the latest regulations.

Changes to general-season archery deer hunt: The general-season archery deer hunt will not be statewide in 2012. If you obtain a general-season archery deer permit this year, you must hunt the unit listed on your permit. If you're interested in the extended archery deer season, see page 13.

Changes to youth opportunities: In order to hunt all three general deer seasons (archery, muzzleloader and any legal weapon), a youth who is 18 or younger must have a general-season any legal weapon permit. This is a change from previous years. For details, see the article on page 9.

Change in remaining permit sales: If any general-season deer permits remain after the big game drawing, they will go on sale to the public. This year, there are some changes in when and how these permits will be sold. For details, see page 8.

Extended archery boundary changes: Three of the extended archery hunt boundaries are changing in 2012. Visit *wildlife.utah.gov/maps* to see the updated maps and boundaries.

Boundary changes: Some hunt boundaries have changed this year. To find a map and description of the area you want to hunt, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/maps*.

Check for closures: There may be late-season closures on federal and state lands. Before heading into the field, please check with the managing agency for the area you plan to hunt.

And keep in mind

Research antlerless hunts online: The Division will no longer print an Antlerless guidebook. Starting May 25, you can find all of the information you need to research your hunt—including application dates, rules, hunt tables, boundaries and maps—at *wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks*. The application period runs from June 1–21, 2012.

Hunting in Salt Lake County: Before you hunt deer or elk in Salt Lake County, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/maps* to view the boundaries and to note any special restrictions.

Mandatory reporting: Many big game hunters must report hunt information within 30 calendar days after the end of the hunting season (even if they did not harvest an animal). To see if you are required to report—and to learn how to report—see the information box on page 15 or visit *wildlife.utah.gov/harvestreporting*.

Multiple elk permits: You may obtain two elk permits—provided one or both of the permits are antlerless—but you can only apply for or obtain one antlerless elk permit in the drawing. To learn more about this opportunity, see the information box on page 18.

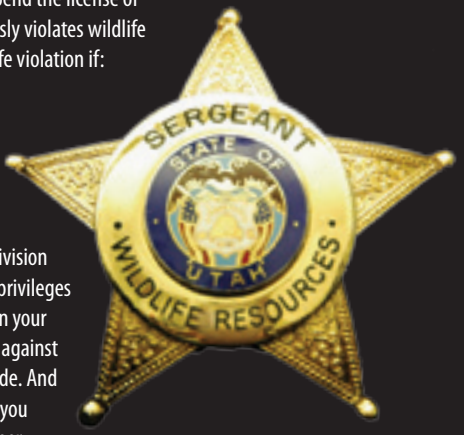
Wearing hunter orange: In 2009, the Utah Legislature modified Utah's hunter orange regulation. Please see page 30 for details.

Use a licensed guide: If you plan to use a guide or outfitter on public land in the 2012 hunting season, state law requires that individual to be licensed. Please see page 30 for details or visit *wildlife.utah.gov/guides*.

Don't lose your hunting and fishing privileges

If you commit a wildlife violation, you could lose the privilege of hunting and fishing in Utah. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources can suspend the license of anyone who knowingly, intentionally or recklessly violates wildlife laws. Your license can be suspended for a wildlife violation if:

- You are convicted.
- You plead guilty or no contest.
- You enter a plea in abeyance or diversion agreement.



Suspension proceedings are separate and independent from criminal prosecution. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources may suspend your license privileges whether or not the court considers suspension in your criminal case. You will be notified of any action against your privilege after criminal proceedings conclude. And remember, if your license is suspended in Utah, you may not be permitted to hunt or fish in most other states. (Visit *ianrc.org* to see a map of participating states.)

National parks closed to hunting: All of Utah's national parks and monuments—except the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument—are closed to hunting.

Review application guidebook: If you have questions about the 2012 big game application period, hunt drawing or limited-entry season dates, please see the 2012 Utah Big Game Application Guidebook at *wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks*. That guidebook was printed in December 2011 and is a companion to this book.

Guidebook corrections: If errors are found in this guidebook after it is printed, the Division will correct them in the online copy. Visit *wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks* to view digital versions of all the Division's guidebooks.

Protection from discrimination: The Division receives federal financial assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior and its bureaus prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility, or if you desire further information, please write to:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office for Diversity and Civil Rights Programs—External Programs
4040 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 130
Arlington, VA 22203

Private lands: The Division cannot guarantee access to any private land. If you plan to hunt—or engage in any other wildlife-related activities—in an area made up of all or mostly private lands, you must obtain WRITTEN permission from the landowner or the landowner's authorized representative. For more information, please see the Trespassing section on page 34.

Division funding: The Division is mostly funded by the sale of hunting and fishing licenses and through federal aid made possible by an excise tax on the sale of firearms and other hunting- and fishing-related equipment.

2012 SEASON DATES AND FEES

General-season dates

Hunt	Dates
General archery deer	Aug. 18–Sept. 14
General muzzleloader deer	Sept. 26–Oct. 4
General any legal weapon deer	Oct. 20–Oct. 28
General archery any bull elk	Aug. 18–Sept. 14
General archery spike elk	Aug. 18–Sept. 7
General season spike and any bull elk	Oct. 6–Oct. 18
General muzzleloader elk	Oct. 31–Nov. 8
Youth general any bull elk	Sept. 15–Sept. 23
Youth late season any bull elk	Dec. 1, 2012–Jan. 15, 2013

CWMU season dates

The Utah Wildlife Board has established timeframes for hunting on Cooperative Wildlife Management Units (CWMUs). Hunters should expect to hunt at least five days for bucks/bulls and two days for antlerless big game within these timeframes.

To see the timeframes and learn more about the CWMU program, see the article on page 26 or visit *wildlife.utah.gov/cwmu*.

Permit fees

The following permit costs include the new $5 predator-control fee. For more about the Division's efforts to control predators, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/predators*.

Permit	Resident	Nonresident
General deer	$40	$268
General any bull elk or spike bull elk	$50	$393

Sportsman and statewide conservation permit season dates

Hunt	Dates
Deer and elk on any open unit with archery equipment** †	Aug. 18–Aug. 31
Deer and elk on any open unit with any legal weapon**†	Sept. 1, 2012–Jan. 15, 2013
Pronghorn and moose on any open unit with any legal weapon	Sept. 1–Nov. 15
Bighorn sheep, Rocky Mountain goat and bison on any open unit with any legal weapon**†	Sept. 1–Dec. 31
Turkey on any open unit	April 1–May 31
Black bear on any open unit	During the season dates listed in the *2012 Utah Black Bear Guidebook* for that unit
Cougar on any open unit or any harvest-objective unit that has been closed after meeting its objective	During the season dates listed in the *2012–2013 Utah Cougar Guidebook* for that unit

*** You may not take an elk or Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep on the Pilot Mountain hunting unit.*

† Antelope Island is not an open unit. There are only four permits that authorize hunting on the island.

APPLY FOR AN ANTLERLESS PERMIT

In 2012, the Antlerless guidebook has again been split into two components: the field regulations (which are in this booklet) and the application information, which is available online only at *wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks*.

If you're looking for the information you need in order to apply for an antlerless permit, please visit *wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks*. There, you'll find application dates, rules, hunt tables, maps, boundaries and other essential information.

If you are planning to apply for a 2012 antlerless permit, please be aware of the following dates and deadlines.

May 25: Review online antlerless hunt resources

Beginning May 25, 2012, you can visit *wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks* to review all of the application rules, hunt tables, season dates, maps, boundaries and other information you'll need in order to apply for an antlerless permit.

The antlerless application information will be available online only—there will not be a separate printed Antlerless guidebook.

If you do not have access to the Internet, please visit or call a Division office.

Boundary descriptions online

Looking for a map and a boundary description for your hunting area? Boundary descriptions are printed on nearly all of Utah's hunting permits.

You'll also find detailed maps and boundary descriptions online. Visit *wildlife.utah.gov/maps* to download and print your boundaries today.

June 1: Apply online for an antlerless permit

Starting June 1, 2012, you can visit *wildlife.utah.gov* to apply for the following items:

- Antlerless hunting permits
- An antlerless moose bonus point
- Antlerless preference points

You can also apply by calling any Division office.

June 21: Deadline for antlerless permit applications

You must apply online or by phone no later than June 21, 2012. There's an 11 p.m. deadline for online applications and a 5 p.m. deadline for phone applications. To apply, simply visit *wildlife.utah.gov* or call any Division office.

July 10: Antlerless drawing results available

You'll be notified of your drawing results by e-mail. You can also learn your drawing results by visiting *wildlife.utah.gov* or by calling 1-800-221-0659, starting July 10, 2012.

MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO OBTAIN PERMITS

Some big game permits for the 2012 season are available online and over the counter. If you're interested in purchasing one of these permits, please visit *wildlife.utah.gov*, a license agent or a Division office on the dates listed below.

A variety of big game permits will be available on a first-come, first-served basis in July. Please keep in mind that you may only have one buck deer permit per year.

A $5 predator-control fee has been added to all big game permits. To learn more about this fee and the predator-control program it supports, see the information box on page 20.

You must have a valid hunting license or a combination license to buy one of these permits. A license agent list is available at *wildlife.utah.gov/licenseagents.* Before you visit any of the agents, contact them to verify their hours of operation.

July 10: Remaining limited-entry permits available

Any limited-entry permits remaining after the big game drawing will be available beginning July 10 at 8 a.m. You can buy permits at *wildlife.utah.gov* and at license agent locations and Division offices.

July 17: General-season bull elk permits available

General-season bull elk permits may be purchased beginning at 8 a.m. on July 17 at *wildlife.utah.gov* and from license agents and Division offices.

July 17: Remaining antlerless permits available

Any antlerless permits remaining after the antlerless drawing will be available beginning July 17 at 8 a.m. You can buy permits at *wildlife.utah.gov* and at license agent locations and Division offices.

July 19: Remaining general-season buck deer permits available (archery and muzzleloader)

Any general-season buck deer permits (archery and muzzleloader) remaining after the drawing may be purchased beginning at 8 a.m. on July 19 at *wildlife.utah.gov* and from license agents and Division offices.

If you purchase one of the archery permits, you may also use it on any of the extended-season archery areas after the general season ends, as long as you first complete the Division's Archery Ethics Course, located at *wildlife.utah.gov/extendedarchery*.

July 31: Remaining general-season buck deer permits available (any legal weapon)

Any general-season buck deer permits (any legal weapon) remaining after the drawing may be purchased beginning July 31 at 8 a.m. You can buy permits at *wildlife.utah.gov* and from license agents and Division offices.

September 17: Unsold general-season archery deer permits convert to muzzleloader permits

If any general-season archery deer permits remain unsold at the end of the general archery season, they will convert to general-season muzzleloader deer permits on Sept. 17, 2012. You can buy these permits, if available, at *wildlife.utah.gov* and from license agents and Division offices.

October 9: Unsold general-season muzzleloader deer permits convert to any legal weapon permits

If any general-season muzzleloader deer permits remain unsold at the end of the general muzzleloader season, they will convert to general-season any legal weapon deer permits on Oct. 9, 2012. You can buy these permits, if available, at *wildlife.utah.gov* and from license agents and Division offices.

MORE OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG HUNTERS

If you will be 18 years of age or younger on Aug. 18, 2012 (the opening day of the general-season archery deer hunt), you might have some extra hunting waiting for you this fall. It all depends on what type of general-season deer permit you obtain.

Any legal weapon permits

If you are a youth and you obtain a general-season any legal weapon deer permit, you may use archery tackle to archery hunt the unit listed on your permit from Aug. 18–Sept. 14, 2012.

If you haven't harvested a deer by the time the archery season ends, you may hunt the same unit during the general muzzleloader and general any legal weapon deer seasons, using the appropriate equipment.

When those seasons end—if you still haven't harvested—you may use archery tackle to hunt in the extended archery areas after completing the archery ethics course available at *wildlife.utah.gov/extendedarchery*. For more information on the extended archery hunt, see page 13.

Muzzleloader permits

If you obtain a general-season muzzleloader deer permit, you may hunt *only* during the general muzzleloader season. You must use muzzleloader equipment and hunt the unit listed on your permit. You may not hunt during the general archery or any legal weapon seasons.

This is a change from previous years, when you could hunt multiple seasons after obtaining a general-season muzzleloader permit.

Archery permits

If you obtain a general-season archery deer permit, you may hunt *only* during the general archery deer season and the extended archery deer season.

During the general season, you may hunt in the unit printed on your permit.

During the extended season, you may hunt in any of the extended archery areas after completing the archery ethics course available at *wildlife.utah.gov/extendedarchery*. For more information on the extended archery hunt, see page 13.

For more information, please call the nearest Division office.

CHANGES TO UTAH'S DEER MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Division now has more flexibility in managing individual deer units.

In May 2012, the Utah Wildlife Board approved some changes to the Utah Deer Management Plan. These changes will allow the Division to manage the 30 new general-season deer units in a more customized, flexible way.

What did the Wildlife Board approve?

The Wildlife Board approved a change that allows the Division to have different management objectives for the 30 units. Starting this year, 16 of the new deer units will be managed for 18–20 bucks per 100 does. The remaining 14 units will be managed for 15–17 bucks per 100 does.

These numbers, also called buck-to-doe ratios, are important because they are the best way to track buck harvest levels. Right after the hunts end each fall, Division biologists visit different herds in each unit to assess their buck-to-doe ratios.

The greater the buck-to-doe ratio, the more bucks a hunter is likely to see. The best way to increase the buck-to-doe ratio is to decrease harvest on the unit, typically by cutting the number of permits issued to hunters.

Why did the Division propose two different objectives?

In late 2011, Wildlife Board members asked the Division to bring back proposals that could allow for flexibility in buck management.

The Division looked closely at all of the deer units, factoring in things like access, road density and the amount of public land vs. private land. The Division also held open houses that gave the public a chance to comment.

Some members of the public wanted more opportunity to hunt (more permits), and they urged biologists to keep the buck-to-doe ratios at a lower level. Other members of the public wanted to see more bucks on particular units, even if it meant a permit reduction.

Division biologists took all of the feedback into account before putting together the proposal that the Wildlife Board approved in May. The two different objectives are a balanced way to address hunters' concerns about particular units, while maintaining biologically sound management practices.

You can see a list of the general-season deer units and their new management objectives at *wildlife.utah.gov/deerpermits*.

Changes to Walk-in Access Program

Utah Admin. Rule R657-56-13

If you enjoy using Utah's Walk-in Access (WIA) program, please keep in mind that there will be a few changes to the program this year. The main change is that if you are 14 years old or older, you must obtain a WIA authorization number in order to access any WIA properties.

The Division will use the authorization numbers to track who's using WIA properties throughout the year and to assess the program's value to the public.

To obtain your free authorization number, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/walkinaccess* and click the "Authorization number" link at the top right of the page. Follow the instructions and obtain your number. Later this year, you will also be able to request a number over the phone.

To advertise these changes, the Division is planning to issue a press release, post signs at WIA properties and make additional information available on the WIA website. Please visit *wildlife.utah.gov/walkinaccess* this summer for the latest information.

Will these changes help the deer herds?

These changes to the Utah Deer Management Plan focus on how buck deer are hunted, which has a limited effect on the overall growth of Utah's deer herds.

Mule deer numbers are declining across the West, and Utah wildlife managers are focused on restoring the state's deer herds.

Over the past six years, the Division has invested tens of millions of dollars to implement a variety of measures that can help our struggling herds. These measures include restoring deer habitat, increasing predator control, reducing highway mortality, stopping poachers and performing valuable research.

For details on this comprehensive effort, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/dwr/helping-deer-herds.html*.

Poaching-reported reward permits

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-22

It pays to report poachers in Utah.

If you provide information that leads to the successful prosecution of another person for the wanton destruction (poaching) of any big game species—on any once-in-a-lifetime or limited-entry hunt area in the state—you may receive a permit to hunt the same species on the same area where the violation occurred.

To learn more, please see Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-22 at *wildlife.utah.gov/rules*.

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE IN UTAH

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a relatively rare disease that attacks the nervous system and brain of infected deer, elk and moose.

The Division has been monitoring for CWD since 1998. Over the past 14 years, only 54 mule deer and one elk have tested positive for CWD in Utah.

The first positive mule deer in Utah was identified in 2002 as a result of a Division testing effort near Vernal. Since that time, CWD has also been found on the La Sal Mountains near Moab, on the San Juan Mountains near Monticello, and in central Utah near Fountain Green.

In these areas (and a few others), Division biologists collect samples from harvested deer and elk during the fall hunts. When you stop at a checkstation in a CWD-sampling area, a biologist may take a sample from the head of your harvested animal and send it to the lab for CWD testing.

If your deer or elk is tested by the Division, you can find the results online at *wildlife.utah.gov/cwdtesting* within six to eight weeks. If your animal tests positive for CWD, the Division will contact you directly.

To learn more about CWD, the testing process and precautions you can take, please visit *wildlife.utah.gov/cwd*.

Lead-free ammunition helps wild condors

In 2012, the Division will offer a free box of lead-free ammunition to hunters who have permits for buck deer or antlerless elk on the Zion unit. By using this ammunition in the field, hunters can help limit lead exposure in wild California condors that live and forage in southern Utah.

Condors are native to Utah, and their diet consists of large dead mammals, including the gut piles and other remains of harvested deer and elk. As a result, condors consume lead bullet fragments that can poison them and sometimes cause fatalities.

If you have obtained an any legal weapon permit for the Zion unit, the Division will contact you with additional details about this offer before the hunting season begins.

The Division encourages all eligible hunters to participate in the program and to help Utah's condor population continue its recovery.

If you want to hunt it tomorrow, help us protect it today.

UTiP

1-800-662-3337

Turn In a Poacher

BIG GAME HUNTS

Utah offers several different big game hunts each year. Depending on the permit you obtain, you could hunt deer, elk, pronghorn, bison, bighorn sheep, moose or Rocky Mountain goat. The following section describes the species you can hunt, the weapons you can use and the types of permits that are available.

Buck deer hunting

A "buck deer" is a deer with antlers that are longer than five inches (R657-5-2(2)(e)).

Utah has three general buck deer hunts:

- Archery hunt
- Muzzleloader hunt
- Any legal weapon (rifle) hunt

Please see *wildlife.utah.gov/maps* for all hunt boundaries.

General archery buck deer hunt

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-23

Utah's general archery buck deer hunt runs from Aug. 18 to Sept. 14.

If you obtained a general archery buck deer permit, you may use archery equipment to take one buck deer in the hunting unit listed on your permit.

During the general archery season, you may only hunt in the unit listed on your permit. You may not hunt within deer CWMUs, premium limited-entry deer units or limited-entry deer units.

If you obtained a general archery buck deer permit, the only other deer permit you can obtain is an antlerless deer permit. Please see page 23 for more information on antlerless deer hunts.

Extended archery

If you haven't taken a deer by the time the general archery season ends, you can continue your archery hunting in the state's extended archery areas.

In the Wasatch Front and Uintah Basin extended archery areas, you may use archery equipment to take a deer of either sex from Sept. 15–Nov. 30. From Dec. 1–Dec. 15, only antlerless deer may be taken.

In the Ogden Extended Archery Area, you may use archery equipment to take a buck deer only from Sept. 15–Nov. 30.

Before hunting any of the extended archery areas, you must complete the Division's Archery Ethics Course. Please see the Archery Ethics Course box below for more information.

Archery Ethics Course

Before hunting on any of Utah's extended archery areas, you must complete the Division's Archery Ethics Course. The course is available online at *wildlife.utah.gov*, and it takes about 30 minutes to complete. You must complete the course each year before hunting on the extended archery areas.

After completing the course, you must carry your Archery Ethics Course certificate of completion with you while you're hunting.

Hunter orange

Utah Code § 23-20-31

You must obey Utah's hunter orange regulation (see page 30) if a centerfire rifle hunt is happening in the area where you're archery hunting. This does not include hunts for once-in-a-lifetime species.

General muzzleloader buck deer hunt

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-25

Utah's general muzzleloader buck deer hunt runs from Sept. 26 to Oct. 4.

If you obtained a general muzzleloader buck permit, you may use a muzzleloader to take one buck deer in the hunting unit listed on your permit.

If you participate in this hunt, you may not hunt in any of the following areas:

- Salt Lake County, south of I-80 and east of I-15 (see map online at *wildlife.utah.gov/maps*)
- Deer CWMUs
- Premium limited-entry deer units
- Limited-entry deer units
- Areas with special restrictions (see page 33)

If you obtained a general muzzleloader buck deer permit, the only other deer permit you can obtain is an antlerless deer permit. Please see page 23 for more information on antlerless deer hunts.

Hunter orange

Utah Code § 23-20-31

You must obey Utah's hunter orange regulation (see page 30) if a centerfire rifle hunt is happening in the area where you're muzzleloader hunting. This does not include hunts for once-in-a-lifetime species.

General any legal weapon (rifle) buck deer hunt

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-24

The general any legal weapon (rifle) buck deer hunt runs from Oct. 20 to Oct. 28.

If you obtained a general any legal weapon buck permit, you may use any legal weapon to take one buck deer in the hunting unit listed on your permit.

If you participate in this hunt, you may not hunt in any of the following areas:

- Salt Lake County, south of I-80 and east of I-15 (see map online at *wildlife.utah.gov/maps*)
- Deer CWMUs
- Premium limited-entry deer units
- Limited-entry deer units
- Areas with special restrictions (see page 33)

If you obtained a general any legal weapon buck deer permit, the only other deer permit you can obtain is an antlerless deer permit. Please see page 23 for more information on antlerless deer hunts.

Limited-entry buck deer hunts

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-40

Utah's premium limited-entry and limited-entry deer units are managed for older, bigger bucks.

A premium limited-entry buck deer permit allows you to hunt on one of the best limited-entry buck deer units in Utah—the Paunsaugunt unit or the Henry Mountains unit.

A limited-entry buck deer permit allows you to hunt on a high-quality unit that is not open to general-season buck deer hunters.

If you obtained a limited-entry buck deer permit, you may use the weapon listed on your permit to take one buck deer within the area and the season specified on your permit. You may NOT hunt within deer CWMUs.

If you obtained a limited-entry buck deer permit, the only other deer permit you can obtain is an antlerless deer permit. Please see page 23 for more information on antlerless deer hunts.

CWMU buck deer hunts

Utah Admin. Rule R657-37

Cooperative Wildlife Management Units (CWMUs) are private lands that the landowners have opened to a small number of public and private hunters. To learn more about hunting buck deer on CWMUs, read the article on page 26 and visit *wildlife.utah.gov/cwmu*.

Management buck deer hunt

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-46

A "management buck" is a buck deer with 3 points or less on at least one antler, above and including the first fork, but not including the eye guard. The eye guard does not count as a point. A point is a projection that's longer than one inch, measured from its base to its tip, including damaged or broken antlers.

Management buck deer permits were available through the Division's big game drawing.

If you were successful in the drawing, you must complete an online orientation course before you will receive your permit. This course is also open to anyone who wants to learn more about what a management buck looks like. To take the online course, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/biggame*.

A management buck deer permit allows you to take one management buck deer during the season. You may use any legal weapon to hunt on the area specified on your permit.

If you participate in this hunt, you may not hunt in the following areas:

- Deer CWMUs
- Areas with special restrictions (see page 33)

After taking your buck deer, you must bring its head and antlers to a Division office for inspection no later than 72 hours after the date of kill.

Important: If you obtain a management buck deer permit, you will lose your bonus points and incur a waiting period of two years. The only other deer permit you can obtain is an antlerless deer permit. Please see page 23 for more information on antlerless deer hunts.

Why a management buck deer hunt?

Removing excess bucks on the Paunsaugunt and Henry Mountains limited-entry units—while protecting the larger bucks in the herds—is the goal of the management buck deer hunt.

These two units have high buck-to-doe ratios. Harvesting smaller-antlered bucks will preserve trophy-class bucks and provide more room for does. Having more does in the herds will result in more fawns being born. Having more fawns will help ensure that these herds remain strong and healthy into the future.

Mandatory reporting

If you obtained a premium limited-entry, limited-entry, management buck deer, CWMU, conservation, sportsman, convention or once-in-a-lifetime permit, you must complete a harvest survey questionnaire within 30 days after your hunt ends. This information is required even if you didn't harvest an animal.

If you harvested an animal, this is an ideal time to return your tooth packet. Returning your tooth packet does not fulfill the harvest survey requirement.

You can report information about your hunt at *wildlife.utah.gov/harvestreporting* or by calling 1-800-221-0659.

Reporting your hunt information is important. If you don't report your hunt information within 30 days of the end of the hunt, you won't be allowed to apply for a once-in-a-lifetime, premium limited-entry, limited-entry, management buck deer or CWMU permits, or bonus points in 2013.

Bull elk hunting

A "bull elk" is an elk with antlers that are longer than five inches (R657-5-2(2)(g)).

A "spike bull" is a bull elk that has at least one antler that does not branch above the ears. A branch is a projection on an antler that's longer than one inch, measured from its base to its tip (R657-5-2(2)(s)).

Utah has three general elk hunts:

- Archery hunt
- General (any legal weapon) hunt
- Muzzleloader hunt

These hunts are held on two types of units: any bull elk units and spike bull elk units.

If you obtain an archery permit, you can hunt on all of the open any bull and spike bull units in the state.

If you obtain a general season or general muzzleloader permit, you must hunt on the type of unit specified on your permit. For example, if you obtain an any bull elk permit, you may hunt only on any bull elk units. If you obtain a spike bull permit, you may hunt only on spike bull units.

Permits for most of the general elk hunts are available beginning July 17—on a first-come, first-served basis—from Division offices, license agents and *wildlife.utah.gov*.

General archery elk hunt

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-28

In 2012, Utah's general archery spike elk hunt runs from Aug. 18 to Sept. 7. The general archery any bull elk hunt runs from Aug. 18 to Sept. 14, except on the state's extended archery areas, where the season runs later into the year.

If you obtain a general archery elk permit, you may use archery equipment to take only one of the following animals:

- One elk of either sex on a general any bull elk unit
- An antlerless elk or a spike bull elk on a general spike bull elk unit
- Only a spike bull on the Book Cliffs unit
- One elk—either any bull or antlerless—on the Wasatch Front or Uintah Basin extended archery areas from Aug. 18 to Sept. 14

You may not hunt within elk CWMUs.

If you obtain a general archery elk permit, the only other elk permit you can obtain is an antlerless elk permit. Please see page 23 for more information on antlerless hunts.

Extended archery

If you haven't taken an elk by the time the general archery season ends, you may continue hunting in the Wasatch Front, Uintah Basin and Sanpete Valley extended archery elk areas during the extended archery seasons. You may use archery equipment to take one of the following animals:

- One elk—either any bull or antlerless—within the Wasatch Front and Uintah Basin extended archery areas from Sept. 15–Dec. 15
- One elk—either any bull or antlerless—within the Sanpete Valley Extended Archery Area from Nov. 10–Dec. 31

To hunt any of the extended archery areas, you must complete the Division's Archery Ethics Course and carry your archery ethics course certificate of completion with you while you're hunting. Please see the Archery Ethics Course box on page 13 for more information.

Hunter orange

Utah Code § 23-20-31

You must obey Utah's hunter orange regulation (see page 30) if a centerfire rifle hunt is happening in the area where you're archery

hunting. This does not include hunts for once-in-a-lifetime species.

General any legal weapon (rifle) bull elk hunt

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-29

Utah's general any legal weapon elk season consists of the any bull elk hunt and the spike bull elk hunt. These hunts run from Oct. 6 to Oct. 18.

To hunt during the general-season elk hunt, you must obtain either a spike bull permit or an any bull permit.

If you obtain a general-season any legal weapon bull elk permit, you may use any legal weapon to take your bull elk.

If you obtain a spike bull elk permit, you may take a spike bull elk on a general season spike bull elk unit. You may NOT hunt on the any bull elk units.

If you obtain an any bull elk permit, you may take a bull elk of any size, including a spike bull, on a general season any bull elk unit. You may NOT hunt on spike bull units.

If you participate in this hunt, you may not hunt in any of the following areas:

- Salt Lake County, south of I-80 and east of I-15 (see a map online at *wildlife.utah.gov/maps*)
- Elk CWMUs
- Areas with special restrictions (see page 33)

Please see the general bull elk hunt reference map on page 46, and the boundary descriptions at *wildlife.utah.gov/maps*, to learn where spike bull units and any bull elk units are located in the state.

If you obtain a general any legal weapon bull elk permit, the only other elk permit you can obtain is an antlerless elk permit. Please see page 24 for more information on antlerless hunts.

Legal in a spike bull unit.

Legal in a spike bull unit.

NOT legal in a spike bull unit.

NOT legal in a spike bull unit.

Multiple elk permits

Utah Admin. Rule R657-62-19, 23-19-22, R657-5-34

You may obtain a maximum of two elk permits each year—provided one or both of the permits are antlerless—but you can only apply for or obtain one antlerless elk permit in the drawing. You may obtain two elk permits in any one of the following combinations:

- One bull elk permit and one antlerless permit
- One bull elk permit and one antlerless elk-control permit (see page 24)
- Two antlerless permits
- One hunter's choice permit and one antlerless permit

For the purposes of obtaining two elk permits, a hunter's choice elk permit is considered a bull elk permit. Likewise, a general-season archery elk permit is also considered a bull elk permit. An antlerless elk-control permit is considered an antlerless permit.

Starting this year, if you obtain two antlerless elk permits for the same area—but the permits are for different seasons—you may harvest both elk during the same season.

And don't forget: you may harvest an antlerless elk while hunting general-season buck deer or bull elk, as long as your permits are for the same area.

Beginning July 17, 2012, eligible hunters may purchase additional antlerless elk permits after the drawing. The permits will be available on a first-come, first-served basis at *wildlife.utah.gov* and from license agents and Division offices.

General muzzleloader elk hunt

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-33

The general muzzleloader elk hunt runs from Oct. 31 to Nov. 8 within the general-season elk units.

If you participate in this hunt, you may not hunt in any of the following areas:

- Salt Lake County, south of I-80 and east of I-15 (see map online at *wildlife.utah.gov/maps*)
- Elk CWMUs
- Areas with special restrictions (see page 33)

To hunt during the general muzzleloader elk season, you must obtain either a muzzleloader spike bull elk permit or a muzzleloader any bull elk permit.

If you obtain a muzzleloader spike bull elk permit, you may use a muzzleloader to take a spike bull elk on a general spike bull elk unit. You may NOT hunt on the any bull elk units.

If you obtain a muzzleloader any bull elk permit, you may use a muzzleloader to take a bull elk of any size, including a spike bull, on a general muzzleloader any bull elk unit. You may NOT hunt on spike bull elk units.

Please see the general bull elk hunt reference map on page 46 and the boundary descriptions at *wildlife.utah.gov/maps* to learn where spike bull units and any bull elk units are located in the state.

If you obtain a general muzzleloader bull elk permit, the only other elk permit you can obtain is an antlerless elk permit. Please see page 24 for more information on antlerless hunts.

Hunter orange

Utah Code § 23-20-31

You must obey Utah's hunter orange regulation (see page 30) if a centerfire rifle hunt is happening in the area where you're muzzleloader hunting. This does not include hunts for once-in-a-lifetime species.

Youth bull elk hunts

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-31

If you'll be 18 years of age or younger on Sept. 15, 2012, you may be eligible to participate in one of the state's youth elk hunts. Remember, you cannot hunt until you are 12 years old.

Utah offers two youth bull elk hunts:

- The youth general any bull elk hunt runs from Sept. 15 to Sept. 23 on general any bull elk units across Utah. If you obtained a permit for this hunt, you may use any legal weapon to take a bull elk of any size—including a spike bull—on any general season any bull elk unit in Utah. You may NOT hunt on a spike bull elk unit.
- The late season youth any bull elk hunt runs from Dec. 1, 2012 to Jan. 15, 2013 on a portion of the South Slope, Bonanza any bull elk unit in northeastern Utah (please visit *wildlife.utah.gov/maps* for a boundary description). If you obtained a permit for this hunt, you may use any legal weapon to take a bull elk of any size—including a spike bull—within the hunt boundaries.

If you participate in this hunt, you may not hunt in any of the following areas:

- Salt Lake County, south of I-80 and east of I-15 (see a map online at *wildlife.utah.gov/maps*)
- Elk CWMUs
- Areas with special restrictions (see page 33)

You may obtain only one youth any bull elk permit in your lifetime, and preference points do not apply to this hunt.

If you obtain a youth any bull elk permit, the only other elk permit you can obtain is an antlerless elk permit. Please see page 24 for more information on antlerless hunts.

Limited-entry bull elk hunts

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-32

Utah's premium limited-entry and limited-entry elk permits are among the state's most prized big game permits.

Avoid harvesting collared wildlife

The Division has placed radio and GPS collars on bighorn sheep, bison, deer, elk and pronghorn in various areas across the state. The Division is monitoring these animals in a handful of ongoing studies. If possible, please avoid harvesting a collared animal. It is an expensive and time-consuming process to capture and collar replacement animals.

If you do harvest a collared animal, please contact your local Division office and return the collar.

A premium limited-entry bull elk permit allows you to hunt all of the limited-entry bull elk seasons (archery, muzzleloader and rifle); however, you must use the weapon appropriate for your season. You may not hunt on elk CWMUs.

A limited-entry bull elk permit allows you to use the weapon listed on your permit to take one bull elk of any size within the area and season specified on your permit. You may not hunt on elk CWMUs.

If you obtained a premium limited-entry or limited-entry bull elk permit, the only other elk permit you can obtain is an antlerless elk permit. Please see page 24 for more information on antlerless hunts.

CWMU bull elk hunts

Utah Admin. Rule R657-37

Cooperative Wildlife Management Units (CWMUs) are private lands that the landowners have opened to a small number of public and private hunters. To learn more about hunting bull elk on CWMUs, read the article on page 26 and visit *wildlife.utah.gov/cwmu*.

Buck pronghorn hunting

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-34

"Buck pronghorn" means a pronghorn with horns that are longer than five inches (R657-5-2(2)(f)).

To hunt buck pronghorn, you must possess a buck pronghorn permit. If you obtain a buck pronghorn permit, you may **not** obtain any other pronghorn permit.

A pronghorn permit allows you to use any legal weapon to take one buck pronghorn within the area and season specified on your permit. You may not hunt on buck pronghorn CWMUs.

A note about the archery hunt: Only archery equipment may be used during the buck pronghorn archery hunt. If you'd like to hunt from a blind, please contact the public agency that manages the land you'll be hunting on to learn about their regulations that must be followed to construct a blind.

CWMU buck pronghorn hunts

Utah Admin. Rule R657-37

Cooperative Wildlife Management Units (CWMUs) are private lands that the landowners have opened to a small number of public and private hunters. To learn more about hunting buck pronghorn on CWMUs, read the article on page 26 and visit *wildlife.utah.gov/cwmu*.

Depredation hunts

When big game animals cause damage to agricultural crops, the Division may hold hunts that are not listed in this guide. These hunts are called depredation hunts. They may occur on short notice, involve small areas and are often limited to only a few hunters.

To apply for the depredation hunter pool, complete and submit an online application at *wildlife.utah.gov/depredation*.

New fee for predator control

In 2012, the Utah Legislature passed a new law that adds a $5 predator-control fee to all Utah big game hunting permits. The money will fund a program to limit the numbers of coyotes and other predators.

The $5 fee for predator control will be added to all big game permits, starting with the 2012 antlerless permits and any remaining big game permits sold after July 1, 2012.

For the latest details on the new predator-control program, and how you can participate, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/predators*.

ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME HUNTS

All of Utah's bison, bull moose, bighorn sheep and Rocky Mountain goat permits are considered once-in-a-lifetime permits. That's because you can draw a permit for each of these species only once in your lifetime.

Bison hunting

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-38

To hunt bison, you must possess a bison permit.

Your bison permit allows you to use any legal weapon to take one bison within the area and the season specified on your permit. You may obtain a bison permit through the big game drawing only once in your lifetime.

If you obtained a hunter's choice permit, you may take a bison of either sex. If you obtained a cow bison permit, you may take only a cow bison.

If you obtained a bison permit, you may not obtain any other bison permit.

You may obtain a bison permit through the big game drawing only once in your lifetime. See page 17 in the *2012 Utah Big Game Application Guidebook* for information about waiting periods and once-in-a-lifetime hunts.

Henry Mountains

If you drew a Henry Mountains cow bison permit, you must complete the online orientation course located at *wildlife.utah.gov/biggame*. You'll receive your permit after you successfully complete the course.

Antelope Island

If you drew an Antelope Island bison permit, you may be required to complete a course before you can hunt.

Before the hunt begins, the Division of Parks and Recreation will notify you about the date, time and location of the course. You'll receive your permit after you successfully complete the course.

Because the Antelope Island hunt is administered by the Division of Parks and Recreation, your hunt will include some extra park-related fees. For more information, please call 801-209-4678.

Bull moose hunting

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-37

A "bull moose" is a moose that has antlers that are longer than its ears (R657-5-2(2)(h)).

To hunt bull moose, you must possess a bull moose permit. If you obtained a bull moose permit, you may not obtain any other moose permit.

Your bull moose permit allows you to use any legal weapon to take one bull moose on the limited-entry unit and during the season specified on your permit. You may not hunt on moose CWMUs.

CWMU bull moose hunts

Utah Admin. Rule R657-37

Cooperative Wildlife Management Units (CWMUs) are private lands that the landowners have

opened to a small number of public and private hunters. To learn more about hunting bull moose on CWMUs, read the article on page 26 and visit *wildlife.utah.gov/cwmu*.

Desert bighorn and Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep hunting

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-39

A "ram" is a male desert bighorn sheep or a male Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep (R657-5-2(2)(q)).

To hunt desert bighorn sheep or Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, you must possess a permit for the species you wish to hunt (i.e., a desert bighorn sheep permit to hunt desert bighorn sheep, or a Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep permit to hunt Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep).

Desert bighorn sheep hunts and Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep hunts are considered separate once-in-a-lifetime hunts. For example, if you obtain a desert bighorn sheep permit, and you've never obtained a Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep permit before, you can continue applying for a Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep permit the following year.

Please remember that you may not obtain more than one bighorn sheep permit per year. For example, you may not obtain both a desert bighorn sheep permit and a Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep permit in the same season.

A bighorn sheep permit allows you to use any legal weapon to take one ram within the area and the season specified on your permit.

Reminders and advice:

- Bighorn sheep live in very rugged terrain. That makes this hunt extremely strenuous.
- While hunting bighorn sheep, please make sure you have a spotting scope with you that has a minimum of 15 power. Any ram is legal to take, but the Division encourages you to take a mature ram.
- Many of the desert and Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep in Utah have radio collars. Please avoid taking a bighorn sheep that's wearing a radio collar.
- After taking your ram, you must bring its horns to a Division office within 72 hours of leaving your hunting area. When you come to the office, a Division staff person will permanently affix a numbered plug to the horn. This plug certifies that the sheep was taken legally.

Rocky Mountain goat hunting

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-40

To hunt Rocky Mountain goats, you must possess a Rocky Mountain goat permit.

Your Rocky Mountain goat permit allows you to use any legal weapon to take one Rocky Mountain goat within the area and the season specified on your permit. You may obtain a Rocky Mountain goat permit through the big game drawing only once in your lifetime.

If you obtained a hunter's choice permit, you may take a goat of either sex. If you obtained a female goat permit, you may take only a female goat.

If you drew a female Rocky Mountain goat permit, you must complete the online orientation course located at *wildlife.utah.gov/biggame*. You'll receive your permit after you successfully complete the course.

Before you head into the field, please review the following information:

- Rocky Mountain goats live in very rugged terrain. That makes this hunt extremely strenuous, and you'll want to prepare accordingly.
- While hunting Rocky Mountain goats, please make sure you have a spotting scope with you that has a minimum of 15 power.
- If you obtained a hunter's choice permit, you can take either a male or a female goat, but the Division encourages you to take a mature goat. A mature goat is a goat that's older than two years old. After you've taken your goat, you can determine its age by counting the number of annual rings on its horns.
- A goat's pelage may be higher in quality later in the hunting season.

ANTLERLESS HUNTS

Utah offers antlerless hunts each year. These hunts serve two purposes: they help ensure that populations remain at sustainable, manageable levels, and they remove animals that pose depredation problems. Depending on the permit you obtain, you could hunt antlerless deer or elk, or doe pronghorn. The following section describes the species you can hunt, the weapons you can use and the types of permits that are available.

Antlerless deer hunting

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-27

An "antlerless deer" is a deer without antlers or with antlers five inches or shorter (R657-5-2(2)(a)).

To hunt antlerless deer, you must possess an antlerless deer permit. This permit allows you to use a legal weapon to take one antlerless deer—per antlerless deer tag—in the area and season specified on your permit.

You may not hunt on a Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit (CWMU) unless you obtain an antlerless deer permit for that CWMU.

If you obtain an antlerless deer permit, you may not hunt during any other antlerless deer hunt or obtain any other antlerless deer permit.

Additional opportunity

There is some flexibility if you are an antlerless deer permit holder who also possesses a permit to hunt any one of the following seasons:

- General archery buck deer
- General muzzleloader buck deer

Antlerless season dates online

To review the 2012 antlerless season dates—as well as information about antlerless hunting options, permit numbers, application dates, maps and hunt boundaries—visit *wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks*. These tools and resources will be available online by May 25, a week before the antlerless application period begins on June 1.

For more information on the antlerless application period, see page 7.

- Limited-entry archery buck deer
- Limited-entry muzzleloader buck deer

If your buck deer permit and antlerless deer permit are for the same area—and you use the appropriate archery or muzzleloader equipment specified for your current hunting season—you may use your antlerless permit during the buck deer season. However, you may not use your buck deer permit during the antlerless season.

Elk-control permits available

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-33

During the 2012 season, the Division wants hunters to harvest as many antlerless elk as possible from eight of Utah's hunting units:

- Chalk Creek
- East Canyon
- Henry Mountains
- Morgan-South Rich
- Nine Mile, Range Creek
- San Juan, East of US-191
- San Rafael, North
- South Slope, Yellowstone

If you obtained a permit (including general season) to harvest a buck, bull or once-in-a-lifetime species on any of the above units (not including CWMUs), you have the option of purchasing an antlerless elk-control permit.

The elk-control permit allows you to harvest an antlerless elk in the same unit where you'll already be hunting an antlered big game animal. You may hunt the antlerless elk only during the season dates—and with the same weapon—listed on your buck, bull or once-in-a-lifetime permit.

If you will be hunting buck deer and antlerless elk at the same time, please visit *wildlife.utah.gov/maps* to verify your boundaries for the elk portion of the hunt. In some areas (such as Nine Mile, Range Creek; San Juan, East of US-191; and San Rafael, North), you may only hunt antlerless elk on part of the unit.

To obtain an antlerless elk-control permit, please visit a license agent or any Division office, beginning July 17, 2012.

Antlerless elk hunting

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-33

An "antlerless elk" is an elk without antlers or with antlers five inches or shorter (R657-5-2(2)(b)).

To hunt antlerless elk, you must possess an antlerless elk permit. This permit allows you to use a legal weapon to take one antlerless elk in the area and season specified on your permit.

You may not hunt on a Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit (CWMU) unless you obtain an antlerless elk permit for that CWMU.

You may obtain two elk permits each year. At least one of them must be an antlerless elk permit. If you plan to obtain two elk permits, please note that a hunter's choice elk permit is considered a bull elk permit. Likewise, a general-season archery elk permit is also considered a bull elk permit. You may apply for only one antlerless elk permit in the antlerless drawing.

If you do not obtain an antlerless elk permit in the drawing, you may be eligible to purchase up to two remaining antlerless elk permits.

Additional opportunity

There is some flexibility if you are an antlerless elk permit holder who also possesses a permit to hunt any one of the following seasons:

- General buck deer (archery, muzzleloader or any legal weapon)
- General bull elk (archery, muzzleloader or any legal weapon)
- Limited-entry buck deer (archery, muzzleloader or any legal weapon)
- Limited-entry bull elk (archery, muzzleloader or any legal weapon)
- Antlerless elk

If your buck deer or bull elk permit and your antlerless elk permit are for the same area, you may use your antlerless elk permit during your buck deer or bull elk season. However, you may not use your buck deer or bull elk permit during the antlerless season, unless the seasons overlap.

If you obtain two antlerless elk permits for the same area—but the permits are for different seasons—you may harvest both elk during the same season.

Doe pronghorn hunting

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-35

A "doe pronghorn" is a pronghorn without horns or with horns five inches or shorter (R657-5-2(2)(j)).

To hunt a doe pronghorn, you must possess a doe pronghorn permit. This permit allows you to use a legal weapon to take one doe pronghorn in the area and season specified on your permit.

If you already have a 2012 pronghorn permit, you may not apply for or obtain a doe pronghorn permit or preference point.

You may not hunt on a Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit (CWMU) unless you obtain a doe pronghorn permit for that CWMU.

Note: You may only obtain one pronghorn permit—of any kind—during the 2012 season.

Antlerless moose hunting

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-36

An "antlerless moose" is a moose without antlers or with antlers shorter than its ears (R657-5-2(2)(c)).

To hunt antlerless moose, you must possess an antlerless moose permit. This year, because of recent declines in moose populations, there will not be any antlerless moose permits.

Note: You may only obtain one moose permit—of any kind—during the 2012 season.

Report your harvest

If you obtain an antlerless permit this year, don't forget to complete a harvest report after your hunt ends.

Visit *wildlife.utah.gov/harvestreporting* and click the "Report your harvest" button at the top of the page. Then, you can log in and complete your harvest report.

If you prefer to complete your harvest report over the phone, call 1-800-221-0659. The line is staffed 24 hours per day, seven days a week.

COOPERATIVE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT UNITS

Utah Admin. Rule R657-37

More than 60 percent of the rangelands that Utah's big game animals rely on in the winter are on private land. Utah's Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit (CWMU) program works with landowners to preserve these lands and to make them good habitat for wildlife .

How the program works

The CWMU program provides landowners with an economic incentive to keep their private range and forest lands as wildlife habitat instead of developing them.

CWMUs comprise more than two million acres of land in Utah. They'll provide more than 5,000 big game and antlerless hunting permits in 2012. About 17 percent of those permits are available to the general public through the state's big game drawing.

Hunting on CWMUs provides both public and private hunters with several advantages. Among those advantages are a better chance to take an animal and fewer hunters to compete with.

Obtaining a CWMU permit

If you're a Utah resident, there are two ways to obtain a CWMU permit: you can apply for one in the state's public drawing, or you can obtain a permit voucher from the landowner or operator of the CWMU you want to hunt.

CWMU landowner association members and operators—and their spouses and dependent children—cannot apply for CWMU permits in the public drawing.

If you're not a resident of Utah, you cannot apply for a CWMU permit in the public drawing. You can, however, obtain a permit voucher directly from the CWMU landowner or operator.

If you obtain a CWMU voucher, you can redeem the voucher for a permit by mailing the voucher to:

CWMU Front Desk
Division of Wildlife Resources
P.O. Box 146301
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-6301

(Please allow 10 to 14 days for processing.)

You can also redeem the voucher at any Division office.

If you obtain a CWMU permit, you may hunt only on the CWMU that's specified on your permit. You may take only one animal of the species and sex listed on the permit. You'll also incur a waiting period for the species you obtained a permit for. (Please see page 16 in the 2012 *Utah Big Game Application Guidebook* for more information about waiting periods.)

You may not obtain more than one pronghorn, one moose, one buck deer or one bull elk permit in a year. But you can obtain an antlerless deer or antlerless elk permit. More information about antlerless permits is available on page 23.

How to participate

If you draw a permit to hunt a CWMU, you must contact the CWMU operator to obtain the following:

- The dates you'll be allowed to hunt within the legal CWMU hunting season framework. Both you and the operator must schedule around each of your individual needs—please be realistic and patient.
- A map of the CWMU showing access points and the acreage you'll be allowed to hunt. The CWMU should provide the same amount of acreage to both public and private hunters. If you feel that you haven't received equal treatment, please contact your regional Division office.
- A copy of the CWMU's rules. CWMUs are allowed to develop rules of conduct for their unit. Examples of these rules may

include: no preseason scouting; checking into and out of the unit daily; limited vehicle access; no overnight camping; a marksmanship test; and limiting the number of hunting companions. If you fail to abide by these rules, you might be asked to leave the CWMU. You can also review these rules online at *wildlife.utah.gov/cwmu*.

Season dates

The Utah Wildlife Board has established timeframes for hunting on CWMUs (see chart below). Within these timeframes, hunters should expect to hunt at least five days for bucks/bulls and two days for antlerless big game.

The CWMU operator may also allow you to hunt additional days within the listed timeframes.

Before you apply for a CWMU permit, contact the operator to obtain general information about hunt dates, permitted weapons and other rules. If you draw a permit, you **must** contact the CWMU operator to confirm your season dates.

Hunt	Dates
Archery buck deer	Aug. 18, 2012–Oct. 31, 2012
Any legal weapon buck deer and bull elk	Sept. 1, 2012–Oct. 31, 2012
Muzzleloader buck deer	Sept. 1, 2012–Oct. 31, 2012
Antlerless deer	Aug. 15, 2012–Dec. 31, 2012
Archery bull elk	Aug. 18, 2012–Oct. 31, 2012
Any legal weapon bull elk	Sept. 1, 2012–Oct. 31, 2012
Muzzleloader bull elk	Sept. 1, 2012–Nov. 11, 2012
Antlerless elk	Aug. 15, 2012–Jan. 31, 2013
Buck and doe pronghorn	Sept. 1, 2012–Oct. 31, 2012
Bull moose	Sept. 1, 2012–Oct. 31, 2012

Some deer and elk CWMUs have hunting seasons outside of these timeframes. For more information, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/CWMU*.

Reporting your harvest success

If you obtain a CWMU permit, you must report information about your hunt within 30 days after it ends. Please see page 15 for more information about this important requirement.

Complaint process

If you wish to lodge a complaint against a CWMU, you should contact the Division of Wildlife Resources immediately. Biologists and conservation officers can supply you with a complaint form, or you can make the complaint in person or over the telephone. You and the operator should make every effort to resolve your issues before they escalate to the Division level.

If your problem cannot be resolved locally, it may be passed on to a CWMU Advisory Committee for review and possible action.

Learn more

To learn more about the CWMU program or to view maps of CWMU properties, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/CWMU*.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS

Are you planning to hunt big game in Utah this year? Before you head into the field, make sure you meet Utah's age, hunter education and license requirements.

Are you old enough?

Utah Code § 23-19-22

To hunt big game in Utah, you must be at least 12 years old.

If you're 11 years old—but you'll be 12 by Dec. 31, 2012—you can apply for or obtain a hunting license and big game permit. Remember, **you cannot hunt until you are 12 years old**.

If you're 11 to 13 years old, you are eligible to:

- Apply for general-season deer, youth any bull elk, or buck/bull combination permits in the drawing.
- Buy general-season deer, general-season elk and youth any bull elk permits over the counter.
- Buy a Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit (CWMU) permit directly from a CWMU operator.

Adults must accompany young hunters

Utah Code § 23-20-20

While hunting big game, a person under 16 years old must be accompanied by his or her parent, legal guardian or other responsible person who is 21 years of age or older and who has been approved by the parent or guardian.

The Division encourages adults to be familiar with hunter education guidelines or to complete the hunter education course before accompanying youth into the field.

While in the field, the youth and the adult must remain close enough for the adult to see and provide verbal assistance to the young hunter. Using electronic devices, such as walkie-talkies or cell phones, does not meet this requirement.

If you're 13 years old—and you'll be 14 by Dec. 31, 2012—you can also apply for limited-entry or CWMU permits in the public drawing.

All hunters under the age of 16 must be accompanied in the field by a parent, legal guardian or responsible person 21 years of age or older. For more information on this requirement, see the adjacent information box.

Have you passed hunter education?

Utah Code § 23-19-11 & Utah Admin. Rule R657-23

If you were born after Dec. 31, 1965, you must provide proof that you've passed a hunter education course approved by the Division before you can apply for or obtain a hunting license or a big game permit.

Proof of hunter education

You can prove that you've completed hunter education by obtaining a hunter education course Certificate of Completion (this certificate is called a "blue card" in Utah) or by using a hunting license from a previous year with your hunter education number noted on the license.

How to take hunter education

If you were born after 1965, you must take and successfully complete the state's hunter education course. It's an easy process:

1. Obtain a hunter education registration certificate. Each certificate costs only $10, and you can obtain it online, at any Division office or from a license agent.
2. Register for a class with your local hunter education instructor.
3. Take your registration certificate to your instructor on the first night of class.
4. Successfully complete the course—your instructor will then validate your certifi-

cate. The validated certificate serves as your hunting license.

Both the registration certificate and the corresponding hunting license are valid for 365 days from the date of purchase. **Note:** Your hunting license is not valid until you complete the hunter education course.

With a valid hunting license, you can also apply for or obtain permits in the Division's hunt drawings. In order to maximize your hunting opportunities, you should register for and complete the hunter education course as soon as possible after purchasing your registration certificate.

After completing the course, you will receive your official hunter education card (commonly known as the "blue card") by mail. It will be sent to the address listed on your registration certificate. This card certifies that you passed hunter education.

You should also keep the following in mind:

- Hunters under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult while hunting.
- Regardless of when a student graduates, all hunting regulations (such as season dates and bag limits) will apply.
- Students who are planning to hunt out of state should allow enough time for their hunter education card to arrive in the mail.

You can see a list of hunter education courses at *wildlife.utah.gov/huntereducation*. You can also contact your local Division office or call 801-538-4727.

New to Utah?

If you become a Utah resident, and you've completed a hunter education course in another state, province or country, you must obtain a blue card before you can buy a resident hunting license. You can obtain a Utah blue card at any Division office by providing proof that you've completed a hunter education course approved by the Division. The card costs $10.

Do you have a license?

Utah Code §§§ 23-19-1, 23-19-22 and 23-20-3

You must have a current Utah hunting or combination (hunting and fishing) license before you can apply for any big game permits, bonus points or preference points. Licenses are available at *wildlife.utah.gov* and from license agents and Division offices.

As long as your license was valid on the date you submitted your application, you don't have to purchase a new license for the actual hunt.

For example, assume that your license expires on June 25, 2012. If you applied on February 26, 2012, you do not have to purchase a new license for your hunt in the fall. All hunting and combination licenses are valid for 365 days from the date of purchase.

Carry your permit

If you are successful in obtaining a big game permit, you *must* have it on your person while hunting. You cannot alter your license or permit, nor can you sell, transfer or loan either of them to another person.

Residency

Utah Code 23-13-2(37)

Before you apply for a big game hunt, it's important to know whether you are a legal resident of the state of Utah. See the definition of Resident on page 40 to determine whether you are a resident or a nonresident.

FIELD REQUIREMENTS

Several rules have been established to regulate big game hunting in Utah. These rules exist to ensure big game animals are hunted ethically and to help keep you safe in the field. Please be familiar with the requirements for carrying and using firearms and archery tackle. You should also know the different types of hunting methods that may and may not be used and what you're required to do with any big game animal you take.

Hunting hours

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-6

You may take big game animals from 30 minutes before official sunrise until 30 minutes after official sunset.

Requirement to wear hunter orange

Utah Code §§ 23-20-31 and 23-20-31

If you're hunting in an area where a centerfire rifle hunt is occurring, you must wear a minimum of 400 square inches of hunter orange material on your head, chest and back.

A camouflage pattern in hunter orange meets this requirement; however, the Division strongly encourages hunters to continue using solid hunter orange whenever possible.

There are some exceptions to the hunter orange rule. You're not required to wear hunter orange if you're participating in a bighorn sheep hunt, a bison hunt, a moose hunt or a mountain goat hunt—or a hunt that requires you to possess a statewide conservation permit or a statewide sportsman's permit—unless a centerfire rifle hunt is in progress in the same area.

State-licensed guides and outfitters

Guides and outfitters must be licensed with the State of Utah before they can legally take hunters onto public land to hunt big game, cougars or black bears.

Before you use a guide or an outfitter, please visit *wildlife.utah.gov/guides* to determine if he or she is licensed in Utah.

The Utah Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing is the regulatory agency for this law. For more information, please visit *wildlife.utah.gov/DOPL*.

Checkpoints and officer contacts

Utah Code §§ 23-20-25 and 77-23-104

To help the Division fulfill its responsibility as trustee and custodian of Utah's wildlife, Division conservation officers and biologists monitor the taking and possession of big game animals and the required permits, firearms and equipment used for hunting. You should expect to encounter conservation officers and biologists checking hunters in the field and at checkpoints.

If you're contacted by a conservation officer, you must provide the officer with the items he or she requests, including any licenses and permits required for hunting, any devices used to participate in hunting and any game you've taken. These contacts allow the Division to collect valuable information about Utah's big game animals.

Firearms and archery equipment

Prohibited weapons

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-7

You may only use firearms and archery tackle that are expressly permitted in this guide.

You may not hunt big game with a firearm that's capable of being fired fully automatic, or with any light-enhancement device or aiming device that casts a visible beam of light. Laser range-finding devices are exempt from this restriction.

Rifles and shotguns

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-8

You may use a rifle or shotgun to take big game, but your firearm and ammunition must meet the following requirements:

- Your rifle must fire centerfire cartridges and expanding bullets.
- Your shotgun must be 20 gauge or larger, and you may use only slug ammunition or buckshot that's 00 or larger in size.

Handguns

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-9

You may use a handgun to take big game animals, but the handgun must be a minimum of .24 caliber and must fire a centerfire cartridge with an expanding bullet.

If you're hunting deer or pronghorn, the handgun must develop at least 500 foot-pounds of energy at the muzzle. If you're hunting elk, moose, bison, bighorn sheep or Rocky Mountain goat, the handgun must develop at least 500 foot-pounds of energy at 100 yards.

Muzzleloaders

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-10

Muzzleloaders may be used during any big game hunt—except the archery hunt. To hunt big game with a muzzleloader, your muzzleloader must meet all of the following requirements:

- It can be loaded only from the muzzle.
- It must have open sights, peep sights or a fixed non-magnifying 1x scope.
- It can have only one barrel, and the barrel must be at least 18 inches long.
- It cannot be capable of firing more than once without being reloaded.
- The powder and bullet—or powder, sabot and bullet—cannot be bonded together as one unit for loading.
- It must be loaded with black powder or a black powder substitute. The black powder or black power substitute cannot contain smokeless powder, but may contain some nitrocellulose.
- To hunt big game, you must use a lead or expanding bullet or projectile that's at least 40 caliber in size.
- If you're hunting deer or pronghorn, your bullet must be 130 grains or heavier, or your sabot must be 170 grains or heavier.
- If you're hunting elk, moose, bison, bighorn sheep or Rocky Mountain goats, you must use a 210-grain or heavier bullet, or a sabot bullet that's at least 240 grains.

If you obtain a muzzleloader permit, you may use only the muzzleloader equipment authorized in this section to take the species listed on the permit.

You may not possess or be in control of a rifle or shotgun while in the field during the muzzleloader hunt. For the purposes of this section, "field" means a location where you are likely to find the species listed on your permit. (You are not considered to be in the field if you are in an established camping area or traveling in a fully enclosed automobile or truck.) This restriction does not apply to the following people:

- Hunters who are licensed to hunt upland game or waterfowl (You must comply

Hunters with disabilities

Utah Admin. Rule R657-12

Utah provides special hunting accommodations for people with disabilities. These accommodations include the opportunity to hunt with a companion, use a crossbow, hunt from a vehicle, use a draw lock and use a scope on archery equipment or a muzzleloader.

Hunters with disabilities may also apply for an extension to their season if they have a 2012 big game hunting permit in their possession and they meet certain criteria.

To learn more about hunting accommodations for people with disabilities, please visit *wildlife.utah.gov/disabled, wildlife.utah.gov/rules/R657-12.php* or call any Division office.

with the regulations in the Upland Game Guidebook or Waterfowl Guidebook, and you may possess only those firearms and archery equipment that are legal for taking upland game or waterfowl.)
- Hunters who are licensed to hunt big game species during archery or rifle hunts that coincide with the muzzleloader hunt
- Livestock owners who are protecting their livestock
- Individuals who are licensed to carry a concealed weapon in accordance with Utah Code § 53-5-7

Archery equipment

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-11

Archery equipment may be used during any big game hunt except the muzzleloader hunt. To hunt big game with archery equipment, your equipment must meet all of the following requirements:

- Your bow must have a minimum pull of 40 pounds at the draw or the peak, whichever comes first.
- Your arrowheads must have two or more sharp-cutting edges that cannot pass through a 7/8 inch ring. If you're using expanding arrowheads, the arrowheads must have two or more sharp-cutting edges that cannot pass through a 7/8 inch ring when expanded.
- Your arrows must be at least 20 inches long, from the tip of the arrowhead to the tip of the nock, and must weigh at least 300 grains.

You may not use any of the following archery equipment to take big game:

- A crossbow (please see *Utah Admin. Rule R657-12* for an exception to this rule)
- Arrows with chemically treated or explosive arrowheads
- A mechanical device that holds the bow at any increment of draw (please see *Utah Admin. Rule R657-12* for an exception to this rule)
- A release aid that is not handheld or that supports the draw weight of the bow
- A bow with an attached electronic range-finding device or a magnifying-aiming device

Please remember that if you carry arrows in or on a vehicle, the arrows must be in an arrow quiver or a closed case.

If you obtain an archery permit, you may use only the archery equipment authorized in this section to take the species listed on the permit

You may not possess or be in control of a rifle, shotgun or muzzleloader while in the field during an archery hunt. For the purposes of this section, "field" means a location where you are likely to find the species listed on your permit. (You are not considered to be in the field if you are in an established camping area or traveling in a fully enclosed automobile or truck.)

This restriction does not apply to the following people:

- Hunters who are licensed to hunt upland game or waterfowl (You must comply with the regulations in the Upland Game Guidebook or Waterfowl Guidebook, and you may possess only those firearms and archery equipment that are legal for taking upland game or waterfowl.)
- Hunters who are licensed to hunt big game species during rifle or muzzleloader hunts that coincide with the archery hunt
- Livestock owners who are protecting their livestock
- Individuals who are licensed to carry a concealed weapon in accordance with Utah Code § 53-5-7

Loaded firearms in a vehicle

Utah Code §§§§ 76-10-502, 76-10-504, 76-10-505 and 76-10-523

You may not carry a loaded firearm in or on a vehicle unless you meet all of the following conditions:

- You own the vehicle or have permission from the vehicle's owner.

- The firearm is a handgun.
- You are 18 years of age or older.

A pistol, revolver, rifle or shotgun is considered to be loaded when there is an unexpended cartridge, shell or projectile in the firing position.

Pistols and revolvers are also considered to be loaded when an unexpended cartridge, shell or projectile is in a position whereby the manual operation of any mechanism once would cause the unexpended cartridge, shell or projectile to be fired.

A muzzleloading firearm is considered loaded when it is capped or primed and has a powder charge and ball or shot in the barrel or cylinders.

The firearm restrictions in this section do not apply to concealed firearm permit holders carrying a concealed weapon in accordance with Utah Code § 76-10-504.

Please see Utah Code §§ 76-10-504 and 76-10-523 at *wildlife.utah.gov/rules* for more information.

Areas where you cannot discharge a firearm

Utah Code § 76-10-508 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-12

You may not discharge a dangerous weapon or firearm under any of the following circumstances:

- From a vehicle
- From, upon or across any highway
- At power lines or signs
- At railroad equipment or facilities, including any sign or signal
- Within Utah state park camp or picnic sites, overlooks, golf courses, boat ramps or developed beaches
- Without written permission from the owner or property manager, within 600 feet of:
    - A house, dwelling or any other building
    - Any structure in which a domestic animal is kept or fed, including a barn, poultry yard, corral, feeding pen or stockyard

Carrying a dangerous weapon while under the influence of alcohol or drugs

Utah Code § 76-10-528

You may not carry a dangerous weapon or hunt big game while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Please see Utah Code § 76-10-528 at *wildlife.utah.gov/rules* for more information.

Areas with special restrictions

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-12

The following areas have certain restrictions. Please be familiar with them before heading into the field.

State waterfowl management areas

All of Utah's waterfowl management areas—except the Stewart Lake Waterfowl Management Area—are closed to big game hunting.

State parks

Utah Admin. Rule R651-614

Hunting any wildlife is prohibited within the boundaries of all state park areas, except those designated open to hunting by the Division of Parks and Recreation in Utah Admin. Rule R651-614-4.

Hunting with rifles, handguns or muzzleloaders in park areas designated open to hunting is prohibited within one mile of all park facilities, including buildings, camp or picnic sites, overlooks, golf courses, boat ramps and developed beaches.

Hunting with shotguns or archery tackle is prohibited within one-quarter mile of the above areas.

National parks and monuments

All of Utah's national parks and monuments—except the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument—are closed to hunting.

Native American trust lands

To hunt on Native American trust lands, you must obtain a permit from the Native American tribe that owns the land. You must also observe all of the tribe's wildlife regulations while hunting on these trust lands.

Military installations

All of the military installations in Utah, including Camp Williams, are closed to hunting and trespassing unless you have authorized permission.

Salt Lake County

In Salt Lake County, you may not do any of the following:

- Hunt big game within one-half mile of Silver Lake in Big Cottonwood Canyon
- Hunt on the Red Butte Research Natural Area, which is closed to public access
- Hunt in Emigration Township with a rifle or muzzleloader. This area is restricted to archery tackle only. Visit *wildlife.utah.gov/maps* to view a map of the archery-only area in Emigration Township.

Please check the special regulations under general any legal weapon buck deer (page 14), general muzzleloader buck deer (page 14), general season bull elk (page 17) and general muzzleloader elk (page 18) for additional restrictions in Salt Lake County.

Also, before hunting in the Salt Lake County area, please check the Salt Lake County and local municipality ordinances regarding firearm restrictions.

Alta

A designated portion of the town of Alta is closed to hunting. Please contact the town of Alta for hunt boundaries and other information.

Scott M. Matheson Wetlands Preserve

You may use only archery equipment, muzzleloaders or shotguns while hunting on the Scott M. Matheson Wetlands Preserve.

County and local municipalities

Please check county and local municipality ordinances regarding firearm restrictions before hunting in these areas.

Green River—Jensen, Utah

You may not discharge a firearm, except a shotgun or a muzzleloader, from, upon or across the Green River near Jensen, Utah (from the bridge on US-40 upstream to the Dinosaur National Monument boundary).

Motorized vehicle access on wildlife management areas

Utah Admin. Rule R657-9-12

Motorized vehicle travel on state wildlife management areas is restricted to county roads, parking areas, and areas marked or posted open to motorized vehicle travel.

Trespassing

Utah Code §§ 23-20-14 and 23-20-3.5

While taking wildlife or engaging in wildlife-related activities, you may not—without permission—enter or remain on privately owned land that is:

- Cultivated
- Properly posted
- Fenced or enclosed in a manner designed to exclude intruders

In addition, you may not:

- Enter or remain on private land when directed not to do so by the owner or a person acting for the owner.
- Obstruct any entrance or exit to private property.

"Cultivated land" is land that is readily identifiable as land whose soil is loosened or broken up for the raising of crops, land used for the raising of crops, or a pasture that is artificially irrigated.

"Permission" means written authorization from the owner or person in charge to enter

upon private land that is cultivated or properly posted. Permission must include all of the following details:

- The signature of the owner or person in charge
- The name of the person being given permission
- The appropriate dates
- A general description of the land

"Properly posted" means that signs prohibiting trespass—or bright yellow, bright orange or fluorescent paint—are clearly displayed at all corners, on fishing streams crossing property lines, and on roads, gates and rights-of-way entering the land. Or, they are displayed in a manner that is visible to a person in the area.

You may not post private property you do not own or legally control or land that is open to the public as provided by Utah Code § 23-21-4. In addition, it is unlawful to take protected wildlife or its parts while trespassing in violation of Utah Code § 23-20-14.

You are guilty of a class B misdemeanor if you violate any provision described in this section. Your license, tag or permit privileges may also be suspended.

Prohibited hunting methods

Spotlighting

Utah Code §§§ 23-20-3, 76-10-504, 76-10-523 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-13

You may not use a spotlight, headlight or other artificial light to take or locate any protected wildlife (including big game) if you have any of the following weapons in your possession:

- Rifle
- Shotgun
- Archery equipment
- Muzzleloader

The use of a spotlight or other artificial light in any area where protected wildlife are generally found is prima facie evidence of attempting to locate protected wildlife. (Prima facie evidence means that if you're spotlighting, the burden of proof falls on you to prove that you were not attempting to locate protected wildlife.)

The provisions of this section do not apply to the use of the headlights of a motor vehicle or other artificial light in a usual manner where there is no attempt or intent to locate protected wildlife.

In addition, the above restrictions do not apply to concealed carry permit holders carrying a concealed weapon in accordance with Utah Code §§ 76-10-504 and 76-10-523. See *wildlife.utah.gov/rules* for more information.

Use of vehicle or aircraft

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-14

You may not use an airplane or any other airborne vehicle or device, or any motorized terrestrial or aquatic vehicle (except a vessel)—including snowmobiles and other recreational vehicles—to take protected wildlife, including big game.

Also, you may not take protected wildlife that are being chased, harmed, harassed, rallied, herded, flushed, pursued or moved by an aircraft or any other vehicle or transportation device listed above.

In addition, you may not use any type of aircraft, from 48 hours before any big game hunt

Obtain permission to hunt private property

If you want to hunt on private property, you must obtain written permission from the landowner before you can hunt. Ideally, you should have permission **before you even apply for a permit**.

If you obtain written permission in advance, you know you'll be able to use the permit if you draw it.

The Division cannot guarantee access to private land, and the agency does not have the names of landowners who own property where hunts occur.

HUNTING AND OHVs TIPS

Off-highway vehicles (OHVs) are a great means of transportation to hunting areas. At the same time, you need to be considerate of other hunters and make every effort to avoid disturbing wildlife.

- Begin hunting only after parking your machine at a designated parking area.
- Don't ruin another hunter's trip. Know and follow vehicle-use regulations for your hunting unit.
- Stay on existing roads and trails to protect natural resources, wildlife habitat and your riding privileges.
- It is illegal to carry loaded firearms on or to shoot from your OHV.
- Drivers aged 8 to 15 must possess an OHV education certificate to legally drive on public land.
- Drivers aged 16 and older must have a valid driver's license or an OHV education certificate.
- Properly fitted and fastened helmets are required for all riders under age 18, and are recommend for everyone.
- Out-of-state residents may need to purchase a nonresident permit to ride an OHV. Call 801-538-7433 for details.
- OHVs operate or transported on public lands, roads or trails must be registered.

Utah State Parks is the state OHV authority — providing access, education and search and rescue on Utah's trails.

801-538-7433

stateparks.utah.gov

UTAH DNR STATE PARKS

begins through 48 hours after any big game hunting season ends, to perform any of the following activities:

- Transport a hunter or hunting equipment into a hunting area
- Transport a big game carcass
- Locate, or attempt to observe or locate, any protected wildlife

Flying slowly at low altitudes, or hovering, circling or repeatedly flying over an area where protected wildlife is likely to be found, may be used as evidence that you've violated the restrictions above.

Use of dogs

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-15

Dogs may not be used to take, chase, harm or harass big game. You may, however, use one blood-trailing dog—controlled by leash—to track wounded animals and aid in recovery. You may only use the tracking dog within 72 hours of shooting a big game animal and during lawful hunting hours.

Party hunting

Utah Code § 23-19-1 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-15

You may not take a big game animal for another person. For example, you cannot kill a big game animal, and then tag the animal with a tag that belongs to one of your hunting companions. This practice is called "party hunting," and it's illegal.

Big game contests

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-16

You may not enter a contest or hold a contest that is based on big game or its parts and that offers cash or prizes totaling more than $500.

Tagging, transporting and exporting big game

Tagging requirements

Utah Code § 23-20-30 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-17

After you've taken a big game animal, you must tag the animal before moving the carcass or leaving the site of the kill.

To tag a big game animal, completely detach the tag from your big game permit and completely remove the three notches that indicate the date the animal was taken and the sex of the animal. Then, attach the tag to the animal so that the tag remains securely fastened and visible.

You may not remove more than one notch indicating the date or sex, or tag more than one animal, using the same tag. Also, you may not hunt or pursue big game after any of the notches have been removed from the tag or the tag has been detached from your permit.

Your tag must remain with the largest portion of the animal's meat until all of the meat has been eaten.

Transporting big game within Utah

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-18

You must obey the following rules to transport big game in Utah:

- The head or sex organs of the animal you've taken must remain attached to the largest portion of its carcass.
- If you take an elk on a spike bull unit, the antlers must remain attached to the animal's skull plate, and you must transport the skull plate and antlers with the carcass.
- You must accompany the carcass of any big game animal you've harvested, and you must have a valid permit that corresponds to the tag that's attached to the carcass.

There is one exception to this rule: you may transport a big game animal you did not take if you obtain a shipping permit or a disposal receipt from the Division, or you have a donation slip. You may not donate big game in the field.

Please see the Donating big game section on page 38 for more information.

Transporting big game out of Utah

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-19

You may transport big game or its parts out of Utah if you accompany the big game animal you harvested and you have a valid permit that corresponds to the tag on the animal. The tag must be attached to the largest portion of the carcass.

If you didn't harvest the animal, you must obtain a shipping permit from the Division before taking the animal or its parts out of Utah.

Bringing big game into Utah

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-42

If an elk, mule deer, white-tailed deer or moose has been taken from an area that has been diagnosed with Chronic Wasting Disease, the following are the only parts of the animal you may bring into Utah:

- Meat that is cut and wrapped, either commercially or privately
- Quarters or other portions of meat (no part of the spinal column or head may be attached to the meat)
- Meat that is boned out
- Hides with no heads attached
- Skull plates with antlers attached, but the skull plates must be cleaned of all meat and tissue
- Antlers with no meat or tissue attached
- Upper canine teeth (also known as buglers, whistlers or ivories)
- Finished taxidermy heads

You can learn which areas in North America have been diagnosed with Chronic Wasting Disease by visiting *wildlife.utah.gov/cwd* or any Division office.

If you're not a resident of Utah, you can transport harvested elk, mule deer and white-tailed deer from areas that have CWD. However, you may not leave any part of the harvested animal in Utah, and you may not stay more than 24 hours in the state. In addition, your deer or elk may not be processed in Utah.

Possession and use of big game

Donating big game

Utah Code § 23-20-9

The following are the only places you may donate, or give, a big game animal or its parts to another person:

- The residence of the donor
- The residence of the recipient
- A meat locker
- A storage plant
- A meat-processing facility

A written statement of donation must be kept with the animal or its parts. The statement must show:

- The number and species of the wildlife or parts donated
- The date of donation
- The permit number of the donor
- The signature of the donor

There is one exception to the rules above. You may donate the hide of a big game animal to another person or organization at any location, and a donation slip is not required.

Waste of game

Utah Code § 23-20-8

You may not waste any big game animal or permit it to be wasted or spoiled. (Waste means to abandon a big game animal or allow it to spoil or be used in a manner not normally associated with its beneficial use. For example, using the meat as fertilizer or for trapping bait is not considered a beneficial use of the meat.)

In addition, you may not kill or cripple a big game animal without making a reasonable effort to retrieve it. You must immediately kill any animal you wound and tag the animal.

Purchasing or selling big game or its parts

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-20

You may not buy, sell or offer, or possess for sale, barter, exchange or trade, any big game animal or its parts. The only exceptions are the following:

- Antlers, heads and horns of legally taken big game may be bought or sold from Feb. 15 through July 31.
- Untanned hides of legally taken big game may be bought or sold from Aug. 1 through Feb. 14.
- Inedible byproducts of legally possessed big game—except for hides, antlers and horns—may be bought or sold any time of the year.
- Tanned hides of legally taken big game may be bought or sold any time of the year.
- Shed antlers and horns may be bought or sold any time of the year.
- Protected wildlife that the Division obtains may be sold or donated by the Division or its agents (usually Utah State Surplus) any time of the year. Also, you may purchase or receive protected wildlife from the Division any time of the year.

If you sell or buy antlers, heads, horns or untanned hides, you must keep a transaction record that states all of the following information:

- The name and address of the person who harvested the animal
- The date you sold or bought the items
- The permit number of the person who harvested the animal

There is one exception to this rule: scouting programs and other charitable organizations do not need to keep a transaction record if they're using untanned hides.

Possession of antlers and horns

Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-21

You may possess antlers or horns—or parts of antlers or horns—that were obtained:

- From lawfully harvested big game
- By lawfully meeting the requirements listed in the "Purchasing or selling big game or its parts" section above

Finding a skull with antlers or horns attached

If you find a skull with the antlers or horns still attached, it's possible the animal was poached. **Do NOT pick up or move the skull, or disturb any footprints or other evidence.** Instead, we encourage you to take the following steps:

- Take photos of the skull from a couple of angles
- Pinpoint the location of the skull (preferably its GPS coordinates)
- Call or visit a Division office to report your find
- Provide key details in your report

The Division will send a conservation officer to investigate and determine if the animal was poached. If it's clear that the animal was not poached, we may allow you to keep your find.

- From lawfully gathered antlers or horns shed by big game animals

You may gather shed antlers or horns—or parts of shed antlers or horns—statewide, but there are a couple of seasonal requirements.

From Feb. 1 to April 15, you need an antler-gathering certificate on your person while collecting shed antlers or horns. You can obtain this certificate free of charge by visiting *wildlife.utah.gov* and completing an online education course. You do not need an antler-gathering certificate at any other time of the year.

"Shed antlers" are antlers that a big game animal has dropped naturally as part of its annual life cycle. Shed antlers have a rounded base that's commonly called an antler button or burr.

A "shed horn" is the sheath from the horn of a pronghorn that the animal has dropped naturally as part of its annual life cycle. Pronghorn are the only big game animals that shed their horns.

Permit refunds and exchanges

Utah Code § 23-19-38 & Utah Admin. Rule R657-42

Obtaining a refund

The Division rarely issues refunds for permits, licenses or certificates of registration, but there are some exceptions. To see if you're eligible for a refund, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/refund*.

Permit exchanges

The switch to 30 general-season deer units has affected the Division's approach to permit exchanges.

You may exchange your permit for one that's available in another unit, but it must be for the same species and sex. For example, you cannot exchange a buck deer permit for a bull elk permit. The exchange must occur before the season opening date on the permit you originally obtained.

You must also pay a $10 handling fee to exchange a permit.

Duplicate licenses

Utah Code § 23-19-10 & Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-5

If your unexpired license or permit is destroyed, lost or stolen, you can obtain a duplicate from a Division office or a license agent for $10 or half of the price of the original license or permit, whichever is less.

DEFINITIONS

Utah Code § 23-13-2 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-2 & R657-37

Any legal weapon means the weapons described on pages 26–28 under Firearms and Archery Equipment.

Arrow quiver means a portable arrow case that completely encases all edges of the broadheads.

Big game means species of hoofed protected wildlife.

Carcass means the dead body of an animal or its parts.

Certificate of registration means a document issued under any rule or proclamation of the Wildlife Board granting authority to engage in activities not covered by a license, permit or tag.

CWMU means Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit.

Domicile means the place:

- where an individual has a fixed permanent home and principal establishment;
- to which the individual if absent, intends to return; and
- in which the individual and the individual's family voluntarily reside, not for a special or temporary purpose, but with the intention of making a permanent home.

To create a new domicile an individual must:

- abandon the old domicile; and
- be able to prove that a new domicile has been established.

Highway means the entire width between property lines of every way or place of any nature when any part of it is open to the use of the public as a matter of right for vehicular travel.

Hunter's choice means either sex may be taken.

Hunting means to take or pursue a reptile, amphibian, bird or mammal by any means.

Limited-entry hunt means any hunt that is identified as limited-entry and listed in the hunt table of this guidebook, and that does not include general or once-in-a-lifetime hunts.

Limited-entry permit means any permit obtained for a limited-entry hunt by any means, including conservation permits, sportsman permits, CWMU permits and limited-entry landowner permits.

Nonresident means a person who does not qualify as a resident.

Once-in-a-lifetime hunt means any hunt that is identified as once-in-a-lifetime and listed in the hunt table of this guidebook, and that does not include general or limited-entry hunts.

Once-in-a-lifetime permit means any permit obtained for a once-in-a-lifetime hunt by any means, including conservation permits, sportsman permits, CWMU permits and limited-entry landowner permits.

Permit means a document, including a stamp, which grants authority to engage in specific activities under the Wildlife Resources Code or a rule or proclamation of the Wildlife Board.

Possession means actual or constructive possession.

Resident means a person who has a fixed permanent home and principal establishment in Utah for six consecutive months immediately preceding the purchase of a license or permit, AND DOES NOT claim residency for hunting, fishing or trapping in any other state or country.

An individual retains Utah residency if he or she leaves Utah to serve in the armed forces of the

United States, or for religious or educational purposes, and does NOT claim residency for hunting, fishing or trapping in any other state or country.

Members of the armed forces of the United States and dependents are residents as of the date the member reports for duty under assigned orders in Utah, if:

- the member is NOT on temporary duty in Utah and does NOT claim residency for hunting, fishing or trapping in any other state or country.
- the member presents a copy of his or her assignment orders to a Division office to verify the member's qualification as a resident.

A nonresident attending an institution of higher learning in Utah as a full-time student may qualify as a resident if the student has been present in Utah for 60 consecutive days immediately preceding the purchase of the license or permit and does NOT claim residency for hunting, fishing or trapping in any other state or country.

A Utah resident license or permit is invalid if a resident license for hunting, fishing or trapping is purchased in any other state or country.

An individual DOES NOT qualify as a resident if he or she is an absentee landowner paying property tax on land in Utah.

Sell means to offer or possess for sale, barter, exchange or trade, or the act of selling, bartering, exchanging or trading.

Spoiled means impairment of the flesh of wildlife which renders it unfit for human consumption.

Tag means a card, label or other identification device issued for attachment to the carcass of protected wildlife.

Take means to:

- hunt, pursue, harass, catch, capture, possess, angle, seine, trap or kill any protected wildlife; or
- attempt any of the above actions.

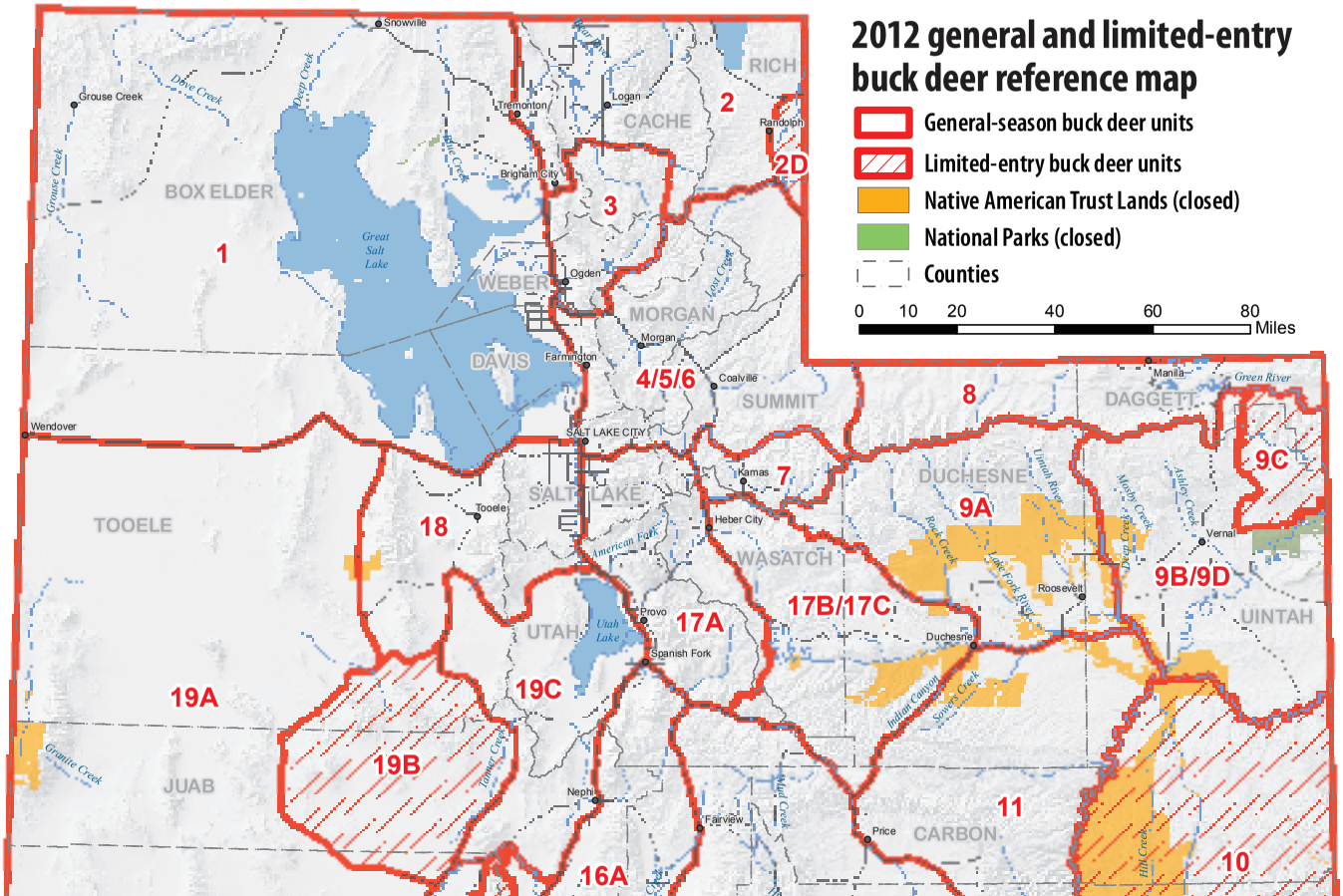
Valid application means:

- it is for a species for which the applicant is eligible to possess a permit;
- there is a hunt for that species regardless of estimated permit numbers; and
- there is sufficient information on the application to process the application, including personal information, hunt information, and sufficient payment.

Applications missing any of the above items may still be considered valid if the application is corrected in a timely manner through the application-correction process.

Vessel means every type of watercraft, other than a seaplane on the water, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water.

Waste means to abandon protected wildlife or to allow protected wildlife to spoil or to be used in a manner not normally associated with its beneficial use.


2012 general and limited-entry buck deer reference map
General-season buck deer units
Limited-entry buck deer units
Native American Trust Lands (closed)
National Parks (closed)
Counties
0 10 20 40 60 80 Miles
BOX ELDER
CACHE
RICH
WEBER
MORGAN
DAVIS
SUMMIT
DAGGETT
DUCHESNE
UINTAH
SALT LAKE
TOOELE
WASATCH
UTAH
JUAB
CARBON
1
2
2D
3
4/5/6
7
8
9A
9B/9D
9C
10
11
16A
17A
17B/17C
18
19A
19B
19C
Snowville
Grouse Creek
Tremonton
Logan
Randolph
Brigham City
Ogden
Morgan
Farmington
Coalville
Manila
Wendover
SALT LAKE CITY
Kamas
Tooele
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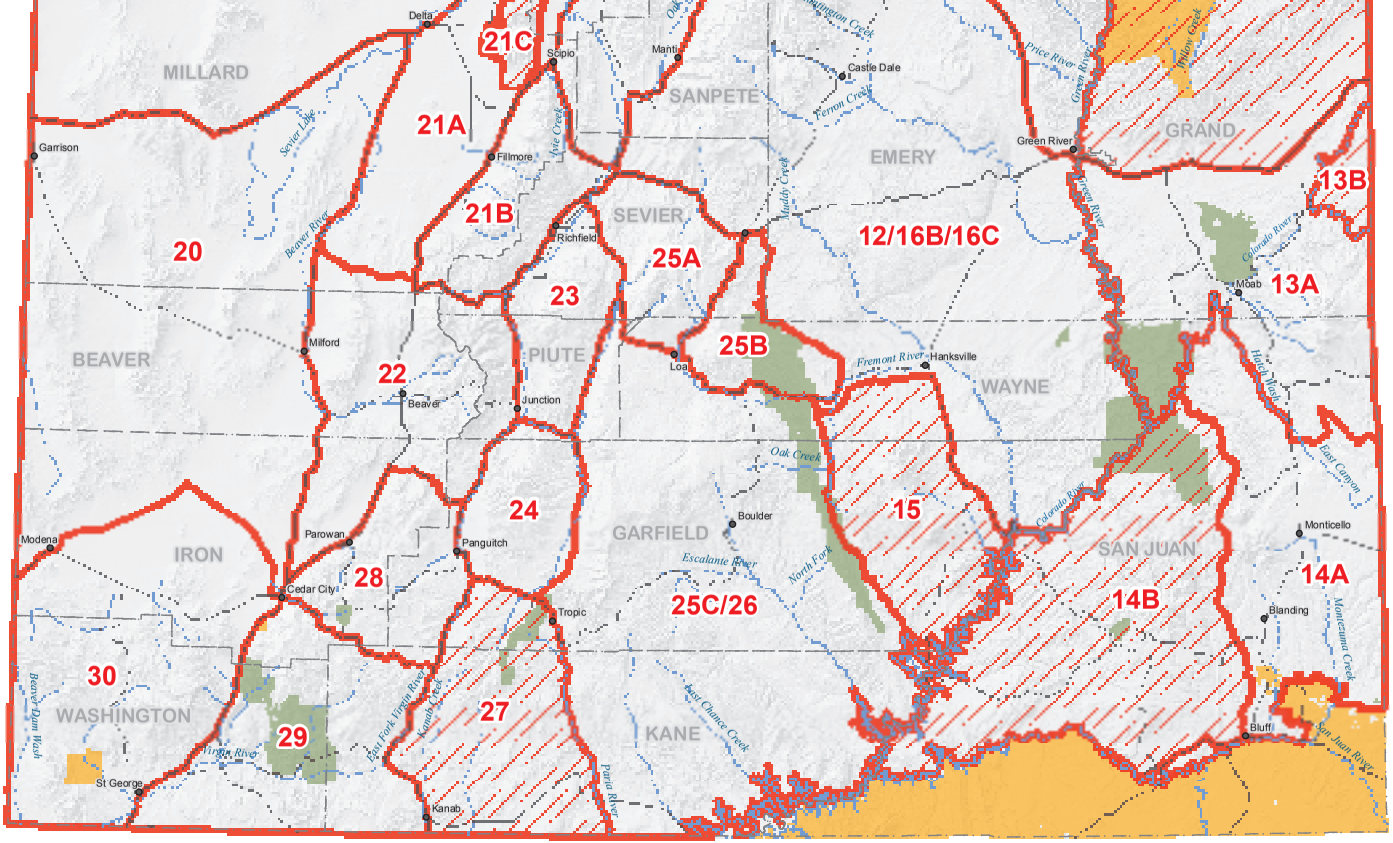
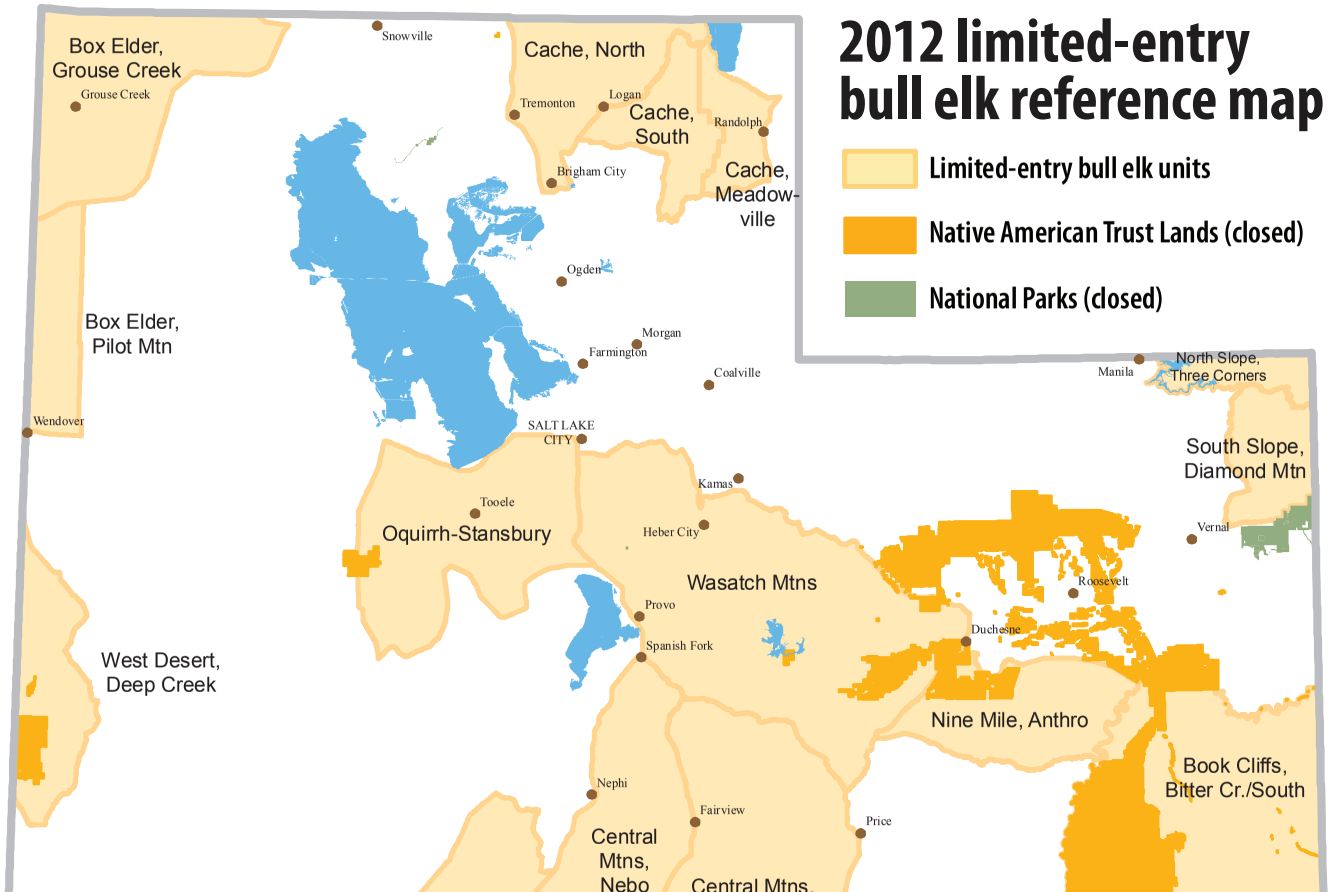
Vernal
Roosevelt
Provo
Spanish Fork
Duchesne
Nephi
Fairview
Price
Great Salt Lake
Utah Lake
Green River



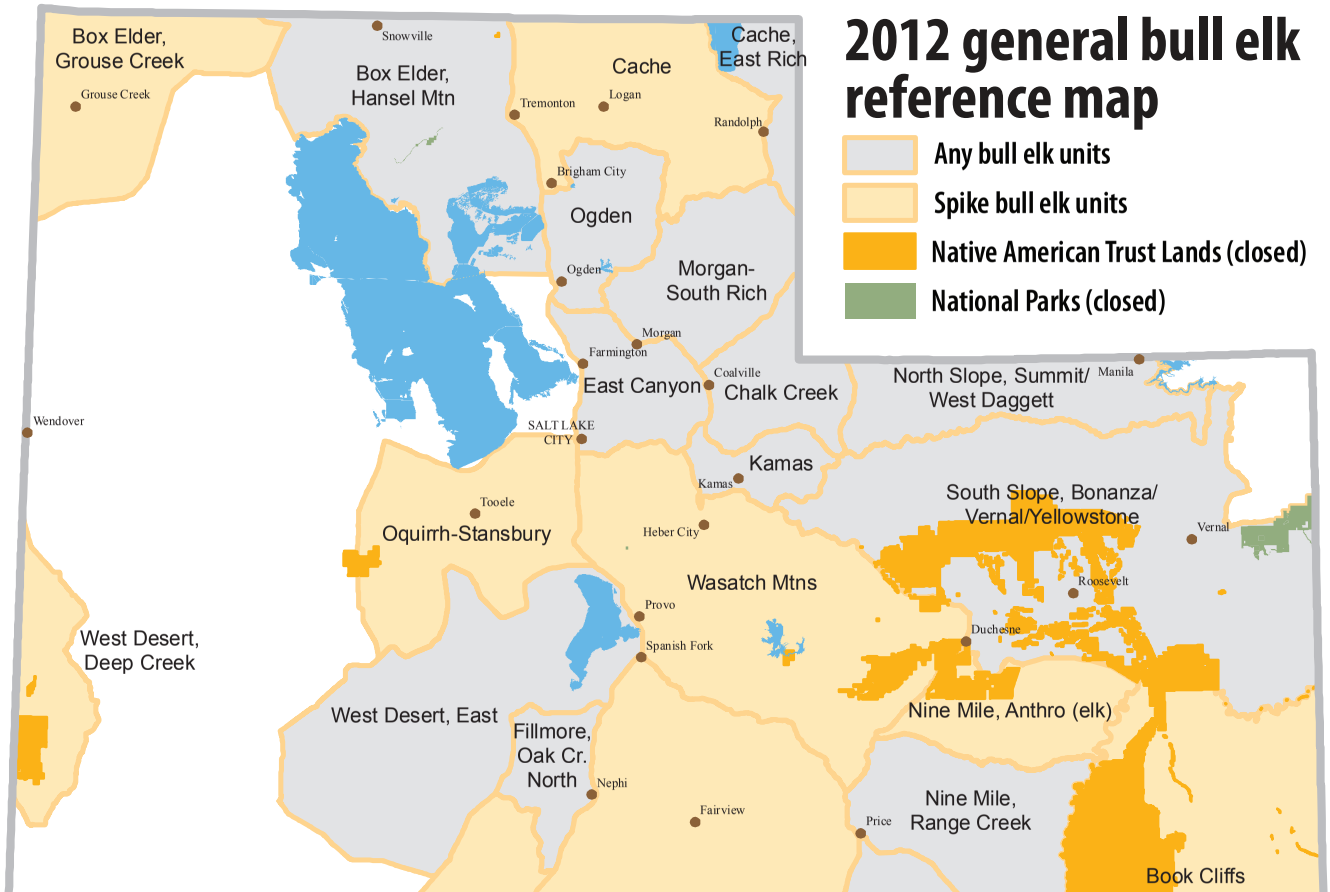
This map is for general reference only. Please visit *wildlife.utah.gov/maps* for detailed boundary descriptions. All hunt units **exclude** deer CWMUs, Native American Trust Lands, National Parks and other areas closed to hunting.

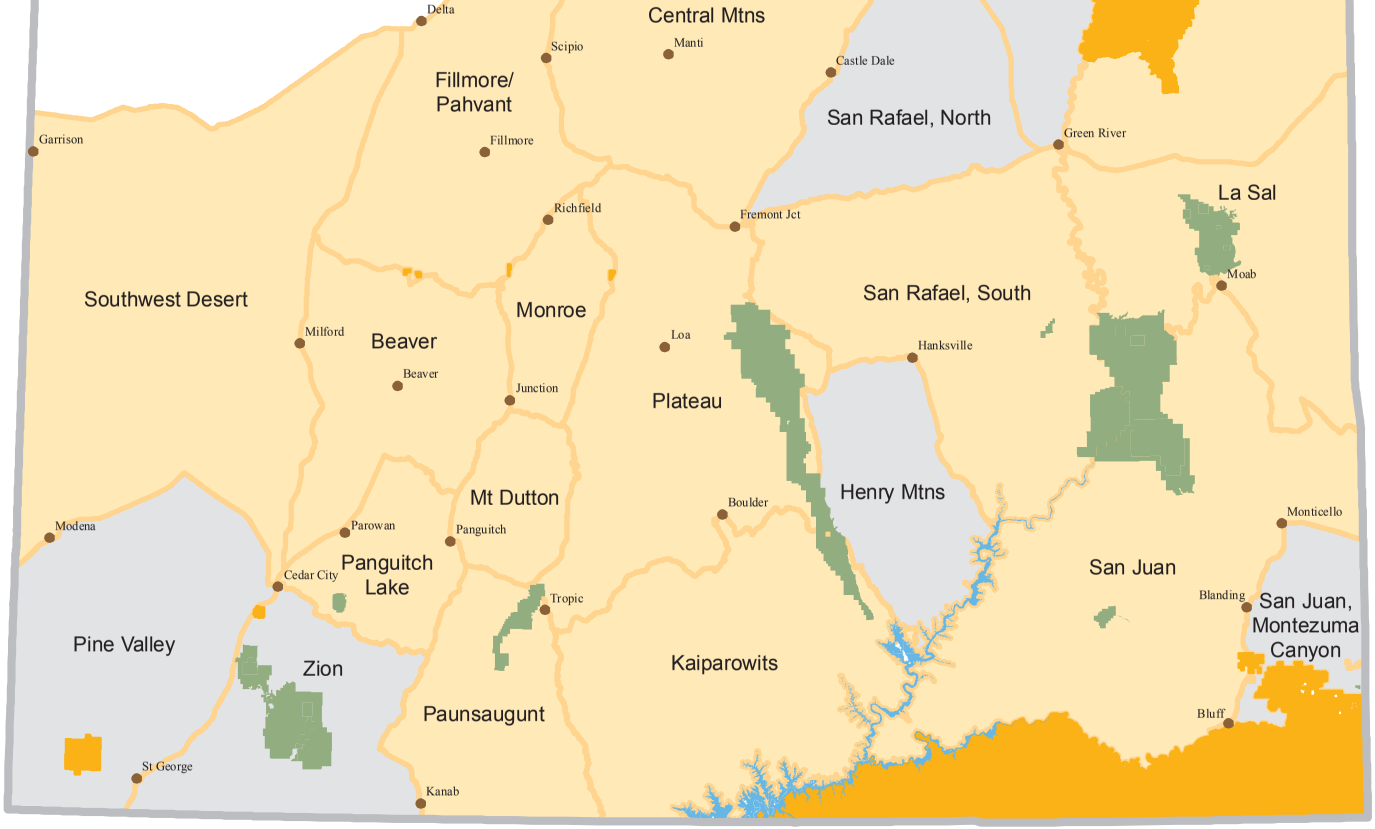
2012 limited-entry bull elk reference map



This map is for general reference only. Please visit *wildlife.utah.gov/maps* for detailed boundary descriptions. All hunt units **exclude** elk CWMUs, Native American Trust Lands, National Parks and other areas closed to hunting.

2012 general bull elk reference map





This map is for general reference only. Please visit *wildlife.utah.gov/maps* for detailed boundary descriptions. All hunt units **exclude** elk CWMUs, Native American Trust Lands, National Parks and other areas closed to hunting.

READY TO RIDE?

Remember these safety tips to ensure a safe off-highway vehicle (OHV) ride:

- Always wear a helmet and other protective gear, including a long-sleeved shirt, long pants, over-the-ankle boots and gloves.
- Ride at a safe speed on designated trails only.
- Never ride under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
- Ride an OHV that's right for your size.
- Never exceed your machine carrying capacity.
- Supervise riders younger than 16.
- Get certified. Utah law requires youth eight to 16 to be certified before operating an OHV on public lands. To take the online course, visit *stateparks.utah.gov/ohv*.

Utah State Parks is the state OHV authority providing access, education and search and rescue on Utah's trails.

801-538-7433 *stateparks.utah.gov/ohv*

Utah State Parks

Prevent wildfires!

Make sure campfire ashes are cold. Always use a shovel and a bucket of water.

UtahFireInfo.gov

Utah Wildlife in Need

Help protect Utah wildlife

Protecting and preserving Utah's threatened wildlife is up to each of us, and together we can make a difference. Please join Utah Wildlife In Need as we work together to help ensure Utah's wildlife treasures are part of the legacy we leave for our children and grandchildren.

Visit *www.uwin.org* to learn more about Utah's threatened species and about how you can help sustain Utah wildlife for all to enjoy!