



## Certification Page Regular and Emergency Rules

Revised September 2016

**Emergency Rules** (After completing all of Sections 1 through 3, proceed to Section 5 below)

**Regular Rules**

### 1. General Information

a. Agency/Board Name Wyoming Game and Fish Department		
b. Agency/Board Address 3030 Energy Lane	c. City Casper	d. Zip Code 82604
e. Name of Agency Liaison Mike Choma	f. Agency Liaison Telephone Number 307-473-3417	
g. Agency Liaison Email Address mike.choma@wyo.gov	h. Adoption Date July 11, 2018	
i. Program Game and Fish Commission - Regulations		

### 2. Legislative Enactment

For purposes of this Section 2, "new" only applies to regular rules promulgated in response to a Wyoming legislative enactment not previously addressed in whole or in part by prior rulemaking and does not include rules adopted in response to a federal mandate.

a. Are these rules new as per the above description and the definition of "new" in Chapter 1 of the Rules on Rules?

No.  Yes. Please provide the Enrolled Act Numbers and Years Enacted: **HEA 115 - 2017, SEA 15 - 2018**

### 3. Rule Type and Information

a. Provide the Chapter Number, Title, and Proposed Action for Each Chapter.  
(Please use the Additional Rule Information form for more than 10 chapters and attach it to this certification)

Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:	New	Amended	Repealed
22	Watercraft Regulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
44	Regulation for issuance of Licenses, Permits, Stamps, Tags, Preference Points and Competitive Raffle Chances	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
46	Fishing Regulations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
47	Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
62	Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**3. State Government Notice of Intended Rulemaking**

a. Date on which the Proposed Rule Packet (consisting of the Notice of Intent as per W.S. 16-3-103(a), Statement of Principal Reasons, strike and underscore format and a clean copy of each chapter of rules were:

- approved as to form by the Registrar of Rules, and
- provided to the Legislative Service Office and Attorney General:

**4. Public Notice of Intended Rulemaking**

a. Notice was mailed 45 days in advance to all persons who made a timely request for advance notice.  No.  Yes.  N/A

b. A public hearing was held on the proposed rules.  No.  Yes. Please complete the boxes below.

Date: See attached.	Time:	City:	Location:
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c. If applicable, describe the emergency which requires promulgation of these rules without providing notice or an opportunity for a public hearing:

**5. Final Filing of Rules**


a. Date on which the Certification Page with original signatures and final rules were sent to the Attorney General's Office for the Governor's signature: July 18, 2018

b. Date on which final rules were approved as to form by the Secretary of State and sent to the Legislative Service Office: July 18, 2018

c.  The Statement of Reasons is attached to this certification.

**6. Agency/Board Certification**

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing information is correct.

Signature of Authorized Individual	
Printed Name of Signatory	David Rael
Signatory Title	Vice President
Date of Signature	July 11, 2018

**7. Governor's Certification**

I have reviewed these rules and determined that they:

1. Are within the scope of the statutory authority delegated to the adopting agency;
2. Appear to be within the scope of the legislative purpose of the statutory authority; and, if emergency rules,
3. Are necessary and that I concur in the finding that they are an emergency.

Therefore, I approve the same.

Governor's Signature	
Date of Signature	

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>City/Town</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Chapters</b>
April 26, 2018	6:00 pm	Cody	Big Horn Federal	22, 44, 46, 62
April 30, 2018	6:00 pm	Pinedale	Game & Fish Office	22, 44, 46, 62
April 30, 2018	6:00 pm	Sheridan	Game & Fish Office	22, 44, 46, 47, 62
May 1, 2018	6:00 pm	Torrington	Fire Station #1	22, 44, 46, 62
May 2, 2018	6:00 pm	Laramie	Game & Fish Office – 528 S. Adams	22, 44, 46, 47, 62
May 3, 2018	7:00 pm	Wheatland	Wheatland Public Library	22, 44, 46, 62
May 8, 2018	6:00 pm	Cody	Park County Library	47
May 9, 2018	6:00 pm	Casper	Game & Fish Office	22, 44, 46, 47, 62
May 10, 2018	6:00 pm	Dubois	Headwaters Arts & Conference Center	22, 44, 46, 47, 62
May 14, 2018	6:00 pm	Jackson	Game & Fish Office	22, 44, 46, 62
May 15, 2018	6:00 pm	Douglas	Converse County Courthouse	22, 44, 46, 62
May 16, 2018	6:00 pm	Pinedale	Game & Fish Office	44, 47
May 17, 2018	6:00 pm	Jackson	Teton County Library Auditorium	47
May 22, 2018	6:00 pm	Evanston	BEAR Center Pavilion	22, 44, 46, 47, 62
May 23, 2018	6:00 pm	Kemmerer	South Lincoln Training & Events Center	22, 44, 46, 47, 62
May 24, 2018	6:00 pm	Green River	Game & Fish Office	22, 44, 46, 47, 62

## STATEMENT OF REASONS

### CHAPTER 22

#### WATERCRAFT REGULATION

W.S. § 41-13-218 empowers the Commission to promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of Chapter 13, Watercraft, § 41-13-101 through § 41-13-220 and W.S. § 31-2-101.

Every two (2) years, the Commission promulgates changes to Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation, to establish rules and regulations governing the use of watercraft in the state.

This regulation will become effective January 1, 2019, following action by the Commission in July, 2018. The current Chapter 22 regulation will remain in effect through the 2018 boating season. Following action by the Commission in July, the Department will have three (3) months to print and distribute the 2019-2020 Watercraft Regulations.

Section 4. The fee for issuance of a duplicate certificate of number is being increased from five dollars (\$5) to ten dollars (\$10).

Section 5. Clarification is being provided in subsection (a)(v) changing “hand propelled watercraft” to “manually propelled watercraft” to include those watercraft that may be propelled by foot/pedal power.

Section 9. The North Platte River to include only that area between Glendo Dam and Glendo Powerplant in Platte County was moved to the list of waters where the use of motorized watercraft is prohibited. Burlington Reservoir in Natrona County was removed, and Pete’s Pond in Fremont County was added to the list of waters where the use of internal combustion engines in motorized watercraft is prohibited.

Minor grammatical and formatting edits have been incorporated into this regulation which does not change the intent of this regulation.



## WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

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July 16, 2018

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** David Dewald, Senior Assistant Attorney General

**FROM:** Mike Choma, Wildlife Law Enforcement Supervisor

**COPY TO:** Brian Nesvik, Scott Edberg, Doug Brimeyer and Terri Weinhandl

**SUBJECT:** Regulation Changes Subsequent to Public Comment Period: Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department (Department) conducted thirteen (13) public meetings across the state (70 members of the public attended) to address draft regulation proposals for Chapter 22. Draft proposals were also available for viewing and public comment through the Department website from April 20 through June 4, 2018.

The Department received thirty-five (35) comments (33 online and 2 written) for Chapter 22. None of the comments received either pertained to this draft rule or made any suggestions for changes.

The Commission made no changes to the draft Chapter 22 regulation subsequent to these public comments.



## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation

**6** ATTACHMENT A To Wyoming Game and Fish Commissioner's April 23rd 2018 Petition For Regulation Change Attachment A Protect The Wolves™ Pack is a Native American Group that is claiming 501c4 status in that the Group speaks for our Sacred Species. All living things are considered Sacred to the majority of Indigenous people that respect their Elders Teachings. Indigenous People hold that Wildlife are Sacred: Animals, in many of today's Indigenous cultures, are imbued with powerful spiritual significance. In the Seven Sacred Teachings, "the traditional concepts of respect and sharing that form the foundation of the Indigenous way of life are built around the seven natural laws, or sacred teachings. Each teaching honors one of the basic virtues intrinsic to a full and healthy life. Each law is embodied by an animal to underscore the point that all actions and decisions made by man are manifest on a physical plain. While the animal world taught man how to live close to the earth, and the connection that has been established between the animal world and that of the indigenous has instilled a respect for all life in those who follow the traditional Indigenous way."

**Final Comment**                      **Newby, Mary**                      **Alpine, AZ**                      4/23/2018 9:49:00 PM

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**7** Wyoming is an awful place for wildlife. Hunting wolves is on 365 days a year across 85% of the state, where wolves are classified as shoot-on-sight vermin. Guns, snares, explosives, trucks, and snowmobiles - almost any form of violence is allowed to kill these animals. These are Barbaric methods of cruelty in killing innocent wildlife. It's the 21st century. Is this what wildlife "management" should look like in our time?" please reconsider changing your methods. thank you in advance

**Final Comment**                      **Gallager, jill**                      **Franklin Lakes , NJ**                      4/24/2018 6:05:00 AM

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**8** This proposal to allow the hunting of grizzly Bear in Wyoming had nothing to do with, wildlife Biology, science or any valid reason. It does have a lot to do with bending to the will of hunter who just have to have a shot at getting to hunt grizzly bear. Do not allow the hunting of these animals, be Their numbers are not that great and their future is still very much in peril. Do the right thing, reject the hunting of even one grizzly bear.

**Final Comment**                      **Gotshall, Robert**                      **Island Park, ID**                      4/25/2018 7:27:00 AM

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**9** Grizzlies numbers have not grown in many years and there is no reason to sport hunt them. The Chamber of Commerce in Jackson and many of us citizens around the country are concerned that you are not following solid ethics and clear science but purely allowing hunting for the thrill (and financial gain) to guide your decision making process. Please take a second look at the picture and hear the voices of concerned citizens that believe that Grizzlies should have a safe haven to live and thrive in Wyoming and the Yellowstone region. Thank you.

**Final Comment**                      **hufman, julia**                      **Woodland hills , CA**                      4/25/2018 11:09:00 AM

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**10** My father served as a wildlife biologist in Montana most of his career and he specialized in managing grizzlies in the national forests surrounding Yellowstone. He often met with ranchers and hunters discussing how to protect their interests and balance that with the management of such a fragile species. He spent significant time listening to their concerns, and also explaining the importance of diversity, especially at the top of the food chain - where grizzlies exist - to the health of the forest, and how that translates to the health of the economy. Yes, hunting is an economic driver, and a good one, but for the few trophy grizzlies killed each year, will it offset those tourism dollars when the grizzlies are gone? Likely no. Will it upset the balance of nature in a fragile ecosystem by pulling on the strings of bio-diversity? Likely yes. This is not a decision game managers are equipped to decide. They do not have the right to decide the future of our children's ability to see a grizzly in the wild 50 years from now. Please think long term. Please do not allow the hunting of any kind of grizzlies in Wyoming.

**Final Comment**                      **Light, Brett**                      **Palo Alto, CA**                      4/25/2018 6:46:00 PM

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**11** HUNTING IS EVIL - please STOP!!!

**Final Comment**                      **valentine, jennifer**                      **massa pk, NY**                      4/26/2018 1:10:00 PM

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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation

**12** Director Talbott and Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, Grizzlies not only represent the wildness of Yellowstone and Grand Teton, but they also represent the success of the Endangered Species Act. After 40 years of conservation success and over \$40 million dollars invested, grizzly bears were removed from the Endangered Species Act in 2017. Thank you for your ongoing work to recover the grizzly bear. The recovery of grizzly bears in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem has been a remarkable conservation success story, which has enabled a growing industry of ecotourism, providing thousands of jobs and significant economic benefits to our state. We are grateful WGFD took the time to tour the state and present the Draft Hunting Regulations as part of the Grizzly Bear Management Plan. I attended the meeting in Jackson and felt the information was well presented. Data points such as 43% of Wyoming's DMA is closed to hunting and the size of the contiguous land that has been listed as a no hunt zone in area 2 is similar in size to GTNP, is helpful to understand and communicate to concerned visitors who voice their opinion to us about hunting. As we both know, hunting as a management tool can be a misunderstood and often divisive issue for the tourism economy, particularly in the international arena, so we hope we can continue to deliver an informed message and help provide information that can educate our visitors. With this in mind we ask you consider the following for the final rules. 1.) We agree that grizzly bear hunting should not be focused on the boundaries of our National Parks and not be permitted within JDR Parkway. We support the no-hunt closures that are proposed east of Grand Teton National Park. This closure will protect bears that millions of visitors come to see and reduce the impacts that hunting would have on our tourism industry. 2.) To avoid tourist and hunter conflict, please expand the roadside no hunt area to ½ mile on either side of roads (including US Highways, State and County Roads). 3.) Continue to discuss with the National Park Service personnel on an annual basis discretionary mortality and hunting. Local visitor surveys show that wildlife, including bears, is one of the top draws to our visitors. Tourism is the number one driver of our local economy, and number two for the state. We recognize that hunting is a legitimate tool for managing wildlife populations. However, grizzly bears are different from other big game animals and the state will benefit from a cautious and conservative approach. Please consider the shifting economy in developing regulations, and work with the tourism community. We thank you for your efforts to successfully recover grizzly bears and your steady hand in leadership on these issues. On behalf of the Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce and the tourism industry of Teton County, we ask you to consider these elements in developing a grizzly bear hunting season and look forward to future conversations with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

**Final Comment**                      **Olson, Anna**                      **Jackson, WY**                      4/26/2018 4:57:00 PM

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**13** For over 50+ years as a out of State fisherman (Greenie) the increase of float boats on the rivers have increased 10 fold. As a fly fisherman on some waters it has become a battle between wade fisherman and float boats. The Miracle Mile being one of them. With over 50 plus miles of river below Alcova that has very small amounts of wade fisherman access the short 4 miles of the upper river needs to be looked at as wade fishing only. I'm not against float boats as I enjoy at least 4 float trips a year but I have not encountered half of the problems between boats and waders as the Miracle Mile section. Thank You

**Final Comment**                      **McIlwain, Harvey**                      **Lafayette, CO**                      4/27/2018 8:03:00 AM

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**14** Stop the slaughter.

**Final Comment**                      **McDonough, Judith**                      **ALexandria, MN**                      4/29/2018 10:14:00 AM

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**15** I find it outrageous that you would even consider delisting the grizzly bears. You say there are too many... but when one has a guest from out of town, we cannot find one. Data proves a live grizzly brings in millions of dollars in tourism. Why would you sell a license for \$600 or \$6000 ??? If one of those hunters shoots 399 or her daughter 610, all hell is going to break loose. You saw what happened when the idiot from the US shot the famous lion Cecil... PLEASE rethink this and do the right thing!!!!

**Final Comment**                      **smith, ann**                      **jackson, WY**                      4/29/2018 2:17:00 PM

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**16** I do not see any place to comment on the regulations concerning grizzly bear hunting! Where is it? Are you trying to prevent the public from commenting? I would like to comment that it is too soon to opening a hunting season on grizzly bears, with only less than 2000 in existence. They have just been taken off the endangered species list and already you are already thinking only of how much money you can generate



## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation

by selling hunting licenses instead of how to keep the species alive for generations to come. My husband and I live in Colorado and enjoy visiting Yellowstone and knowing that it is a haven for species like the grizzly.

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**Final Comment**                      **Lindsey, Linda**                      **Paonia, CO**                      4/29/2018 2:39:00 PM

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**17** I am against the trophy hunting of grizzlys! How vile and selfish to kill Gods beloved animals! No to hunting! Save the wildlife!

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**Final Comment**                      **Hooper, Ashley**                      **Kingsley , MI**                      4/29/2018 7:14:00 PM

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**18** PLEASE do not allow trophy hunting of grizzly bears!!! PLEASE, I would prefer NO hunting of grizzly bears, period! Seems like a LOT of time, money and effort have been spent bringing them back to numbers where tourists AND 40 year residents of Wyoming like me can anticipate seeing them once in a great while...They are amazing animals and are basically still struggling to survive. If people want to go shoot something, well, I don't know maybe shoot chiselers? There are many more of them around. (sorry chiselers but apparently some animals in Wyoming just have to die....)

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**Final Comment**                      **Collins, Kathryn**                      **Teton Village, WY**                      4/29/2018 8:12:00 PM

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**19** It is not necessary to go in and thin out in the buffer zone, since the no hunt buffer zone along GTNP and the Elk Refuge is just a closure within a hunt area, and they are not permanent. Plus, there's no rehabilitation plan for cubs. If a mother is shot, what happens to the cubs? Although hunter education will be mandatory, there will not be a measurement of the education comprehension AND education will not be mandatory for Guides/Outfitters. If hunter are not required to remove the carcass, then will carcasses be nearby roads.

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**Final Comment**                      **Gabrielsen, Teri**                      **Santa Barbara, CA**                      4/29/2018 9:28:00 PM

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**20** An animal should NEVER be killed for a trophy! We have evolved beyond this ignorant behavior. And while hunting as a means for food provision is acceptable, to kill a majestic creature to satisfy ego is infantile and shameful. This is the opportunity to do better because we all know better. Seize the moment and do the right thing by these innocent bears trying to survive in a world that far too often we so recklessly dominate.

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**Final Comment**                      **Bartkowski, L.**                      **Clifton, NJ**                      4/30/2018 8:36:00 AM

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**21** I'm disappointed by the decision to allow for the senseless killing of up to 24 grizzly bears in Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem this fall. Although, I realize the delisting issue is somewhat separate of the decision to slaughter the bears, grizzlies have far from recovered and the fact that they are experiencing scarce food sources will contribute to an ongoing decline of the population. The economic reason to have a grizzly hunt is nonsense as those dollars earned through licensing will be more than eaten up by the visitors who will no longer choose to visit YNP or GTNP because of this decision - they come to see the BEARS! This seems to be an initiative in favor of those who like to kill and show a proud trophy on their wall. The bears do not deserve this and neither do those who come to the areas to see them. Further, 24 is a ridiculous number. Please reconsider this decision and keep the bears at the forefront of your decision making. Also, please listen to our voices - not just those of the hunters who want these trophies. Thank you for listening.

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**Final Comment**                      **Grippin, Bradley**                      **Denver, CO**                      4/30/2018 9:32:00 AM

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**22** I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed grizzly bear hunt in Wyoming. The economic potential of hunting grizzlies is miniscule, while the opportunity for revenue from tourism is great. The same situation was shown in the province of British Columbia, Canada this past year when grizzly bear hunting was ended. Please do not let these changes pass. Protect grizzlies!!

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**Final Comment**                      **Gara, Colleen**                      **Calgary, AI**                      4/30/2018 9:42:00 AM

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**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation**

**23** April 29, 2018 Dear Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Please accept my personal comments on the Wyoming proposed grizzly hunt. I recommend that WGFD withdraw the proposal to trophy-hunt grizzlies in Wyoming. Wyoming may be one of the most dangerous states in the nation for wildlife. It's the 48th worst for anti-cruelty laws and rated one of the worst for archaic trapping regulations. It has literally become a "gut pile" of dead animals as a result of legal killing in almost any manner. It seems like Wyoming can't control its insatiable urge to "control" wildlife by allowing hunting for fun and trophies to meet the demand for hunter opportunity. To add to that urge, trophy hunting is being introduced for one of our most iconic species - the grizzly, and increased quotas on our wolves for the same hunter opportunity. We trap and hunt all of our furbearers without quotas. We shoot, trap, run over with snowmobiles (yote whackin') our predatory status animals every single day of the year. Any type of killing is legal. Traps legally set on trails kill our pets and wildlife and non-target wildlife without any accountability. Add coyote and predator killing contests (CKC's) which award prizes for killing the mangiest mutt or biggest yote with betting under the radar, and are on the increase using semi-automatic weapons, and assault weapons with silencers. Included are migratory birds that are caught as non-targets in traps and are killed and illegally used as bait to kill more of the non-target birds and animals which may add up to 10's of thousands annually. Add the annual slaughter by Wildlife Services (USDA) with snares, M-44 cyanide capsules, traps, and firearms from aircraft dangerous games of target practice, and human-caused mortalities which include wildlife management control actions. "Slippery slope" management decisions continue even with overwhelming opposition, state and nationwide, to withdraw the recent WGFD recommendation to trophy-hunt grizzlies. We know now that we do not need to hunt any animal as a trophy to manage their numbers or to offer opportunities for recreational hunting and trapping. Our state continues to delay the shift in management that is inevitable to meet the demands of a wildlife-watching trend on our public lands which is increasing at a rapid pace, while hunting is on a steady decline for the foreseeable future. Our Wyoming and national public are demanding the shift that will redefine conservation to the core, to write and promote a new narrative for a modern-day approach to wildlife management to protect and preserve: 1) Wildlife as valued contributors to the health of our landscapes. 2) The significant impact of wildlife watching on tourism-Wyoming's 2nd largest industry. 3) The intrinsic character and worth of all furbearing animals. Thank you for the leadership and courage to make the shift in one of the most dangerous states in the nation for our living animals. Our grizzlies depend on it! All wildlife depend on it! Lisa Robertson Jackson, WY

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Robertson, Lisa</b>	<b>Jackson, WY</b>	4/30/2018 11:12:00 AM
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**24** Surely human beings are smart enough to think of ways to feel good about themselves that do not involve killing something! Our environment needs bears. Please leave the bears alone.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Neff, Victoria</b>	<b>Ann Arbor, MI</b>	4/30/2018 1:04:00 PM
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**25** I strongly object to Wyoming's plan to allow the killing of 24 Yellowstone ecosystem grizzly bears. These bears were removed from the federal Endangered Species list less than one year ago and the trophy hunt demonstrates why the general public does not trust state management. WGFD should, instead, follow Montana's lead and demonstrate careful, thoughtful management. I am very concerned with the number of bears in general. We were told that if there was any hunt it would involve less than 10 bears. I object to hunting any bears but there is a big difference between 10 and 24. Also, grizzly bears are very slow to reproduce and killing up to 14 female bears (2 in the DMA and up to 12 outside the DMA) would be devastating. WGFD should dramatically revisit these numbers. Further, the WGFD pushes the argument that grizzly bears need to be hunted to deter conflict with humans and livestock. However, grizzlies are not pack animals. Hunting grizzlies will not deter such behavior. This is not scientifically sound and WGFD should immediately stop pushing such a dangerously wrong argument. WGFD promised, during public meetings, that moth sites would be off limit to hunting. The proposals do not reflect these promises and should be altered to indicate that hunting may not occur at moth sites. Moths are one of the only secure food sources that grizzly bears have left now that whitebark pine and cutthroat trout have been so hard hit in recent years. Allowing hunting at moth sites would be an absolute slaughter and would highly unethical. Along these lines, baiting should not be permitted and it is astonishing that WGFD would permit it in two hunting zones outside the DMA! Baiting is universally viewed as unethical and against fair-chase hunting. Baiting causes many problems – such as sickening bears, exposing bears and other wildlife to human foods that can be deadly to them, increasing disease and parasite transmission. Adult bears prey upon cubs and smaller bears at bait sites as well. Further, bait sites can be very dangerous for humans because grizzly bears fiercely protect food sources. If an unsuspecting human – such as a hiker – were to stumble upon a bait site with a grizzly bear at it, the human could be maimed or killed. I am shocked that WGFD

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation

would consider such a practice. Please clarify what types of weapons may be used to hunt grizzly bears. Initial reporting of the proposals indicated that bow hunting would be allowed. I hope that this is not the case as bow hunting can lead to long, protracted and painful deaths. Collared bears are important for scientific research and should be specifically excluded from any hunt. Research has demonstrated that trophy hunting reduces social intolerance of animals. For a situation such as this, where grizzly bears are already not tolerated in much of the region but where there is still a great deal of suitable habitat for them to occupy, the last thing the state should be considering is a trophy hunting season. Finally, I write as a tourist to your region. People like me travel from all over the globe to view these iconic bears in the wild. The tourism economy provides a robust income for many folks in Wyoming. Indeed, the nature-based economy generates a billion dollars a year in the Yellowstone region. The money generated from a trophy hunt pales in comparison but, given that there is only a small buffer zone around Grand Teton National Park and none around Yellowstone, what will happen if a tourist sees a grizzly bear shot or a grizzly bear carcass. Likewise, the John D. Rockefeller Parkway connecting the two parks is not protected. I can attest – as a visitor to these parks – of the magic of seeing bears in the wild. The shock of seeing a bear outside the park killed or dead would undo all the magic. It would send shockwaves around the world I think. These bears are so used to being around people. They are so tolerant. It is downright cruel to allow any hunting around the parks where we have let these bears become used to people – and once we allow hunting around the parks and teach the bears to avoid people – what will happen to that nature based economy then? When people travel from all over the world to see grizzly bears and there are none to see? Please reconsider this trophy hunt. Gain the trust of the public. Or at least reduce the numbers. Get rid of baiting. Outlaw hunting at moth sites and outlaw bowhunting. Create buffer zones around parks. Re-think this hunt. Think of this from the perspective of the millions of tourists who flock to your state year after year and not the handful of trophy hunters. Give us a voice too!

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>MacKenzie, Michelle</b>	<b>Menlo Park, CA</b>	4/30/2018 2:12:00 PM
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**26** Thank you, Governor Mead for your support of the legislation, including your discussion of it during the State of the State address. During your speech, you spoke in praise of the Wyoming Women's Antelope Hunt and asked the legislature to pass Senate File 3. Thank you also to the Wyoming Legislature and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department for their support for the event. The WGFD has been very supportive since the hunt's inception in 2013 by arranging for coordinated hunter education classes, firearms safety, target practice and hunter mentoring. The hunt provides many benefits to the state of Wyoming by teaching conservation and ethical hunting practices and outdoor skills as well as mentoring to women, as well as recruiting many new hunters and retaining experienced hunters. The womens antelope hunt also brings in many new dollars into the state. It is the ONLY hunt of its kind worldwide. It brings great publicity and awareness to not only hunting but also to the State of Wyoming. The hunt needs the ability to purchase licenses to be certain we can continue offering these benefits. THE WOMEN'S ANTELOPE HUNT WILL PURCHASE THESE LICENSES, and at no time will the regulation change cost the state any fiscal impact. THERE WAS LEGISLATIVE INTENT FOR THESE LICENSES TO GO TO THE WOMEN'S ANTELOPE HUNT..SF3 was brought to the legislature after two years of staff and hunt committee members working with the TRW committee specifically to find a way to make licenses available to the Wyoming Women's Antelope Hunt.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>gray, cynthia</b>	<b>buffalo , WY</b>	4/30/2018 4:12:00 PM
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**27** I believe like most big game animals, there should be a season for grizzly bears. It will not only help raise money for the state to help with management on grizzly bears, it will also help keep them in check. Anytime a species goes unchecked their population seems to become unmanageable. Having a season will make hunters happy along with provided more money that can go back into research. It's all about checks and balances and each side should have an opportunity to be heard.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Joner, Isaiah</b>	<b>cedar city, UT</b>	4/30/2018 4:38:00 PM
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**28** Yellowstone represents Freedom where the wildlife can live unharrassed and unharmed. Your Wyoming economy is well fed for the space paid for by the American Public that come to see the wildlife. The wildlife belong to the public that wants them protected and left alone. Not to the Trophy Hunters that want to destroy them. Please do not allow Grizzly Bear Hunts in Wyoming. Especially near their protected zone. Your call against the Grizzlies could turn into a world wide boycott of a very wonderful place. Stop the Bear Hunt!

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation

Final Comment

Haering, Kay

Hodgen, OK

4/30/2018 6:05:00 PM

**29** I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Department's appalling grizzly bear trophy hunting proposal. This is on several levels as a professional in the line of work of wildlife biology, as a consumer and American citizen and as a very frequent tourist to the Greater Yellowstone area, Grand Tetons, and Sink's Canyon areas. These bears only just lost their Endangered Species Act protections in a legally and scientifically suspect decision. The prudent approach from every perspective: biological, ecological, ethical, legal and financial is to see how the bears do absent federal protections. Grizzlies are already facing environmental and human caused threats from poaching, dwindling natural food sources, high mortality rates from human activities. Grizzlies also have the slowest reproductive rates of any large mammal in the U.S. As their numbers have grown over 40 years of protections, they most recently are barely holding steady due to these high numbers of mortality and the extremely slow reproduction. The Department's proposal is the opposite of its claimed "conservative/cautious" approach, instead prioritizing killing as many bears as arguably possible under the state's agreements over all other interests. The proposed 24 bear body count is extreme and negligent of sound science-based management, and undermining the recovery of neighboring populations that need to establish connectivity and genetic exchange. The proposal could reverse the good work done to help restore this iconic western species over four decades in a single trophy hunting season. Unless one is very familiar with grizzlies and at close range or unless cubs are present, which often they are not as mothers most often hide them when searching for food, it is nearly impossible to determine the sex of a bear before s/he is killed. That makes the risk of killing female bears, who could be pregnant or caring for dependent young, very high. The Department's proposal includes no restrictions on killing female bears outside the Demographic Monitoring Area (DMA). Indeed, the proposal does not even preclude shooting a sow with cubs. Appallingly, the proposal also allows for baiting outside the DMA: a dangerous and entirely unethical practice banned in most states. The Department's proposal is nothing short of attempting to exterminate as many as legally possible. Like wolves kill as many as you can, to rid them from the landscape, seems to be the goal. These bears are so much more valuable alive: intrinsically, for the ecosystem services they provide, and as draws for ecotourism. Wyoming's trophy hunting plan is against your own interests in drawing people from across the country and around the world to visit and invest in the state. Our groups have already decided to back out of all 4 trips that were scheduled to your state this year, this is a huge loss of over 120 people in your state, spending tons of money . . . that you will now lose on tourism due to your wildlife policy and decision to hunt grizzlies. Studies of the Yellowstone Ecosystem and Denali National Park demonstrate that live wildlife, especially iconic grizzlies, are far more valuable to local and surrounding communities than hunts. The tourism-based dollars generated by wildlife watching, photography tours, and associated expenditures are several orders of magnitude greater than any funds generated by the sale of hunting tags. We are already seeing calls, questions and skepticism concerning the status of the grizzly bears and wolves in and around the parks. This is what visitors from around the globe come to see, iconic wildlife and this is the only place to readily view them. Please understand the negative press and attention that will be recognized around the globe, internationally if and when one of the beloved bears of Yellowstone, one of the favorite's tourists come from around the globe just to see and observe; if one of them get gunned down just outside the invisible park borders. Tourism dollars will plummet in light of this hunt if it does take place, and we know Yellowstone park grizzlies are the first targets. Not only will the death of these bears have tremendous affects on tourism, but the sightings of bears will also plummet once the hunt begins and they learn to be wary of people. Right now you can just about walk up to a park bear. They are use to being around humans, tourists; not understanding now that during a hunt, they can be gunned down. All of these factors will negatively affect the wildlife tourism-based economy in the region, especially in Wyoming more so than the other states I ask you to reject the proposed cruel trophy hunt, invest in reducing conflicts with hunters and livestock, both of which are nearly universally preventable, focus on educating the public about living with bears, and acknowledge the very real benefits that live grizzlies bring to Wyoming. Vote against the proposed grizzly trophy hunt! Please make the right decision. Thank you, Dr Robin Chriss Chriss Wildlife

Final Comment

Chriss, Robin

Evergreen, CO

4/30/2018 6:08:00 PM

**30** I had a few comments regarding the increase in lake trout limits. I am all for a 12 fish daily limit on lake trout if it's beneficial for the lake. We've heard the Fish and Game needs anglers help in keeping these fish, this will help. The possession limit you may want to consider making up to four days bag limit. People will travel further to take home more. The part I don't understand is along with asking for help from the fisherman, you're taxing them to do it. \$30.00's for a reciprocal is outrageous. I have a family of three, that's \$90.00's to take my family across the State line for a weekend fishing trip, to help the lake with its lake trout issue. It will stop many people from doing so. I can already see the exact opposite of your goal of

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation

reducing the number of lake trout happening, as well as the Burbot making a surge as those of us who normally fish the WY side, stop doing so because of this outrageous fee. Think of a family if 5 on vacation, there is no way they are going to spend that kind of money on a reciprocal stamp. This will be totally counter productive to the goal of reducing the lake trout numbers in the lake. I am also not for the Kokanee limit being doubled because you cross State lines. I'd be great with taking home two days limit however. Again, you'll increase the number of anglers coming to the lake, keeping Kokanee and hopefully Macinaw and Burbot. Hopefully there aren't too many typos. I'm typing from my iPhone so please forgive me for the punctuation and misspelled or auto corrected words.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Lapp, Robby</b>	<b>South Jordan, UT</b>	<b>5/3/2018 9:35:00 PM</b>
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**31** I do not support the quota of 58 wolves within the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area (TGMA) Wolves should not be hunted in wilderness areas. These areas are where wolves are least likely to cause conflicts and places where wolves should be allowed to live and raise families without being hunted All zones adjacent to our National Parks be closed to wolf hunting, not just the portion in John D. Rockefeller Parkway. At a minimum, the zones should be redrawn as to create large buffer zones, closed to wolf hunting, around our National Parks. Our National Parks provide an economic benefit to local gateway communities (defined as 60-mile radius around each park boundary). In 2016, the economic output for Yellowstone National Park was \$680 million (Tetons it was \$779 million). An analysis from the University of Wyoming found that in 2016, wildlife viewers spent \$335 million on travel and \$30 million on equipment compared to hunters who spent about \$126 million on travel and \$80 million on equipment. Wyoming already has extremely liberal wolf management regulations. There is no scientific reason to hunt wolves within the TGMA or reduce the population to 160 animals. Wyoming Fish & Game should do more to educate the public, including hunters, about the positive aspects of wolves. For example, there is strong evidence that wolf predation could markedly decrease prevalence of CWD. Wolves facilitate the recovery of browse-sensitive understory herbs and forest regeneration. Long-term trophic linkages have been identified in the Northern Range of Yellowstone National Park between wolves, elk, and deciduous tree species - aspen and cottonwood.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Koehl, Lisa</b>	<b>Ormond Beach, FL</b>	<b>5/7/2018 7:53:00 AM</b>
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**32** Dear Wyoming Fish & Game Department: I am submitting this comment for the second time. My browser gave me an error message after I clicked the "submit" button. Wyoming wolves are designated in Wyoming's proposed hunting regulation as either "predatory" or "trophy game" animals. Is there no other way to look at the gray wolf? What about icon of Western life? What about joy to the heart of those who encounter them face-to-face? What about animal whose presence balances ecosystems and promotes the health of their prey by taking the old and sick? Wyoming's introduction states that: [a]s part of the management of wolves Wyoming uses hunting as it does with many other species. I suggest that is not so. With other species, the long-term health of the animal is a primary consideration. Wyoming's hunting regulations do not permit wolves to move and migrate safely between protected national parks, as they must to find food and ensure the genetic viability of the species. Wyoming wolf managers are living a land version of Moby Dick. All that is evil in the world – and not subject to human control – resides not in the white whale, but instead in the gray wolf. You stalk him with implacable rage that has no place in the hunter's arsenal. It's a new world. Ranchers can and are learning to live in peace with the wolf. So can you, Wyoming's wolf managers. Lead – don't follow. Let go of your hate, educate, and move into the twenty-first century. Thank you, Monica Glickman Denver, CO visiting in Wyoming in June and August, 2018

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Glickman, Monica</b>	<b>Denver, CO</b>	<b>5/26/2018 7:02:00 PM</b>
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**33** Part 2 Wyoming's Hunting Proposal is Misguided and Not Based in Science. The 2018 draft regulation proposed by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department ("WGFD") for hunting gray wolves will not properly manage their populations at a sustainable level, and does not sufficiently ensure that the minimum population levels will be met, as required by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This proposal therefore risk the intervention of the Federal government for re-listing under the Endangered Species Act ("ESA"), which WGFD is obligated to avoid as a condition of the delisting of gray wolves. In addition, the hunting of wolves will lead to a great number of unintended consequences for the ecosystem as a whole, and a resultant decline in the attractiveness of Wyoming as a tourism destination. The Center opposes the proposed regulation and the regulatory changes from the 2017 hunting regulation for several reasons. First, trophy hunting of wolves is an unnecessary risk to the small population that was only recently restored to their historic range in the state of Wyoming and the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem ("GYE"). The presence of a

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation

stable and healthy wolf population has been shown to have beneficial effects on the ecosystem as a whole through a series of trophic cascades, and the killing of even a single wolf can completely disrupt pack dynamics and lead to increased conflict with humans and livestock. In addition, these wolves are integral to the connectivity and genetic health of the population of wolves in the northern Rocky Mountains, and an aggressive hunting season such as the one proposed here may cause WGFD to fail to meet their stated management goals to “facilitate natural dispersal and genetic interchange within the NRM metapopulation” (WGFD 2011, p. 1). The hunting of wolves is a concession to hunters and ranchers, and non-lethal methods should be promoted as an alternative to hunting as the primary means of management. Each of these points is supported by the scientific literature, as described herein. Numerous studies have shown the impacts of apex predator removal on ecosystems around the world, including impacts on native plants, which can in turn lead to changes in the fire regime and biogeochemical cycles of an area (Beschta & Ripple 2009; Estes et al. 2011; Bergstrom et al. 2013). The removal of wolves initiates a series of trophic cascades that affect nearly every species in the GYE. For example, the removal of the top-level predators causes a “release” of mesopredators such as coyotes, foxes, and raccoons, and as their numbers increase they cause a decline of other native species such as pronghorn, rodents, and ground-nesting birds (Crooks & Soulé 1999; Prugh et al. 2009; Ripple 2013). Additionally, reduction of the wolf population may change how and where elk forage, which has cascading impacts. Without a sustainable and healthy population of wolves in the ecosystem, elk herds migrate less in winter and can graze on aspen and willow shoots at unsustainable levels. By keeping wolves on the landscape, elk are less likely to graze along waterways where they may be more vulnerable to predation, and stands of willow and other species are able to return and flourish. This then allows beavers to thrive, and the combination of reduced bank erosion from grazing and beaver dams can change the course of rivers (Ripple & Beschta 2011; Bergstrom et al. 2013; Estes et al. 2011). The return of willows and other riparian vegetation also leads to colder water temperatures which benefits native fish species. While some cite the predation of elk as a reason that a wolf harvest is necessary, studies have shown that wolf are likely to prey on the old, weak, and sick elk, leading to a healthier population of elk overall (Mech et al. 2001; Wright et al. 2006). Predation of elk and other ungulates also lead to increased availability of carcasses for grizzly bears and other carrion feeders, boosting their populations in turn (Ripple & Beschta 2011). As all of these examples show, the removal of wolves can have drastic and often unforeseen consequences on all species that live in the GYE. Further, the impacts of hunting on the wolf packs themselves can be much greater than a simple decline in numbers. While the WGFD suggests in their Management Plan and their Environmental Assessment that wolves are highly resilient to harvest, other studies have shown that even low rates of wolf harvest by humans lead to population decline (Creel & Rotella 2010). Even just removing a single adult wolf can have significant impacts on the social structure of a wolf population (Haber 1996; Rutledge et al. 2010; Borg et al. 2015). Losing a breeding wolf can particularly influence the populations, as it can affect social group persistence, reproduction, and population growth, especially in smaller packs (Borg et al. 2015). Demographic responses to mortality can be very complex, and often can vary from pack to pack depending on factors such as group size and population density (Murray et al. 2010), and so a population-scale approach to hunting may affect some groups more than others in ways that will not immediately be captured by overall population trend data. Additionally, killing wolves as the primary means of conflict management is irresponsible and does not reflect the best available science. Recent analysis of publically available studies, including a thorough evaluation of their methodology, found that non-lethal methods of predator control were more successful and did not lead to any documented increases in predation. In contrast, lethal control methods often did not meet “gold standards” for true analysis of their effectiveness (Treves et al. 2016). Despite these flawed methodologies, it was still clear that in multiple cases of lethal control, predation and livestock conflict actually increased after the lethal methods were implemented, something that never occurred when non-lethal methods were instituted (Treves et al. 2016). Based on this assessment of the literature, lethal control methods including hunting seasons should be suspended until their effectiveness at reducing conflict can be scientifically demonstrated. Finally, while it has been argued repeatedly by proponents of hunting that the allowance of predator control reduces poaching and increases social tolerance, evidence does not support this claim is largely nonexistent. Rather, recent studies have confirmed that removing protections on wolves, whether through delisting or the legalization of hunting, can rapidly decrease the population growth rate due to a complementary increase in poaching, regardless of the number of wolves that are killed through legal harvest (Chapron & Treves 2016). This increase in mortality from illegal methods may be a result of the devaluation of wolves in the public mind, as they are now able to be hunted like other game species. The impacts of an increase in poaching may be even worse than they appear at face value, since most measurements of poaching significantly underestimate the number of wolves that are killed illegally (Treves et al. 2017). These chronic underestimations “have obscured the magnitude of poaching as the major threat to endangered wolf populations” (Treves et al. 2017). The combination of these two facts demonstrates that even a conservative hunting quota may still

**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation**

be doing far more damage than realized, by encouraging poaching and improperly accounting for its effects.

**Final Comment**

**Santarsiere, Andrea**

**Victor, ID**

6/1/2018 4:30:00 PM

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## CHAPTER 22

### WATERCRAFT REGULATION

**Section 1. Authority.** This regulation is promulgated by authority of Wyoming Statutes § 31-2-101, § 41-13-102, § 41-13-104, § 41-13-105, § 41-13-208, § 41-13-211, § 41-13-213, § 41-13-217, § 41-13-218 and § 41-13-219.

**Section 2. Regulation.** The Wyoming Game and Fish Commission hereby adopts the following regulation governing watercraft. This regulation shall become effective January 1, 2019, and shall remain in effect until modified or repealed by the Commission.

**Section 3. Definitions.** For the purpose of this regulation, definitions shall be as set forth in Chapter 13, Title 41 and the Commission also adopts the following definitions:

(a) “Accompanied by an adult” means no person under the age of sixteen (16) years shall operate or be in physical control of a motorized watercraft on the waters of the State unless an adult is also physically aboard the motorized watercraft and is responsible for the operation of the watercraft.

(b) “Adult” means a person eighteen (18) years of age or older.

(c) “Aft” means a direction toward the back of a watercraft.

(d) “Beam” means the width of a watercraft at its widest part.

(e) “Bow” means the front of a watercraft.

(f) “Certificate of number” means watercraft registration.

(g) “Degrees of a compass” means the gradations in a compass; there are three hundred sixty degrees (360°) within a compass.

(h) “Diver down flag” means a rectangular shaped flag either blue and white in color (alpha flag) or red in color with a white diagonal stripe (diving flag), not less than twelve (12) inches x twelve (12) inches and displayed no less than three (3) feet above the surface of the water.

(i) “Duplicate number or duplicate certificate” means a certificate of number issued by the Department to replace an original certificate of number.

(j) “Enclosed cabin” means a permanent structure with hardened sides, which is intended for human occupation.

(k) “Gunwale” means the upper edge of the side of a watercraft.



(l) “HIN” means a Hull Identification Number that meets the specifications listed in Title 33 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(m) “Kill switch” means a device for shutting off the engine of a personal watercraft in the event the operator falls off the personal watercraft while it is underway.

(n) “Length of a watercraft” means the length of the hull of a watercraft measured in a straight line from the stem to the stern excluding the deck, bowsprits, bumpkins, rudders, outboard motor brackets and similar fittings or attachments.

(o) “Motorized watercraft” means any watercraft powered by an internal combustion or electric engine.

(p) “Motorized watercraft dealer” means a person who is engaged in the business of manufacture or sale of motorboats in Wyoming and who is required to be licensed with the Wyoming Department of Revenue to collect and remit sales tax or a person whose motorboat sales business is outside Wyoming, but who demonstrates motorboats in Wyoming.

(q) “No wake” means the speed of a watercraft when underway that does not cause water action that disturbs another watercraft at rest, a dock, or swimmers, and, in no case shall the speed of the watercraft when underway be in excess of five (5) miles per hour.

(r) “Operator” means the person in physical control or in charge of a watercraft while it is in use. When the person in physical control of a watercraft is under the age of sixteen (16) years, the accompanying adult may be considered the operator.

(s) “Personal watercraft” means any inboard motorized watercraft less than sixteen (16) feet in length which has a water-jet pump as its primary source of motor propulsion and that is designed to be operated by a person sitting, standing or kneeling on the watercraft, rather than the conventional manner of sitting or standing inside the watercraft.

(t) “Port” means the left side of a watercraft as one faces forward and is denoted by a red light.

(u) “Proof of ownership for temporary operation” means a notarized bill of sale stating the name of the previous owner of the motorized watercraft, the name of the purchaser of the watercraft, description of the watercraft with correct HIN or a copy of a properly transferred title, a bill of sale with correct HIN from a motorized watercraft dealer, or a copy of a notarized affidavit by the builder of a homemade watercraft that indicates a description of the watercraft and the date construction was completed.

(v) “Rental boat owner” means a person who rents watercraft to the public for a fee.

(w) “Safe carrying capacity” means the capacity shall not exceed the number of persons or the weight limit, whichever is reached first, as stated on the capacity plate affixed to the watercraft.

- (x) “Starboard” means the right side of a watercraft as one faces forward and is denoted by a green light.
- (y) “Stem” means the line where the port and starboard hulls join together at the bow.
- (z) “Stern” means the transom or rear end of a watercraft.
- (aa) “Temporary operation” means the operation of a motorized watercraft without a certificate of number during the thirty (30) consecutive days immediately following the date of purchase.
- (bb) “Throwable device” means a U.S. Coast Guard approved ring buoy or buoyant cushion.
- (cc) “Underway” means the watercraft is being propelled by mechanized power, wind, or human effort.
- (dd) “Vessel” means every description of watercraft, other than a seaplane on the water, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on the water.
- (ee) “Wake” means the water action caused by a watercraft that is underway that disturbs another watercraft at rest, a dock, or swimmers, and, the speed of the watercraft exceeds five (5) miles per hour.
- (ff) “Water sport toy” means a sailboard, float tube, kite board or any aid to swimming or fishing that is not defined as a watercraft.
- (gg) “Watercraft” means any contrivance used or designed primarily for navigation on the water that is designed to be propelled by paddles, oars, sails or motors, except devices defined as water sport toys. Amphibious vehicles designed for travel over land and water with propeller or jet propulsion systems shall be considered watercraft for the purpose of this regulation.
- (hh) “Wearable personal flotation device” means a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device that is intended to be worn by an individual.

#### **Section 4. Motorized Watercraft Registration and Numbers.**

- (a) All numbers assigned to motorized watercraft in the State shall consist of three (3) parts. The first part, the prefix, shall consist of the letters "WY" signifying the State of registration; the second part shall consist of not more than four (4) Arabic numerals; the third part, the suffix, shall consist of not more than two (2) capital letters, but "I", "O" and "Q" shall not be used because of their similarity to Arabic numerals. The first capital letter in the third part, the suffix, shall indicate the Class of motorboat as A, B, C, or D. Numbers assigned to motorized watercraft dealers shall have the letters "DL" as the suffix. Numbers assigned to rental watercraft shall have the letters "AL," "BL," or "CL" as the suffix.

(b) All numbers shall be displayed on each side of the bow of the motorized watercraft in such a manner that the numbers shall be clearly readable when the motorized watercraft is underway.

(i) Numbers shall be affixed on each side of the exterior bow of the motorized watercraft to read from left to right. The number shall be:

(A) In plain, block vertical, not slanted, letters and numerals of the same proportion;

(B) A minimum of three (3) inches high excluding shading and bordering; and,

(C) A color that shall contrast with the color of the background, i.e., dark numbers on a light background or light numbers on a dark background.

(ii) A hyphen or a space, equal in width to the letter “W” in the prefix, shall separate the three (3) parts of the number. For example: “WY-1234-A” or “WY 1234 A”.

(iii) All numbers assigned to motorized watercraft, except those assigned to motorized watercraft dealers, shall be painted on or securely attached to the bow of the motorized watercraft. Motorized watercraft dealers may affix the number for motorized watercraft that are for sale to a removable board(s) to permit transfer of the assigned number upon sale. Display of such number shall be in accordance with this section.

(iv) A motorized watercraft dealer is eligible to receive more than one (1) registration certificate and one (1) motorized watercraft registration number. A motorized watercraft dealer registration number is not assigned to a specific motorized watercraft. Motorized watercraft dealer registration numbers shall not be transferred to another motorized watercraft dealer or motorized watercraft owner.

(c) Upon payment of the motorized watercraft registration fee, each applicant for a motorized watercraft certificate of number shall be issued a registration certificate and two (2) decals upon which shall appear a designation of the year(s) for which the registration fee was paid and the abbreviation WYO. One (1) decal shall be displayed on each side of the motorized watercraft to which the number is assigned aft and directly in line with the assigned number of the motorized watercraft. No other type decal shall be displayed on the front half of the hull. Only the decal that is currently valid shall be displayed.

(d) Transfer of ownership for registration or first time registration of a motorized watercraft shall require a copy or original certificate of title issued in the name of the applicant(s) with the correct HIN.

(i) A watercraft registration shall only be issued in the name of the owner as it appears on the certificate of title.

(e) Persons making application for a watercraft dealer's registration shall provide the Department with a properly completed Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement – Certificate of Exemption form. The form, which can be obtained from the Department of Revenue, indicates the watercraft is being purchased for resale and the purchase is exempt from sales/use tax. The dealer's sales tax license number shall appear on the form.

(f) Duplicate Certificate of Number.

(i) The Department shall not charge a fee for issuance of a duplicate certificate of number when the loss or destruction of the certificate was the fault of the Department. The Department shall charge a fee of ten dollars (\$10) for issuance of a duplicate certificate of number when the loss or destruction of the original certificate of number was not the fault of the Department.

**Section 5. Watercraft Safety Equipment Requirements.** Except as provided in this section, it shall be the responsibility of the operator of the watercraft to ensure that all required safety equipment is aboard the watercraft during operation. If the owner of the watercraft is aboard the watercraft during operation, it shall be the responsibility of the owner and not the operator to ensure that all required safety equipment is aboard the watercraft during operation. In the case of rental watercraft, it shall be the responsibility of the rental boat owner to ensure that all required safety equipment is aboard the watercraft at the time the watercraft is rented.

(a) Every watercraft when underway on the waters of the State from sunset to sunrise shall carry and exhibit lights in accordance with the provisions of this section. From sunset to sunrise, no other light that may be mistaken for those listed in this section shall be used.

(i) Every motorized watercraft of classes A and B shall carry the following lights:

(A) A bright white light aft to be visible three hundred sixty degrees (360°) all around the horizon; and,

(B) A combined lantern in the front of the motorized watercraft and lower than the white light aft, showing green to starboard and red to port, so fixed as to show the light from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees (22.5°) aft the beam on their respective sides.

(ii) Every motorized watercraft of classes C and D shall carry the following lights:

(A) A bright white light in the front of the motorized watercraft as near the bow at the center axis as practicable, so constructed as to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of two hundred twenty-five degrees (225°), and fixed as to show the light one hundred twelve and five tenths degrees (112.5°) on each side of the motorized watercraft from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees (22.5°) aft the beam on either side;

(B) A bright white light aft to show three hundred sixty degrees (360°) all around the horizon and higher than the white light forward; and,

(C) On the starboard side, a green light constructed to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of one hundred twelve and five tenths (112.5°) degrees, and fixed as to show the light from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees (22.5°) aft the beam on the starboard side. On the port side, a red light constructed to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of one hundred twelve and five tenths degrees (112.5°), and fixed as to show the light from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees (22.5°) aft the beam on the port side. Each light shall be fitted with inboard screens of sufficient height set to prevent light from being seen across the bow.

(iii) Every white light referred to in this section shall be visible at a distance of at least two (2) miles and every colored light shall be visible at a distance of one (1) mile.

(iv) Sailboats, when propelled by sail alone, shall exhibit the following lights: On the starboard side, a green light and on the port side a red light to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees (22.5°) aft the beam. Sailboats shall also carry at the stern a white light to show the light sixty-seven and five tenths degrees (67.5 °) from aft on each side of the watercraft. In a small sailboat if it is not possible on account of bad weather or other sufficient causes for the light to be fixed, sailboats shall carry ready at hand a lantern or flashlight to show a white light that shall be exhibited in sufficient time to avoid collision. Sailboats less than forty (40) feet in length may carry a combined light in lieu of separate side lights.

(v) All manually propelled watercraft operated between sunset and sunrise shall have ready at hand a lantern or flashlight to show a white light that shall be exhibited in sufficient time to avoid collision.

(vi) All watercraft at anchor or adrift between sunset and sunrise, unless anchored at a designated site such as a marina, shoreline, etc., shall display in the front of the watercraft or where it can best be seen a white light to show all around the horizon and visible for two (2) miles.

(b) Every gasoline engine installed in a motorized watercraft after April 25, 1940, except outboard motors, shall be equipped with an efficient means of backfire flame control. Installations made before November 19, 1952, need not meet the detailed requirements of this subsection and may be continued in use as long as they are in good and serviceable condition. The following are acceptable means of backfire flame control for gasoline engines:

(i) A backfire flame arrester approved by the U.S. Coast Guard. The flame arrester shall be suitably secured to the air intake with flame tight connections;

(ii) An engine air and fuel intake system that provides adequate protection from propagation of backfire flame to the atmosphere equivalent to that provided by an approved flame arrester. A gasoline engine that has such an air and fuel intake system and that is to be

operated without a U.S. Coast Guard approved flame arrester shall be labeled to meet requirements of the U.S. Coast Guard; and,

(iii) Any attachment to the carburetor or location of the engine air intake by means of which flames caused by engine backfire shall be dispersed to the atmosphere outside the motorized watercraft in such a way that the flames shall not endanger the motorized watercraft, persons on board, nearby watercraft or structures. All attachments shall be of metal with flame-tight connections and firmly secured to withstand vibration, shock and engine backfire. Such installations do not require formal U.S. Coast Guard approval, but shall be accepted by law enforcement officers on the basis of this subsection.

(c) All motorized watercraft, except open boats, shall have at least two (2) ventilator ducts fitted with cowls or their equivalent for the efficient removal of explosive or flammable gases from the bilges of every engine and fuel tank compartment. There shall be at least one (1) exhaust duct installed so as to extend from the open atmosphere to the lower portion of the bilges and at least one (1) intake duct installed so as to extend to a point at least midway to the bilge or at least below the level of the carburetor air intake. The cowls shall be located and trimmed for maximum effectiveness to prevent displaced fumes from being recirculated. As used in this subsection, the term "open boat" means those motorized watercraft that have all engine and fuel tank compartments and other spaces in which explosive or flammable gases and vapors could form open to the atmosphere so as to prevent the entrapment of such gases and vapors within the motorized watercraft.

(d) Motorized watercraft shall be provided with an efficient sound producing device as set forth in this subsection:

<b>Class of Motorized Watercraft</b>	<b>Type of Device</b>
A & B	Mouth, hand or power operated device capable of producing a blast of two (2) seconds or more duration and audible for at least one-half (1/2) mile.
C	Hand or power operated device capable of producing a blast of two (2) seconds or more duration and audible for at least one (1) mile.
D	Power operated device capable of producing a blast of two (2) seconds or more duration and audible for a distance of at least one (1) mile.

(e) All watercraft shall carry a U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device of a suitable size for each person on board. Wearable personal flotation devices shall be used in accordance with any U. S. Coast Guard approval label requirements. All U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices shall be readily accessible, in good serviceable

condition and shall not be waterlogged, torn, or have straps, buckles, zippers or ties broken or missing.

(i) Watercraft sixteen (16) feet and over in length shall have a minimum of one (1) U.S. Coast Guard approved throwable device (unless otherwise provided by this regulation), on board the watercraft, in addition to a U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device of a suitable size for each person on board. Watercraft sixteen (16) feet and over in length being utilized in Class II and above whitewater are exempt from having a minimum of one (1) U.S. Coast Guard approved throwable device if the watercraft has a safety throw rope. Class II whitewater means novice straightforward rapids with wide, clear channels that are evident without scouting; occasional maneuvering may be required, but rocks and medium sized waves are easily missed by trained paddlers; swimmers are seldom injured and group assistance, while helpful, is seldom needed; rapids that are at the upper end of this difficulty range are designated Class II.

(ii) All persons aboard personal watercraft and all persons being towed by or riding in the wake of a watercraft shall wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device of a suitable size while engaged in such activity. All persons utilizing water sport toys are exempt from the requirement of carrying a U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device unless the water sport toy is being towed by a watercraft.

(iii) Requirement For Life Jacket Wear By Children.

(A) No person shall operate a watercraft underway with any child aboard twelve (12) years old or younger unless each child is either wearing a U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device or is riding in an enclosed cabin.

(f) Operators of motorized watercraft shall display a fluorescent orange flag, at least twelve (12) inches x twelve (12) inches in size, above the motorized watercraft anytime persons towed on water-skis, water sport toys, or other contrivances are down in the water to warn other watercraft operators of the situation. The operator of the motorized watercraft shall ensure the flag is displayed in such a manner that it is visible three hundred sixty degrees (360°) around the motorized watercraft and the person in the water.

(g) Fire extinguishers

(i) Fire extinguishers shall be carried in all watercraft that have one or more of the following conditions that make the watercraft of closed construction:

(A) Inboard engines;

(B) Closed compartments under seats wherein portable fuel tanks may be stored;

(C) Double bottoms not sealed to the hull or which are not completely filled with flotation materials;

(D) Closed living spaces;

(E) Closed stowage compartments in which combustible material are stored; or,

(F) Permanently installed fuel tanks.

(ii) Fire extinguishers shall be U.S. Coast Guard or Underwriters Laboratory (U.L.) approved. Fire extinguishers are classified by letter and Roman numeral according to the type of fire they shall be expected to extinguish and the size of the extinguisher. The "letter" indicates the type of fire:

(A) "A" shall be for fires of ordinary combustible materials;

(B) "B" shall be for gasoline, oil and grease fires; and,

(C) "C" shall be for electrical fires.

(iii) Fire extinguishers approved for watercraft shall be hand-portable of either B-I or B-II classification.

<b>CLASSIFICATION (type-size)</b>	<b>FOAM (gallons)</b>	<b>CARBON DIOXIDE (pounds)</b>	<b>DRY CHEMICAL (pounds)</b>	<b>HALON (pounds)</b>
B-I	1-1/4	4	2	2-1/2
B-II	2-1/2	15	10	--

(iv) Dry chemical fire extinguishers utilized on watercraft which do not exhibit gauges or devices indicating the amount of pressure in the extinguisher shall be weighed and display a tag that indicates the extinguisher has been weighed within the immediately preceding twelve (12) months. If the gross weight of a carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) fire extinguisher is reduced by more than ten percent (10%) of the net weight, the extinguisher does not meet the requirements of this section and shall be recharged.

(v) Fire extinguishers shall be readily accessible aboard the watercraft and in such condition as to be ready for immediate and effective use.

(vi) Requirements for fire extinguishers by length of watercraft are as follows:

(A) Watercraft less than twenty-six (26) feet in length. When no fixed fire extinguishing system is installed in machinery space(s), at least one (1) B-I type approved hand portable fire extinguisher is required. This requirement shall not apply to outboard watercraft less than twenty-six (26) feet in length if the construction of such watercraft shall not permit the entrapment of explosives or flammable gases or vapors. When an approved fixed fire



extinguisher system is installed in machinery space(s), one (1) less B-I type extinguisher is required;

(B) Watercraft twenty-six (26) feet to less than forty (40) feet in length. At least two (2) B-I type approved portable fire extinguishers are required or at least one (1) B-II type approved portable fire extinguisher is required. When an approved fixed system is installed, one (1) B-I type is required; and,

(C) Watercraft forty (40) feet to less than sixty-five (65) feet in length. At least three (3) B-I type approved portable fire extinguishers are required or at least one (1) B-I type plus one (1) B-II type approved portable fire extinguisher are required. When an approved fixed system is installed, two (2) B-I types are required.

**Section 6. Boat Races, Regattas and Water Ski Tournaments.** No regattas, watercraft races, marine parades, tournaments or exhibitions, or trials thereof, shall be held without prior written authorization from the Department.

(a) Department authorization shall not be granted for any regattas, watercraft races, marine parades, tournaments or exhibitions or trials thereof, without first assuring that:

(i) When the Department authorizes an event, water markers, buoys or regulatory signs shall be placed during the hours of the event by the person granted authority for the event to warn other watercraft operators of a controlled area prohibited from entering by anyone other than contestants of the event. The markers, buoys or regulatory signs shall conform with those adopted for use in the State; and,

(ii) The person granted authority for the regatta, watercraft races, marine parades, tournaments, exhibitions or trials shall satisfy the Department that adequate safeguards and controls exist to protect human life, limb and property.

### **Section 7. Waterway Marking System.**

(a) The Department may restrict and guide watercraft use on waters by placement of such buoys, markers or regulatory signs as it deems necessary. All users of watercraft are required to obey the buoys, markers or regulatory signs. The buoys, markers or regulatory signs signify restricted areas, danger areas and information pertaining to watercraft operation in specific areas. Standard markers used are as follows:

(i) A diamond shape of international orange with white center shall indicate danger. The nature of the danger may be indicated by words or well known abbreviations in black letters inside the diamond shape, or above or below it on white background;

(ii) A diamond shape of international orange with a cross of international orange against a white center without qualifying explanation shall indicate a zone from which all watercraft are excluded;

(iii) A circle of international orange with white center shall indicate a control or restriction. The nature of the control or restriction shall be indicated by words, numerals or well known abbreviations in black letters inside the circle. Additional explanations may be given above or below in black letters;

(iv) A rectangular shape of international orange with white center shall indicate information, other than a danger, control or restriction that may contribute to health, safety or well being. The message shall be presented within the rectangle in black letters;

(v) Letters or numerals used with regulatory markers shall be black in block characters of good proportion and spaced in a manner that shall provide maximum legibility and visibility; and,

(vi) No buoys, markers or regulatory signs shall be placed upon the waters of the State without prior approval of the Department, except that divers or persons snorkeling shall place a diver down flag(s) upon the water in the immediate area of their activity.

(A) Two (2) different flags are used to indicate the presence of a person engaged in diving in the immediate area. The official flag, Alpha, which is blue and white is internationally recognized for all diving operations. The second flag is the red flag with a white diagonal stripe. No person shall operate or permit the operation of any motorized watercraft on the waters of this State within one hundred (100) feet of a diver down flag(s) that has been displayed to indicate the presence of a person diving or snorkeling. The diver down flag(s) shall be displayed only when diving or snorkeling is in progress, and shall be displayed so as not to impede normal watercraft traffic. Diver down flag(s) shall not be placed in areas already occupied by other watercraft.

(b) No person shall alter, damage, deface, destroy, move, remove, tie off to, or otherwise modify any Department approved buoy, marker or regulatory sign.

### **Section 8. Personal Watercraft.**

(a) No person operating a personal watercraft shall cross or jump the wake of another watercraft within one hundred (100) feet of the watercraft creating the wake.

(b) No person shall operate a personal watercraft unless the watercraft is equipped with a kill switch installed by the manufacturer. When a personal watercraft is underway, the kill switch shall be attached via a lanyard to the operator of the personal watercraft in such a manner that in the event the operator is ejected from the personal watercraft the engine shall stop.

(c) Personal watercraft are prohibited on certain waters (refer to Section 9(b) of this regulation).

**Section 9. Waters on Which the Operation of Watercraft is Restricted or Prohibited.**

(a) No person shall operate a motorized watercraft at a speed that causes a wake within one-hundred (100) feet of a drifting, trolling or anchored watercraft or person(s) in the water.

(b) The use of personal watercraft is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year:

All waters in Grand Teton National Park in Teton County;  
The Snake River from Grand Teton National Park boundary in Teton County to Sheep Gulch boat ramp in Lincoln County;  
Green River Lakes in Sublette County;  
New Fork Lakes in Sublette County; and,  
Soda Lake on Soda Lake Wildlife Habitat Management Area in Sublette County.

(c) The use of motorized watercraft is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement and Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft are exempt.

All waters in Grand Teton National Park, excluding Jackson and Jenny lakes, in Teton County;  
Kemmerer City Reservoir in Lincoln County;  
McIntosh Pond 2 (Western Nuclear Pond) in Fremont County;  
North Platte River to include only that area between Glendo Dam and Glendo Powerplant in Platte County;  
North Platte River upstream from the Saratoga Inn bridge in the town of Saratoga to the Colorado state line in Carbon County (the owners or agricultural lessees of property immediately adjacent to the North Platte River, or their agents, may utilize motorized watercraft to carry out agricultural practices);  
South Worland Pond (also known as Golf Course Pond) in Washakie County;  
Snake River from Grand Teton National Park boundary in Teton County to Sheep Gulch boat ramp in Lincoln County, except motorized watercraft, other than personal watercraft, powered by a single motor not to exceed one hundred fifteen (115) horsepower are allowed from South Park Bridge in Teton County (U.S. Highway 26/89/191) to West Table boat ramp in Lincoln County from the day after Labor Day through March 31; and,  
West Ten Sleep Lake in Big Horn County.

(d) The use of internal combustion engines in motorized watercraft is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement and Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft are exempt.

A&M Reservoir in Sweetwater County;  
Absaraka Lake in Laramie County;

Beck Lake Recreation Area including Beck Lake, New Cody Reservoir and Markham Reservoir in Park County;  
 Black Hills Power and Light Osage Pond in Weston County;  
 Bryan Stock Trail Pond in Natrona County;  
 Cook Lake in Crook County;  
 Dollar Lake in Sublette County;  
 Edness Kimball Wilkins State Park including all ponds within the Park in Natrona County;  
 Festo Lake in Platte County;  
 Fiddlers Lake in Fremont County;  
 Fish Lake in Fremont County;  
 Gillette Fishing Lake in Campbell County;  
 Johnson Creek Reservoir in Albany County;  
 Kleenburn Ponds in Sheridan County;  
 Lake Alice in Lincoln County;  
 Leazenby Lake in Albany County;  
 Lake of the Woods in Fremont County;  
 Little Soda Lake in Sublette County;  
 Lower North Crow Reservoir (North Crow Diversion Reservoir) in Laramie County;  
 Luckey Pond (Chittim Reservoir) in Fremont County;  
 Medicine Bow National Forest including all lakes within the boundaries of Medicine Bow National Forest, except Sand Lake, Turpin Reservoir, Lake Owen, Rob Roy Reservoir and Hog Park Reservoir, in Carbon and Albany counties;  
 Middle Piney Lake in Sublette County;  
 Murphy Lake in Lincoln County;  
 Naughton Plant Pond in Lincoln County;  
 Pelham Lake in Fremont County;  
 Pete's Pond in Fremont County;  
 Rawlins City Reservoir in Carbon County;  
 Sand Mesa Reservoirs No. 1 and 2 in Fremont County;  
 Sibley Lake in Sheridan County;  
 Soda Lake, on Soda Lake Wildlife Habitat Management Area, in Sublette County shall be closed from May 1 through May 31 to the use of internal combustion motorized watercraft;  
 South Springer Reservoir in Goshen County;  
 Swamp Lake in Park County;  
 Tie Hack Reservoir in Johnson County;  
 Upper North Crow Reservoir in Laramie and Albany counties; and,  
 Wind River Lake in Fremont County.

(e) The use of any type watercraft is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year, except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement and Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft are exempt from this subsection.

Black Elk Pond in Weston County  
 Grayrocks Reservoir to include only that area between the regulatory buoys and the spillway in Platte County;  
 Hawk Springs Reservoir in Goshen County from December 1 – February 15;

Jim Bridger Pond to include only that area inside the pumphouse booms in Sweetwater County;

North Platte River to include that area between the Dave Johnston Power Plant Public Access Area and the Dave Johnston Power Plant in Converse County;

Ranchester City Reservoir in Sheridan County; and,

Wheatland Reservoir No. 3 Canal from the headgate in Reservoir No. 2 to the mouth in Reservoir No. 3 in Albany County.

(f) The use of motorized watercraft powered by a motor in excess of fifteen (15) horsepower is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year, except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement and Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft are exempt from this subsection.

Crystal Reservoir in Laramie County;

Deaver Reservoir in Park County;

Harrington Reservoir in Big Horn County.

Healy Reservoir in Johnson County;

Jim Bridger Pond in Sweetwater County;

Lily Lake in Park County;

Muddy Guard Reservoirs in Johnson County;

Newton Lakes Recreational Area including East and West Newton Lakes in Park County;

Packers Lake in Goshen County;

Park Reservoir in Johnson and Sheridan counties;

Renner Reservoir in Washakie County;

Sloans Lake in Laramie County; and

Turpin Reservoir in Carbon County.

(g) The use of motorized watercraft powered by a motor in excess of ten (10) horsepower is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year, except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement, Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft and other watercraft authorized by Grand Teton National Park are exempt from this subsection.

Jenny Lake in Grand Teton National Park in Teton County.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

David Rael, Vice President

Dated: July 11, 2018

# WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

## CHAPTER 22

### WATERCRAFT REGULATION

**Section 1. Authority.** This regulation is promulgated by authority of ~~W.S.~~ Wyoming Statutes § 31-2-101, ~~W.S.~~ § 41-13-102, § 41-13-104, ~~W.S.~~ § 41-13-105, ~~W.S.~~ § 41-13-208, ~~W.S.~~ § 41-13-211, ~~W.S.~~ § 41-13-213, ~~W.S.~~ § 41-13-217, ~~W.S.~~ § 41-13-218 and ~~W.S.~~ § 41-13-219.

**Section 2. Regulation.** The Wyoming Game and Fish Commission hereby adopts the following regulation governing watercraft. This regulation shall become effective January 1, ~~2017~~2019, and shall remain in effect until modified or repealed by the Commission.

**Section 3. Definitions.** For the purpose of this regulation, definitions shall be as set forth in Chapter 13, Title 41 and the Commission also adopts the following definitions:

(a) “Accompanied by an adult” means no person under the age of sixteen (16) years shall operate or be in physical control of a motorized watercraft on the waters of the State unless an adult is also physically aboard the motorized watercraft and is responsible for the operation of the watercraft.

(b) “Adult” means a person eighteen (18) years of age or older.

(c) “Aft” means a direction toward the back of a watercraft.

(d) “Beam” means the width of a watercraft at its widest part.

(e) “Bow” means the front of a watercraft.

(f) “Certificate of number” means watercraft registration.

(g) “Degrees of a compass” means the gradations in a compass; there are three hundred sixty degrees (360°) within a compass.

(h) “Diver down flag” means a rectangular shaped flag either blue and white in color (alpha flag) or red in color with a white diagonal stripe (diving flag), not less than twelve (12) inches x twelve (12) inches and displayed no less than three (3) feet above the surface of the water.

(i) “Duplicate number or duplicate certificate” means a certificate of number issued by the Department to replace an original certificate of number.

(j) “Enclosed cabin” means a permanent structure with hardened sides, which is intended for human occupation.

- (k) “Gunwale” means the upper edge of the side of a watercraft.
- (l) “HIN” means a Hull Identification Number that meets the specifications listed in Title 33 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
- (m) “Kill switch” means a device for shutting off the engine of a personal watercraft in the event the operator falls off the personal watercraft while it is underway.
- (n) “Length of a watercraft” means the length of the hull of a watercraft measured in a straight line from the stem to the stern excluding the deck, bowsprits, bumpkins, rudders, outboard motor brackets and similar fittings or attachments.
- (o) “Motorized watercraft” means any watercraft powered by an internal combustion or electric engine.
- (p) “Motorized watercraft dealer ” means a person who is engaged in the business of manufacture or sale of motorboats in Wyoming and who is required to be licensed with the Wyoming Department of Revenue to collect and remit sales tax or a person whose motorboat sales business is outside Wyoming, but who demonstrates motorboats in Wyoming.
- (q) “No wake” means the speed of a watercraft when underway that does not cause water action that disturbs another watercraft at rest, a dock, or swimmers, and, in no case shall the speed of the watercraft when underway be in excess of five (5) miles per hour.
- (r) “Operator” means the person in physical control or in charge of a watercraft while it is in use. When the person in physical control of a watercraft is under the age of sixteen (16) years, the accompanying adult may be considered the operator.
- (s) “Personal watercraft” means any inboard motorized watercraft less than sixteen (16) feet in length which has a water-jet pump as its primary source of motor propulsion and that is designed to be operated by a person sitting, standing or kneeling on the watercraft, rather than the conventional manner of sitting or standing inside the watercraft.
- (t) “Port” means the left side of a watercraft as one faces forward and is denoted by a red light.
- (u) “Proof of ownership for temporary operation” means a notarized bill of sale stating the name of the previous owner of the motorized watercraft, the name of the purchaser of the watercraft, description of the watercraft with correct HIN or a copy of a properly transferred title, a bill of sale with correct HIN from a motorized watercraft dealer, or a copy of a notarized affidavit by the builder of a homemade watercraft that indicates a description of the watercraft and the date construction was completed.
- (v) “Rental boat owner” means a person who rents watercraft to the public for a fee.



(w) “Safe carrying capacity” means the capacity shall not exceed the number of persons or the weight limit, whichever is reached first, as stated on the capacity plate affixed to the watercraft.

(x) “Starboard” means the right side of a watercraft as one faces forward and is denoted by a green light.

(y) “Stem” means the line where the port and starboard hulls join together at the bow.

(z) “Stern” means the transom or rear end of a watercraft.

(aa) “Temporary operation” means the operation of a motorized watercraft without a certificate of number during the thirty (30) consecutive days immediately following the date of purchase.

(bb) “Throwable device” means a U.S. Coast Guard approved ring buoy or buoyant cushion.

(cc) “Underway” means the watercraft is being propelled by mechanized power, wind, or human effort.

(dd) “Vessel” means every description of watercraft, other than a seaplane on the water, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on the water.

(ee) “Wake” means the water action caused by a watercraft that is underway that disturbs another watercraft at rest, a dock, or swimmers, and, the speed of the watercraft exceeds five (5) miles per hour.

(ff) “Water sport toy” means a sailboard, float tube, kite board or any aid to swimming or fishing that is not defined as a watercraft.

(gg) “Watercraft” means any contrivance used or designed primarily for navigation on the water that is designed to be propelled by paddles, oars, sails or motors, except devices defined as water sport toys. Amphibious vehicles designed for travel over land and water with propeller or jet propulsion systems shall be considered watercraft for the purpose of this regulation.

(hh) “Wearable personal flotation device” means a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device that is intended to be worn by an individual.

#### **Section 4. Motorized Watercraft Registration and Numbers.**

(a) All numbers assigned to motorized watercraft in the State shall consist of three (3) parts. The first part, the prefix, shall consist of the letters "WY" signifying the State of registration; the second part shall consist of not more than four (4) Arabic numerals; the third part, the suffix, shall consist of not more than two (2) capital letters, but "I", "O" and "Q" shall

not be used because of their similarity to Arabic numerals. The first capital letter in the third part, the suffix, shall indicate the Class of motorboat as A, B, C, or D. Numbers assigned to motorized watercraft dealers shall have the letters "DL" as the suffix. Numbers assigned to rental watercraft shall have the letters "AL," "BL," or "CL" as the suffix.

(b) All numbers shall be displayed on each side of the bow of the motorized watercraft in such a manner that the numbers shall be clearly readable when the motorized watercraft is underway.

(i) Numbers shall be affixed on each side of the exterior bow of the motorized watercraft to read from left to right. The number shall be:

(A) In plain, block vertical, not slanted, letters and numerals of the same proportion;

(B) A minimum of three (3) inches high excluding shading and bordering; and,

(C) A color that shall contrast with the color of the background, i.e., dark numbers on a light background or light numbers on a dark background.

(ii) A hyphen or a space, equal in width to the letter "W" in the prefix, shall separate the three (3) parts of the number. For example: "WY-1234-A" or "WY 1234 A".

(iii) All numbers assigned to motorized watercraft, except those assigned to motorized watercraft dealers, shall be painted on or securely attached to the bow of the motorized watercraft. Motorized watercraft dealers may affix the number for motorized watercraft that are for sale to a removable board(s) to permit transfer of the assigned number upon sale. Display of such number shall be in accordance with this section.

(iv) A motorized watercraft dealer is eligible to receive more than one (1) registration certificate and one (1) motorized watercraft registration number. A motorized watercraft dealer registration number is not assigned to a specific motorized watercraft. Motorized watercraft dealer registration numbers shall not be transferred to another motorized watercraft dealer or motorized watercraft owner.

(c) Upon payment of the motorized watercraft registration fee, each applicant for a motorized watercraft certificate of number shall be issued a registration certificate and two (2) decals upon which shall appear a designation of the year(s) for which the registration fee was paid and the abbreviation WYO. One (1) decal shall be displayed on each side of the motorized watercraft to which the number is assigned aft and directly in line with the assigned number of the motorized watercraft. No other type decal shall be displayed on the front half of the hull. Only the decal that is currently valid shall be displayed.

(d) Transfer of ownership for registration or first time registration of a motorized watercraft shall require a copy or original certificate of title issued in the name of the applicant(s) with the correct HIN.

(i) A watercraft registration shall only be issued in the name of the owner as it appears on the certificate of title.

(e) Persons making application for a watercraft dealer's registration shall provide the Department with a properly completed Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement – Certificate of Exemption form. The form, which can be obtained from the Department of Revenue, indicates the watercraft is being purchased for resale and the purchase is exempt from sales/use tax. The dealer's sales tax license number shall appear on the form.

(f) Duplicate Certificate of Number.

(i) The Department shall not charge a fee for issuance of a duplicate certificate of number when the loss or destruction of the certificate was the fault of the Department. The Department shall charge a fee of ~~five dollars (\$5.00)~~ ten dollars (\$10) for issuance of a duplicate certificate of number when the loss or destruction of the original certificate of number was not the fault of the Department.

**Section 5. Watercraft Safety Equipment Requirements.** Except as provided in this section, it shall be the responsibility of the operator of the watercraft to ensure that all required safety equipment is aboard the watercraft during operation. If the owner of the watercraft is aboard the watercraft during operation, it shall be the responsibility of the owner and not the operator to ensure that all required safety equipment is aboard the watercraft during operation. In the case of rental watercraft, it shall be the responsibility of the rental boat owner to ensure that all required safety equipment is aboard the watercraft at the time the watercraft is rented.

(a) Every watercraft when underway on the waters of the State from sunset to sunrise shall carry and exhibit lights in accordance with the provisions of this section. From sunset to sunrise, no other light that may be mistaken for those listed in this section shall be used.

(i) Every motorized watercraft of classes A and B shall carry the following lights:

(A) A bright white light aft to be visible three hundred sixty degrees (360°) all around the horizon; and,

(B) A combined lantern in the front of the motorized watercraft and lower than the white light aft, showing green to starboard and red to port, so fixed as to show the light from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees (22.5°) aft the beam on their respective sides.

(ii) Every motorized watercraft of classes C and D shall carry the following lights:

(A) A bright white light in the front of the motorized watercraft as near the bow at the center axis as practicable, so constructed as to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of two hundred twenty-five degrees ( $225^{\circ}$ ), and fixed as to show the light one hundred twelve and five tenths degrees ( $112.5^{\circ}$ ) on each side of the motorized watercraft from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees ( $22.5^{\circ}$ ) aft the beam on either side;

(B) A bright white light aft to show three hundred sixty degrees ( $360^{\circ}$ ) all around the horizon and higher than the white light forward; and,

(C) On the starboard side, a green light constructed to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of one hundred twelve and five tenths ( $112.5^{\circ}$ ) degrees, and fixed as to show the light from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees ( $22.5^{\circ}$ ) aft the beam on the starboard side. On the port side, a red light constructed to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of one hundred twelve and five tenths degrees ( $112.5^{\circ}$ ), and fixed as to show the light from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees ( $22.5^{\circ}$ ) aft the beam on the port side. Each light shall be fitted with inboard screens of sufficient height set to prevent light from being seen across the bow.

(iii) Every white light referred to in this section shall be visible at a distance of at least two (2) miles and every colored light shall be visible at a distance of one (1) mile.

(iv) Sailboats, when propelled by sail alone, shall exhibit the following lights: On the starboard side, a green light and on the port side a red light to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees ( $22.5^{\circ}$ ) aft the beam. Sailboats shall also carry at the stern a white light to show the light sixty-seven and five tenths degrees ( $67.5^{\circ}$ ) from aft on each side of the watercraft. In a small sailboat if it is not possible on account of bad weather or other sufficient causes for the light to be fixed, sailboats shall carry ready at hand a lantern or flashlight to show a white light that shall be exhibited in sufficient time to avoid collision. Sailboats less than forty (40) feet in length may carry a combined light in lieu of separate side lights.

(v) All ~~hand~~manually propelled watercraft operated between sunset and sunrise shall have ready at hand a lantern or flashlight to show a white light that shall be exhibited in sufficient time to avoid collision.

(vi) All watercraft at anchor or adrift between sunset and sunrise, unless anchored at a designated site such as a marina, shoreline, etc., shall display in the front of the watercraft or where it can best be seen a white light to show all around the horizon and visible for two (2) miles.

(b) Every gasoline engine installed in a motorized watercraft after April 25, 1940, except outboard motors, shall be equipped with an efficient means of backfire flame control. Installations made before November 19, 1952, need not meet the detailed requirements of this subsection and may be continued in use as long as they are in good and serviceable condition. The following are acceptable means of backfire flame control for gasoline engines:

(i) A backfire flame arrester approved by the U.S. Coast Guard. The flame arrester shall be suitably secured to the air intake with flame tight connections;

(ii) An engine air and fuel intake system that provides adequate protection from propagation of backfire flame to the atmosphere equivalent to that provided by an approved flame arrester. A gasoline engine that has such an air and fuel intake system and that is to be operated without a U.S. Coast Guard approved flame arrester shall be labeled to meet requirements of the U.S. Coast Guard; and,

(iii) Any attachment to the carburetor or location of the engine air intake by means of which flames caused by engine backfire shall be dispersed to the atmosphere outside the motorized watercraft in such a way that the flames shall not endanger the motorized watercraft, persons on board, nearby watercraft or structures. All attachments shall be of metal with flame-tight connections and firmly secured to withstand vibration, shock and engine backfire. Such installations do not require formal U.S. Coast Guard approval, but shall be accepted by law enforcement officers on the basis of this subsection.

(c) All motorized watercraft, except open boats, shall have at least two (2) ventilator ducts fitted with cowls or their equivalent for the efficient removal of explosive or flammable gases from the bilges of every engine and fuel tank compartment. There shall be at least one (1) exhaust duct installed so as to extend from the open atmosphere to the lower portion of the bilges and at least one (1) intake duct installed so as to extend to a point at least midway to the bilge or at least below the level of the carburetor air intake. The cowls shall be located and trimmed for maximum effectiveness to prevent displaced fumes from being recirculated. As used in this subsection, the term "open boat" means those motorized watercraft that have all engine and fuel tank compartments and other spaces in which explosive or flammable gases and vapors could form open to the atmosphere so as to prevent the entrapment of such gases and vapors within the motorized watercraft.

(d) Motorized watercraft shall be provided with an efficient sound producing device as set forth in this subsection:

<b><u>Class of Motorized Watercraft</u></b>	<b><u>Type of Device</u></b>
A & B	Mouth, hand or power operated device capable of producing a blast of two (2) seconds or more duration and audible for at least one-half (1/2) mile.
C	Hand or power operated device capable of producing a blast of two (2) seconds or more duration and audible for at least one (1) mile.
D	Power operated device capable of producing a blast of two (2) seconds or more duration and audible for a distance of at least one (1) mile.

(e) All watercraft shall carry a U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device of a suitable size for each person on board. Wearable personal flotation devices shall be used in accordance with any U. S. Coast Guard approval label requirements. All U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices shall be readily accessible, in good serviceable condition and shall not be waterlogged, torn, or have straps, buckles, zippers or ties broken or missing.

(i) Watercraft sixteen (16) feet and over in length shall have a minimum of one (1) U.S. Coast Guard approved throwable device (unless otherwise provided by this regulation), on board the watercraft, in addition to a U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device of a suitable size for each person on board. Watercraft sixteen (16) feet and over in length being utilized in Class II and above whitewater are exempt from having a minimum of one (1) U.S. Coast Guard approved throwable device if the watercraft has a safety throw rope. Class II whitewater means novice straightforward rapids with wide, clear channels that are evident without scouting; occasional maneuvering may be required, but rocks and medium sized waves are easily missed by trained paddlers; swimmers are seldom injured and group assistance, while helpful, is seldom needed; rapids that are at the upper end of this difficulty range are designated Class II.

(ii) All persons aboard personal watercraft and all persons being towed by or riding in the wake of a watercraft shall wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device of a suitable size while engaged in such activity. All persons utilizing water sport toys are exempt from the requirement of carrying a U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device unless the water sport toy is being towed by a watercraft.

(iii) Requirement For Life Jacket Wear By Children.

(A) No person shall operate a watercraft underway with any child aboard twelve (12) years old or ~~under~~younger unless each child is either wearing a U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device (~~PFD~~) or is riding in an enclosed cabin.

(f) Operators of motorized watercraft shall display a fluorescent orange flag, at least twelve (12) inches x twelve (12) inches in size, above the motorized watercraft anytime persons towed on water-skis, water sport toys, or other contrivances are down in the water to warn other watercraft operators of the situation. The operator of the motorized watercraft shall ensure the flag is displayed in such a manner that it is visible three hundred sixty degrees (360°) around the motorized watercraft and the person in the water.

(g) Fire extinguishers

(i) Fire extinguishers shall be carried in all watercraft that have one or more of the following conditions that make the watercraft of closed construction:

(A) Inboard engines;

(B) Closed compartments under seats wherein portable fuel tanks may

be stored;

(C) Double bottoms not sealed to the hull or which are not completely filled with flotation materials;

(D) Closed living spaces;

(E) Closed stowage compartments in ~~that~~which combustible material are stored; or,

(F) Permanently installed fuel tanks.

(ii) Fire extinguishers shall be U.S. Coast Guard or Underwriters Laboratory (U.L.) approved. Fire extinguishers are classified by letter and Roman numeral according to the type of fire they shall be expected to extinguish and the size of the extinguisher. The "letter" indicates the type of fire:

(A) "A" shall be for fires of ordinary combustible materials;

(B) "B" shall be for gasoline, oil and grease fires; and,

(C) "C" shall be for electrical fires.

(iii) Fire extinguishers approved for watercraft shall be hand-portable of either B-I or B-II classification.

<b>CLASSIFICATION (type-size)</b>	<b>FOAM (gallons)</b>	<b>CARBON DIOXIDE (pounds)</b>	<b>DRY CHEMICAL (pounds)</b>	<b>HALON (pounds)</b>
B-I	1-1/4	4	2	2-1/2
B-II	2-1/2	15	10	--

(iv) Dry chemical fire extinguishers utilized on watercraft which do not exhibit gauges or devices indicating the amount of pressure in the extinguisher shall be weighed and display a tag that indicates the extinguisher has been weighed within the immediately preceding twelve (12) months. If the gross weight of a carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) fire extinguisher is reduced by more than ten percent (10%) of the net weight, the extinguisher does not meet the requirements of this section and shall be recharged.

(v) Fire extinguishers shall be readily accessible aboard the watercraft and in such condition as to be ready for immediate and effective use.

(vi) Requirements for fire extinguishers by length of watercraft are as follows:

(A) Watercraft less than twenty-six (26) feet in length. When no fixed fire extinguishing system is installed in machinery space(s), at least one (1) B-I type approved hand portable fire extinguisher is required. This requirement shall not apply to outboard watercraft less than twenty-six (26) feet in length if the construction of such watercraft shall not permit the entrapment of explosives or flammable gases or vapors. When an approved fixed fire extinguisher system is installed in machinery space(s), one (1) less B-I type extinguisher is required;

(B) Watercraft twenty-six (26) feet to less than forty (40) feet in length. At least two (2) B-I type approved portable fire extinguishers are required or at least one (1) B-II type approved portable fire extinguisher is required. When an approved fixed system is installed, one (1) B-I type is required; and,

(C) Watercraft forty (40) feet to less than sixty-five (65) feet in length. At least three (3) B-I type approved portable fire extinguishers are required or at least one (1) B-I type plus one (1) B-II type approved portable fire extinguisher are required. When an approved fixed system is installed, two (2) B-I types are required.

**Section 6. Boat Races, Regattas and Water Ski Tournaments.** No regattas, watercraft races, marine parades, tournaments or exhibitions, or trials thereof, shall be held without prior written authorization from the Department.

(a) Department authorization shall not be granted for any regattas, watercraft races, marine parades, tournaments or exhibitions or trials thereof, without first assuring that:

(i) When the Department authorizes an event, water markers, buoys or regulatory signs shall be placed during the hours of the event by the person granted authority for the event to warn other watercraft operators of a controlled area prohibited from entering by anyone other than contestants of the event. The markers, buoys or regulatory signs shall conform with those adopted for use in the State; and,

(ii) The person granted authority for the regatta, watercraft races, marine parades, tournaments, exhibitions or trials shall satisfy the Department that adequate safeguards and controls exist to protect human life, limb and property.

### **Section 7. Waterway Marking System.**

(a) The Department may restrict and guide watercraft use on waters by placement of such buoys, markers or regulatory signs as it deems necessary. All users of watercraft are required to obey the buoys, markers or regulatory signs. The buoys, markers or regulatory signs signify restricted areas, danger areas and information pertaining to watercraft operation in specific areas. Standard markers used are as follows:

(i) A diamond shape of international orange with white center shall indicate danger. The nature of the danger may be indicated by words or well known abbreviations in black letters inside the diamond shape, or above or below it on white background;



(ii) A diamond shape of international orange with a cross of international orange against a white center without qualifying explanation shall indicate a zone from which all watercraft are excluded;

(iii) A circle of international orange with white center shall indicate a control or restriction. The nature of the control or restriction shall be indicated by words, numerals or well known abbreviations in black letters inside the circle. Additional explanations may be given above or below in black letters;

(iv) A rectangular shape of international orange with white center shall indicate information, other than a danger, control or restriction that may contribute to health, safety or well being. The message shall be presented within the rectangle in black letters;

(v) Letters or numerals used with regulatory markers shall be black in block characters of good proportion and spaced in a manner that shall provide maximum legibility and visibility; and,

(vi) No buoys, markers or regulatory signs shall be placed upon the waters of the State without prior approval of the Department, except that divers or persons snorkeling shall place a diver down flag(s) upon the water in the immediate area of their activity.

(A) Two (2) different flags are used to indicate the presence of a person engaged in diving in the immediate area. The official flag, Alpha, which is blue and white is internationally recognized for all diving operations. The second flag is the red flag with a white diagonal stripe. No person shall operate or permit the operation of any motorized watercraft on the waters of this State within one hundred (100) feet of a diver down flag(s) that has been displayed to indicate the presence of a person diving or snorkeling. The diver down flag(s) shall be displayed only when diving or snorkeling is in progress, and shall be displayed so as not to impede normal watercraft traffic. Diver down flag(s) shall not be placed in areas already occupied by other watercraft.

(b) No person shall alter, damage, deface, destroy, move, remove, tie off to, or otherwise modify any Department approved buoy, marker or regulatory sign.

### **Section 8. Personal Watercraft.**

(a) No person operating a personal watercraft shall cross or jump the wake of another watercraft within one hundred (100) feet of the watercraft creating the wake.

(b) No person shall operate a personal watercraft unless the watercraft is equipped with a kill switch installed by the manufacturer. When a personal watercraft is underway, the kill switch shall be attached via a lanyard to the operator of the personal watercraft in such a manner that in the event the operator is ejected from the personal watercraft the engine shall stop.

(c) Personal watercraft are prohibited on certain waters (refer to Section 9(b) of this regulation).

**Section 9. Waters on Which the Operation of Watercraft is Restricted or Prohibited.**

(a) No person shall operate a motorized watercraft at a speed that causes a wake within one-hundred (100) feet of a drifting, trolling or anchored watercraft or person(s) in the water.

(b) The use of personal watercraft is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year:

All waters in Grand Teton National Park in Teton County;  
The Snake River from Grand Teton National Park boundary in Teton County to Sheep Gulch boat ramp in Lincoln County;  
Green River Lakes in Sublette County;  
New Fork Lakes in Sublette County; and,  
Soda Lake on Soda Lake Wildlife Habitat Management Area in Sublette County.

(c) The use of motorized watercraft is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement and Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft are exempt.

All waters in Grand Teton National Park, excluding Jackson and Jenny lakes, in Teton County;  
Kemmerer City Reservoir in Lincoln County;  
McIntosh Pond 2 (Western Nuclear Pond) in Fremont County;  
North Platte River to include only that area between Glendo Dam and Glendo Powerplant in Platte County;

North Platte River upstream from the Saratoga Inn bridge in the town of Saratoga to the Colorado state line in Carbon County (the owners or agricultural lessees of property immediately adjacent to the North Platte River, or their agents, may utilize motorized watercraft to carry out agricultural practices);

South Worland Pond (also known as Golf Course Pond) in Washakie County;

Snake River from Grand Teton National Park boundary in Teton County to Sheep Gulch boat ramp in Lincoln County, except motorized watercraft, other than personal watercraft, powered by a single motor not to exceed one hundred fifteen (115) horsepower are allowed from South Park Bridge in Teton County (U.S. Highway 26/89/191) to West Table boat ramp in Lincoln County from the day after Labor Day through March 31; and,

West Ten Sleep Lake in Big Horn County.

(d) The use of internal combustion engines in motorized watercraft is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement and Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft are exempt.

A&M Reservoir in Sweetwater County;  
 Absaraka Lake in Laramie County;  
 Beck Lake Recreation Area including Beck Lake, New Cody Reservoir and Markham Reservoir in Park County;  
 Black Hills Power and Light Osage Pond in Weston County;  
 Bryan Stock Trail Pond in Natrona County;  
~~Burlington Reservoir in Natrona County;~~  
 Cook Lake in Crook County;  
 Dollar Lake in Sublette County;  
 Edness Kimball Wilkins State Park including all ponds within the Park in Natrona County;  
 Festo Lake in Platte County;  
 Fiddlers Lake in Fremont County;  
 Fish Lake in Fremont County;  
 Gillette Fishing Lake in Campbell County;  
 Johnson Creek Reservoir in Albany County;  
 Kleenburn Ponds in Sheridan County;  
 Lake Alice in Lincoln County;  
 Leazenby Lake in Albany County;  
 Lake of the Woods in Fremont County;  
 Little Soda Lake in Sublette County;  
 Lower North Crow Reservoir (North Crow Diversion Reservoir) in Laramie County;  
~~Lucky~~Luckey Pond (Chittim Reservoir) in Fremont County;  
 Medicine Bow National Forest including all lakes within the boundaries of Medicine Bow National Forest, except Sand Lake, Turpin Reservoir, Lake Owen, Rob Roy Reservoir and Hog Park Reservoir, in Carbon and Albany counties;  
 Middle Piney Lake in Sublette County;  
 Murphy Lake in Lincoln County;  
 Naughton Plant Pond in Lincoln County;  
 Pelham Lake in Fremont County;  
Pete's Pond in Fremont County;  
 Rawlins City Reservoir in Carbon County;  
 Sand Mesa Reservoirs No. 1 and 2 in Fremont County;  
 Sibley Lake in Sheridan County;  
 Soda Lake, on Soda Lake Wildlife Habitat Management Area, in Sublette County shall be closed from May 1 through May 31 to the use of internal combustion motorized watercraft;  
 South Springer Reservoir in Goshen County;  
 Swamp Lake in Park County;  
 Tie Hack Reservoir in Johnson County;  
 Upper North Crow Reservoir in Laramie and Albany counties; and,  
 Wind River Lake in Fremont County.

(e) The use of any type watercraft is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year, except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement and Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft are exempt from this subsection.

Black Elk Pond in Weston County  
Grayrocks Reservoir to include only that area between the regulatory buoys and the spillway in Platte County;  
Hawk Springs Reservoir in Goshen County from December 1 – February 15;  
Jim Bridger Pond to include only that area inside the pumphouse booms in Sweetwater County;  
North Platte River to include that area between the Dave Johnston Power Plant Public Access Area and the Dave Johnston Power Plant in Converse County;  
~~North Platte River to include only that area between Glendo Dam and Glendo Powerplant in Platte County;~~  
Ranchester City Reservoir in Sheridan County; and,  
Wheatland Reservoir No. 3 Canal from the headgate in Reservoir No. 2 to the mouth in Reservoir No. 3 in Albany County.

(f) The use of motorized watercraft powered by a motor in excess of fifteen (15) horsepower is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year, except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement and Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft are exempt from this subsection.

Crystal Reservoir in Laramie County;  
Deaver Reservoir in Park County;  
Harrington Reservoir in Big Horn County.  
Healy Reservoir in Johnson County;  
Jim Bridger Pond in Sweetwater County;  
Lily Lake in Park County;  
Muddy Guard Reservoirs in Johnson County;  
Newton Lakes Recreational Area including East and West Newton Lakes in Park County;  
Packers Lake in Goshen County;  
Park Reservoir in Johnson and Sheridan counties;  
Renner Reservoir in Washakie County;  
Sloans Lake in Laramie County; and  
Turpin Reservoir in Carbon County.

(g) The use of motorized watercraft powered by a motor in excess of ten (10) horsepower is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year, except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement, Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft and other watercraft authorized by Grand Teton National Park are exempt from this subsection.

Jenny Lake in Grand Teton National Park in Teton County.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

By: \_\_\_\_\_

~~T. Carrie Little~~ David Rael, Vice President

Dated: ~~July 8, 2016~~ July 11, 2018

## STATEMENT OF REASONS

### CHAPTER 44

#### REGULATION FOR ISSUANCE OF LICENSES, PERMITS, STAMPS, TAGS, PREFERENCE POINTS, COMPETITIVE RAFFLE CHANCES

W.S. § 23-1-302 empowers the Commission to prescribe the requirements and form, including electronic licensing format, for the licenses, stamps and tags provided in the Game and Fish Act.

Senate Enrolled Act No. 15 (SEA 15) of the Sixty-Fourth Legislature of the State of Wyoming 2018 Budget Session provides for up to one hundred sixty (160) antelope licenses to be made available for the exclusive use of not more than two (2) antelope hunts.

In Section 3, a definition has been added for “Wyoming Women’s Antelope Hunt”.

In Section 5, edits were made in accordance with SEA 15 which allows for antelope licenses to be made available for the One-Shot Antelope Hunt and the Wyoming Women’s Antelope Hunt.

Minor grammatical and formatting edits have been incorporated to provide additional clarity but do not change the intent of the rules and regulations.



## WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006

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MIKE SCHMID

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July 16, 2018

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** David Dewald, Senior Assistant Attorney General

**FROM:** Mike Choma, Wildlife Law Enforcement Supervisor

**COPY TO:** Brian Nesvik, Scott Edberg, Doug Brimeyer and Terri Weinhandl

**SUBJECT:** Regulation Changes Subsequent to Public Comment Period: Chapter 44, Regulation for Issuance of Licenses, Permits, Stamps, Tags, Preference Points and Competitive Raffle Chances

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department (Department) conducted fourteen (14) public meetings across the state to address draft regulation proposals for Chapter 44. Draft proposals were also available for viewing and public comment through the Department website from April 20 through June 4, 2018.

The Department received twenty-two (22) comments (20 online and 2 written) for Chapter 44. Seven (7) comments favored the Department proposal for issuing licenses to two antelope hunt events, particularly the Wyoming Women's Antelope Hunt sponsored by the Wyoming Women's Foundation. Five (5) comments were not in favor of issuing licenses for antelope hunt events outside of the regular competitive drawing.

The Commission made no changes to the draft Chapter 44 regulation subsequent to these public comments.

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form



The Department welcomes comment regarding proposed changes to regulations. Questions about these proposed regulation changes should be directed to Department Regional Offices for clarification. No individual Department response will be generated from questions submitted through this comment form. Written comments shall be accepted at all Department sponsored meetings, by standard mail at the address below, or on the WGFD website at <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/Get-Involved/Public-Meetings>. Comments will not be submitted via email, fax or telephone. All written comments must be received at the below address no later than 5:00 p.m., June 4, 2018.

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604

Please use a separate form for each of the regulations below

- Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation
- Chapter 44, Regulation for Issuance of Licenses, Permits, Stamps, Tags, Preference Points and Competitive Raffle Chances
- Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations
- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species



Comments:

I like the changes to Chap. 44.  
It's good for women - their 1 shot  
is a good thing for the equality state!  
It's good for economy, for hunters,  
for recreation.

Shelley Simontow was my niece (niece)  
she promoted it along with Marilyn  
Kite. Please adopt and enforce it!!

mail

920 Park  
Cody WYO  
82414

George Simontow  
Printed Name

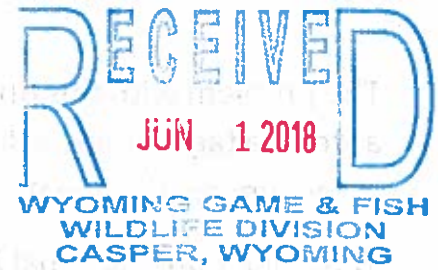
(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

5/3/18  
Date

307 819 4830



Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Department  
ATTN: Regulations  
3400 Energy Lane  
Casper, WY 82604



RE: Proposed Chapter 44 Regulation Changes

Dear Commissioners:

Unfortunately we are here because the legislature has set up the Commission as the fall guy in some dirty politics. I appreciate the fact that this puts the Commission in a difficult position but I implore the Commission to resist giving in to the pressure and uphold the Wyoming Constitution.

I can attest that certain Legislators were quick to throw the Commission/Department under the bus when confronted about the way the former statute was being utilized. During a Joint TRW meeting in Lander when it was pointed out that the previous legislation directed tags to a particular group, the current law's champion was quick to blame the Commission for issuing the tags to a particular group stating the legislation did not/could not do that. It is as obvious to anyone reading this as it was to everyone at the meeting that the previous legislation was written expressly for one group. Now we have similar legislation that was crafted to look more general but really isn't intended to be any more constitutional. During floor debate some legislators were careful to say "a group" or "groups" while others corrected themselves after referring to the "women's group," "men's group" or "one-shot" and still others brazenly and intentionally just talked about the women's group and the one shot. Still other legislators ignorantly touted that there could not be any shortage of tags because you see antelope everywhere when you drive around Wyoming.

Department staff concur with my assessment of the legislature's intent with this legislation. In an email from Department staff it was opined "The Department feels, that based on testimony, discussions, etc that occurred during the bill hearings including the Women's Antelope Hunt was the intent of the legislation"

The problem with this opinion is that it cannot be the case because directing antelope tags (or any other special or exclusive privilege) to a particular group is in fact unconstitutional.

Wyoming Constitutional Article 3 Section 27 states:

*The legislature shall not pass local or special laws in any of the following enumerated cases, that is to say: ....granting to any corporation, association or individual, the right to lay down railroad tracks, or any special or exclusive privilege, immunity or franchise whatever, or amending existing charter for such purpose.....*

This clause of the constitution is the reason that the legislation was crafted to the more general term "two antelope hunts." During the joint TRW committee meeting in Lander in 2017 where this legislation was brought up the consensus between or legislators across the board was that the original law was in fact unconstitutional and therefore the language needed to be changed to more general language that did not specify the group to receive the licenses. The legislator from Lander who was a primary proponent of the bill and the one-shot antelope hunt in Lander called the language in an early draft that included reference to the women's group problematic and suggested it be changed to more general language.

Therefore, granting that it would be unconstitutional to direct licenses to specific groups, it is equally unconstitutional for the Commission to do so by implementing a rule based on the intent of the legislature. Given that it would be unconstitutional for the Commission to follow through on the intent of the legislature to grant particular groups an exclusive privilege, the only possible alternative is for the Commission to write such a privilege into rule on its own accord. However, this would be deemed arbitrary and capricious and therefore open to a claim under Administrative Procedures Act Section 114(c)(ii)(A).

The proposed regulation does not reflect the additional part of the new legislation that discusses adjusting the number of tags issued under this rule. The language in the law is a bit nebulous. However, I know from legislative discussion surrounding this law that the intent was to vary the number of tags commensurate with the change in quota for the rest of the population. It is important to note that the draw odds in the units used for the one-shot have

declined significantly. From 2010 to 2017 Resident drawing odds have decreased between 24% and 56% and non-resident time to draw and increased 3-6 years across the area based on non-resident preference point draw. If licenses are issued under this section there should be consideration given to the relevant drawing odds. The idea that we are giving away resident or non resident hunting opportunity carte blanc is disturbing at best.

So where does the money go currently? The one-shot boasts its benefit to wildlife through the Water for Wildlife Organization. To my understanding Water for Wildlife is funded largely or solely by the one-shot. I am not going to knock the work they do, it is the where of it that irks me. Water for Wildlife boasts having done projects in 12 states, the number is not specifically stated but it would appear looking at the map that 50-60% of the project are completed outside of Wyoming. The idea that the legislature is intent on giving Wyoming hunting opportunity away to benefit wildlife in states like Texas is a bit frustrating to say the least. The WGFD does not receive general fund dollars and therefore it is the hunting and fishing public that provides the bulk of the funding.

I like and support the idea of the women's antelope hunt. I am a proponent of getting women into hunting and have myself worked with several women to teach them to shoot and get them their first big game animal. However, the Women's Antelope Hunt put on by the Wyoming Women's Foundation is a fundraising event and to say that the money raised goes back to wildlife would be a wild misrepresentation at best. There are also two distinct differences between the Women's Hunt and the One Shot that should be noted. First, from discussion with the organizers and testimony, the Women's Hunt only needs 0-5 licenses to cover all their participants. Second, the hunt is conducted on private lands not accessible to the public for hunting. This means that the small number of tags issued for use on private land is arguably having no effect on hunting opportunity on public land. The one-shot in contrast needs 24 (they want 80) tags all of which are used on public land.

The licenses should also be restricted to those necessary for the actual hunt. Currently the one shot only uses about 24 tags for the actual hunt, the other 56 tags which they have received year in and year out without fail go to the past shooters. That is anyone who has participated in the hunt in years past can get on

a list and get one of the leftover tags to be used the same as any other tag for the balance of the season.

I would urge the Commission to not vote to adopt the rules as written and further instruct Department staff to rework the rule. Because the commission was not instructed to give the licenses to certain groups it becomes a matter of policy which groups should receive the licenses. I am aware that the Commissions enabling statutes state that the Commission is responsible for establishing policy for the Department. Given that the legislature did not provide any framework to guide this decision, it is up to the Commission to come up with the framework.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my comments.

Joe Scott

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Scott". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J" and a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 44, Regulation for Issuance of Licenses

1 I am opposed to any hunting or trapping of wolves

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**Final Comment**                      **Bartlett , Heather**                      **Bonnors Ferry , ID**                      4/22/2018 8:29:00 PM

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2 Considering the amount of time women have been excluded from participating in the One-Shot - except as helpers, and that the Women's Antelope Hunt has already been going on without equal footing for a while, it is high time to equalize the opportunity for women hunters in the Equality State. I, for one, have never participated in any way in the One-Shot due to it being open exclusively to mal. I support the new regulation so long as each side loses license equally if sound game management dictates an overall reduction in licenses for these events. But frankly, I would have preferred to not see gender-specific hunting events, but rather inclusive hunting events that focused on the hunter, not the gender.

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**Final Comment**                      **Murdock, Marcia**                      **Lander, WY**                      4/23/2018 8:22:00 PM

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3 Wyoming is an awful place for wildlife. Hunting wolves is on 365 days a year across 85% of the state, where wolves are classified as shoot-on-sight vermin. Guns, snares, explosives, trucks, and snowmobiles - almost any form of violence is allowed to kill these animals. These are Barbaric methods of cruelty in killing innocent wildlife. It's the 21st century. Is this what wildlife "management" should look like in our time?" please reconsider changing your methods. thank you in advance

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**Final Comment**                      **Gallager, jill**                      **Franklin Lakes , NJ**                      4/24/2018 6:07:00 AM

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4 The SET ASIDE licenses for the One Shot club and the Womens antelope hunt are a bad idea. There should be no set aside licenses for anyone. 160 licenses are a significant amount of tags that should go to resident and nonresident hunters on an equal basis in the Drawing. This opinion is shared by quite a few people on the Eastman's hunting Journal forum, and others. These set asides are just not fair.

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**Final Comment**                      **konen, james**                      **casper, WY**                      4/25/2018 6:17:00 PM

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5 I am writing to express my opinion about the licenses currently given to the one shot antelope Association and the propose "Women's antelope hunt".First of all the Supreme Court has stated that the doctrine of "separate but equal" is unconstitutional. The One Shot is a men's only club. That alone should disqualify them from receiving licenses intened for the general public, irrigrardless of whether they are resident or on resident pool licenses. I would have no problem giving them team licenses if they would allow women. Secondly, there are the licenses they are given for past shooters. The organization has taken advantage of the game and fish generosity. I personally know of one past shooter who bragged that he had gotten an antelope license for four years in a row to a taxidermist. The average time frame for a Non resident in area 64 is about 10 years between licenses. The one shot has abused their use of permits. I recommend that the G&F only give licenses to the Normal teams and refuse to allow any more past shooter licenses. They should also stipulate that women must be allowed to participate.

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**Final Comment**                      **Lechner, Richard**                      **Lander, WY**                      4/26/2018 7:13:00 AM

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6 In regards to the Women's Antelope hunt, I would like to see them get tags allocated in a premium area also. The One Shot Hunt gets tags in very hard to draw areas with great access, why not give the women the same opportunities, or will we have to raise a public stink about that too ? We are the Equality State but it's hard to see sometime. In all honesty I would rather see not tags given to either hunt, give them back to the public where they belong.

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**Final Comment**                      **Bartush, Pam**                      **Laramie, WY**                      4/26/2018 10:25:00 AM

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7 As an avid fly fisherman I have been purchasing season, non-resident fishing licenses for WY for years. I also do this for UT and MT. I also stay in numerous camping grounds with fees. I am also a senior (65 or over). I find the costs of the annual non-res license prohibitive and the cost of campgrounds (e.g., campground on the Wind river in the canyon (Native American)) expensive too. MT does not change for state campsites until MAY. I spend 3 months every year in WY (and MT) which means I am spending money in local markets, gas stations, etc. I would like to request a statewide reduction for non resident annual

**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 44, Regulation for Issuance of Licenses**

fishing licenses and campground site fees for seniors. Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know your thoughts. Sincerely, Tim Field

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Field, Tim</b>	<b>Encinitas, CA</b>	<b>4/26/2018 5:32:00 PM</b>
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**8** Hello, I visit Wyoming every year and spend thousands of dollars annually in your great State. I respect your right to manage wildlife as you see fit but urge you to modify the hunt and reduce the number of grizzlies in this year's hunt. A big part of what keeps me coming back to Wyoming is the largely intact ecosystem that is present particularly in the Northwestern corner of the state. Arguably it is the last intact ecosystem in the Lower 48. I recognize the central role that apex predators play in any healthy ecosystem and urge you to reduce the overall hunt cap, prohibit the use of bait piles, disallow taking female grizzlies, and enforce the rules with severe penalties for noncompliance. I understand that apex predators can and do cause difficulties as we coexist with them- however I believe that they add a good deal more than they detract and are a cornerstone of maintaining healthy wild lands. I'm a resident of Northern California, and a rancher who loves living in a place where there are mountain lions. It's not to say there aren't difficulties but there is a thrill, a beauty and a real sense of pride that comes from coexisting with powerful beasts. I wish that the wolves and grizzlies that existed in my state prior to 1924 were here but unfortunately they were hunted to extinction. Wyoming has an opportunity to maintain a strong grizzly population which can help with the management of the state's massive ungulate populations whose overall health is ultimately served through maintaining a diverse breeding population of predators. Hunting -managed correctly can and should help. So too should our nations great predatory animals. I respectfully ask you to take action to ensure their sustained existence for the benefit of the ecosystem and as a symbol of our nations strength. Sincerely, Mark X. Wentworth Rancher

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Wentworth, Mark</b>	<b>Elk, CA</b>	<b>4/29/2018 10:08:00 PM</b>
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**9** Please stop the cruel hunting of bears and other wildlife Wyoming needs to protect the wildlife as it is part of its heritage and these practices are outdated and not fitting for a modern progressive state

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>rawlinson, andy</b>	<b>southport,</b>	<b>4/30/2018 7:54:00 AM</b>
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**10** I strongly urge adoption of the proposed amendments to Sec 44 authorizing 80 antelope permits to the Wyoming Women's Antelope Hunt. This regulation is completely consistent with the legislative intent of Senate File 3 that was passed by the legislature with a wide and signed by Governor Mean. Over the five years since the hunt's beginning, it has recruited and educated new hunters, inspired many women to self-sufficiency, provided economic stimulus to Johnson County, and raised Wyoming's profile nationally. These licenses are critical to the hunt's future success.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Kite, Marilyn</b>	<b>Laraie, WY</b>	<b>4/30/2018 1:13:00 PM</b>
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**11** My comments are in support of the changes to Chapter 44 Regulation designating licenses for the Wyoming Women's Antelope Hunt. The Hunt is on-of-a-kind, focusing on giving women a chance to mentor each other in a truly Wyoming sport, teaching patience, determination, and skills to help women provide for their families and mentor another generation of female hunters in the equality state. In order to continue, the Hunt needs to be able to purchase licenses within a reasonable distance of the Ranch at Ucross. The Hunt and its hunters purchase the licenses, so there is no cost to the state. The purpose of the legislation was to provide for licenses for the Women's Hunt, after two years of staff and hunt committee members working with the committee to bring this legislation forward. Thank you for considering my comments and for your support of such an important hunt for women in Wyoming.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Gee, Alison</b>	<b>Gillette, WY</b>	<b>4/30/2018 2:33:00 PM</b>
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**12** Please approve the changes to Chapter 44 regulations. I support these licenses going to Wyoming Women's Antelope Hunt. Thank you to Governor Mead, the Wyoming Legislature, and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department for their support of this great event. The hunt provides many benefits to the state of Wyoming by teaching conservation and ethical hunting practices and outdoor skills to women, as well as recruiting many new hunters and retaining experienced hunters. The hunt needs the ability to purchase licenses to be certain they can continue offering these benefits. THE WOMEN'S ANTELOPE HUNT WILL

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 44, Regulation for Issuance of Licenses

PURCHASE THESE LICENSES, and at no time will the regulation change cost the state any fiscal impact. There intent was to have teh licenses be for the Wyoming Women's Antelope Hunt.

**Final Comment**                      **Thomas, Glenda**                      **Casper, WY**                      4/30/2018 2:51:00 PM

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**13** To Whom It May Concern: Allow me to express my whole-hearted support for the regulation designating hunting licenses for the one shot Women's antelope hunt. My wife and I support the Women's Foundation and the great work it does. My wife is a past President. I supported Shelley's bill. We support the hunt, and hope that the regulation designating these licenses is enacted. The event merits the on going support. Regards, Dave Kinsky

**Final Comment**                      **KINSKEY, DAVE**                      **SHERIDAN, WY**                      5/1/2018 10:11:00 AM

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**14** Sirs, I would like to go on record as being AGAINST the issuing of additional antelope (or any other big game permits) so some organization can have a big party, select their own hunters and raise money for themselves only! Also, by doing this, you are depriving the young and maybe needy who would actually like to hunt antelope. How many youth and elderly that can still hunt a game animal such as antelope are being deprived? About 80? 160? Plans to add even more? I am totally against setting aside and taking away permits from ordinary hunters and giving/making them available to some club for a party! Sincerely, Ron Collins

**Final Comment**                      **Collins, Ron**                      **Riverton, WY**                      5/3/2018 11:05:00 AM

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**15** Stop issuing hunting licenses. Make Wyoming a animal-safe state.

**Final Comment**                      **Gurevich, M**                      **Winter Park, FL**                      5/5/2018 2:15:00 PM

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**16** I am happy to see the list of places to seine minnows in 5a may be expanded. I would like to see Horse Creek added to the list of proposed additions. I'm not sure where the starting point would be, but either from the point where water is pulled to fill Hawk Springs Reservoir or maybe from the Laramie/Goshen county line downstream to the Wyoming/Nebraska state line. Thank You!

**Final Comment**                      **Peck, Larry**                      **Torrington, WY**                      5/8/2018 9:18:00 PM

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**17** I attended the public hearing in Douglas at 6 p.m. on May 15 and want to express my support for the changes to Chapter 44 Regulation regarding the license sales being designated for the Wyoming Women's Antelope Hunt. Since this event started, it has contributed many benefits to the State of Wyoming by focusing on teaching conservation, ethical hunting practices and outdoor skills to women. In addition, it has cast a very positive light on Wyoming and raised significant funds to support causes important to Wyoming women, girls and families.

**Final Comment**                      **Harrop, Diane**                      **Douglas, WY**                      5/16/2018 9:42:00 AM

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**18** exempting what are essentially set aside antelope licenses from other regulations limiting the number of licenses one person can receive is wrong. People receiving these 160 licenses should have to follow the same rules as everyone else.

**Final Comment**                      **Hunzie, Mike**                      **Diamondville, WY**                      5/18/2018 12:13:00 PM

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**19** What are essentially "set aside" antelope licenses should not be exempt from provisions limiting the number of big game licenses an individual can obtain in one calendar year. It's not fair to everyone else who has to follow the rules.

**Final Comment**                      **Hunzie, Mike**                      **Diamondville, WY**                      5/18/2018 1:13:00 PM

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**20** please do NOT raise the number of no resident big game tags, leave it at 16%, that would be take away from us locals, we pay taxes here and live here, if they don't like it they should move here.

**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 44, Regulation for Issuance of Licenses**

**Final Comment**

**cooper, jay**

**sundance , WA**

**5/24/2018 11:27:00 PM**

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## CHAPTER 44

### REGULATION FOR ISSUANCE OF LICENSES, PERMITS, STAMPS, TAGS, PREFERENCE POINTS AND COMPETITIVE RAFFLE CHANCES

**Section 1. Authority.** This regulation is promulgated by authority of Wyoming Statutes § 6-7-101, § 20-6-112, § 23-1-107, § 23-1-302, § 23-1-702, § 23-1-703, § 23-1-704, § 23-1-705, § 23-2-101, § 23-2-102, § 23-2-107, § 23-2-109, § 23-2-201, § 23-2-207, § 23-2-301, § 23-2-306, § 23-2-307, § 23-2-401 and § 23-3-403, § 23-6-301 through § 23-6-303.

**Section 2. Regulation.** The Commission authorizes the Department to issue licenses, permits, stamps, tags, preference points and competitive raffle chances, and to develop and maintain policies, processes and procedures necessary to carry out the provisions of this Chapter. The Commission hereby adopts the following regulation governing the issuance of licenses. This regulation shall remain in effect until modified or repealed by the Commission.

**Section 3. Definitions.** For the purpose of this regulation, definitions shall be as set forth in Title 23, Wyoming Statutes, Commission regulations and the Commission also adopts the following definitions:

(a) “Application Fee” means a fee authorized by the Legislature enabling the Department to recover a portion of its costs associated with compensating owners or lessees of property damaged by game animals and game birds. In addition, the application fee is used by the Department to recover costs associated with license issuance. This fee is nonrefundable.

(b) “Charitable Purpose” means motivated by sympathy and understanding and generosity and done without any remuneration.

(c) “Commissioner Complimentary License” means an antelope, deer or elk license issued at the existing statutory price at the request of a Commissioner.

(d) “Completed Application” means all required portions of the application have been properly completed with correct applicant information, submitted within the proper time period and accompanied by the proper fee. A completed application includes the applicant’s name, physical address, mailing address if different than the physical address, date of birth, physical description (height, weight, eyes, hair and sex), telephone number or email address, years of residency and proof of residency for resident fee types, Social Security Number (SSN), Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN) or Passport Number from non-U.S. citizens, desired valid hunting license specifications, and an original signature for residents submitting paper applications. Completed application specifications refer to licenses sold through the Electronic Licensing Service (ELS) and manually issued licenses and permits.

(e) “Disabilities” as used in this Chapter means permanent anatomical, physiological or mental deficiencies that prevent or restrict normal achievement.

(f) “Document” means an instrument on which information has been recorded by means of letters, figures, or marks and which may be used as evidence.

(g) “Documentary Evidence” means evidence furnished by written instruments, inscriptions, or documents of all kinds.

(h) “Duplicate License” means a license issued by the Department to replace an original license that is valid and has not expired and has been lost or destroyed. If the original license was issued through the Electronic Licensing Service (ELS), a duplicate license shall only be required if the original license contained a carcass coupon; otherwise, a replacement license may be issued.

(i) “Electronic Application” means the license or permit application form submitted through the Electronic Licensing Service (ELS).

(j) “Electronic Licensing Service (ELS)” means the Department’s Electronic Draw Application System, Internet Point of Sale System and Online Internet Sales System used by the Department, license selling agents and the public to apply for or purchase licenses, permits, stamps, tags and preference points.

(k) “Electronic Signature” means an electronic process attached to or logically associated with any electronic transaction including the license or permit application submitted to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department that requires substantiation of the identity of the person initiating the electronic transaction. This process includes, but may not be limited to, use of personal credentials to gain access to the system, entering a keystroke at a specified prompt that indicates the submitter’s acceptance of an assertive statement, or the use of any other technology that is in compliance with the state of Wyoming’s Electronic Signature Rules as promulgated by the Office of the Chief Information Officer. This process can be used to indicate the applicant’s acceptance of an assertion such as a residency requirement or veracity of the application at a specified prompt. Ref: W.S. § 40-21-102 (a) (viii).

(l) “Full Price License” means a deer, antelope, elk, mountain lion or ram bighorn sheep license issued that is not a reduced price doe/fawn, cow/calf, ewe/lamb or mountain lion license.

(m) “Full Time” means performing duties and responsibilities at the request or direction of an established charitable, humanitarian, or religious organization for more than thirty (30) hours per calendar week every week the person is absent from the state.

(n) “General Licenses” means big or trophy game or wild turkey licenses valid in any hunt area in which licenses have not been totally limited in number. General licenses shall be valid only under species, sex, age class, and harvest limitations that are in effect for each hunt area.

(o) “Governor Complimentary License” means hunting or fishing license issued for no fee at the request of the Governor.

(p) “Gunpowder or Buckskin Hunt” means the annual Gunpowder and Buckskin Hunt conducted by the Sheridan, Wyoming Rotary Club.

(q) “Headquarters” means the Cheyenne Office of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department located at 5400 Bishop Blvd., Cheyenne, WY 82006.

(r) “Humanitarian Purpose” means for the promotion of human welfare and the advancement of social reforms and done without remuneration.

(s) “Immediate Family Member of the Decedent” means spouse, parent, grandparent, sibling or lineal descendants and their spouses.

(t) “Initial Drawing” means a computer processed drawing held for initial offering of resident and nonresident licenses and permits.

(u) “Issue-After License” means licenses that are limited in number and that were not issued in the initial or leftover drawings; these licenses shall be issued on an as processed basis through the ELS.

(v) “Landowner” means an individual, partnership, corporation, trust, limited liability company or combination of these, which either owns real property in fee simple title or is acquiring equitable interest by written contract.

(w) “Landowner Applicant” means an individual who either owns real property solely or jointly with other individuals or who holds an interest in a corporation, partnership, trust or limited liability company, which owns real property or is a member of the “immediate family” of the individual.

(x) “Landowner Applicant’s Immediate Family” means the landowner applicant’s spouse, landowner applicant’s parents, landowner applicant’s grandparents, landowner applicant’s lineal descendants and their spouses, or landowner applicant’s siblings.

(y) “Leftover Drawing” means a computer processed random drawing to issue licenses remaining after the initial drawings.

(z) “Leftover Licenses” means limited quota licenses and nonresident region general deer licenses issued in the leftover drawing.

(aa) “Leftover Permits” means permits that are limited in number and were not issued in the initial drawing and shall be issued on an as processed basis through the ELS.

(bb) “License” means a document issued by the Department, through the authority of the Commission, to a qualified individual that grants certain privileges to take fish or wildlife in accordance with statutory or regulatory provisions.

(cc) “License Authorization” means a document approved by the Governor or by a member of the Commission that empowers the Department to issue a Governor complimentary or Commissioner complimentary license in the name of the applicant designated on the document.

(dd) “License Review Board” means a three (3) member board of Department employees consisting of the Deputy Director of Internal Operations, the Fiscal Division Chief and the Chief Game Warden, or their designee, that review and determine all license reservation requests, license refund requests, preference point issues and other license or permit issuance matters.

(ee) “Limited Quota Drawing” means the processing of an application for limited quota or general big game licenses, trophy game licenses, wild turkey licenses, permits, wild bison licenses or Super Tag and Super Tag Trifecta competitive raffles through a drawing.

(ff) “Limited Quota Licenses” means licenses that are limited in number and valid only in a hunt area(s) or portion(s) of a hunt area. Limited quota licenses shall be valid only under species, sex, age class, harvest, and weapon type limitations that are in effect for each hunt area.

(gg) “Limited Quota Reduced Price Cow or Calf (cow/calf) License” means a license which may be authorized in specific hunt areas allowing a person to take cow or calf elk independent of what may be taken on a general license or full priced limited quota license.

(hh) “Limited Quota Reduced Price Doe or Fawn (doe/fawn) License” means a license which may be authorized in specific hunt areas allowing a person to take doe or fawn animals independent of what may be taken on a general license or full priced limited quota license.

(ii) “Limited Quota Reduced Price Ewe or Lamb (ewe/lamb) License” means a license which may be authorized in specific hunt areas allowing a person to take a ewe or lamb bighorn sheep independent of what may be taken on a full priced limited quota license.

(jj) “Minor Dependent” means an individual less than eighteen (18) years of age who is domiciled with parent(s) or legal guardian.

(kk) “National Bow Hunt” means an archery-only hunt that is sponsored and administered by the Wyoming National Bowhunt, Inc.

(ll) “Nonprofit Charitable Organization” means an organization which engages in activities providing the general public with benefits designed to aid in educational, moral, physical, conservation, or social improvement and which is not established for profit.

(mm) “Nonprofit Organization Dedicated to Providing Hunting Opportunities to Individuals with Disabilities” means an organization certifying they are nonprofit and that their primary purpose or mission as stated in their charter is to provide hunting opportunities to individuals with disabilities defined in this regulation.

(nn) “Nonresident” means any person who is not domiciled in Wyoming for at least one (1) year immediately preceding making application for a license and who is not a resident as defined by W.S. § 23-1-102 (a) (ix), § 23-1-107 and § 23-2-101 (a).

(oo) “One-Shot Antelope Hunt” means the One-Shot Antelope Hunt sponsored by the One-Shot Antelope Club in Lander, Wyoming.

(pp) “Party” means a group of individuals with the same residency status who apply together in the initial drawing for hunting licenses for the same species, area and type, and who have expectations of receiving the same treatment in processing of their applications and receiving the same drawing results. For purposes of this regulation, a Party does not include anyone else, regardless of whether or not they may accompany the party of hunters during the hunt.

(qq) “Party Application” means a group of applications in which all applicants with the same residency status specify the same species, hunt area and type in the same order of preference, and all applicants expect the same processing and draw results in the initial drawing.

(rr) “Permit” means a document that authorizes a license holder to carry out activities not authorized by the license itself.

(ss) “Person’s Privilege to Obtain a License Has Been Revoked or Suspended by a Court or the Wildlife Violator Compact” means revocation or suspension of the person’s license or preference point(s).

(tt) “Pioneer Heritage Licenses” means antelope, deer, elk or wild turkey licenses issued to Wyoming residents who are at least seventy (70) years of age prior to the issuance of the license and have continuously resided in Wyoming for at least fifty (50) years immediately preceding application for the license. The fee for the Heritage License shall be established by the Department by multiplying the fee for resident licenses for the same species and license type by sixty-five percent (65%) and rounding down to the next whole dollar amount.

(uu) “Pioneer Licenses” means antelope, deer, elk or wild turkey licenses issued to Wyoming residents who are at least seventy-five (75) years of age prior to the issuance of the license, and who have continuously resided in Wyoming for at least fifty (50) years immediately preceding the application for a license.

(vv) “Potential to Use License” means the license shall be considered to be in possession of the person in whose name it was issued on or after the earliest opening date for which the license is valid if the license is not in the possession of an authorized Department employee.

(ww) “Processing Fee” means a fee established by the Department to cover extra costs associated with withdrawing an application from a drawing.

(xx) “Proper Application Form” means the document prescribed by the Department, a photocopy of the document, or facsimile of the document. These documents shall be the only documents accepted by the Department.

(yy) “Properly Completed Duplicate License Affidavit” means a Department affidavit document signed by the person applying for a duplicate license.

(zz) “Proper Fee” means cash or a negotiable instrument as set forth by W.S. § 34.1-3-104 which results in full payment to the Department, in U.S. dollars for the amount specified by law or regulation for the respective licenses, permits, stamps, tags, preference points or certificates.

(aaa) “Qualified Person” means an individual who meets the statutory and regulatory requirements to apply for or receive a license or a preference point. A person shall not be qualified if their privilege to apply for or receive a license or a preference point has been revoked, suspended, or restricted by a court in Wyoming or has been revoked or suspended in Wyoming through the Wildlife Violator Compact.

(bbb) “Quota” means the maximum specified number of licenses to be issued for a given hunt area and species as provided by Commission regulation; in the case of nonresident elk hunt area quotas, the maximum number of specified licenses to be issued by hunt area as provided in writing by the Wildlife Division to the Fiscal Division.

(ccc) “Reduced Price Mountain Lion License” means a license which may be authorized in specific hunt areas allowing a person to take a mountain lion in addition to what may be taken on a full price mountain lion license.

(ddd) “Region General Deer Licenses” means general nonresident deer licenses that shall be limited in number and valid for a specified group of hunt areas in accordance with Commission regulations. A license issued for a region shall only be valid in hunt areas within the region where limitations in Commission regulations specify general licenses. A license issued for a region shall not be valid in any hunt area within that region in which licenses are totally limited in quota, unless specified by Commission regulations.

(eee) “Religious Purpose” means actions taken to advance sacred matters, religion or a church and done without remuneration.

(fff) “Replacement License” means the reprint of a license, permit, or stamp that does not contain a carcass coupon and the license was originally issued by the Department or license selling agent through the ELS, is currently valid and has not expired.

(ggg) “Resident” means a United States citizen or legal alien who is domiciled in Wyoming for at least one (1) full year immediately preceding making application for any resident game and fish license, preference point, permit or tag, shall not have claimed residency in any other state, territory, or country for any other purpose during that one (1) year period, and meets the requirements specified in W.S. § 23-1-102, § 23-1-107 and § 23-2-101 (a).

(hhh) “Special Nonresident Antelope, Deer or Elk Licenses” means those licenses having a fee greater than that of a regular nonresident antelope, deer or elk license as defined in Wyoming Statute and which the statutes provide for a separate nonresident drawing with specific percentages of nonresident quotas designated for only those applicants paying the higher license fees.

(iii) “Sportsperson Identification Number” means the unique number assigned by the Department to each individual license applicant on the ELS.

(jjj) “Super Tag License” means a species specific big game, trophy game or wild bison license issued to the winner of the competitive raffle and upon submission of the proper fee for the appropriate species license set forth by statute.

(kkk) “Super Tag Trifecta Licenses” means a combination of big game, trophy game and wild bison licenses, not to exceed three (3) different species of big game, trophy game and wild bison licenses, issued to the winner of the competitive raffle and upon submission of the proper fee for the appropriate species license set forth by statute.

(III) “Transfer” means to convey a license authorization, (from one (1) person to another) as set forth in Section 27 of this regulation.

(mmm)“Type” means a limitation on a license in a particular hunt area for the sex of animal, the species of animal, the length of the season, the type of weapon, or a portion of the hunt area in which the license shall be valid.

(nnn) “Unable to Use the License For Good Cause” means an individual is unable to use a limited quota, full price big or trophy game license due to disabling injury or illness, military personnel who receive permanent change of station (PCS) orders or are assigned away from their home duty station on temporary orders (TDY) for the majority of the regular season, or when the Department has determined a majority of, or the entire hunting opportunity has been lost in a specific limited quota hunt area for a full price big or trophy game animal due to the administrative actions of the state or federal government in closing the majority of or all public access to a hunt area, or due to a natural disaster, including, but not necessarily limited to, wildland fires.

(ooo) “Under the Care and Supervision of the Residing Facility” means the person is an employee of the appropriate institution or facility that issued the special limited fishing permit.

(ppp) “Unlimited Reduced Price Cow or Calf (cow/calf) License” means a license which may be authorized in specific hunt areas allowing a person to take cow or calf elk independent of what may be taken on a general license or full price limited quota license.

(qqq) “Unlimited Reduced Price Doe or Fawn (doe/fawn) License” means a license which may be authorized in specific areas allowing a person to take doe or fawn animals independent of what may be taken on a general license or full price limited quota license.

(rrr) “Wyoming Women’s Antelope Hunt” means a women’s antelope hunt sponsored by the Wyoming Women’s Foundation.

(sss) “Youth License” means a big game license that may be issued to a resident or nonresident individual who is at least eleven (11) years of age and who has not attained eighteen (18) years of age at the time of application. The license shall not be valid until the licensee reaches their twelfth (12th) birthday. For all other species, excluding furbearing animals, requiring a license to take, youth license means a license that may be issued to a resident or nonresident individual who has not attained eighteen (18) years of age. For a resident youth trapping license, youth license means a license that may be issued only to residents under the age of seventeen (17).

**Section 4. Method of License Issuance and Accounting.** The Fiscal Division shall maintain inventory control and account for the issuance and sale of all licenses, permits, stamps and tags issued under the authority of the Commission. All licenses, permits and tags shall be issued on the basis of a completed application. Applications may be in the form of a separate document or may be incorporated into and considered as part of the license document.

(a) Licenses issued over-the-counter. All licenses that are not limited in number shall be issued by the Department through designated Department personnel and facilities or designated license selling agents.

(b) Licenses issued through competitive drawings. Except as provided in this Chapter, all licenses and permits that are limited in number shall be issued through competitive drawings conducted by the Department’s License Section. Entry into the drawing for a limited quota license or permit shall be upon submission of a completed application.

(c) Commercial license issuance. All commercial licenses shall be issued by the Department’s License Section at Headquarters, by designated Department personnel or at facilities in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations.

(d) Licenses issued after initial or leftover drawings. Licenses remaining after the initial or leftover drawings shall be sold through the ELS and on a first-come, first-served basis.



(e) Depredation license issuance. Depredation licenses may be issued at designated Department locations when additional harvest is needed as determined by the Wildlife Division.

### **Section 5. License Issuance.**

(a) In circumstances where the demand for a particular type of license exceeds the supply, a competitive drawing shall be held when feasible to determine successful applicants.

(b) The Department shall only issue licenses in excess of established quotas in the following circumstances:

(i) To accommodate a successful party application in a limited quota drawing;

(ii) To process a Commissioner or Governor license authorization;

(iii) Upon authorization by the License Review Board to resolve a Department license issuance error; or,

(iv) As provided by Commission regulation.

(c) To establish the number of licenses available for the leftover drawing, the Department may continue alternately running the unsuccessful applicants of each resident and nonresident drawing until there are no unissued licenses or permits for which there are unsuccessful applications.

(d) License selling agents shall comply with the following procedures for the sale of limited quota full and reduced price issue-after licenses.

(i) License selling agents shall not sell or allocate licenses prior to the date and time established annually by the Fiscal Division Chief.

(ii) All applications for resident licenses and permits shall contain the resident applicant's original or electronic signature and when applicable, the parent or legal guardian's signature in accordance with Wyoming statute. Applications for youth licenses and permits may contain a signature from the youth's parent or legal guardian in lieu of the youth applicant's signature. All applications for nonresident licenses and permits shall contain either the nonresident applicant's signature or the signature of the person submitting the application on behalf of the nonresident applicant; and,

(A) In the event the license is issued through the ELS, the resident licensee shall be present at the license selling agent location to purchase the license. The parent or legal guardian of a resident youth applicant shall be present at the license selling agent location to purchase a license for the resident youth applicant.

(iii) License selling agents and the ELS shall only issue licenses to one customer at a time, first-come, first-served in the order the individuals are present in line. The agent may issue up to the maximum number of licenses specified by Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation to a single individual who provides the required information for license issuance.

(e) Big Game Licenses. No individual shall apply for or receive more than one (1) license for each big game species during any one (1) calendar year, except as otherwise provided in Commission regulation(s).

(i) Antelope. Eighty percent (80%) of the total available limited quota antelope licenses shall initially be offered to residents in the initial drawing. An applicant may only apply for and receive the maximum number of full price antelope licenses as specified in Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation. The order of the resident antelope initial drawings depicted in this section shall be Resident Landowner Licenses, then Resident Regular Licenses.

(A) Statutes provide for up to one hundred sixty (160) licenses to be available for up to two (2) antelope hunt events. These licenses shall be issued above quotas established for the hunt area(s) and shall be allocated to residents and nonresidents as designated by the Wildlife Division. These licenses are exempt from the provisions in this Chapter limiting the number of big game licenses an individual can obtain in one (1) calendar year.

(I) Up to eighty (80) antelope licenses shall be available for the One-Shot Antelope Hunt sponsored by the One-Shot Antelope Club.

(II) Up to eighty (80) antelope licenses shall be available for the Wyoming Women's Antelope Hunt sponsored by the Wyoming Women's Foundation.

(B) The Commission may, upon receipt of payment of antelope license fees as specified in W. S. § 23-1-705, issue up to a total of fifty (50) antelope licenses each year for the exclusive distribution by nonprofit organizations dedicated to providing hunting opportunities to individuals with disabilities.

(I) Qualifying organizations shall make application to the License Section of the Department on or before January 31 for the antelope licenses. The application shall specify:

- (1.) The total number of licenses requested; and,
- (2.) The Hunt Area and Type designation of the licenses requested; and,
- (3.) Certification that shows the organization qualifies under the definition of a "Nonprofit Organization Dedicated to Providing Hunting Opportunities to Individuals with Disabilities".

(II) In the event that more than one (1) qualifying organization requests licenses under this subsection, the Department shall allocate the licenses through a random drawing to the specific qualifying organization(s).

(III) The antelope licenses issued shall be issued through the Department above quotas established for the hunt area(s) and shall be allocated to residents or nonresidents as designated by the nonprofit organization(s).

(C) The order of the nonresident antelope initial drawing set forth in this section shall be Nonresident Landowner Licenses, Nonresident Special Licenses, then Nonresident Regular Licenses. The allocation of remaining licenses after the Landowner License Drawing shall be forty percent (40%) to the Nonresident Special License Drawing and sixty percent (60%) to the Nonresident Regular License Drawing.

(D) The Department shall allocate not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the available Special and Regular Nonresident antelope licenses to a preference point drawing in the initial drawing. The order of the nonresident antelope preference point drawing shall allow individual applicants with the highest number of preference points to be given a drawing advantage for the total number of available licenses to be issued in accordance with this section; then the applicants with the next highest number of preference points shall be selected, and so forth, until the quota has been filled for all first choice selections. The Department shall allocate up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the available nonresident antelope licenses to a random drawing in the initial drawing in which all unsuccessful applicants from the preference point drawing shall be placed. The preference point drawing advantage shall only apply to an applicant's first choice selection. All unsuccessful applicants in the preference point drawing shall participate in the respective random drawing for all remaining choices, giving no advantage to applicants with preference points.

(I) In addition to the restrictions set forth in Section 18 of this Chapter, party applications with a differing number of preference points among party members shall have preference points averaged and rounded out to four (4) decimal places.

(E) Antelope licenses that have not been applied for and issued through initial drawings or leftover drawings shall be offered to residents and nonresidents as issue-after licenses.

(F) Eighty percent (80%) of the total available limited quota reduced price doe/fawn antelope licenses shall be offered to residents in the initial drawing. An applicant may only apply for and receive the maximum number of reduced price doe/fawn antelope licenses as specified in Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation. Reduced price pioneer doe/fawn antelope licenses shall be made available through the ELS. In addition to the statutorily prescribed application fees, the price of reduced price doe/fawn antelope licenses shall be twenty-two dollars (\$22) for residents, fourteen dollars (\$14) for resident youth, two dollars (\$2) for resident pioneers, eighteen dollars (\$18) for pioneer heritage, thirty-four dollars (\$34) for nonresidents and nineteen dollars (\$19) for nonresident youth.

(ii) Bighorn Sheep. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the total available limited quota full price bighorn sheep licenses shall initially be offered to residents in the initial drawings. The Department shall allocate not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the available resident full price bighorn sheep licenses and not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the available nonresident full price bighorn sheep licenses to a preference point drawing in the initial drawing. The order of the resident and nonresident full price bighorn sheep preference point drawing shall allow individual applicants with the highest number of preference points to be given a drawing advantage for the total number of available licenses to be issued in accordance with this section; then the applicants with the next highest number of preference points shall be selected, and so forth, until the quota has been filled. The Department shall allocate up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the available resident full price bighorn sheep licenses and shall allocate up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the available nonresident full price bighorn sheep licenses to a random drawing in the initial drawing in which all unsuccessful applicants from the preference point drawing shall be placed.

(A) Seventy-five percent (75%) of the total available limited quota reduced price ewe/lamb licenses shall be offered to residents in the initial drawing, except as otherwise provided by Commission regulations. An applicant may only apply for and receive the maximum number of reduced price ewe/lamb licenses as specified in Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation. In addition to the statutorily prescribed application fees, the price of reduced price ewe/lamb licenses shall be thirty-six dollars (\$36) for residents, twenty dollars (\$20) for resident youth, two hundred forty dollars (\$240) for nonresidents and one hundred dollars (\$100) for nonresident youth.

(iii) Deer. Eighty percent (80%) of the total available limited quota deer licenses shall initially be offered to residents in the initial drawing. An applicant may only apply for and receive the maximum number of full price deer licenses as specified in Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation. The order of the resident deer initial drawings depicted in this section shall be Resident Landowner Licenses, then Resident Regular Licenses.

(A) The Commission shall annually establish the nonresident region general deer license quotas in addition to license quotas for limited quota hunt areas. Nonresident region general deer license quotas shall not include hunt areas with limited quota licenses issued to nonresidents.

(B) Statutes provide for up to seventy-five (75) nonresident special deer licenses to be available for a national bow hunt. This quota shall be deducted from the nonresident special deer quota for the nonresident deer region in which the national bow hunt is held. National bow hunt deer licenses shall only be valid during the hunt dates established by Wyoming National Bowhunt, Inc. and the Department. These dates shall be within the existing special archery season dates as set forth in the most current Commission Regulation Chapter 6 Deer Hunting Seasons of the Commission regulations for the specific deer hunt area(s) in which the hunt will occur.

(C) Statutes provide for up to twenty-five (25) licenses, which may be issued for a gunpowder or buckskin hunt(s). These licenses shall be issued above quotas and allocated to residents and nonresidents as designated by the Wildlife Division. These licenses are exempt from the provisions in this Chapter limiting the number of big game licenses an individual can obtain in one (1) calendar year.

(D) The order of the nonresident deer initial drawings described in this section shall be Nonresident Landowner Licenses, Nonresident Special Licenses, and then Nonresident Regular Licenses. The allocation of remaining licenses after the nonresident landowner drawing shall be forty percent (40%) to the Nonresident Special License Drawing and sixty percent (60%) to the Nonresident Regular License Drawing.

(E) The Department shall allocate not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the available Special and Regular Nonresident deer licenses to a preference point drawing in the initial drawing. The order of the nonresident deer preference point drawing shall allow individual applicants with the highest number of preference points to be given a drawing advantage for the total number of available licenses to be issued in accordance with this section; then the applicants with the next highest number of preference points shall be selected, and so forth, until the quota has been filled for all first choice selections. The Department shall allocate up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the available nonresident deer licenses to a random drawing in the initial drawing which unsuccessful applicants from the preference point drawing shall be placed. The preference point drawing advantage shall only apply to an applicant's first choice selection. Unsuccessful applicants in the preference point drawing shall participate in the respective random drawing for all remaining choices, giving no advantage to applicants with preference points.

(I) In addition to the restrictions set forth in Section 18 of this Chapter, party applications with differing number of preference points among party members shall have preference points averaged and rounded out to four (4) decimal places.

(F) Nonresident Region General deer licenses that have not been applied for and issued through the initial drawing and leftover drawing shall be offered to nonresidents as issue-after licenses.

(G) Limited quota deer licenses that have not been applied for and issued through the initial and leftover drawings shall be offered to residents and nonresidents as issue-after licenses.

(H) Eighty percent (80%) of the total available limited quota reduced price doe/fawn deer licenses shall be offered to residents in the initial drawing. An applicant may only apply for and receive the maximum number of reduced price doe/fawn deer licenses as specified in Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation. Reduced price pioneer doe/fawn deer licenses shall be made available for sale through the ELS. In addition to the statutorily prescribed application fees, the price of reduced price doe/fawn deer licenses shall be twenty-two dollars (\$22) for residents, fourteen dollars (\$14) for resident youth, two dollars (\$2) for resident

pioneers, eighteen dollars (\$18) for pioneer heritage, thirty-four dollars (\$34) for nonresidents and nineteen dollars (\$19) for nonresident youth.

(I) Resident general deer licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS. Resident general deer licenses may also be applied for and issued through the initial drawings by submission of a completed application.

(iv) Elk. A total license limit of seven thousand two hundred-fifty (7,250) nonresident elk licenses shall be made available to nonresident applicants in the initial drawing each year. Reduced price cow/calf elk licenses and limited quota elk licenses remaining after the initial drawing may be made available to nonresidents in addition to the limit of seven thousand two hundred fifty (7,250). Sixteen percent (16%) of the total available limited quota full price and reduced price cow/calf elk licenses shall initially be offered to nonresidents in the nonresident elk initial drawing. The order of the nonresident elk initial drawings described in this section shall be Nonresident Landowner Licenses, Nonresident Special Licenses, and then Nonresident Regular Licenses. Following the Nonresident Landowner License Drawing, licenses available in the initial drawing from the seven thousand two hundred-fifty (7,250) limit shall be allocated as follows: The allocation of remaining licenses after the nonresident landowner drawing shall be forty percent (40%) to the Nonresident Special License Drawing and sixty percent (60%) to the Nonresident Regular License Drawing. If the seven thousand two hundred-fifty (7,250) license quota is not issued in the initial nonresident drawings, the Department may achieve the seven thousand two hundred-fifty (7,250) license quota by issuing general elk licenses. Licenses remaining for limited quota areas resulting from this procedure may be made available in the resident elk initial drawing.

(A) The Department shall allocate not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the available Special and Regular Nonresident elk licenses to a preference point drawing in the initial drawing. The order of the nonresident elk preference point drawing shall allow individual applicants with the highest number of preference points to be given a drawing advantage for the total number of available licenses to be issued in accordance with this section; then the applicants with the next highest number of preference points shall be selected, and so forth, until the quota has been filled for all first choice selections. The Department shall allocate up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the available nonresident elk licenses to a random drawing in the initial drawing in which all unsuccessful applicants from the preference point drawing shall be placed. The preference point drawing advantage shall only apply to an applicant's first choice selection. All unsuccessful applicants in the preference point drawing shall participate in the respective random drawing for all remaining choices, giving no advantage to applicants with preference points.

(I) In addition to the restrictions set forth in Section 18 of this Chapter, party applications with differing number of preference points among party members shall have preference points averaged and rounded out to four (4) decimal places.

(B) Following the nonresident elk initial drawing, quotas for resident limited quota full priced and reduced price cow/calf elk licenses shall be the greater of the elk

quotas established by Commission regulation less any elk licenses currently issued to nonresidents or eighty-four (84%) percent of the quota established by Commission regulation in the initial drawing. The order of the resident elk initial drawings depicted in this section shall be Resident Landowner Licenses, then Resident Regular Licenses.

(C) Elk licenses that have not been applied for and issued through the initial and leftover drawings shall be offered to residents and nonresidents as issue-after licenses.

(D) An applicant may only apply for and receive the maximum number of full price antlerless and reduced price cow/calf elk licenses as specified in Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation. Reduced price pioneer cow/calf elk licenses shall be made available for sale through the ELS. In addition to the statutorily prescribed application fees, the price of reduced price cow/calf elk licenses shall be forty-three dollars (\$43) for residents, twenty dollars (\$20) for resident youth, five dollars (\$5) for resident pioneers, twenty-seven dollars (\$27) for pioneer heritage, two hundred eighty-eight dollars (\$288) for nonresidents and one hundred dollars (\$100) for nonresident youth.

(E) Resident general elk licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS. General elk licenses may also be applied for and issued through the initial drawings by submitting a completed application.

(v) Moose. Eighty percent (80%) of the total available limited quota moose licenses shall be offered to residents in the initial drawing. The Department shall allocate not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the available resident moose licenses and not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the available nonresident moose licenses to a preference point drawing in the initial drawing. The order of the resident and nonresident moose preference point drawing shall allow individual applicants with the highest number of preference points to be given a drawing advantage for the total number of available licenses to be issued in accordance with this Section; then, the applicants with the next highest number of preference points shall be selected, and so forth, until the quota has been filled. The Department shall allocate up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the available resident moose licenses and shall allocate up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the available nonresident moose licenses to a random drawing in the initial drawing in which all unsuccessful applicants from the preference point drawing shall be placed.

(vi) Mountain Goat. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the total available limited quota mountain goat licenses shall be offered to residents in the initial drawing.

(f) Trophy Game. No individual shall apply for or receive more than one (1) license for a specific trophy game species during any one (1) calendar year, except as otherwise provided in Commission regulation.

(i) Black Bear. Black bear licenses shall not be limited in number. They shall be issued through the ELS.

(ii) Gray Wolf. Gray wolf licenses shall not be limited in number. They shall be issued through the ELS.

(iii) Grizzly Bear. No licenses shall be issued for this species until such time as the Commission may establish an open grizzly bear hunting season.

(iv) Mountain Lion. Full price mountain lion licenses and reduced price mountain lion licenses shall not be limited in number. They shall be issued through the ELS. A person may apply for and receive a maximum of one (1) full price mountain lion license and one (1) reduced price mountain lion license during any one (1) calendar year. Reduced price mountain lion licenses are only valid in specified hunt areas. A person shall possess and exhibit a full price mountain lion license for the current calendar year in order to receive a reduced price mountain lion license for the same calendar year. The price of a reduced price mountain lion license shall be twenty dollars (\$20) for residents and ninety-two dollars (\$92) for nonresidents.

(g) Wild Bison. Eighty (80%) percent of the wild bison recreational hunting season licenses shall be initially offered to residents in the initial drawing. If the number of resident applicants for wild bison licenses does not meet or exceed the resident wild bison license allocation, the remaining resident allocation may be issued to nonresidents. If the number of nonresident applicants for wild bison does not meet or exceed the nonresident wild bison allocation, the remaining license allocation may be issued to residents.

(i) Completed applications for resident and nonresident wild bison recreational hunting season licenses shall only be accepted through the ELS. Applicants shall have the choice of applying for any wild bison or any female or calf wild bison. A computer random drawing shall be utilized to determine successful applicants.

(ii) Wild bison licenses that have not been applied for and issued through initial and leftover drawings shall be offered to residents and nonresidents as issue-after licenses.

(iii) Any person who is issued an any wild bison license and harvests;

(A) A bull wild bison shall not be eligible to apply for or receive an any wild bison license in any future year, but shall be eligible to apply for and receive a female or calf wild bison license in the immediately following year;

(B) A female or calf wild bison shall not be eligible to apply for or receive a female or calf wild bison license in the immediately following five (5) year period, but shall be eligible to apply for and receive an any wild bison license in the immediately following year.

(iv) Any person who is issued a female or calf wild bison license and harvests a female or calf wild bison shall not be eligible to apply for or receive an any wild bison license or a female or calf wild bison license in the immediately following five (5) year period.



(h) Bird.

(i) Falconry.

(A) Hunt with Falcon licenses shall be issued as over-the-counter licenses through the ELS.

(B) General Raptor Capture licenses shall be issued as over-the-counter licenses through the ELS at Headquarters. Limited Quota Raptor Capture licenses shall be issued in accordance with Commission Regulation Chapter 25 Falconry Regulation.

(ii) Game Bird. Game Bird licenses shall not be limited in number. They shall be issued as over-the-counter licenses through the ELS.

(iii) Wild Turkey. Eighty percent (80%) of the total available spring and fall limited quota wild turkey licenses shall be offered to residents in the initial drawing. The order of the initial drawings shall be resident landowner licenses, resident regular licenses, nonresident landowner licenses, and then nonresident regular licenses.

(A) Limited quota wild turkey licenses that have not been applied for and issued through the initial drawing shall be offered to residents and nonresidents as issue-after licenses.

(B) The Commission may authorize general wild turkey licenses, which shall not be limited in number. Those licenses shall be issued as over-the-counter licenses through the ELS. These licenses may also be applied for and issued through the initial drawing process.

(i) Small Game. Small Game licenses shall not be limited in number. They shall be issued as over-the-counter licenses through the ELS.

(j) Furbearing Animals.

(i) Trapping. Resident furbearing animal trapping licenses shall not be limited in number. They shall be issued as over-the-counter licenses through the ELS. Nonresident furbearing animal trapping licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued in accordance with W.S. § 23-2-303 at Headquarters.

(ii) Capture Furbearing Animal for Domestication. Capture Furbearing Animal for Domestication licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Headquarters.

(k) Archery. Archery licenses shall not be limited in number. They shall be issued as over-the-counter licenses through the ELS.

(l) Commercial Licenses. Commercial licenses require written approval by Department personnel prior to issuance.

(i) Commercial Fish Hatchery. Commercial Fish Hatchery licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Headquarters.

(ii) Deal in Live Bait. Deal in Live Bait licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Department Regional Offices and Headquarters.

(iii) Fishing Preserve. Fishing Preserve licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Headquarters.

(iv) Fur Dealer. Fur Dealer licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Headquarters.

(v) Game Bird Farm. Game Bird Farm licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Headquarters.

(vi) Taxidermist. Taxidermist licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Headquarters.

(m) Fishing. Fishing licenses shall not be limited in number. They shall be issued as over-the-counter licenses through the ELS.

(i) Seine or Trap Fish. Seine or Trap Fish licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Department Regional Offices and Headquarters. No person shall apply for or receive more than one (1) seine or trap fish license during a calendar year.

(n) Duplicate Licenses.

(i) In order for a duplicate license to be issued, a duplicate license affidavit shall be properly completed by the licensee.

(A) For a license, permit, stamp or tag that was originally issued through a manual process, the customer shall be required to purchase another license, permit, stamp or tag, rather than a duplicate license, as authorized by Commission regulation.

(B) For a license that was originally issued through the ELS, the license selling agent or sub-agent shall not be required to complete a duplicate license affidavit form prior to issuing a duplicate license as the affidavit is incorporated into the duplicate license document being issued through the ELS.

(ii) Duplicate licenses shall be issued through the ELS.

(iii) The Department and license selling agents shall charge a fee of seven dollars (\$7) for issuance of a duplicate license.

(iv) The Department shall not charge a fee for issuance of a duplicate license when the loss or destruction of the license is the fault of the Department or when an applicant does not receive a license which was mailed to the address on their application.

(o) Replacement Licenses.

(i) The completion of a duplicate license affidavit form shall not be required for the issuance of a replacement license.

(ii) The Department and license selling agents shall charge a fee of seven dollars (\$7) for the issuance of a replacement license issued through the ELS.

(p) Resident Guide Licenses shall be issued for no charge through the ELS at Department Regional Offices and Headquarters, and shall be issued manually through designated Department personnel.

#### **Section 6. Permits.**

(a) Sandhill Crane.

(i) Limited Quota Sandhill Crane. Applicants shall be selected by random computer selection. Twenty percent (20%) of the total available limited quota sandhill crane permits shall initially be offered to nonresidents in the initial drawing. Limited quota sandhill crane permits that have not been applied for and issued through the initial drawing shall be issued through the ELS on an as processed basis until quotas have been reached or the permit is no longer valid.

(ii) General Sandhill Crane. Permits shall not be limited in number and shall only be available through the Department's website beginning August 1.

(b) Disabled Hunter and Disabled Hunter Companion Permits. Any person qualified to obtain a disabled hunter permit or purchase a disabled hunter companion permit shall apply on the proper application form to the Department's License Section at Headquarters or Department Regional Offices.

(c) Hunters with a Shoot from a Vehicle Permit. Any person qualified to obtain a Shoot from a Vehicle Permit shall apply on the proper application form to the Department's License Section at Headquarters or Department Regional Offices.

(d) Hunting Season Extension Permit. Any person qualified to obtain a Hunting Season Extension Permit shall apply on the proper application form to the Department's License Section at Headquarters or Department Regional Offices.

(e) Migratory Game Bird.

(i) Harvest Information Permit. Harvest Information Permits shall not be limited in number and shall only be available through the Department's website.

(f) Furbearing Animal, Limited Quota Beaver and Marten.

(i) Applicants shall be selected by random computer drawing. Both residents and nonresidents shall draw against the same quota. Leftover permits may be issued to the first eligible applicant as authorized by the Fiscal Division Chief.

(g) Pheasant.

(i) Glendo Permit. Eighty percent (80%) of the total available limited quota Glendo pheasant permits shall be offered to residents in the initial drawing. Glendo pheasant permits that have not been applied for and issued through the initial drawing shall be issued as authorized by the Fiscal Division Chief on an as processed basis until quotas have been reached or the permit is no longer valid. No person shall apply for or receive more than one (1) Glendo Permit in the initial drawing.

(ii) Springer Permit. Eighty percent (80%) of the total available limited quota Springer pheasant permits shall be offered to residents in the initial drawing. Springer pheasant permits that are not applied for and issued through the initial drawing shall be issued at the Springer Check Station or as authorized by the Fiscal Division Chief until the quotas have been reached or the permit is no longer valid. No person shall apply for or receive more than one (1) Springer Permit in the initial drawing.

(h) Special Management Permit. Any individual participating in a special management program shall be required to purchase a Special Management Permit. Special Management Permits shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS.

(i) Special Limited Fishing Permit.

(i) Any institution, facility or school designated by the Department to issue Special Limited Fishing Permits to any person under the care and supervision of the institution, residing facility, or school as authorized in W.S. § 23-2-207 may issue such permits to fish in accordance with Commission Regulation Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations.

(ii) Special Limited Fishing Permits shall specify the following information:

(A) Name and date of birth of individual to whom the permit is issued;

(B) Calendar year for which the permit is valid;

(C) Name of institution, facility, or school issuing the permit; and,

(D) Name of the person employed by institution, facility, or school who issued the permit.

(iii) No person shall apply for or receive any permit under this section by false swearing, fraud or false statement of any kind or in any form.

(iv) Employees of institutions, facilities or schools as authorized in W.S. § 23-2-207 are not eligible to receive special limited fishing permits.

(v) Any institution, facility or school designated by the Department to issue special limited fishing permits shall submit an annual report to the Department's License Section. The report shall include the number of special limited fishing permits issued, the name of the institution, facility or school and any other required information as provided by the Department. Reports shall be due on or before January 31 following the reporting period year.

(j) Hunters with a Central Visual Acuity Disability Permit. Any person qualified to obtain a Central Visual Acuity Disability Permit shall apply on the proper application form to the Department's License Section at Headquarters or Department Regional Offices.

**Section 7. Tags.** Wyoming Interstate Game Tag. Wyoming Interstate Game Tags shall not be limited in number and shall be sold through Department Regional Offices, Headquarters, designated Department personnel, game tag distributors or their designees.

### **Section 8. Stamps.**

(a) Conservation Stamp. Conservation Stamps shall not be limited in number and shall be sold through the ELS and manually.

(i) Hunters or anglers acquiring a manually issued conservation stamp for the purpose set forth in W.S. § 23-2-306 shall validate the stamp by signing their name in ink in the space provided on the face of the stamp. Hunters or anglers who acquire a lifetime conservation stamp or a conservation stamp authorization through the ELS shall not be required to meet the signature provisions of this subsection.

(ii) The validated stamp, or the document exhibiting the stamp privilege, shall be in possession of any person required by W.S. § 23-2-306 to obtain a stamp if the person is engaged in the act of hunting or fishing and shall be immediately produced for inspection upon request from any Department personnel.

(b) Wildlife Damage Management Stamp. Wildlife Damage Management Stamps shall not be limited in number and shall be sold through the ELS. The price for the stamp shall be established by the Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board.

(c) Reciprocity Stamp. Reciprocal agreements provide for licensing for fishing of residents of Wyoming and adjoining states upon artificial impoundment of water forming the

boundary between Wyoming and adjoining states. Reciprocity stamps shall not be limited in number and shall be sold through the ELS.

**Section 9. Landowner Licenses.** Landowner licenses shall only be issued to those landowners who own land which provides habitat for antelope, deer, elk or wild turkeys and meets the requirements as set forth in this section. Any lands purchased or subdivided for the primary purpose of obtaining landowner licenses shall not be eligible for landowner licenses. The Wyoming Game and Fish Commission authorizes the issuance of landowner licenses in order to provide the opportunity for a landowner applicant or member of the landowner applicant's immediate family to hunt antelope, deer, elk or wild turkey on the landowner's property in the case where licenses for a hunt area have been limited in number and only available through a competitive drawing.

(a) In order to qualify for a license issued under this section, the deeded land qualifying the landowner applicant shall be located in the hunt area for which applied, shall consist of a minimum of one hundred sixty (160) contiguous acres and shall be utilized by the type of big game or wild turkeys for which the applicant applied to the extent the land provides food, cover and water. The landowner applicant shall demonstrate that the species of wildlife for which the license application has been made utilized the described land for a minimum of two thousand (2,000) days of use during the twelve (12) month period immediately preceding the date of application. In no case shall more than two (2) big game licenses per species or more than two (2) spring wild turkey or no more than two (2) fall wild turkey licenses be issued for a parcel of deeded land meeting the above qualifications in a calendar year.

(b) Resident or nonresident landowner applicants that own land in Wyoming or members of the landowner applicant's immediate family may be issued licenses upon application and payment of the specified fee. Licenses shall be issued to landowners without participating in a competitive drawing unless the number of landowner license applications exceeds the number of licenses authorized for the hunt area by the Commission. In such cases, a competitive drawing shall be utilized to determine successful landowner license applicants. Landowner license applications shall be drawn first in each respective resident and nonresident initial drawing and shall be drawn against the total quota available in each respective hunt area.

(c) As a condition of eligibility for licenses issued to landowners, landowner applicants shall provide on and with the application for a license issued to landowners, documentation that substantiates in which capacity the individual qualifies as a landowner applicant under the definition of a landowner applicant or landowner's immediate family in this Chapter. Documentation shall include the completion of the landowner license application form provided by the Department, and any attachments required by the Department to determine eligibility of the applicant. The Department shall consider the eligibility of the applicant based on the requirements in this regulation and documentation provided by the landowner. Applicants for landowner licenses shall be submitted to the game warden or the regional wildlife supervisor in whose geographic area of responsibility the land listed on the application occurs.

(d) In the case of resident license availability, no full price landowner licenses shall be authorized if hunting with a general license is allowed at any time during the hunting season, unless the general license is valid for antlerless deer or antlerless elk hunting only.

(e) In the case where a nonresident landowner qualifies for a landowner license in a hunt area where the current hunting season provides for both limited quota and general license hunting during the established hunting season for the species applied for, the nonresident landowner may apply as a nonresident applicant for either the limited quota license for the area in which the applicant is qualified, or a general license in the initial drawing. If the nonresident landowner is unsuccessful in obtaining a limited quota license in the nonresident drawing, the nonresident landowner may subsequently apply to the Department for the issuance of a general license.

(f) Landowner licenses shall be designated by the landowner and applied for by a landowner applicant, or a member of the landowner applicant's immediate family.

(i) An individual landowner applicant may apply for or receive:

(A) No more than one (1) full price elk and one (1) limited quota reduced price elk landowner license in a calendar year.

(B) No more than one (1) full price antelope or up to two (2) limited quota reduced price antelope landowner licenses in a calendar year.

(C) No more than one (1) full price deer or up to two (2) limited quota reduced price deer landowner licenses in a calendar year.

(D) No more than one (1) spring wild turkey landowner license and one (1) fall wild turkey landowner license in a calendar year.

(ii) A maximum of two (2) licenses for antelope, deer and elk may be allowed to a landowner applicant regardless of the number of landholdings in which the landowner applicant holds an interest.

(iii) Regardless of a change in ownership of a particular parcel of land, no more than two (2) landowner licenses for each big game species (antelope, deer, and elk) shall be issued in any calendar year on the basis of the qualification of the particular parcel.

(iv) Regardless of a change in ownership of a particular parcel of land, no more than two (2) spring wild turkey and two (2) fall wild turkey landowner licenses shall be issued in any calendar year on the basis of the qualification of the particular parcel.

(g) Landowners shall submit applications for landowner licenses as listed in Section 20 of this regulation.

**Section 10. Lifetime Licenses and Conservation Stamp.** Any resident qualified to purchase a lifetime fishing, lifetime archery or lifetime combination license pursuant to Wyoming statute may obtain a lifetime license from the Department's License Section at Headquarters or license selling locations as designated by the Fiscal Division Chief.

(a) Wyoming statute provides for a lifetime conservation stamp. Any person may purchase a lifetime conservation stamp from the Department's License Section at Headquarters or license selling locations as designated by the Fiscal Division Chief.

(b) Receiving a lifetime license grants the recipient the privilege of utilizing the license for his lifetime; however, the license shall not be construed as exercising resident hunting or fishing privileges in Wyoming when and if the person leaves the state of Wyoming.

**Section 11. Governor Complimentary Licenses.** Wyoming statutes provide for the issuance of complimentary licenses to be issued at the request of the Governor. Big game licenses authorized under this section shall be valid for the species for which the license has been issued.

(a) These licenses shall be valid in any hunt area in accordance with Commission regulations, except for the following:

(i) Complimentary moose licenses shall not be valid in any moose hunt area, which has a total quota of ten (10) or less antlered or any moose licenses.

(ii) Complimentary full price bighorn sheep licenses shall not be valid in any bighorn sheep hunt area that has a total quota of eight (8) or less full price bighorn sheep licenses.

(iii) Complimentary wild bison licenses shall not be valid in any wild bison hunt area which has a total quota of ten (10) or less any wild bison licenses.

(iv) Governor's Complimentary licenses shall not be valid within Grand Teton National Park.

(b) Holders of Governor Complimentary licenses shall be exempt from the provisions in this Chapter limiting the number of big game or wild bison licenses an individual can possess in any one (1) calendar year. An individual is eligible to receive a Governor Complimentary moose license, Governor Complimentary full price bighorn sheep license, and a Governor Complimentary wild bison license annually. Recipients shall be exempt from the five (5) year waiting period and preference points shall not be lost if an individual receives a Governor Complimentary moose or full price bighorn sheep license. Recipients shall be exempt from any restrictions related to wild bison licenses if an individual receives a Governor Complimentary wild bison license. Nonresident preference points shall not be lost if an individual receives a Governor Complimentary antelope, deer or elk license.



## **Section 12. Commissioner Complimentary Licenses.**

(a) Wyoming statutes provide that each appointed Commissioner may cause, through the issuance of license authorizations to nonprofit charitable organizations, to be issued at full price, complimentary antelope, deer or elk licenses.

(i) Once the commissioner complimentary license authorization has been auctioned or otherwise bid to the highest bidder or raffled to members of the public by the nonprofit charitable organization, the recipient of the license authorization may only transfer the license authorization to another person if no additional consideration above the bid or raffle price is paid by the transferee.

(ii) The recipient of the license authorization may donate the license authorization back to the nonprofit charitable organization that originally bid the license authorization to be rebid to a new highest bidder.

(iii) The Department shall issue the license in the name of the person who submits the authorization for license issuance.

(iv) All big game licenses authorized under this section are valid for a specific region or hunt area as designated by the applicant at the time of application. Commissioner Complimentary licenses shall not be valid within Grand Teton National Park.

(v) The specific region, or hunt area, or type shall not be changed following the issuance of the license by the Department.

(vi) As a condition to issuance of a Commissioner Complimentary license, the Department shall require an authorized officer of the recipient organization to certify under penalty of law that the respective organization is a nonprofit charitable organization as defined in this regulation and eligible to receive the Commissioner Complimentary license authorization.

(b) Holders of Commissioner Complimentary licenses shall be exempt from the provisions in this Chapter limiting the number of licenses an individual can possess in any one (1) calendar year. Nonresident recipients shall not lose preference points for receiving a Commissioner Complimentary antelope, deer or elk license.

## **Section 13. Commissioner Complimentary Licenses for Persons with Life Threatening Illnesses.**

(a) The Commission may, upon receipt of payment of the proper fee issue up to twenty-five (25) antelope licenses, twenty-five (25) deer licenses, twenty-five (25) elk licenses and twenty-five (25) turkey licenses to persons twenty (20) years of age or younger with a life-threatening illness and who is sponsored by a nonprofit charitable organization whose mission it is to provide opportunities and experiences to persons with life-threatening or serious illnesses. Licenses issued under this subsection shall be issued above quotas established for the hunt

area(s) by Commission regulation. However, no more than ten (10) limited quota antelope, ten (10) limited quota deer, ten (10) limited quota elk or ten (10) limited quota turkey licenses shall be issued for any one hunt area during the same calendar year.

(i) The sponsoring organization shall submit a request for the number of licenses and species requested on or before January 31 for antelope, deer, elk, spring and fall turkey.

(ii) After notification that a sponsoring organization's request has been granted, the sponsoring organization shall submit a completed application and appropriate license fee for the person with a life-threatening or serious illness to the Department's License Section for license issuance.

(iii) As a condition to issuance of a license in this subsection, the Department shall require an authorized officer of the sponsoring organization to certify under penalty of law that the respective organization is a nonprofit, charitable organization as defined in this regulation.

(iv) The sponsoring organization shall provide a statement from a licensed physician stating the license recipient is clinically diagnosed with a life-threatening or serious illness.

(v) The Department shall issue licenses to individuals sponsored by qualifying organizations meeting the provisions under this subsection to residents and nonresidents in accordance with Section 5(e) (i), 5 (e) (iii), 5(e) (iv), and Section 5(h) (iii) of this Chapter. In the event the number of applications exceeds the number of licenses available under this subsection, the Department shall allocate the licenses through a random drawing on or before February 10. Licenses remaining after the initial issuance shall be available on a first come, first served basis until the quotas for licenses in this subsection have been allocated.

**Section 14. Pioneer Licenses, Pioneer Heritage Licenses, Honorably Discharged Pioneer Veterans Licenses, One Hundred Percent (100%) Disabled Resident Veterans Licenses, Resident Disabled Veterans Lifetime Fishing Licenses and Purple Heart Medal Recipients.**

(a) Pioneer lifetime combination game bird/small game/fishing licenses may be issued to qualified individuals. The Pioneer game bird/small game/fishing licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Department Regional Offices and Headquarters.

(b) Pioneer heritage antelope, deer, elk or wild turkey licenses shall be issued through the ELS to any qualified resident. The fee for such licenses shall be: pioneer heritage antelope license, twenty dollars (\$20); pioneer heritage deer license, twenty-three dollars (\$23); pioneer heritage elk license, thirty-two dollars (\$32); and, pioneer heritage wild turkey license, ten dollars (\$10). Effective January 1, 2019, the fee for such licenses shall be: pioneer heritage

antelope license, twenty-two dollars (\$22); pioneer heritage deer license, twenty-six dollars (\$26); pioneer heritage elk license, thirty-five dollars (\$35); and, pioneer heritage wild turkey license, ten dollars (\$10). Reduced price pioneer heritage doe/fawn antelope, doe/fawn deer and cow/calf elk licenses shall be issued through the ELS system.

(c) Honorably discharged pioneer veteran combination game bird/small game/fishing licenses may be issued to qualified individuals. Combination game bird/small game/fishing licenses may be issued to residents of the state who qualify as honorably discharged pioneer veterans. The honorably discharged pioneer veteran game bird/small game/fishing license shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Department Regional Offices and Headquarters upon submission by the applicant of documentary evidence that he qualifies as an honorably discharged pioneer veteran.

(d) One hundred percent (100%) disabled resident veteran combination game bird/small game/fishing license may be issued to qualified individuals. Combination game bird/small game/fishing licenses may be issued to residents of the state who qualify as one hundred percent (100%) disabled resident veterans. The one hundred percent (100%) disabled resident veteran game bird/small game/fishing license shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Department Regional Offices and Headquarters upon submission by the applicant of documentary evidence provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs that the resident veteran qualifies as one hundred percent (100%) disabled. For the purpose of this subsection, one hundred percent (100%) disabled does not refer to disability compensation.

(e) Wyoming statutes provide for the issuance of antelope, deer, elk or wild turkey pioneer licenses to individuals qualified at the time of license issuance. For purposes of drawings for which the submission of a completed application shall be required, license applicants shall qualify by June 20 of the current calendar year. Any resident person qualified to receive a limited quota pioneer big game or wild turkey license shall make application through the ELS. Limited quota pioneer licenses for antelope, deer, elk and wild turkey shall be applied for in accordance with Section 20 of this Chapter. Pioneer general deer, general elk and general wild turkey licenses shall be issued through the ELS. Limited quota reduced price pioneer doe/fawn antelope, doe/fawn deer and cow/calf elk licenses shall be issued through the ELS system.

(f) Resident disabled veteran's lifetime fishing license. Any resident disabled veteran who receives fifty percent (50%) or more service connected disability compensation from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs may apply on the proper application form for a resident disabled veteran's lifetime fishing license. The disabled veteran's resident lifetime fishing license shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Department Regional Offices and Headquarters upon submission by the applicant of documentary evidence provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs that he receives fifty percent (50%) or more service connected disability compensation. The license shall remain valid for the lifetime of the person in whose name it is issued.

(g) Combination game bird/small game/fishing licenses may be issued to residents of the state who qualify as a United States Military Purple Heart Medal recipient. These combination licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Department Regional Offices and Headquarters upon submission by the applicant of documentary evidence provided by the United States Military Department that the resident qualifies as a purple heart recipient.

**Section 15. Donation of Big Game Licenses to a Disabled Veteran or to a Permanently Disabled Person Who Uses a Wheelchair.**

(a) The holder of a valid big game license may surrender a big game license to the Department for reissuance to a disabled veteran or to a permanently disabled person who uses a wheelchair. The person surrendering the license may designate that their license be donated to a disabled veteran or to a permanently disabled person who uses a wheelchair, and may designate a qualified nonprofit charitable organization dedicated to providing hunting opportunities to disabled veterans or persons with permanent disabilities who use wheelchairs. Donated licenses not designated to a qualified nonprofit charitable organization, or donated licenses not assigned to a sponsored individual within fifteen (15) days after a nonprofit charitable organization dedicated to providing hunting opportunities to disabled veterans or persons with permanent disability who use wheelchairs has been notified of license availability, shall be made available for reissuance on a first-come, first-served basis to a qualified nonprofit charitable organization dedicated to providing hunting opportunities to disabled veterans or persons with permanent disabilities who use wheelchairs.

(i) The unused, unaltered license with all coupons intact shall be submitted along with a form provided by the Department which indicates the license holders' desire to surrender the license issued in their name and donate the surrendered license under this Section. The person surrendering the license shall sign an affidavit verifying that the license was not used during any hunting season.

(ii) Any person surrendering a valid big game license to be reissued under this Section, shall not be eligible to receive a duplicate license for the same species, hunt area and type as the surrendered license.

(iii) A surrendered license shall count against the maximum number of licenses a person may otherwise apply for and receive as a condition of Commission regulation.

(iv) Any person surrendering a valid big game license for reissuance under this Section, for which preference points have been accumulated, shall not have preference points restored.

(b) The surrendered license shall be reissued by the Department's License Section to a qualified person who has been selected and sponsored by a nonprofit charitable organization providing hunting opportunities to disabled veterans or persons with permanent disabilities who use wheelchairs.

(i) As a condition to reissue a license in this subsection, the Department shall require an authorized officer of the sponsoring organization to certify under penalty of law that the respective organization is a nonprofit charitable organization, that provides hunting opportunities to disabled veterans or persons with permanent disabilities who use wheelchairs.

(ii) The sponsoring organization shall submit a completed application form for the issuance of a license on forms provided by the Department. Donated license applications, and any documentary evidence, shall be completed each year regardless of whether an applicant has received a donated license in a previous year.

(A) For a license being reissued to a disabled veteran, documentary evidence provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs that the applicant currently receives at least fifty percent (50%) or more service connected disability compensation shall be submitted with the application form.

(B) For a license being reissued to a permanently disabled person who uses a wheelchair, a statement by a licensed physician, on forms provided by the Department, that the applicant has a permanent disability that requires the applicant to, at all times, be confined to a wheelchair for mobility purposes.

(iii) The license shall be reissued to a qualified applicant at no fee.

(iv) The license shall be reissued for the same species, area and license type as the license donated.

**Section 16. Active Duty Wyoming Resident in Combat Zone Licenses.**

Complimentary resident general elk, resident general deer, resident game bird, resident small game and resident daily fishing licenses shall be issued to any Wyoming resident currently serving on active duty in the United States military deployed to a combat zone while home on military leave during the applicable hunting or fishing season. Applicants for licenses in this subsection shall meet the statutory requirements established in W. S. § 23-2-101 (a), and shall provide to the Department a valid, current military identification card, military leave orders indicating the resident is currently deployed to a combat zone and is returning to a combat zone at the end of the current leave period, a current Leave and Earnings Statement indicating the applicant is receiving hostile fire compensation and proof of residency at the time of application. Licenses shall be issued through the ELS at no fee to the applicant and shall only be issued at Headquarters or Department Regional Offices.

**Section 17. Depredation Licenses.** Application shall be made to Department Regional Offices in the region where participation is desired on application forms provided by the Department. Applicants shall apply annually to be included on priority lists. Applicants shall make separate application for each species. Application dates and priority listing name placement on each list shall be established in accordance with Commission Regulation Chapter 34, Depredation Prevention Hunting Seasons.

**Section 18. Party Applications – Initial Drawing.** In the initial drawing, the maximum allowable number of completed applications in a party shall be six (6). Residents and nonresidents shall not apply together in the same party. Completed applications from landowner applicants shall not be accepted as a party with non-landowner applicants. Nonresidents applying in the drawing for special licenses shall not apply as a party with nonresidents applying in the drawing for regular licenses. No party applications shall be accepted for moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, or wild bison recreational hunting season licenses. Party applicants are required to submit their applications for the same species, hunt area, and type in the same order of preference.

**Section 19. Proof of Residency for Resident Licenses.**

(a) Any qualified individual may apply for or receive a resident game and fish license, permit, or tag if the person meets the residency requirements pursuant to W.S. § 23-1-102 (a) (ix) (xv) and § 23-1-107. When an individual signs an application to obtain a resident license or signs a resident license, the individual swears that he is a Wyoming resident as defined in W.S. § 23-1-102 (a) (ix) (xv), § 23-1-107 and § 23-2-101 (a).

(b) Any person applying for or purchasing a resident license, permit, preference point, or tag shall provide proof of their residency. License selling agents and the Department shall consider as documentary evidence of residency the applicant's Wyoming driver's license or Wyoming identification card, a copy of their school records, a completed military form DD214, a completed and signed proof of residency statement on a form provided by the Department or a completed proof of residency affidavit issued through the ELS. Documentary evidence furnished by an applicant for a resident license shall not be considered conclusive proof in a court of law that the applicant is a resident in accordance with Wyoming statutes.

(c) A person qualifying as a Wyoming resident in accordance with W.S. § 23-1-107 (c) shall not gain or lose residency for the purpose of serving full time for a period not to exceed four (4) years in an established volunteer service program for charitable purposes, humanitarian purposes, or religious purposes. A letter, signed and notarized by the volunteer service program's director, which describes the services provided (including that they were provided without remuneration), the duration of service, and the hours served may be used to establish compliance with W.S. § 23-1-107 (c).

(d) A person qualified as a Wyoming resident as defined in W.S. § 23-1-102 (a) (ix) and § 23-1-107, is not considered a nonresident for the purposes of applying for or purchasing licenses, permits, tags or preference points.

**Section 20. Application Dates.**

(a) Completed applications for initial limited quota drawings, purchase of preference points only, and applications for the Department's Super Tag Trifecta and Super Tag license competitive raffle, shall only be submitted through the ELS during the application periods stated in this section. Electronic applications shall provide for an electronic signature process for

residency oaths, certification to the correctness of information provided, or any other assertions as may be required by this regulation on the completed applications. Evidence of electronic signatures on drawing applications and licenses purchased may not be excluded in legal proceedings. Ref: W.S. § 40-21-113. The Department shall begin accepting completed applications at 8:00 a.m. on the first business day of the month or the specified date listed in subsections (d) and (e) of this Section.

(b) Completed applications submitted through the ELS shall not be accepted after 12:00 midnight Mountain Standard Time zone on the respective application deadline dates listed in subsection (e). If the deadline date occurs on a day when Headquarters has been closed for license sales (weekends, holiday, etc.), the ELS shall be available until 12:00 midnight Mountain Standard Time zone on the next business day.

(c) If the ELS is closed or otherwise unavailable to the public during the deadline date listed in subsection (e), the Department shall accept completed applications through the ELS until 12:00 midnight Mountain Standard Time zone on the next calendar day.

(d) Landowner License Application Dates: Completed applications for landowner licenses shall be submitted to the game warden or the regional wildlife supervisor in whose geographic area of responsibility the land listed on the application occurs. Completed applications for landowner licenses shall not be accepted after 12:00 midnight Mountain Standard Time zone on respective application dates listed in this subsection.

<b>LICENSE</b>	<b>METHOD OF SUBMISSION</b>	<b>BEGINNING APPLICATION DATE</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO MODIFY/ WITHDRAW</b>
<b>ANTELOPE</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident Landowner	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
Limited Quota Nonresident Landowner with Preference Point	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
Limited Quota Reduced Price Nonresident Landowner Doe/Fawn	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
Limited Quota Resident Landowner	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
Limited Quota Reduced Price Resident Landowner Doe/Fawn	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
<b>DEER</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident Landowner	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
Limited Quota Nonresident Landowner with Preference Point	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
Limited Quota Resident Landowner	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
Limited Quota Reduced Price Nonresident Landowner Doe/Fawn	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31



<b>LICENSE</b>	<b>METHOD OF SUBMISSION</b>	<b>BEGINNING APPLICATION DATE</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO MODIFY/ WITHDRAW</b>
<b>DEER</b>				
Limited Quota Reduced Price Resident Landowner Doe/Fawn	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
<b>ELK</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident Landowner	Paper	Jan.	Jan. 20	Feb. 3
Limited Quota Nonresident Landowner with Preference Point	Paper	Jan.	Jan. 20	Feb. 3
Limited Quota Reduced Price Nonresident Landowner Cow/Calf	Paper	Jan.	Jan. 20	Feb. 3
Limited Quota Reduced Price Resident Landowner Cow/Calf	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
Limited Quota Resident Landowner	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
<b>WILD TURKEY</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident Landowner				
Spring	Paper	Jan.	Jan. 20	Feb. 3
Fall	Paper	Jul.	Jul. 15	Jul. 31
Limited Quota Resident Landowner				
Spring	Paper	Jan.	Jan. 20	Feb. 3
Fall	Paper	Jul.	Jul. 15	Jul. 31

## (e) Non-Landowner Application Dates:

LICENSE	METHOD OF SUBMISSION	BEGINNING APPLICATION DATE	LAST DATE TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS	LAST DATE TO MODIFY/WITHDRAW
<b>ANTELOPE</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
Limited Quota Nonresident with Preference Point Option	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
Limited Quota Reduced Price Nonresident Doe/Fawn	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
Limited Quota Reduced Price Resident Doe/Fawn	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
Limited Quota Resident	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
<b>BIGHORN SHEEP</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident	Online	Jan.	Feb. 28*	Apr. 15
Limited Quota Resident	Online	Jan.	Feb. 28*	Apr. 15
Nonresident Preference Point Only	Online	Jul.	Oct. 31	n/a
Resident Preference Point Only	Online	Jul.	Oct. 31	n/a
<b>COMPETITIVE RAFFLE CHANCES</b>				
Super Tag License	Online	Jul. 15	Jul. 1	n/a
Super Tag Trifecta License	Online	Jul. 15	Jul. 1	n/a

<b>LICENSE</b>	<b>METHOD OF SUBMISSION</b>	<b>BEGINNING APPLICATION DATE</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO MODIFY/ WITHDRAW</b>
<b>ELK</b>				
General and Limited Quota Resident	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
Limited Quota Reduced Price Nonresident Doe/Fawn	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
<b>DEER</b>				
Limited Quota Reduced Price Resident Doe/Fawn	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
Nonresident Preference Point Only	Online	Jul.	Oct. 31	n/a
Region and Limited Quota Nonresident	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
Region and Limited Quota Nonresident with Preference Point Option	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
<b>ELK</b>				
General and Limited Quota Nonresident	Online	Jan.	Jan. 31	Feb. 3
General and Limited Quota Nonresident with Preference Point Option	Online	Jan.	Jan. 31	Feb. 3
General and Limited Quota Resident	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31

<b>LICENSE</b>	<b>METHOD OF SUBMISSION</b>	<b>BEGINNING APPLICATION DATE</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO MODIFY/ WITHDRAW</b>
<b>ELK</b>				
Limited Quota Reduced Price Nonresident Cow/Calf	Online	Jan.	Jan. 31	Feb. 3
Limited Quota Reduced Price Resident Cow/Calf	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
Nonresident Preference Point Only	Online	Jul.	Oct. 31	n/a
<b>FURBEARING ANIMAL</b>				
Limited Quota Furbearing Animal Trapping Permit	Online	Jul.	Sep. 1	n/a
<b>MOOSE</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident	Online	Jan.	Feb. 28*	Apr. 15
Limited Quota Resident	Online	Jan.	Feb. 28*	Apr. 15
Nonresident Preference Point Only	Online	Jul.	Oct. 31	n/a
Resident Preference Point Only	Online	Jul.	Oct. 31	n/a
<b>MOUNTAIN GOAT</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident	Online	Jan.	Feb. 28*	Apr. 15
Limited Quota Resident	Online	Jan.	Feb. 28*	Apr. 15
<b>PHEASANT</b>				
Glendo Permit	Online	Jul.	Sep. 15	n/a
Springer Permit	Online	Jul.	Sep. 15	n/a

LICENSE	METHOD OF SUBMISSION	BEGINNING APPLICATION DATE	LAST DATE TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS	LAST DATE TO MODIFY/ WITHDRAW
<b>PREFERENCE POINT ONLY</b>				
Nonresident	Online	Jul.	Oct. 31	n/a
Resident	Online	Jul.	Oct. 31	n/a
<b>SANDHILL CRANE</b>				
Limited Quota	Online	Jul.	Jul. 31	n/a
<b>WILD BISON</b>				
	Online	Feb.	Feb. 28*	Apr. 15
<b>WILD TURKEY</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident Spring Fall	Online	Jan. Jul.	Jan. 31 Jul. 31	Feb. 3 Jul. 31
Nonresident General Spring Fall	Online	Jan. Jul.	Through end of season Through end of season	n/a n/a
Limited Quota Resident Spring Fall	Online	Jan. Jul.	Jan. 31 Jul. 31	Feb. 3 Jul. 31
Resident General Spring Fall	Online	Jan. Jul.	Through end of season Through end of season	n/a n/a

\* February 29 on leap year

**Section 21. Drawing Advantage.** The Department shall develop and maintain a license issue system that allows qualified persons, as prescribed below, who have either purchased a preference point or were unsuccessful in the preference point drawing for a full price bighorn sheep or moose license, or purchased a preference point for nonresident antelope, deer or elk, a drawing advantage in future years as prescribed in Wyoming statutes. All applicants participate in the preference point drawing regardless of their preference point balance.

(a) All preference points accumulated through methods not authorized by this regulation or statute shall be subject to deletion.

(b) Preference points shall be assigned to persons who apply to receive preference points during authorized application periods. The following provisions apply to the issuance of preference points.

(i) No person shall apply for or receive a preference point during any calendar year in which the person's privilege to obtain a license has been revoked or suspended by a court or the Wildlife Violator Compact.

(ii) Preference points are not transferable from one person to another or from one species to another.

(iii) No person may apply for more than one (1) preference point per species in the same calendar year. If the applicant applies for a preference point during the initial license drawing period and is either awarded a preference point or receives their first choice license in the initial drawing, they shall not apply for a preference point for the same species during the preference point only application period in the same calendar year. Any preference point awarded in a calendar year shall not be considered for advantage in any license drawings during the same calendar year in which it was awarded.

(iv) A person shall not apply for or receive a separate preference point in the same calendar year in which the person receives a full price bighorn sheep or moose license or a first choice license in the initial drawing for nonresident antelope, deer or elk.

(v) A person eleven (11) years of age may apply for a preference point if the person shall become twelve (12) years of age in the same calendar year as the application for a preference point is made.

(vi) For the purpose of assigning preference points in this Section, any unsuccessful full price bighorn sheep or moose license applicant failing to apply for a license or preference point during a second consecutive calendar year shall lose all accumulated preference points and shall be considered as a first year applicant for any subsequent calendar year in which the applicant submits an application for a license or a preference point for that particular species.

(vii) For the purpose of retaining nonresident antelope, elk or deer preference points in this Section, any sportsperson failing to purchase a preference point within two (2) consecutive calendar years shall lose all accumulated preference points for that species and shall be considered as a first year applicant for any subsequent calendar year in which the applicant submits an application for a license.

(viii) For the purpose of retaining bighorn sheep and moose preference points in this Section, any sportsperson whose residency status changes and who has accumulated preference points will retain those points as long as the sportsperson applies for a license for that particular species within two (2) consecutive calendar years. Failing to apply for a license or preference point within two (2) consecutive calendar years, the sportsperson shall lose all accumulated preference points for that particular species.

(ix) A person may only request to contest their preference point values to the License Review Board for the five (5) year period immediately preceding their request.

(c) If a person desires to apply for a preference point only and not receive a license, the person shall apply for and receive a preference point by paying the proper fee and making application during the preference point only application period specified in Section 20 of this regulation.

(d) If an applicant's preference points have been deleted because the applicant caused more than one (1) customer record to be generated then those preference points shall not be restored. The Fiscal Division Chief may make an exception in the case of name changes because of marriage, divorce, adoption, or legal name change.

(e) The preference points associated with a sportsperson identification number provided on an application shall be the only preference points considered for an individual applicant participating in a preference point drawing.

(f) Upon drawing a full price bighorn sheep or moose license, all accumulated preference points by the applicant for that species shall be deleted. No person shall apply for or receive a full price bighorn sheep license or preference point for full price bighorn sheep within any consecutive five (5) year period of having received a full price bighorn sheep license through the drawing. No person shall apply for or receive a moose license or preference point for moose within any consecutive five (5) year period of having received a moose license through the drawing.

(i) Preference points are assigned to residents and nonresidents who are unsuccessful in either the full price bighorn sheep or moose drawings. The nonresident preference point fee, in addition to the statutorily prescribed application fee, shall be retained from the license fee remitted. The preference point fee for nonresidents shall be one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) for full price bighorn sheep and one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) for moose.

(ii) In lieu of applying for a full price bighorn sheep or moose license, a person may elect to purchase a preference point for each species. The applicant is not required to pay the statutorily prescribed application fee. The preference point fee for residents shall be seven dollars (\$7) per species and the fee for nonresidents shall be one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) for full price bighorn sheep, and one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) for moose.

(g) A preference point shall only be assigned to nonresident antelope, deer or elk applicants who participate in the initial drawing for full price licenses and who have remitted the proper preference point fee and who are unsuccessful in drawing their first choice license. The preference point fee, in addition to the statutorily prescribed application fee, shall be retained from the total amount remitted. The preference point fee for nonresidents shall be thirty-one dollars (\$31) for antelope, forty-one dollars (\$41) for deer, fifty-two dollars (\$52) for elk and ten dollars (\$10) per species for nonresident youth.

(i) In lieu of applying for a nonresident antelope, deer or elk license and remitting the proper preference point fee, a nonresident applicant may elect to purchase a preference point for each species. The preference point fee for nonresidents shall be thirty-one dollars (\$31) for antelope, forty-one dollars (\$41) for deer, fifty-two dollars (\$52) for elk and ten dollars (\$10) per species for nonresident youth. The applicant, when only applying for preference points, is not required to pay the statutorily prescribed application fee. Individuals who have drawn their first choice license in the initial draw are prohibited from purchasing or receiving a preference point in the same calendar year.

(ii) Upon drawing a license for the applicant's first choice in the initial drawing for nonresident antelope, deer or elk, all accumulated preference points by the applicant for that species shall be deleted and the applicant shall be prohibited from purchasing a preference point for that species in the same calendar year.

**Section 22. Leftover Drawing.** Limited quota licenses that were not issued through the initial drawings shall be offered in a competitive leftover drawing.

(a) A leftover drawing shall be conducted for antelope, bighorn sheep, deer, elk, moose, wild bison and mountain goat licenses remaining after the initial drawings.

(b) The application period shall be determined on an annual basis by the Fiscal Division Chief. Completed applications and license fees must be submitted during the application period.

(c) Both residents and nonresidents shall draw against the same quota.

(d) The maximum allowable number of applications in a party shall be six (6). Residents and nonresidents may apply together in the same party. Party applicants are required to submit their applications for the same species, hunt area and type in the same order of preference. All members of a party may either receive licenses or refunds on their license fees.

(e) All applicants shall participate in the respective random leftover drawing, giving no advantage to applicants with preference points.

**Section 23. Reservation of Full Price Licenses.** Individuals who have been issued a Governor's Complimentary License for a full price big game animal and who have been unable to use the license for good cause, may reserve a license for the same species for the immediately succeeding calendar year only. Individuals who have been issued a limited quota, full price big or trophy game license and who have been unable to use the license for good cause may reserve a license for the same species, hunt area, and season type for the immediately succeeding calendar year only. Conditions of this reservation are set forth in subsections (a), (b), (c) and (d) of this Section.

(a) To qualify for consideration of reservation of a limited quota, full price big or trophy game license due to a natural disaster, the licensee shall request the reservation on a form



provided by the Department. The request, along with the unused and unaltered license with all coupons intact, shall be received by the Department before the earliest opening date of the season for the designated species, including the special archery season, as specified in Commission rules and regulations during the year for which the initial license is issued. The licensee requesting a license reservation shall sign an affidavit verifying that the license was not used during any hunting season. All requests for the reservation of licenses shall be reviewed and determined by the License Review Board.

(b) For reasons related to being unable to use the license for good cause, other than natural disaster and military deployment, the licensee shall request the reservation on a form provided by the Department.

(i) The licensee shall fully complete the license reservation request form. This form, and the unused and unaltered license with all coupons intact, shall be submitted to the Department by the deadline date listed on the License Reservation Information sheet.

(ii) A Physician Certification for License Reservation Form and a written "Restriction from Hunting Activity" statement, written on the physician's official prescription slip or physician's letterhead, shall be submitted to the Department within thirty (30) days from the date an applicant's completed License Reservation Request Form is received by the Department.

(iii) For reasons related to being unable to use the license for good cause, other than natural disaster and disabling injury or illness, military personnel who receive permanent change of station (PCS) orders or are assigned away from their home duty station on temporary orders (TDY) for the majority of the regular season, shall provide to Headquarters a copy of official military orders from the Armed Forces of the United States along with the unused and unaltered license with all coupons intact.

(iv) In no case shall a person be allowed to reserve any license if the person fails to submit the unused and unaltered license with all coupons intact to the Department before the earliest opening date of the season, including special archery seasons, for the designated species as specified in Commission rules and regulations during the year for which the license is issued. The licensee requesting a license reservation shall sign an affidavit verifying that the license was not used during any hunting season.

(c) Any person who has been granted a limited quota elk or limited quota deer license reservation from the License Review Board related to being unable to use the license for good cause may subsequently purchase a general license, if eligible, for the same species during the current calendar year.

(d) Prior to the respective drawing, license quotas in the subsequent year for areas where licenses have been reserved may be adjusted to reflect reservations as provided by Wyoming statute and this Chapter.

(e) In circumstances where related season, quota or sex limitation of the hunt area for the unused license changes in the subsequent year, the following options shall be offered:

(i) If the unused license allowed taking either sex of animal, but that type no longer exists, the licensee shall be given a choice of a license for an antlered (male) or antlerless (female) animal in the subsequent year.

(ii) If the unused license was limited to taking an antlerless or female animal, but that license type no longer exists, the licensee shall be given either an any or an antlered or male only license at the Department's discretion in the subsequent year.

(iii) If the license was limited to taking an antlered or male animal, but that type no longer exists, the licensee shall be given either an any or an antlerless or female only license at the Department's discretion in the subsequent year.

(iv) If in the subsequent year, the entire hunt area is closed to hunting of the species listed on the unused license, the licensee shall be offered a license for the same species and sex limitations in another area of the licensee's choice.

(v) If in the next year, the entire state has been closed to hunting of the species listed on the unused license, the licensee shall not be issued another license to hunt that species. Under this circumstance, the licensee shall be issued a refund of the fee paid for the unused license.

(f) Applicants requesting the reservation of a limited quota, full price big or trophy game license shall submit the administrative fee of ten dollars (\$10) no later than May 15 in the succeeding calendar year, along with a completed Department form prior to the reissuance of the license.

(g) Any limited quota, full price big or trophy game license that is reissued to a qualified applicant shall count toward the total number of licenses a person may apply for and receive during any one calendar year.

(h) Any person who has been granted a license reservation under this section, for which preference points have been accumulated, shall not have preference points restored and may not be eligible to purchase a preference point for that species during the same year the original license was issued.

(i) Any person who has been granted a license reservation under this section shall not be eligible to participate in the initial drawing the following year for the same species and license type.

**Section 24. Applicant Disqualification.** The applicant(s) is solely responsible for the veracity of information on the completed application submitted through the ELS. Applications shall be disqualified from participating in drawings for the following reasons:

(a) The applicant's privilege to purchase or receive any hunting license or preference points has been suspended by a court order or the Wildlife Violator Compact;

(b) The applicant causes more than one (1) sportsperson identification number to have been assigned;

(c) Submission by an individual of more than one (1) completed application for a license for the same big or trophy game species, wild turkey or wild bison unless authorized by Commission regulation;

(d) Applying for a license the applicant is not eligible to receive by Rule and Regulation or Statute;

(e) The applicant will not reach twelve (12) years of age by December 31 of the year the application is made for the purchase of a preference point. An applicant less than twelve (12) years of age may apply for and receive a big or trophy game hunting license provided the applicant will reach twelve (12) years of age during the season for the designated species as specified in Commission Rules and Regulations during the year for which the license is valid.

(f) The applicant attempts to manipulate or circumvent Department licensing security procedures in the ELS system in order to submit or modify an application.

(g) Any person who has an application disqualified under this section shall be in violation of this regulation and such violation shall be punishable as provided by Title 23, Wyoming Statutes, for violation of Commission regulations.

#### **Section 25. Suspension or Revocation of License.**

(a) Non-Payment of Child Support.

(i) Upon receipt from the Department of Family Services of a certified copy of an order from a Court to withhold, suspend, or otherwise restrict a license or preference point issued by the Commission, the Game and Fish Department shall notify the party named in the court order by first-class mail of the withholding, suspension, or restriction in accordance with the court order. The Game and Fish Department shall mail this notice by first-class mail to the party named and to the address provided by the Department of Family Services.

(ii) Upon receipt of a notice from the Department of Family Services that the obligor is in compliance with the court order, the Game and Fish Department shall immediately reinstate the license unless the license has been suspended or revoked for other reasons. The Department shall by first-class mail notify the party named and to the address provided by the Department of Family Services that the individual's license privileges have been reinstated. The Department shall also mail by first-class mail to the obligor any licenses in the Game and Fish Department's possession at the time of reinstatement.

(iii) The Department shall maintain a written record indicating to whom the notice was mailed and the address to which the notice was mailed.

(b) Wildlife Violator Compact. The Department may suspend license privileges in accordance with Commission Regulation, Chapter 54, Home State Suspension Procedures for the Wildlife Violator Compact dated July 10, 2015, and which does not include any later amendments or editions of the incorporated matter.

**Section 26. Withdrawal or Modification of Application, Refund of License Fees and Reissuance of Certain Licenses.** Licenses, permits, stamps, tags, preference points or competitive raffle chances issued under Title 23, Wyoming Statutes or this regulation become the permanent property of the licensee and shall not be canceled or any fee refunded after the license, permit, stamp, tag, preference point or competitive raffle chance(s) has been issued, except as specified in this section or otherwise as set forth in Commission regulation.

(a) A request for a voluntary withdrawal of an application before a drawing shall be accepted through the ELS by the date indicated in Section 20(d) and (e) for the initial drawing, and by the application closing date for the leftover drawing.

(i) Applicants may not submit a voluntary withdrawal form for the purchase of a preference point only, Super Tag or Super Tag Trifecta competitive raffle chance.

(b) A modification of an application must be completed through the ELS by the date indicated in Section 20(d) and (e) for the initial drawing, and by the application closing date for the leftover drawing.

(i) An applicant may only request changes to hunt area and type or change their withdrawal flag indicator on their reduced price application for the initial drawing through the ELS.

(c) To request a refund of a license fee in this subsection, the licensee shall submit the request for a refund in writing along with the license unaltered and with all coupons intact to the Department during the calendar year for which the license is valid. The licensee shall also execute and submit at the time of a refund request a Department affidavit describing the reason(s) the licensee was not able to exercise the license privileges which includes a sworn statement that the licensee did not exercise any hunting privileges granted by the license including any or all seasons for the designated species as specified in Commission regulation during the calendar year for which the license was valid. If the license is destroyed, lost or illegible, the licensee shall state on the Department affidavit to that effect and submit with the written request for refund in the calendar year for which the license is valid. If the licensee is granted a refund for a license, the individual may apply for and receive any remaining issue-after license for the same species in accordance with state statutes and Commission regulations. Application fees and any applicable preference point fees will not be refunded. All license refund requests shall be reviewed and determined by the License Review Board.

(d) To qualify for a refund of a license fee in accordance with this section, the licensee shall meet one (1) of the following provisions:

(i) In the case of the death of the licensee, a written request for a license refund supported by a copy of the respective death certificate shall be submitted to the Department. The date of death on such certificate shall have resulted in the licensee not being able to participate in the majority of the regular or special archery season. All refunds issued under this subsection shall be made payable to the estate of the decedent unless the license fee was paid by a nonprofit charitable organization. The nonprofit charitable organization shall provide supporting documentation of payment of the license fee.

(ii) In the case of the death of the licensee's spouse, parents, grandparents, siblings, lineal descendants and their spouses, step-parent, step-sibling, step-children, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, step-son-in-law or step-daughter-in-law or the death of a member of a party application, the licensee shall submit a written request for a license refund supported by the respective death certificate. The date of death shall have resulted in the licensee not being able to participate in the majority of the regular or special archery season.

(iii) In the case of incapacitating illness or injury of the licensee, the licensee's spouse, parents, grandparents, siblings, lineal descendants and their spouses, step-parent, step-sibling, step-children, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, step-son-in-law or step-daughter-in-law, or incapacitating illness or injury of a member of a party application, supported by a physician's sworn statement on a Department form that the licensee is incapable of performing tasks necessary to exercise the privileges of the license;

(iv) Military personnel who receive permanent change of station (PCS) orders and military personnel who are assigned away from their home duty station on temporary orders (TDY) for the majority of the regular season, all of this being supported by a copy of official military orders from the Armed Forces of the United States, and such orders require the affected personnel to move away from their home duty station, shall accompany the written request for the license refund;

(v) Individuals who are not able to participate in the majority of the regular season for the species specified in Commission rules and regulations during the year for which the license is issued as a result of a court subpoena, jury duty, Grand Jury investigation or attorneys required to attend criminal cases. A certified copy of the court document shall accompany the written request for the license refund;

(vi) When the Department determines fifty percent (50%) or more of the hunting opportunity and access to the public land within an individual hunt area outside of designated wilderness has been closed due to administrative actions of the state or federal government in closing of the public access to public lands, or due to a natural disaster, including but not necessarily limited to, wildland fires, the licensee of a limited quota antelope, full price bighorn sheep, limited quota deer, limited quota elk, moose, mountain goat, or wild bison license may request a license fee refund;

(A) When the Department determines one hundred percent (100%) of all the hunt areas are closed or the hunting season is prevented from occurring due to administrative actions of the state or federal government, a black bear, gray wolf, mountain lion or wild bison licensee may request a license fee refund. The closing of hunt areas due to harvest quotas being met does not qualify a licensee for a license fee refund.

(vii) An error on the part of the Department or its authorized agent where the applicant has been issued a license not requested. An applicant may request in writing to the License Review Board to review a decision made by a Department employee or an agent of the Department in the handling of the application for, or the issuance of a license, permit, or preference point if the decision is contrary to statute or rule and regulation promulgated by the Commission. All decisions of the License Review Board shall abide by provisions of state and federal statutes and Commission regulations.

(viii) Any youth licensee may be granted a license refund if the youth licensee's opportunity to hunt is jeopardized as a result of any license refund granted by the Department as specified in sections (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii), or (viii) of this subsection;

(ix) A sponsoring organization of a person with a life-threatening illness that has received a license under Section 13 may be granted a license refund if the licensee's opportunity to hunt is jeopardized as a result of incapacitating illness or injury supported by a physician's sworn statement on forms provided by the Department that the licensee is incapable of performing tasks necessary to exercise the privileges of the license.

(e) Refunds shall not be allowed under the following circumstances:

(i) The licensee illegally purchased more licenses than what was authorized for purchase by Commission regulation or Wyoming statute;

(ii) For any license, permit, stamp or tag in which the privilege to use the license, permit, stamp or tag expires on December 31 in the year issued, the deadline to submit a written request for a refund shall be December 31 of that year.

(iii) For any license in which the hunting season to use that license has been extended into January of the succeeding calendar year, the deadline to submit a written request for a refund of that license shall be January 31 of the year in which the hunting season expires.

(iv) Refunds shall be denied in any circumstance where the licensee hunted on the license for the designated species as specified in Commission rules and regulations, including special archery seasons, during the year for which the license is issued.

(f) There shall be no right of appeal to the Commission for any decision rendered by the License Review Board or the Department for any provision of this section.

(g) Restoration of preference points. In any case where a license may be obtained by the accumulation of preference points, or preference points may be obtained in lieu of application for a license and a license refund is granted by the Department, all accumulated preference points, including any preference point that may have been earned for the year the license is issued, shall be restored to the applicant.

(h) In the case of the death of a licensee who has been issued an any wild bison license or a mountain goat license, a written request for the license to be surrendered to the Department and reissued to an immediate family member of the decedent shall be made to the License Review Board. The request shall be supported by a copy of the respective death certificate, and the date of death on such certificate shall have resulted in the licensee not being able to participate in the majority of the regular or special archery hunting season.

(i) The license shall be reissued to a qualified immediate family member of the decedent at no fee.

(ii) The license shall be reissued for the same species, hunt area and license type as the license surrendered.

(iii) A license reissued to an immediate family member of a decedent shall count against the maximum number of licenses a person may otherwise apply for and receive as a condition of Commission regulations.

**Section 27. Alteration or Transfer of Licenses, Permits, Stamps, Tags, Preference Points or Competitive Raffle Chances to Another Person Prohibited; Use by Another Person Prohibited; Invalidation by Improper Fees.** Department licenses, permits, stamps or tags shall not be altered by anyone other than authorized Department personnel.

(a) No license, permit, stamp, tag, preference point or competitive raffle chances shall be transferred, or used for the purpose of taking wildlife, except by the individual to whom it was issued and therein named and while in that individual's possession. No individual shall take or attempt to take any wildlife using another individual's license, permit, stamp or tag. Any license, permit, stamp, tag, preference point or competitive raffle chances shall not be valid unless the proper fees have been received by the Department.

(b) Licenses, excluding lifetime licenses, shall only become valid when signed by the person in whose name the license is issued in the space provided on the license for the owner's signature, and where applicable, co-signed by a parent or legal guardian.

(c) Any Department enforcement officer may seize as evidence any license, permit, stamp or tag that was obtained in violation of Commission regulations or Wyoming statute.

**Section 28. License Expiration.** All licenses, excluding licenses to operate game bird farms, shall expire on the last day of the calendar year in which issued except, the Commission by regulation provides that big game licenses and wild bison licenses issued in one (1) calendar

year are valid through the closing date established in January of the next succeeding calendar year when the Commission establishes a hunting season for big game animals or wild bison for which the licenses are valid that opens in one (1) calendar year and closes in January of the next succeeding calendar year. All daily hunting and fishing licenses shall only be valid for the calendar day(s) delineated on the license. A nonresident five (5) day fishing license is valid for five (5) consecutive days.

**Section 29. Super Tag Licenses and Super Tag Trifecta Licenses.** Wyoming statutes provide for the issuance of big game, trophy game and wild bison licenses to be issued through a competitive raffle process. Big game, trophy game and wild bison licenses authorized under this section shall be valid for the species for which the license has been issued.

(a) These licenses shall be valid in any hunt area in accordance with Commission regulations, except for the following:

(i) A Super Tag License or a Super Tag Trifecta License for moose shall not be valid in any moose hunt area which has a total quota of ten (10) or less antlered or any moose licenses.

(ii) A Super Tag License or a Super Tag Trifecta License for full price bighorn sheep shall not be valid in any bighorn sheep hunt area which has a total quota of eight (8) or less full price bighorn sheep licenses.

(iii) A Super Tag License or a Super Tag Trifecta License shall not be valid within Grand Teton National Park.

(iv) A Super Tag License or a Super Tag Trifecta License for wild bison shall not be valid in any wild bison hunt area which has a total quota of ten (10) or less any wild bison licenses.

(b) Recipients of a Super Tag License and Super Tag Trifecta License shall be exempt from the provisions in this Chapter limiting the number of big game, trophy game or wild bison licenses an individual may possess in any one (1) calendar year. An individual is eligible to receive a Super Tag License or Super Tag Trifecta License for big game, trophy game or wild bison annually. Recipients shall be exempt from the five (5) year waiting period and preference points shall not be lost if an individual receives a Super Tag License or Super Tag Trifecta License for moose or a full price bighorn sheep and shall be exempt from the once in a lifetime license restriction for mountain goat and wild bison licenses. Preference points shall not be lost if an individual receives a Super Tag License or Super Tag Trifecta License for antelope, deer or elk.

(c) There shall be up to eleven (11) successful recipients of licenses from all the individuals that purchased a Super Tag License or Super Tag Trifecta License competitive raffle chance. Up to ten (10) individual recipients shall be issued one Super Tag License as follows: one (1) antelope license, or one (1) bighorn sheep license, or one (1) black bear license, or one



(1) deer license, or one (1) elk license, or one (1) gray wolf license, or one (1) moose license, or one (1) mountain goat license, or one (1) mountain lion license or one (1) wild bison license. The successful recipient of a Super Tag License shall be based on what species of big game, trophy game or wild bison license was randomly drawn for the participating recipient. One (1) successful applicant shall be issued Super Tag Trifecta Licenses, allowing that individual to choose, at their discretion, no more than three (3) different species of big game, trophy game and wild bison licenses.

(d) Super Tag License and Super Tag Trifecta License competitive raffle chances shall be sold annually beginning on July 15 and ending on July 1 each succeeding year.

(i) The price for a single Super Tag License competitive raffle chance shall be ten dollars (\$10) for both residents and nonresidents. The price for a single Super Tag Trifecta License competitive raffle chance shall be thirty dollars (\$30) for both residents and nonresidents. The number of competitive raffle chances that any one person may purchase is not limited in number.

(ii) For an individual species Super Tag License competitive raffle chance, a person shall choose which species of big game or trophy game or wild bison they purchase a competitive raffle chance for. An applicant may choose to purchase a competitive raffle chance(s) for multiple species.

(iii) For a Super Tag Trifecta License competitive raffle chance, a person does not need to select the individual species of big game or trophy game or wild bison at the time they purchase a raffle chance.

(iv) A person purchasing a Super Tag License or Super Tag Trifecta License competitive raffle chance shall not be eligible to submit a voluntary withdrawal form or be eligible for a refund for competitive raffle chances purchased.

(e) A competitive drawing shall be conducted to determine the winners of the individual species Super Tag Licenses and Super Tag Trifecta License.

(i) There shall be no preference given to residents or nonresidents in the drawing or issuance of a Super Tag License or Super Tag Trifecta License.

(f) License fees for successful Super Tag License and Super Tag Trifecta License holders shall be as set forth in Wyoming Statute or Commission regulation.

(g) No person shall purchase a competitive raffle chance for a Super Tag License or Super Tag Trifecta License during any calendar year in which the person's privilege to obtain a license or preference point has been revoked or suspended by a court or the Wildlife Violator Compact.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

David Rael, Vice President

Dated: July 11, 2018

**Draft 7-11-18.2**

**CHAPTER 44**

**REGULATION FOR ISSUANCE OF LICENSES, PERMITS, STAMPS,  
TAGS, PREFERENCE POINTS AND COMPETITIVE RAFFLE CHANCES**

**Section 1. Authority.** This regulation is promulgated by authority of Wyoming Statutes § 6-7-101, § 20-6-112, § 23-1-107, § 23-1-302, § 23-1-702, § 23-1-703, § 23-1-704, § 23-1-705, § 23-2-101, § 23-2-102, § 23-2-107, § 23-2-109, § 23-2-201, § 23-2-207, § 23-2-301, § 23-2-306, § 23-2-307, § 23-2-401 and § 23-3-403, § 23-6-301 through § 23-6-303.

**Section 2. Regulation.** The Commission authorizes the Department to issue licenses, permits, stamps, tags, preference points and competitive raffle chances, and to develop and maintain policies, processes and procedures necessary to carry out the provisions of this Chapter. The Commission hereby adopts the following regulation governing the issuance of licenses. This regulation shall remain in effect until modified or repealed by the Commission.

**Section 3. Definitions.** For the purpose of this regulation, definitions shall be as set forth in Title 23, Wyoming Statutes, Commission regulations and the Commission also adopts the following definitions:

(a) “Application Fee” means a fee authorized by the Legislature enabling the Department to recover a portion of its costs associated with compensating owners or lessees of property damaged by game animals and game birds. In addition, the application fee is used by the Department to recover costs associated with license issuance. This fee is nonrefundable.

(b) “Charitable Purpose” means motivated by sympathy and understanding and generosity and done without any remuneration.

(c) “Commissioner Complimentary License” means an antelope, deer or elk license issued at the existing statutory price at the request of a Commissioner.

(d) “Completed Application” means all required portions of the application have been properly completed with correct applicant information, submitted within the proper time period and accompanied by the proper fee. A completed application includes the applicant’s name, physical address, mailing address if different than the physical address, date of birth, physical description (height, weight, eyes, hair and sex), telephone number or email address, years of residency and proof of residency for resident fee types, Social Security Number (SSN), Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN) or Passport Number from non-U.S. citizens, desired valid hunting license specifications, and an original signature for residents submitting paper applications. Completed application specifications refer to licenses sold through the Electronic Licensing Service (ELS) and manually issued licenses and permits.

(e) “Disabilities” as used in this Chapter means permanent anatomical, physiological or mental deficiencies that prevent or restrict normal achievement.

(f) “Document” means an instrument on which information has been recorded by means of letters, figures, or marks and which may be used as evidence.

(g) “Documentary Evidence” means evidence furnished by written instruments, inscriptions, or documents of all kinds.

(h) “Duplicate License” means a license issued by the Department to replace an original license that is valid and has not expired and has been lost or destroyed. If the original license was issued through the Electronic Licensing Service (ELS), a duplicate license shall only be required if the original license contained a carcass coupon; otherwise, a replacement license may be issued.

(i) “Electronic Application” means the license or permit application form submitted through the Electronic Licensing Service (ELS).

(j) “Electronic Licensing Service (ELS)” means the Department’s Electronic Draw Application System, Internet Point of Sale System and Online Internet Sales System used by the Department, license selling agents and the public to apply for or purchase licenses, permits, stamps, tags and preference points.

(k) “Electronic Signature” means an electronic process attached to or logically associated with any electronic transaction including the license or permit application submitted to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department that requires substantiation of the identity of the person initiating the electronic transaction. This process includes, but may not be limited to, use of personal credentials to gain access to the system, entering a keystroke at a specified prompt that indicates the submitter’s acceptance of an assertive statement, or the use of any other technology that is in compliance with the state of Wyoming’s Electronic Signature Rules as promulgated by the Office of the Chief Information Officer. This process can be used to indicate the applicant’s acceptance of an assertion such as a residency requirement or veracity of the application at a specified prompt. Ref: W.S. § 40-21-102 (a) (viii).

(l) “Full Price License” means a deer, antelope, elk, mountain lion or ram bighorn sheep license issued that is not a reduced price doe/fawn, cow/calf, ewe/lamb or mountain lion license.

(m) “Full Time” means performing duties and responsibilities at the request or direction of an established charitable, humanitarian, or religious organization for more than thirty (30) hours per calendar week every week the person is absent from the state.

(n) “General Licenses” means big or trophy game or wild turkey licenses valid in any hunt area in which licenses have not been totally limited in number. General licenses shall be

valid only under species, sex, age class, and harvest limitations that are in effect for each hunt area.

(o) “Governor Complimentary License” means hunting or fishing license issued for no fee at the request of the Governor.

(p) “Gunpowder or Buckskin Hunt” means the annual Gunpowder and Buckskin Hunt conducted by the Sheridan, Wyoming Rotary Club.

(q) “Headquarters” means the Cheyenne Office of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department located at 5400 Bishop Blvd., Cheyenne, WY 82006.

(r) “Humanitarian Purpose” means for the promotion of human welfare and the advancement of social reforms and done without remuneration.

(s) “Immediate Family Member of the Decedent” means spouse, parent, grandparent, sibling or lineal descendants and their spouses.

(t) “Initial Drawing” means a computer processed drawing held for initial offering of resident and nonresident licenses and permits.

(u) “Issue-After License” means licenses that are limited in number and that were not issued in the initial or leftover drawings; these licenses shall be issued on an as processed basis through the ELS.

(v) “Landowner” means an individual, partnership, corporation, trust, limited liability company or combination of these, which either owns real property in fee simple title or is acquiring equitable interest by written contract.

(w) “Landowner Applicant” means an individual who either owns real property solely or jointly with other individuals or who holds an interest in a corporation, partnership, trust or limited liability company, which owns real property or is a member of the “immediate family” of the individual.

(x) “Landowner Applicant’s Immediate Family” means the landowner applicant’s spouse, landowner applicant’s parents, landowner applicant’s grandparents, landowner applicant’s lineal descendants and their spouses, or landowner applicant’s siblings.

(y) “Leftover Drawing” means a computer processed random drawing to issue licenses remaining after the initial drawings.

(z) “Leftover Licenses” means limited quota licenses and nonresident region general deer licenses issued in the leftover drawing.

(aa) “Leftover Permits” means permits that are limited in number and were not issued in the initial drawing and shall be issued on an as processed basis through the ELS.

(bb) “License” means a document issued by the Department, through the authority of the Commission, to a qualified individual that grants certain privileges to take fish or wildlife in accordance with statutory or regulatory provisions.

(cc) “License Authorization” means a document approved by the Governor or by a member of the Commission that empowers the Department to issue a Governor complimentary or Commissioner complimentary license in the name of the applicant designated on the document.

(dd) “License Review Board” means a three (3) member board of Department employees consisting of the Deputy Director of Internal Operations, the Fiscal Division Chief and the Chief Game Warden, or their designee, that review and determine all license reservation requests, license refund requests, preference point issues and other license or permit issuance matters.

(ee) “Limited Quota Drawing” means the processing of an application for limited quota or general big game licenses, trophy game licenses, wild turkey licenses, permits, wild bison licenses or Super Tag and Super Tag Trifecta competitive raffles through a drawing.

(ff) “Limited Quota Licenses” means licenses that are limited in number and valid only in a hunt area(s) or portion(s) of a hunt area. Limited quota licenses shall be valid only under species, sex, age class, harvest, and weapon type limitations that are in effect for each hunt area.

(gg) “Limited Quota Reduced Price Cow or Calf (cow/calf) License” means a license which may be authorized in specific hunt areas allowing a person to take cow or calf elk independent of what may be taken on a general license or full priced limited quota license.

(hh) “Limited Quota Reduced Price Doe or Fawn (doe/fawn) License” means a license which may be authorized in specific hunt areas allowing a person to take doe or fawn animals independent of what may be taken on a general license or full priced limited quota license.

(ii) “Limited Quota Reduced Price Ewe or Lamb (ewe/lamb) License” means a license which may be authorized in specific hunt areas allowing a person to take a ewe or lamb bighorn sheep independent of what may be taken on a full priced limited quota license.

(jj) “Minor Dependent” means an individual less than eighteen (18) years of age who is domiciled with parent(s) or legal guardian.

(kk) “National Bow Hunt” means an archery-only hunt that is sponsored and administered by the Wyoming National Bowhunt, Inc.

(ll) “Nonprofit Charitable Organization” means an organization which engages in activities providing the general public with benefits designed to aid in educational, moral, physical, conservation, or social improvement and which is not established for profit.

(mm) “Nonprofit Organization Dedicated to Providing Hunting Opportunities to Individuals with Disabilities” means an organization certifying they are nonprofit and that their primary purpose or mission as stated in their charter is to provide hunting opportunities to individuals with disabilities defined in this regulation.

(nn) “Nonresident” means any person who is not domiciled in Wyoming for at least one (1) year immediately preceding making application for a license and who is not a resident as defined by W.S. § 23-1-102 (a) (ix), § 23-1-107 and § 23-2-101 (a).

(oo) “One-Shot Antelope Hunt” means the One-Shot Antelope Hunt sponsored by the One-Shot Antelope Club in Lander, Wyoming.

(pp) “Party” means a group of individuals with the same residency status who apply together in the initial drawing for hunting licenses for the same species, area and type, and who have expectations of receiving the same treatment in processing of their applications and receiving the same drawing results. For purposes of this regulation, a Party does not include anyone else, regardless of whether or not they may accompany the party of hunters during the hunt.

(qq) “Party Application” means a group of applications in which all applicants with the same residency status specify the same species, hunt area and type in the same order of preference, and all applicants expect the same processing and draw results in the initial drawing.

(rr) “Permit” means a document that authorizes a license holder to carry out activities not authorized by the license itself.

(ss) “Person’s Privilege to Obtain a License Has Been Revoked or Suspended by a Court or the Wildlife Violator Compact” means revocation or suspension of the person’s license or preference point(s).

(tt) “Pioneer Heritage Licenses” means antelope, deer, elk or wild turkey licenses issued to Wyoming residents who are at least seventy (70) years of age prior to the issuance of the license and have continuously resided in Wyoming for at least fifty (50) years immediately preceding application for the license. The fee for the Heritage License shall be established by the Department by multiplying the fee for resident licenses for the same species and license type by sixty-five percent (65%) and rounding down to the next whole dollar amount.

(uu) “Pioneer Licenses” means antelope, deer, elk or wild turkey licenses issued to Wyoming residents who are at least seventy-five (75) years of age prior to the issuance of the license, and who have continuously resided in Wyoming for at least fifty (50) years immediately preceding the application for a license.

(vv) “Potential to Use License” means the license shall be considered to be in possession of the person in whose name it was issued on or after the earliest opening date for which the license is valid if the license is not in the possession of an authorized Department employee.

(ww) “Processing Fee” means a fee established by the Department to cover extra costs associated with withdrawing an application from a drawing.

(xx) “Proper Application Form” means the document prescribed by the Department, a photocopy of the document, or facsimile of the document. These documents shall be the only documents accepted by the Department.

(yy) “Properly Completed Duplicate License Affidavit” means a Department affidavit document signed by the person applying for a duplicate license.

(zz) “Proper Fee” means cash or a negotiable instrument as set forth by W.S. § 34.1-3-104 which results in full payment to the Department, in U.S. dollars for the amount specified by law or regulation for the respective licenses, permits, stamps, tags, preference points or certificates.

(aaa) “Qualified Person” means an individual who meets the statutory and regulatory requirements to apply for or receive a license or a preference point. A person shall not be qualified if their privilege to apply for or receive a license or a preference point has been revoked, suspended, or restricted by a court in Wyoming or has been revoked or suspended in Wyoming through the Wildlife Violator Compact.

(bbb) “Quota” means the maximum specified number of licenses to be issued for a given hunt area and species as provided by Commission regulation; in the case of nonresident elk hunt area quotas, the maximum number of specified licenses to be issued by hunt area as provided in writing by the Wildlife Division to the Fiscal Division.

(ccc) “Reduced Price Mountain Lion License” means a license which may be authorized in specific hunt areas allowing a person to take a mountain lion in addition to what may be taken on a full price mountain lion license.

(ddd) “Region General Deer Licenses” means general nonresident deer licenses that shall be limited in number and valid for a specified group of hunt areas in accordance with Commission regulations. A license issued for a region shall only be valid in hunt areas within the region where limitations in Commission regulations specify general licenses. A license issued for a region shall not be valid in any hunt area within that region in which licenses are totally limited in quota, unless specified by Commission regulations.

(eee) “Religious Purpose” means actions taken to advance sacred matters, religion or a church and done without remuneration.



(fff) “Replacement License” means the reprint of a license, permit, or stamp that does not contain a carcass coupon and the license was originally issued by the Department or license selling agent through the ELS, is currently valid and has not expired.

(ggg) “Resident” means a United States citizen or legal alien who is domiciled in Wyoming for at least one (1) full year immediately preceding making application for any resident game and fish license, preference point, permit or tag, shall not have claimed residency in any other state, territory, or country for any other purpose during that one (1) year period, and meets the requirements specified in W.S. § 23-1-102, § 23-1-107 and § 23-2-101 (a).

(hhh) “Special Nonresident Antelope, Deer or Elk Licenses” means those licenses having a fee greater than that of a regular nonresident antelope, deer or elk license as defined in Wyoming Statute and which the statutes provide for a separate nonresident drawing with specific percentages of nonresident quotas designated for only those applicants paying the higher license fees.

(iii) “Sportsperson Identification Number” means the unique number assigned by the Department to each individual license applicant on the ELS.

(jjj) “Super Tag License” means a species specific big game, trophy game or wild bison license issued to the winner of the competitive raffle and upon submission of the proper fee for the appropriate species license set forth by statute.

(kkk) “Super Tag Trifecta Licenses” means a combination of big game, trophy game and wild bison licenses, not to exceed three (3) different species of big game, trophy game and wild bison licenses, issued to the winner of the competitive raffle and upon submission of the proper fee for the appropriate species license set forth by statute.

(III) “Transfer” means to convey a license authorization, (from one (1) person to another) as set forth in Section 27 of this regulation.

(mmm)“Type” means a limitation on a license in a particular hunt area for the sex of animal, the species of animal, the length of the season, the type of weapon, or a portion of the hunt area in which the license shall be valid.

(nnn) “Unable to Use the License For Good Cause” means an individual is unable to use a limited quota, full price big or trophy game license due to disabling injury or illness, military personnel who receive permanent change of station (PCS) orders or are assigned away from their home duty station on temporary orders (TDY) for the majority of the regular season, or when the Department has determined a majority of, or the entire hunting opportunity has been lost in a specific limited quota hunt area for a full price big or trophy game animal due to the administrative actions of the state or federal government in closing the majority of or all public access to a hunt area, or due to a natural disaster, including, but not necessarily limited to, wildland fires.

(ooo) “Under the Care and Supervision of the Residing Facility” means the person is an employee of the appropriate institution or facility that issued the special limited fishing permit.

(ppp) “Unlimited Reduced Price Cow or Calf (cow/calf) License” means a license which may be authorized in specific hunt areas allowing a person to take cow or calf elk independent of what may be taken on a general license or full price limited quota license.

(qqq) “Unlimited Reduced Price Doe or Fawn (doe/fawn) License” means a license which may be authorized in specific areas allowing a person to take doe or fawn animals independent of what may be taken on a general license or full price limited quota license.

(rrr) “Wyoming Women’s Antelope Hunt” means a women’s antelope hunt sponsored by the Wyoming Women’s Foundation.

~~(sss)~~ (sss) “Youth License” means a big game license that may be issued to a resident or nonresident individual who is at least eleven (11) years of age and who has not attained eighteen (18) years of age at the time of application. The license shall not be valid until the licensee reaches their twelfth (12th) birthday. For all other species, excluding furbearing animals, requiring a license to take, youth license means a license that may be issued to a resident or nonresident individual who has not attained eighteen (18) years of age. For a resident youth trapping license, youth license means a license that may be issued only to residents under the age of seventeen (17).

**Section 4. Method of License Issuance and Accounting.** The Fiscal Division shall maintain inventory control and account for the issuance and sale of all licenses, permits, stamps and tags issued under the authority of the Commission. All licenses, permits and tags shall be issued on the basis of a completed application. Applications may be in the form of a separate document or may be incorporated into and considered as part of the license document.

(a) Licenses issued over-the-counter. All licenses that are not limited in number shall be issued by the Department through designated Department personnel and facilities or designated license selling agents.

(b) Licenses issued through competitive drawings. Except as provided in this Chapter, all licenses and permits that are limited in number shall be issued through competitive drawings conducted by the Department’s License Section. Entry into the drawing for a limited quota license or permit shall be upon submission of a completed application.

(c) Commercial license issuance. All commercial licenses shall be issued by the Department’s License Section at Headquarters, by designated Department personnel or at facilities in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations.

(d) Licenses issued after initial or leftover drawings. Licenses remaining after the initial or leftover drawings shall be sold through the ELS and on a first-come, first-served basis.

(e) Depredation license issuance. Depredation licenses may be issued at designated Department locations when additional harvest is needed as determined by the Wildlife Division.

### **Section 5. License Issuance.**

(a) In circumstances where the demand for a particular type of license exceeds the supply, a competitive drawing shall be held when feasible to determine successful applicants.

(b) The Department shall only issue licenses in excess of established quotas in the following circumstances:

(i) To accommodate a successful party application in a limited quota drawing;

(ii) To process a Commissioner or Governor license authorization;

(iii) Upon authorization by the License Review Board to resolve a Department license issuance error; or,

(iv) As provided by Commission regulation.

(c) To establish the number of licenses available for the leftover drawing, the Department may continue alternately running the unsuccessful applicants of each resident and nonresident drawing until there are no unissued licenses or permits for which there are unsuccessful applications.

(d) License selling agents shall comply with the following procedures for the sale of limited quota full and reduced price issue-after licenses.

(i) License selling agents shall not sell or allocate licenses prior to the date and time established annually by the Fiscal Division Chief.

(ii) All applications for resident licenses and permits shall contain the resident applicant's original or electronic signature and when applicable, the parent or legal guardian's signature in accordance with Wyoming statute. Applications for youth licenses and permits may contain a signature from the youth's parent or legal guardian in lieu of the youth applicant's signature. All applications for nonresident licenses and permits shall contain either the nonresident applicant's signature or the signature of the person submitting the application on behalf of the nonresident applicant; and,

(A) In the event the license is issued through the ELS, the resident licensee shall be present at the license selling agent location to purchase the license. The parent or legal guardian of a resident youth applicant shall be present at the license selling agent location to purchase a license for the resident youth applicant.

(iii) License selling agents and the ELS shall only issue licenses to one customer at a time, first-come, first-served in the order the individuals are present in line. The agent may issue up to the maximum number of licenses specified by Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation to a single individual who provides the required information for license issuance.

(e) Big Game Licenses. No individual shall apply for or receive more than one (1) license for each big game species during any one (1) calendar year, except as otherwise provided in Commission regulation(s).

(i) Antelope. Eighty percent (80%) of the total available limited quota antelope licenses shall initially be offered to residents in the initial drawing. An applicant may only apply for and receive the maximum number of full price antelope licenses as specified in Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation. The order of the resident antelope initial drawings depicted in this section shall be Resident Landowner Licenses, then Resident Regular Licenses.

(A) Statutes provide for up to ~~eighty (80)~~ one hundred sixty (160) licenses to be available for ~~a one-shot~~ up to two (2) antelope hunt events. These licenses shall be issued above quotas established for the hunt area(s) and shall be allocated to residents and nonresidents as designated by the Wildlife Division. These licenses are exempt from the provisions in this Chapter limiting the number of big game licenses an individual can obtain in one (1) calendar year.

(I) Up to eighty (80) antelope licenses shall be available for the One-Shot Antelope Hunt sponsored by the One-Shot Antelope Club.

(II) Up to eighty (80) antelope licenses shall be available for the Wyoming Women's Antelope Hunt sponsored by the Wyoming Women's Foundation.

(B) The Commission may, upon receipt of payment of antelope license fees as specified in W. S. § 23-1-705, issue up to a total of fifty (50) antelope licenses each year for the exclusive distribution by nonprofit organizations dedicated to providing hunting opportunities to individuals with disabilities.

(I) Qualifying organizations shall make application to the License Section of the Department on or before January 31 for the antelope licenses. The application shall specify:

- (1.) The total number of licenses requested; and,
- (2.) The Hunt Area and Type designation of the licenses requested; and,

(3.) Certification that shows the organization qualifies under the definition of a “Nonprofit Organization Dedicated to Providing Hunting Opportunities to Individuals with Disabilities”.

(II) In the event that more than one (1) qualifying organization requests licenses under this subsection, the Department shall allocate the licenses through a random drawing to the specific qualifying organization(s).

(III) The antelope licenses issued shall be issued through the Department above quotas established for the hunt area(s) and shall be allocated to residents or nonresidents as designated by the nonprofit organization(s).

(C) The order of the nonresident antelope initial drawing set forth in this section shall be Nonresident Landowner Licenses, Nonresident Special Licenses, then Nonresident Regular Licenses. The allocation of remaining licenses after the Landowner License Drawing shall be forty percent (40%) to the Nonresident Special License Drawing and sixty percent (60%) to the Nonresident Regular License Drawing.

(D) The Department shall allocate not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the available Special and Regular Nonresident antelope licenses to a preference point drawing in the initial drawing. The order of the nonresident antelope preference point drawing shall allow individual applicants with the highest number of preference points to be given a drawing advantage for the total number of available licenses to be issued in accordance with this section; then the applicants with the next highest number of preference points shall be selected, and so forth, until the quota has been filled for all first choice selections. The Department shall allocate up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the available nonresident antelope licenses to a random drawing in the initial drawing in which all unsuccessful applicants from the preference point drawing shall be placed. The preference point drawing advantage shall only apply to an applicant’s first choice selection. All unsuccessful applicants in the preference point drawing shall participate in the respective random drawing for all remaining choices, giving no advantage to applicants with preference points.

(I) In addition to the restrictions set forth in Section 18 of this Chapter, party applications with a differing number of preference points among party members shall have preference points averaged and rounded out to four (4) decimal places.

(E) Antelope licenses that have not been applied for and issued through initial drawings or leftover drawings shall be offered to residents and nonresidents as issue-after licenses.

(F) Eighty percent (80%) of the total available limited quota reduced price doe/fawn antelope licenses shall be offered to residents in the initial drawing. An applicant may only apply for and receive the maximum number of reduced price doe/fawn antelope licenses as specified in Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation. Reduced price pioneer doe/fawn antelope licenses shall be made available through the ELS. In addition to the statutorily

prescribed application fees, the price of reduced price doe/fawn antelope licenses shall be twenty-two dollars (\$22) for residents, fourteen dollars (\$14) for resident youth, two dollars (\$2) for resident pioneers, eighteen dollars (\$18) for pioneer heritage, thirty-four dollars (\$34) for nonresidents and nineteen dollars (\$19) for nonresident youth.

(ii) Bighorn Sheep. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the total available limited quota full price bighorn sheep licenses shall initially be offered to residents in the initial drawings. The Department shall allocate not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the available resident full price bighorn sheep licenses and not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the available nonresident full price bighorn sheep licenses to a preference point drawing in the initial drawing. The order of the resident and nonresident full price bighorn sheep preference point drawing shall allow individual applicants with the highest number of preference points to be given a drawing advantage for the total number of available licenses to be issued in accordance with this section; then the applicants with the next highest number of preference points shall be selected, and so forth, until the quota has been filled. The Department shall allocate up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the available resident full price bighorn sheep licenses and shall allocate up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the available nonresident full price bighorn sheep licenses to a random drawing in the initial drawing in which all unsuccessful applicants from the preference point drawing shall be placed.

(A) Seventy-five percent (75%) of the total available limited quota reduced price ewe/lamb licenses shall be offered to residents in the initial drawing, except as otherwise provided by Commission regulations. An applicant may only apply for and receive the maximum number of reduced price ewe/lamb licenses as specified in Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation. In addition to the statutorily prescribed application fees, the price of reduced price ewe/lamb licenses shall be thirty-six dollars (\$36) for residents, twenty dollars (\$20) for resident youth, two hundred forty dollars (\$240) for nonresidents and one hundred dollars (\$100) for nonresident youth.

(iii) Deer. Eighty percent (80%) of the total available limited quota deer licenses shall initially be offered to residents in the initial drawing. An applicant may only apply for and receive the maximum number of full price deer licenses as specified in Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation. The order of the resident deer initial drawings depicted in this section shall be Resident Landowner Licenses, then Resident Regular Licenses.

(A) The Commission shall annually establish the nonresident region general deer license quotas in addition to license quotas for limited quota hunt areas. Nonresident region general deer license quotas shall not include hunt areas with limited quota licenses issued to nonresidents.

(B) Statutes provide for up to seventy-five (75) nonresident special deer licenses to be available for a national bow hunt. This quota shall be deducted from the nonresident special deer quota for the nonresident deer region in which the national bow hunt is held. National bow hunt deer licenses shall only be valid during the hunt dates established by Wyoming National Bowhunt, Inc. and the Department. These dates shall be within the existing

special archery season dates as set forth in the most current Commission Regulation Chapter 6 Deer Hunting Seasons of the Commission regulations for the specific deer hunt area(s) in which the hunt will occur.

(C) Statutes provide for up to twenty-five (25) licenses, which may be issued for a gunpowder or buckskin hunt(s). These licenses shall be issued above quotas and allocated to residents and nonresidents as designated by the Wildlife Division. These licenses are exempt from the provisions in this Chapter limiting the number of big game licenses an individual can obtain in one (1) calendar year.

(D) The order of the nonresident deer initial drawings described in this section shall be Nonresident Landowner Licenses, Nonresident Special Licenses, and then Nonresident Regular Licenses. The allocation of remaining licenses after the nonresident landowner drawing shall be forty percent (40%) to the Nonresident Special License Drawing and sixty percent (60%) to the Nonresident Regular License Drawing.

(E) The Department shall allocate not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the available Special and Regular Nonresident deer licenses to a preference point drawing in the initial drawing. The order of the nonresident deer preference point drawing shall allow individual applicants with the highest number of preference points to be given a drawing advantage for the total number of available licenses to be issued in accordance with this section; then the applicants with the next highest number of preference points shall be selected, and so forth, until the quota has been filled for all first choice selections. The Department shall allocate up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the available nonresident deer licenses to a random drawing in the initial drawing which unsuccessful applicants from the preference point drawing shall be placed. The preference point drawing advantage shall only apply to an applicant's first choice selection. Unsuccessful applicants in the preference point drawing shall participate in the respective random drawing for all remaining choices, giving no advantage to applicants with preference points.

(I) In addition to the restrictions set forth in Section 18 of this Chapter, party applications with differing number of preference points among party members shall have preference points averaged and rounded out to four (4) decimal places.

(F) Nonresident Region General deer licenses that have not been applied for and issued through the initial drawing and leftover drawing shall be offered to nonresidents as issue-after licenses.

(G) Limited quota deer licenses that have not been applied for and issued through the initial and leftover drawings shall be offered to residents and nonresidents as issue-after licenses.

(H) Eighty percent (80%) of the total available limited quota reduced price doe/fawn deer licenses shall be offered to residents in the initial drawing. An applicant may only apply for and receive the maximum number of reduced price doe/fawn deer licenses as

specified in Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation. Reduced price pioneer doe/fawn deer licenses shall be made available for sale through the ELS. In addition to the statutorily prescribed application fees, the price of reduced price doe/fawn deer licenses shall be twenty-two dollars (\$22) for residents, fourteen dollars (\$14) for resident youth, two dollars (\$2) for resident pioneers, eighteen dollars (\$18) for pioneer heritage, thirty-four dollars (\$34) for nonresidents and nineteen dollars (\$19) for nonresident youth.

(I) Resident general deer licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS. Resident general deer licenses may also be applied for and issued through the initial drawings by submission of a completed application.

(iv) Elk. A total license limit of seven thousand two hundred-fifty (7,250) nonresident elk licenses shall be made available to nonresident applicants in the initial drawing each year. Reduced price cow/calf elk licenses and limited quota elk licenses remaining after the initial drawing may be made available to nonresidents in addition to the limit of seven thousand two hundred fifty (7,250). Sixteen percent (16%) of the total available limited quota full price and reduced price cow/calf elk licenses shall initially be offered to nonresidents in the nonresident elk initial drawing. The order of the nonresident elk initial drawings described in this section shall be Nonresident Landowner Licenses, Nonresident Special Licenses, and then Nonresident Regular Licenses. Following the Nonresident Landowner License Drawing, licenses available in the initial drawing from the seven thousand two hundred-fifty (7,250) limit shall be allocated as follows: The allocation of remaining licenses after the nonresident landowner drawing shall be forty percent (40%) to the Nonresident Special License Drawing and sixty percent (60%) to the Nonresident Regular License Drawing. If the seven thousand two hundred-fifty (7,250) license quota is not issued in the initial nonresident drawings, the Department may achieve the seven thousand two hundred-fifty (7,250) license quota by issuing general elk licenses. Licenses remaining for limited quota areas resulting from this procedure may be made available in the resident elk initial drawing.

(A) The Department shall allocate not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the available Special and Regular Nonresident elk licenses to a preference point drawing in the initial drawing. The order of the nonresident elk preference point drawing shall allow individual applicants with the highest number of preference points to be given a drawing advantage for the total number of available licenses to be issued in accordance with this section; then the applicants with the next highest number of preference points shall be selected, and so forth, until the quota has been filled for all first choice selections. The Department shall allocate up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the available nonresident elk licenses to a random drawing in the initial drawing in which all unsuccessful applicants from the preference point drawing shall be placed. The preference point drawing advantage shall only apply to an applicant's first choice selection. All unsuccessful applicants in the preference point drawing shall participate in the respective random drawing for all remaining choices, giving no advantage to applicants with preference points.



(I) In addition to the restrictions set forth in Section 18 of this Chapter, party applications with differing number of preference points among party members shall have preference points averaged and rounded out to four (4) decimal places.

(B) Following the nonresident elk initial drawing, quotas for resident limited quota full priced and reduced price cow/calf elk licenses shall be the greater of the elk quotas established by Commission regulation less any elk licenses currently issued to nonresidents or eighty-four (84%) percent of the quota established by Commission regulation in the initial drawing. The order of the resident elk initial drawings depicted in this section shall be Resident Landowner Licenses, then Resident Regular Licenses.

(C) Elk licenses that have not been applied for and issued through the initial and leftover drawings shall be offered to residents and nonresidents as issue-after licenses.

(D) An applicant may only apply for and receive the maximum number of full price antlerless and reduced price cow/calf elk licenses as specified in Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation. Reduced price pioneer cow/calf elk licenses shall be made available for sale through the ELS. In addition to the statutorily prescribed application fees, the price of reduced price cow/calf elk licenses shall be forty-three dollars (\$43) for residents, twenty dollars (\$20) for resident youth, five dollars (\$5) for resident pioneers, twenty-seven dollars (\$27) for pioneer heritage, two hundred eighty-eight dollars (\$288) for nonresidents and one hundred dollars (\$100) for nonresident youth.

(E) Resident general elk licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS. General elk licenses may also be applied for and issued through the initial drawings by submitting a completed application.

(v) Moose. Eighty percent (80%) of the total available limited quota moose licenses shall be offered to residents in the initial drawing. The Department shall allocate not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the available resident moose licenses and not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the available nonresident moose licenses to a preference point drawing in the initial drawing. The order of the resident and nonresident moose preference point drawing shall allow individual applicants with the highest number of preference points to be given a drawing advantage for the total number of available licenses to be issued in accordance with this Section; then, the applicants with the next highest number of preference points shall be selected, and so forth, until the quota has been filled. The Department shall allocate up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the available resident moose licenses and shall allocate up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the available nonresident moose licenses to a random drawing in the initial drawing in which all unsuccessful applicants from the preference point drawing shall be placed.

(vi) Mountain Goat. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the total available limited quota mountain goat licenses shall be offered to residents in the initial drawing.

(f) Trophy Game. No individual shall apply for or receive more than one (1) license for a specific trophy game species during any one (1) calendar year, except as otherwise provided in Commission regulation.

(i) Black Bear. Black bear licenses shall not be limited in number. They shall be issued through the ELS.

(ii) Gray Wolf. Gray wolf licenses shall not be limited in number. They shall be issued through the ELS.

(iii) Grizzly Bear. No licenses shall be issued for this species until such time as the Commission may establish an open grizzly bear hunting season.

(iv) Mountain Lion. Full price mountain lion licenses and reduced price mountain lion licenses shall not be limited in number. They shall be issued through the ELS. A person may apply for and receive a maximum of one (1) full price mountain lion license and one (1) reduced price mountain lion license during any one (1) calendar year. Reduced price mountain lion licenses are only valid in specified hunt areas. A person shall possess and exhibit a full price mountain lion license for the current calendar year in order to receive a reduced price mountain lion license for the same calendar year. The price of a reduced price mountain lion license shall be twenty dollars (\$20) for residents and ninety-two dollars (\$92) for nonresidents.

(g) Wild Bison. Eighty (80%) percent of the wild bison recreational hunting season licenses shall be initially offered to residents in the initial drawing. If the number of resident applicants for wild bison licenses does not meet or exceed the resident wild bison license allocation, the remaining resident allocation may be issued to nonresidents. If the number of nonresident applicants for wild bison does not meet or exceed the nonresident wild bison allocation, the remaining license allocation may be issued to residents.

(i) Completed applications for resident and nonresident wild bison recreational hunting season licenses shall only be accepted through the ELS. Applicants shall have the choice of applying for any wild bison or any female or calf wild bison. A computer random drawing shall be utilized to determine successful applicants.

(ii) Wild bison licenses that have not been applied for and issued through initial and leftover drawings shall be offered to residents and nonresidents as issue-after licenses.

(iii) Any person who is issued an any wild bison license and harvests;

(A) A bull wild bison shall not be eligible to apply for or receive an any wild bison license in any future year, but shall be eligible to apply for and receive a female or calf wild bison license in the immediately following year;

(B) A female or calf wild bison shall not be eligible to apply for or receive a female or calf wild bison license in the immediately following five (5) year period, but

shall be eligible to apply for and receive an any wild bison license in the immediately following year.

(iv) Any person who is issued a female or calf wild bison license and harvests a female or calf wild bison shall not be eligible to apply for or receive an any wild bison license or a female or calf wild bison license in the immediately following five (5) year period.

(h) Bird.

(i) Falconry.

(A) Hunt with Falcon licenses shall be issued as over-the-counter licenses through the ELS.

(B) General Raptor Capture licenses shall be issued as over-the-counter licenses through the ELS at Headquarters. Limited Quota Raptor Capture licenses shall be issued in accordance with Commission Regulation Chapter 25 Falconry Regulation.

(ii) Game Bird. Game Bird licenses shall not be limited in number. They shall be issued as over-the-counter licenses through the ELS.

(iii) Wild Turkey. Eighty percent (80%) of the total available spring and fall limited quota wild turkey licenses shall be offered to residents in the initial drawing. The order of the initial drawings shall be resident landowner licenses, resident regular licenses, nonresident landowner licenses, and then nonresident regular licenses.

(A) Limited quota wild turkey licenses that have not been applied for and issued through the initial drawing shall be offered to residents and nonresidents as issue-after licenses.

(B) The Commission may authorize general wild turkey licenses, which shall not be limited in number. Those licenses shall be issued as over-the-counter licenses through the ELS. These licenses may also be applied for and issued through the initial drawing process.

(i) Small Game. Small Game licenses shall not be limited in number. They shall be issued as over-the-counter licenses through the ELS.

(j) Furbearing Animals.

(i) Trapping. Resident furbearing animal trapping licenses shall not be limited in number. They shall be issued as over-the-counter licenses through the ELS. Nonresident furbearing animal trapping licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued in accordance with W.S. § 23-2-303 at Headquarters.

(ii) Capture Furbearing Animal for Domestication. Capture Furbearing Animal for Domestication licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Headquarters.

(k) Archery. Archery licenses shall not be limited in number. They shall be issued as over-the-counter licenses through the ELS.

(l) Commercial Licenses. Commercial licenses require written approval by Department personnel prior to issuance.

(i) Commercial Fish Hatchery. Commercial Fish Hatchery licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Headquarters.

(ii) Deal in Live Bait. Deal in Live Bait licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Department Regional Offices and Headquarters.

(iii) Fishing Preserve. Fishing Preserve licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Headquarters.

(iv) Fur Dealer. Fur Dealer licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Headquarters.

(v) Game Bird Farm. Game Bird Farm licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Headquarters.

(vi) Taxidermist. Taxidermist licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Headquarters.

(m) Fishing. Fishing licenses shall not be limited in number. They shall be issued as over-the-counter licenses through the ELS.

(i) Seine or Trap Fish. Seine or Trap Fish licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Department Regional Offices and Headquarters. No person shall apply for or receive more than one (1) seine or trap fish license during a calendar year.

(n) Duplicate Licenses.

(i) In order for a duplicate license to be issued, a duplicate license affidavit shall be properly completed by the licensee.

(A) For a license, permit, stamp or tag that was originally issued through a manual process, the customer shall be required to purchase another license, permit, stamp or tag, rather than a duplicate license, as authorized by Commission regulation.

(B) For a license that was originally issued through the ELS, the license selling agent or sub-agent shall not be required to complete a duplicate license affidavit form prior to issuing a duplicate license as the affidavit is incorporated into the duplicate license document being issued through the ELS.

(ii) Duplicate licenses shall be issued through the ELS.

(iii) The Department and license selling agents shall charge a fee of seven dollars (\$7) for issuance of a duplicate license.

(iv) The Department shall not charge a fee for issuance of a duplicate license when the loss or destruction of the license is the fault of the Department or when an applicant does not receive a license which was mailed to the address on their application.

(o) Replacement Licenses.

(i) The completion of a duplicate license affidavit form shall not be required for the issuance of a replacement license.

(ii) The Department and license selling agents shall charge a fee of seven dollars (\$7) for the issuance of a replacement license issued through the ELS.

(p) Resident Guide Licenses shall be issued for no charge through the ELS at Department Regional Offices and Headquarters, and shall be issued manually through designated Department personnel.

## **Section 6. Permits.**

(a) Sandhill Crane.

(i) Limited Quota Sandhill Crane. Applicants shall be selected by random computer selection. Twenty percent (20%) of the total available limited quota sandhill crane permits shall initially be offered to nonresidents in the initial drawing. Limited quota sandhill crane permits that have not been applied for and issued through the initial drawing shall be issued through the ELS on an as processed basis until quotas have been reached or the permit is no longer valid.

(ii) General Sandhill Crane. Permits shall not be limited in number and shall only be available through the Department's website beginning August 1.

(b) Disabled Hunter and Disabled Hunter Companion Permits. Any person qualified to obtain a disabled hunter permit or purchase a disabled hunter companion permit shall apply on the proper application form to the Department's License Section at Headquarters or Department Regional Offices.

(c) Hunters with a Shoot from a Vehicle Permit. Any person qualified to obtain a Shoot from a Vehicle Permit shall apply on the proper application form to the Department's License Section at Headquarters or Department Regional Offices.

(d) Hunting Season Extension Permit. Any person qualified to obtain a Hunting Season Extension Permit shall apply on the proper application form to the Department's License Section at Headquarters or Department Regional Offices.

(e) Migratory Game Bird.

(i) Harvest Information Permit. Harvest Information Permits shall not be limited in number and shall only be available through the Department's website.

(f) Furbearing Animal, Limited Quota Beaver and Marten.

(i) Applicants shall be selected by random computer drawing. Both residents and nonresidents shall draw against the same quota. Leftover permits may be issued to the first eligible applicant as authorized by the Fiscal Division Chief.

(g) Pheasant.

(i) Glendo Permit. Eighty percent (80%) of the total available limited quota Glendo pheasant permits shall be offered to residents in the initial drawing. Glendo pheasant permits that have not been applied for and issued through the initial drawing shall be issued as authorized by the Fiscal Division Chief on an as processed basis until quotas have been reached or the permit is no longer valid. No person shall apply for or receive more than one (1) Glendo Permit in the initial drawing.

(ii) Springer Permit. Eighty percent (80%) of the total available limited quota Springer pheasant permits shall be offered to residents in the initial drawing. Springer pheasant permits that are not applied for and issued through the initial drawing shall be issued at the Springer Check Station or as authorized by the Fiscal Division Chief until the quotas have been reached or the permit is no longer valid. No person shall apply for or receive more than one (1) Springer Permit in the initial drawing.

(h) Special Management Permit. Any individual participating in a special management program shall be required to purchase a Special Management Permit. Special Management Permits shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS.

(i) Special Limited Fishing Permit.

(i) Any institution, facility or school designated by the Department to issue Special Limited Fishing Permits to any person under the care and supervision of the institution, residing facility, or school as authorized in W.S. § 23-2-207 may issue such permits to fish in accordance with Commission Regulation Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations.

(ii) Special Limited Fishing Permits shall specify the following information:

(A) Name and date of birth of individual to whom the permit is issued;

(B) Calendar year for which the permit is valid;

(C) Name of institution, facility, or school issuing the permit; and,

(D) Name of the person employed by institution, facility, or school who issued the permit.

(iii) No person shall apply for or receive any permit under this section by false swearing, fraud or false statement of any kind or in any form.

(iv) Employees of institutions, facilities or schools as authorized in W.S. § 23-2-207 are not eligible to receive special limited fishing permits.

(v) Any institution, facility or school designated by the Department to issue special limited fishing permits shall submit an annual report to the Department's License Section. The report shall include the number of special limited fishing permits issued, the name of the institution, facility or school and any other required information as provided by the Department. Reports shall be due on or before January 31 following the reporting period year.

(j) Hunters with a Central Visual Acuity Disability Permit. Any person qualified to obtain a Central Visual Acuity Disability Permit shall apply on the proper application form to the Department's License Section at Headquarters or Department Regional Offices.

**Section 7. Tags.** Wyoming Interstate Game Tag. Wyoming Interstate Game Tags shall not be limited in number and shall be sold through Department Regional Offices, Headquarters, designated Department personnel, game tag distributors or their designees.

### **Section 8. Stamps.**

(a) Conservation Stamp. Conservation Stamps shall not be limited in number and shall be sold through the ELS and manually.

(i) Hunters or anglers acquiring a manually issued conservation stamp for the purpose set forth in W.S. § 23-2-306 shall validate the stamp by signing their name in ink in the space provided on the face of the stamp. Hunters or anglers who acquire a lifetime conservation stamp or a conservation stamp authorization through the ELS shall not be required to meet the signature provisions of this subsection.

(ii) The validated stamp, or the document exhibiting the stamp privilege, shall be in possession of any person required by W.S. § 23-2-306 to obtain a stamp if the person is

engaged in the act of hunting or fishing and shall be immediately produced for inspection upon request from any Department personnel.

(b) Wildlife Damage Management Stamp. Wildlife Damage Management Stamps shall not be limited in number and shall be sold through the ELS. The price for the stamp shall be established by the Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board.

(c) Reciprocity Stamp. Reciprocal agreements provide for licensing for fishing of residents of Wyoming and adjoining states upon artificial impoundment of water forming the boundary between Wyoming and adjoining states. Reciprocity stamps shall not be limited in number and shall be sold through the ELS.

**Section 9. Landowner Licenses.** Landowner licenses shall only be issued to those landowners who own land which provides habitat for antelope, deer, elk or wild turkeys and meets the requirements as set forth in this section. Any lands purchased or subdivided for the primary purpose of obtaining landowner licenses shall not be eligible for landowner licenses. The Wyoming Game and Fish Commission authorizes the issuance of landowner licenses in order to provide the opportunity for a landowner applicant or member of the landowner applicant's immediate family to hunt antelope, deer, elk or wild turkey on the landowner's property in the case where licenses for a hunt area have been limited in number and only available through a competitive drawing.

(a) In order to qualify for a license issued under this section, the deeded land qualifying the landowner applicant shall be located in the hunt area for which applied, shall consist of a minimum of one hundred sixty (160) contiguous acres and shall be utilized by the type of big game or wild turkeys for which the applicant applied to the extent the land provides food, cover and water. The landowner applicant shall demonstrate that the species of wildlife for which the license application has been made utilized the described land for a minimum of two thousand (2,000) days of use during the twelve (12) month period immediately preceding the date of application. In no case shall more than two (2) big game licenses per species or more than two (2) spring wild turkey or no more than two (2) fall wild turkey licenses be issued for a parcel of deeded land meeting the above qualifications in a calendar year.

(b) Resident or nonresident landowner applicants that own land in Wyoming or members of the landowner applicant's immediate family may be issued licenses upon application and payment of the specified fee. Licenses shall be issued to landowners without participating in a competitive drawing unless the number of landowner license applications exceeds the number of licenses authorized for the hunt area by the Commission. In such cases, a competitive drawing shall be utilized to determine successful landowner license applicants. Landowner license applications shall be drawn first in each respective resident and nonresident initial drawing and shall be drawn against the total quota available in each respective hunt area.

(c) As a condition of eligibility for licenses issued to landowners, landowner applicants shall provide on and with the application for a license issued to landowners, documentation that substantiates in which capacity the individual qualifies as a landowner



applicant under the definition of a landowner applicant or landowner's immediate family in this Chapter. Documentation shall include the completion of the landowner license application form provided by the Department, and any attachments required by the Department to determine eligibility of the applicant. The Department shall consider the eligibility of the applicant based on the requirements in this regulation and documentation provided by the landowner. Applicants for landowner licenses shall be submitted to the game warden or the regional wildlife supervisor in whose geographic area of responsibility the land listed on the application occurs.

(d) In the case of resident license availability, no full price landowner licenses shall be authorized if hunting with a general license is allowed at any time during the hunting season, unless the general license is valid for antlerless deer or antlerless elk hunting only.

(e) In the case where a nonresident landowner qualifies for a landowner license in a hunt area where the current hunting season provides for both limited quota and general license hunting during the established hunting season for the species applied for, the nonresident landowner may apply as a nonresident applicant for either the limited quota license for the area in which the applicant is qualified, or a general license in the initial drawing. If the nonresident landowner is unsuccessful in obtaining a limited quota license in the nonresident drawing, the nonresident landowner may subsequently apply to the Department for the issuance of a general license.

(f) Landowner licenses shall be designated by the landowner and applied for by a landowner applicant, or a member of the landowner applicant's immediate family.

(a) An individual landowner applicant may apply for or receive:

(iA) No more than one (1) full price elk and one (1) limited quota reduced price elk landowner license in a calendar year.

(iiB) No more than one (1) full price antelope or up to two (2) limited quota reduced price antelope landowner licenses in a calendar year.

(iiiC) No more than one (1) full price deer or up to two (2) limited quota reduced price deer landowner licenses in a calendar year.

(ivD) No more than one (1) spring wild turkey landowner license and one (1) fall wild turkey landowner license in a calendar year.

(b) A maximum of two (2) licenses for antelope, deer and elk may be allowed to a landowner applicant regardless of the number of landholdings in which the landowner applicant holds an interest.

(e) Regardless of a change in ownership of a particular parcel of land, no more than two (2) landowner licenses for each big game species (antelope, deer, and elk) shall be issued in any calendar year on the basis of the qualification of the particular parcel.

(div) Regardless of a change in ownership of a particular parcel of land, no more than two (2) spring wild turkey and two (2) fall wild turkey landowner licenses shall be issued in any calendar year on the basis of the qualification of the particular parcel.

(g) Landowners shall submit applications for landowner licenses as listed in Section 20 of this regulation.

**Section 10. Lifetime Licenses and Conservation Stamp.** Any resident qualified to purchase a lifetime fishing, lifetime archery or lifetime combination license pursuant to Wyoming statute may obtain a lifetime license from the Department's License Section at Headquarters or license selling locations as designated by the Fiscal Division Chief.

(a) Wyoming statute provides for a lifetime conservation stamp. Any person may purchase a lifetime conservation stamp from the Department's License Section at Headquarters or license selling locations as designated by the Fiscal Division Chief.

(b) Receiving a lifetime license grants the recipient the privilege of utilizing the license for his lifetime; however, the license shall not be construed as exercising resident hunting or fishing privileges in Wyoming when and if the person leaves the state of Wyoming.

**Section 11. Governor Complimentary Licenses.** Wyoming statutes provide for the issuance of complimentary licenses to be issued at the request of the Governor. Big game licenses authorized under this section shall be valid for the species for which the license has been issued.

(a) These licenses shall be valid in any hunt area in accordance with Commission regulations, except for the following:

(i) Complimentary moose licenses shall not be valid in any moose hunt area, which has a total quota of ten (10) or less antlered or any moose licenses.

(ii) Complimentary full price bighorn sheep licenses shall not be valid in any bighorn sheep hunt area that has a total quota of eight (8) or less full price bighorn sheep licenses.

(iii) Complimentary wild bison licenses shall not be valid in any wild bison hunt area which has a total quota of ten (10) or less any wild bison licenses.

(iv) Governor's Complimentary licenses shall not be valid within Grand Teton National Park.

(b) Holders of Governor Complimentary licenses shall be exempt from the provisions in this Chapter limiting the number of big game or wild bison licenses an individual can possess in any one (1) calendar year. An individual is eligible to receive a Governor Complimentary moose license, Governor Complimentary full price bighorn sheep license, and a Governor

Complimentary wild bison license annually. Recipients shall be exempt from the five (5) year waiting period and preference points shall not be lost if an individual receives a Governor Complimentary moose or full price bighorn sheep license. Recipients shall be exempt from any restrictions related to wild bison licenses if an individual receives a Governor Complimentary wild bison license. Nonresident preference points shall not be lost if an individual receives a Governor Complimentary antelope, deer or elk license.

### **Section 12. Commissioner Complimentary Licenses.**

(a) Wyoming statutes provide that each appointed Commissioner may cause, through the issuance of license authorizations to nonprofit charitable organizations, to be issued at full price, complimentary antelope, deer or elk licenses.

(i) Once the commissioner complimentary license authorization has been auctioned or otherwise bid to the highest bidder or raffled to members of the public by the nonprofit charitable organization, the recipient of the license authorization may only transfer the license authorization to another person if no additional consideration above the bid or raffle price is paid by the transferee.

(ii) The recipient of the license authorization may donate the license authorization back to the nonprofit charitable organization that originally bid the license authorization to be rebid to a new highest bidder.

(iii) The Department shall issue the license in the name of the person who submits the authorization for license issuance.

(iv) All big game licenses authorized under this section are valid for a specific region or hunt area as designated by the applicant at the time of application. Commissioner Complimentary licenses shall not be valid within Grand Teton National Park.

(v) The specific region, or hunt area, or type shall not be changed following the issuance of the license by the Department.

(vi) As a condition to issuance of a Commissioner Complimentary license, the Department shall require an authorized officer of the recipient organization to certify under penalty of law that the respective organization is a nonprofit charitable organization as defined in this regulation and eligible to receive the Commissioner Complimentary license authorization.

(b) Holders of Commissioner Complimentary licenses shall be exempt from the provisions in this Chapter limiting the number of licenses an individual can possess in any one (1) calendar year. Nonresident recipients shall not lose preference points for receiving a Commissioner Complimentary antelope, deer or elk license.

### **Section 13. Commissioner Complimentary Licenses for Persons with Life Threatening Illnesses.**

(a) The Commission may, upon receipt of payment of the proper fee issue up to twenty-five (25) antelope licenses, twenty-five (25) deer licenses, twenty-five (25) elk licenses and twenty-five (25) turkey licenses to persons twenty (20) years of age or younger with a life-threatening illness and who is sponsored by a nonprofit charitable organization whose mission it is to provide opportunities and experiences to persons with life-threatening or serious illnesses. Licenses issued under this subsection shall be issued above quotas established for the hunt area(s) by Commission regulation. However, no more than ten (10) limited quota antelope, ten (10) limited quota deer, ten (10) limited quota elk or ten (10) limited quota turkey licenses shall be issued for any one hunt area during the same calendar year.

(i) The sponsoring organization shall submit a request for the number of licenses and species requested on or before January 31 for antelope, deer, elk, spring and fall turkey.

(ii) After notification that a sponsoring organization's request has been granted, the sponsoring organization shall submit a completed application and appropriate license fee for the person with a life-threatening or serious illness to the Department's License Section for license issuance.

(iii) As a condition to issuance of a license in this subsection, the Department shall require an authorized officer of the sponsoring organization to certify under penalty of law that the respective organization is a nonprofit, charitable organization as defined in this regulation.

(iv) The sponsoring organization shall provide a statement from a licensed physician stating the license recipient is clinically diagnosed with a life-threatening or serious illness.

(v) The Department shall issue licenses to individuals sponsored by qualifying organizations meeting the provisions under this subsection to residents and nonresidents in accordance with Section 5(e) (i), 5 (e) (iii), 5(e) (iv), and Section 5(h) (iii) of this Chapter. In the event the number of applications exceeds the number of licenses available under this subsection, the Department shall allocate the licenses through a random drawing on or before February 10. Licenses remaining after the initial issuance shall be available on a first come, first served basis until the quotas for licenses in this subsection have been allocated.

**Section 14. Pioneer Licenses, Pioneer Heritage Licenses, Honorably Discharged Pioneer Veterans Licenses, One Hundred Percent (100%) Disabled Resident Veterans Licenses, Resident Disabled Veterans Lifetime Fishing Licenses and Purple Heart Medal Recipients.**

(a) Pioneer lifetime combination game bird/small game/fishing licenses may be issued to qualified individuals. The Pioneer game bird/small game/fishing licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Department Regional Offices and Headquarters.

(b) Pioneer heritage antelope, deer, elk or wild turkey licenses shall be issued through the ELS to any qualified resident. The fee for such licenses shall be: pioneer heritage antelope license, twenty dollars (\$20); pioneer heritage deer license, twenty-three dollars (\$23); pioneer heritage elk license, thirty-two dollars (\$32); and, pioneer heritage wild turkey license, ten dollars (\$10). Effective January 1, 2019, the fee for such licenses shall be: pioneer heritage antelope license, twenty-two dollars (\$22); pioneer heritage deer license, twenty-six dollars (\$26); pioneer heritage elk license, thirty-five dollars (\$35); and, pioneer heritage wild turkey license, ten dollars (\$10). Reduced price pioneer heritage doe/fawn antelope, doe/fawn deer and cow/calf elk licenses shall be issued through the ELS system.

(c) Honorably discharged pioneer veteran combination game bird/small game/fishing licenses may be issued to qualified individuals. Combination game bird/small game/fishing licenses may be issued to residents of the state who qualify as honorably discharged pioneer veterans. The honorably discharged pioneer veteran game bird/small game/fishing license shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Department Regional Offices and Headquarters upon submission by the applicant of documentary evidence that he qualifies as an honorably discharged pioneer veteran.

(d) One hundred percent (100%) disabled resident veteran combination game bird/small game/fishing license may be issued to qualified individuals. Combination game bird/small game/fishing licenses may be issued to residents of the state who qualify as one hundred percent (100%) disabled resident veterans. The one hundred percent (100%) disabled resident veteran game bird/small game/fishing license shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Department Regional Offices and Headquarters upon submission by the applicant of documentary evidence provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs that the resident veteran qualifies as one hundred percent (100%) disabled. For the purpose of this subsection, one hundred percent (100%) disabled does not refer to disability compensation.

(e) Wyoming statutes provide for the issuance of antelope, deer, elk or wild turkey pioneer licenses to individuals qualified at the time of license issuance. For purposes of drawings for which the submission of a completed application shall be required, license applicants shall qualify by June 20 of the current calendar year. Any resident person qualified to receive a limited quota pioneer big game or wild turkey license shall make application through the ELS. Limited quota pioneer licenses for antelope, deer, elk and wild turkey shall be applied for in accordance with Section 20 of this Chapter. Pioneer general deer, general elk and general wild turkey licenses shall be issued through the ELS. Limited quota reduced price pioneer doe/fawn antelope, doe/fawn deer and cow/calf elk licenses shall be issued through the ELS system.

(f) Resident disabled veteran's lifetime fishing license. Any resident disabled veteran who receives fifty percent (50%) or more service connected disability compensation from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs may apply on the proper application form for a resident disabled veteran's lifetime fishing license. The disabled veteran's resident lifetime fishing license shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Department

Regional Offices and Headquarters upon submission by the applicant of documentary evidence provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs that he receives fifty percent (50%) or more service connected disability compensation. The license shall remain valid for the lifetime of the person in whose name it is issued.

(g) Combination game bird/small game/fishing licenses may be issued to residents of the state who qualify as a United States Military Purple Heart Medal recipient. These combination licenses shall not be limited in number and shall be issued through the ELS at Department Regional Offices and Headquarters upon submission by the applicant of documentary evidence provided by the United States Military Department that the resident qualifies as a purple heart recipient.

**Section 15. Donation of Big Game Licenses to a Disabled Veteran or to a Permanently Disabled Person Who Uses a Wheelchair.**

(a) The holder of a valid big game license may surrender a big game license to the Department for reissuance to a disabled veteran or to a permanently disabled person who uses a wheelchair. The person surrendering the license may designate that their license be donated to a disabled veteran or to a permanently disabled person who uses a wheelchair, and may designate a qualified nonprofit charitable organization dedicated to providing hunting opportunities to disabled veterans or persons with permanent disabilities who use wheelchairs. Donated licenses not designated to a qualified nonprofit charitable organization, or donated licenses not assigned to a sponsored individual within fifteen (15) days after a nonprofit charitable organization dedicated to providing hunting opportunities to disabled veterans or persons with permanent disability who use wheelchairs has been notified of license availability, shall be made available for reissuance on a first-come, first-served basis to a qualified nonprofit charitable organization dedicated to providing hunting opportunities to disabled veterans or persons with permanent disabilities who use wheelchairs.

(i) The unused, unaltered license with all coupons intact shall be submitted along with a form provided by the Department which indicates the license holders' desire to surrender the license issued in their name and donate the surrendered license under this Section. The person surrendering the license shall sign an affidavit verifying that the license was not used during any hunting season.

(ii) Any person surrendering a valid big game license to be reissued under this Section, shall not be eligible to receive a duplicate license for the same species, hunt area and type as the surrendered license.

(iii) A surrendered license shall count against the maximum number of licenses a person may otherwise apply for and receive as a condition of Commission regulation.

(iv) Any person surrendering a valid big game license for reissuance under this Section, for which preference points have been accumulated, shall not have preference points restored.

(b) The surrendered license shall be reissued by the Department's License Section to a qualified person who has been selected and sponsored by a nonprofit charitable organization providing hunting opportunities to disabled veterans or persons with permanent disabilities who use wheelchairs.

(i) As a condition to reissue a license in this subsection, the Department shall require an authorized officer of the sponsoring organization to certify under penalty of law that the respective organization is a nonprofit charitable organization, that provides hunting opportunities to disabled veterans or persons with permanent disabilities who use wheelchairs.

(ii) The sponsoring organization shall submit a completed application form for the issuance of a license on forms provided by the Department. Donated license applications, and any documentary evidence, shall be completed each year regardless of whether an applicant has received a donated license in a previous year.

(A) For a license being reissued to a disabled veteran, documentary evidence provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs that the applicant currently receives at least fifty percent (50%) or more service connected disability compensation shall be submitted with the application form.

(B) For a license being reissued to a permanently disabled person who uses a wheelchair, a statement by a licensed physician, on forms provided by the Department, that the applicant has a permanent disability that requires the applicant to, at all times, be confined to a wheelchair for mobility purposes.

(iii) The license shall be reissued to a qualified applicant at no fee.

(iv) The license shall be reissued for the same species, area and license type as the license donated.

#### **Section 16. Active Duty Wyoming Resident in Combat Zone Licenses.**

Complimentary resident general elk, resident general deer, resident game bird, resident small game and resident daily fishing licenses shall be issued to any Wyoming resident currently serving on active duty in the United States military deployed to a combat zone while home on military leave during the applicable hunting or fishing season. Applicants for licenses in this subsection shall meet the statutory requirements established in W. S. § 23-2-101 (a), and shall provide to the Department a valid, current military identification card, military leave orders indicating the resident is currently deployed to a combat zone and is returning to a combat zone at the end of the current leave period, a current Leave and Earnings Statement indicating the applicant is receiving hostile fire compensation and proof of residency at the time of application. Licenses shall be issued through the ELS at no fee to the applicant and shall only be issued at Headquarters or Department Regional Offices.

**Section 17. Depredation Licenses.** Application shall be made to Department Regional Offices in the region where participation is desired on application forms provided by the

Department. Applicants shall apply annually to be included on priority lists. Applicants shall make separate application for each species. Application dates and priority listing name placement on each list shall be established in accordance with Commission Regulation Chapter 34, Depredation Prevention Hunting Seasons.

**Section 18. Party Applications – Initial Drawing.** In the initial drawing, the maximum allowable number of completed applications in a party shall be six (6). Residents and nonresidents shall not apply together in the same party. Completed applications from landowner applicants shall not be accepted as a party with non-landowner applicants. Nonresidents applying in the drawing for special licenses shall not apply as a party with nonresidents applying in the drawing for regular licenses. No party applications shall be accepted for moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, or wild bison recreational hunting season licenses. Party applicants are required to submit their applications for the same species, hunt area, and type in the same order of preference.

**Section 19. Proof of Residency for Resident Licenses.**

(a) Any qualified individual may apply for or receive a resident game and fish license, permit, or tag if the person meets the residency requirements pursuant to W.S. § 23-1-102 (a) (ix) (xv) and § 23-1-107. When an individual signs an application to obtain a resident license or signs a resident license, the individual swears that he is a Wyoming resident as defined in W.S. § 23-1-102 (a) (ix) (xv), § 23-1-107 and § 23-2-101 (a).

(b) Any person applying for or purchasing a resident license, permit, preference point, or tag shall provide proof of their residency. License selling agents and the Department shall consider as documentary evidence of residency the applicant's Wyoming driver's license or Wyoming identification card, a copy of their school records, a completed military form DD214, a completed and signed proof of residency statement on a form provided by the Department or a completed proof of residency affidavit issued through the ELS. Documentary evidence furnished by an applicant for a resident license shall not be considered conclusive proof in a court of law that the applicant is a resident in accordance with Wyoming statutes.

(c) A person qualifying as a Wyoming resident in accordance with W.S. § 23-1-107 (c) shall not gain or lose residency for the purpose of serving full time for a period not to exceed four (4) years in an established volunteer service program for charitable purposes, humanitarian purposes, or religious purposes. A letter, signed and notarized by the volunteer service program's director, which describes the services provided (including that they were provided without remuneration), the duration of service, and the hours served may be used to establish compliance with W.S. § 23-1-107 (c).

(d) A person qualified as a Wyoming resident as defined in W.S. § 23-1-102 (a) (ix) and § 23-1-107, is not considered a nonresident for the purposes of applying for or purchasing licenses, permits, tags or preference points.



## **Section 20. Application Dates.**

(a) Completed applications for initial limited quota drawings, purchase of preference points only, and applications for the Department's Super Tag Trifecta and Super Tag license competitive raffle, shall only be submitted through the ELS during the application periods stated in this section. Electronic applications shall provide for an electronic signature process for residency oaths, certification to the correctness of information provided, or any other assertions as may be required by this regulation on the completed applications. Evidence of electronic signatures on drawing applications and licenses purchased may not be excluded in legal proceedings. Ref: W.S. § 40-21-113. The Department shall begin accepting completed applications at 8:00 a.m. on the first business day of the month or the specified date listed in subsections (d) and (e) of this Section.

(b) Completed applications submitted through the ELS shall not be accepted after 12:00 midnight Mountain Standard Time zone on the respective application deadline dates listed in subsection (e). If the deadline date occurs on a day when Headquarters has been closed for license sales (weekends, holiday, etc.), the ELS shall be available until 12:00 midnight Mountain Standard Time zone on the next business day.

(c) If the ELS is closed or otherwise unavailable to the public during the deadline date listed in subsection (e), the Department shall accept completed applications through the ELS until 12:00 midnight Mountain Standard Time zone on the next calendar day.

(d) **Landowner License Application Dates:** Completed applications for landowner licenses shall be submitted to the game warden or the regional wildlife supervisor in whose geographic area of responsibility the land listed on the application occurs. Completed applications for landowner licenses shall not be accepted after 12:00 midnight Mountain Standard Time zone on respective application dates listed in this subsection.

<b>LICENSE</b>	<b>METHOD OF SUBMISSION</b>	<b>BEGINNING APPLICATION DATE</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO MODIFY/ WITHDRAW</b>
<b>ANTELOPE</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident Landowner	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
Limited Quota Nonresident Landowner with Preference Point	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
Limited Quota Reduced Price Nonresident Landowner Doe/Fawn	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
Limited Quota Resident Landowner	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
Limited Quota Reduced Price Resident Landowner Doe/Fawn	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
<b>DEER</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident Landowner	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
Limited Quota Nonresident Landowner with Preference Point	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
Limited Quota Resident Landowner	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
Limited Quota Reduced Price Nonresident Landowner Doe/Fawn	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31

<b>LICENSE</b>	<b>METHOD OF SUBMISSION</b>	<b>BEGINNING APPLICATION DATE</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO MODIFY/ WITHDRAW</b>
<b>DEER</b>				
Limited Quota Reduced Price Resident Landowner Doe/Fawn	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
<b>ELK</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident Landowner	Paper	Jan.	Jan. 20	Feb. 3
Limited Quota Nonresident Landowner with Preference Point	Paper	Jan.	Jan. 20	Feb. 3
Limited Quota Reduced Price Nonresident Landowner Cow/Calf	Paper	Jan.	Jan. 20	Feb. 3
Limited Quota Reduced Price Resident Landowner Cow/Calf	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
Limited Quota Resident Landowner	Paper	Jan.	May 15	May 31
<b>WILD TURKEY</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident Landowner				
Spring	Paper	Jan.	Jan. 20	Feb. 3
Fall	Paper	Jul.	Jul. 15	Jul. 31
Limited Quota Resident Landowner				
Spring	Paper	Jan.	Jan. 20	Feb. 3
Fall	Paper	Jul.	Jul. 15	Jul. 31

## (e) Non-Landowner Application Dates:

<b>LICENSE</b>	<b>METHOD OF SUBMISSION</b>	<b>BEGINNING APPLICATION DATE</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO MODIFY/ WITHDRAW</b>
<b>ANTELOPE</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
Limited Quota Nonresident with Preference Point Option	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
Limited Quota Reduced Price Nonresident Doe/Fawn	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
Limited Quota Reduced Price Resident Doe/Fawn	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
Limited Quota Resident	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
<b>BIGHORN SHEEP</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident	Online	Jan.	Feb. 28*	Apr. 15
Limited Quota Resident	Online	Jan.	Feb. 28*	Apr. 15
Nonresident Preference Point Only	Online	Jul.	Oct. 31	n/a
Resident Preference Point Only	Online	Jul.	Oct. 31	n/a
<b>COMPETITIVE RAFFLE CHANCES</b>				
Super Tag License	Online	Jul. 15	Jul. 1	n/a
Super Tag Trifecta License	Online	Jul. 15	Jul. 1	n/a

<b>LICENSE</b>	<b>METHOD OF SUBMISSION</b>	<b>BEGINNING APPLICATION DATE</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO MODIFY/ WITHDRAW</b>
<b>ELK</b>				
General and Limited Quota Resident	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
Limited Quota Reduced Price Nonresident Doe/Fawn	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
<b>DEER</b>				
Limited Quota Reduced Price Resident Doe/Fawn	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
Nonresident Preference Point Only	Online	Jul.	Oct. 31	n/a
Region and Limited Quota Nonresident	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
Region and Limited Quota Nonresident with Preference Point Option	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
<b>ELK</b>				
General and Limited Quota Nonresident	Online	Jan.	Jan. 31	Feb. 3
General and Limited Quota Nonresident with Preference Point Option	Online	Jan.	Jan. 31	Feb. 3
General and Limited Quota Resident	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31

<b>LICENSE</b>	<b>METHOD OF SUBMISSION</b>	<b>BEGINNING APPLICATION DATE</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS</b>	<b>LAST DATE TO MODIFY/ WITHDRAW</b>
<b>ELK</b>				
Limited Quota Reduced Price Nonresident Cow/Calf	Online	Jan.	Jan. 31	Feb. 3
Limited Quota Reduced Price Resident Cow/Calf	Online	Jan.	May 31	May 31
Nonresident Preference Point Only	Online	Jul.	Oct. 31	n/a
<b>FURBEARING ANIMAL</b>				
Limited Quota Furbearing Animal Trapping Permit	Online	Jul.	Sep. 1	n/a
<b>MOOSE</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident	Online	Jan.	Feb. 28*	Apr. 15
Limited Quota Resident	Online	Jan.	Feb. 28*	Apr. 15
Nonresident Preference Point Only	Online	Jul.	Oct. 31	n/a
Resident Preference Point Only	Online	Jul.	Oct. 31	n/a
<b>MOUNTAIN GOAT</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident	Online	Jan.	Feb. 28*	Apr. 15
Limited Quota Resident	Online	Jan.	Feb. 28*	Apr. 15
<b>PHEASANT</b>				
Glendo Permit	Online	Jul.	Sep. 15	n/a
Springer Permit	Online	Jul.	Sep. 15	n/a

LICENSE	METHOD OF SUBMISSION	BEGINNING APPLICATION DATE	LAST DATE TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS	LAST DATE TO MODIFY/ WITHDRAW
<b>PREFERENCE POINT ONLY</b>				
Nonresident	Online	Jul.	Oct. 31	n/a
Resident	Online	Jul.	Oct. 31	n/a
<b>SANDHILL CRANE</b>				
Limited Quota	Online	Jul.	Jul. 31	n/a
<b>WILD BISON</b>				
	Online	Feb.	Feb. 28*	Apr. 15
<b>WILD TURKEY</b>				
Limited Quota Nonresident Spring Fall	Online	Jan. Jul.	Jan. 31 Jul. 31	Feb. 3 Jul. 31
Nonresident General Spring Fall	Online	Jan. Jul.	Through end of season Through end of season	n/a n/a
Limited Quota Resident Spring Fall	Online	Jan. Jul.	Jan. 31 Jul. 31	Feb. 3 Jul. 31
Resident General Spring Fall	Online	Jan. Jul.	Through end of season Through end of season	n/a n/a

\* February 29 on leap year

**Section 21. Drawing Advantage.** The Department shall develop and maintain a license issue system that allows qualified persons, as prescribed below, who have either purchased a preference point or were unsuccessful in the preference point drawing for a full price bighorn sheep or moose license, or purchased a preference point for nonresident antelope, deer or elk, a drawing advantage in future years as prescribed in Wyoming statutes. All applicants participate in the preference point drawing regardless of their preference point balance.

(a) All preference points accumulated through methods not authorized by this regulation or statute shall be subject to deletion.

(b) Preference points shall be assigned to persons who apply to receive preference points during authorized application periods. The following provisions apply to the issuance of preference points.

(i) No person shall apply for or receive a preference point during any calendar year in which the person's privilege to obtain a license has been revoked or suspended by a court or the Wildlife Violator Compact.

(ii) Preference points are not transferable from one person to another or from one species to another.

(iii) No person may apply for more than one (1) preference point per species in the same calendar year. If the applicant applies for a preference point during the initial license drawing period and is either awarded a preference point or receives their first choice license in the initial drawing, they shall not apply for a preference point for the same species during the preference point only application period in the same calendar year. Any preference point awarded in a calendar year shall not be considered for advantage in any license drawings during the same calendar year in which it was awarded.

(iv) A person shall not apply for or receive a separate preference point in the same calendar year in which the person receives a full price bighorn sheep or moose license or a first choice license in the initial drawing for nonresident antelope, deer or elk.

(v) A person eleven (11) years of age may apply for a preference point if the person shall become twelve (12) years of age in the same calendar year as the application for a preference point is made.

(vi) For the purpose of assigning preference points in this Section, any unsuccessful full price bighorn sheep or moose license applicant failing to apply for a license or preference point during a second consecutive calendar year shall lose all accumulated preference points and shall be considered as a first year applicant for any subsequent calendar year in which the applicant submits an application for a license or a preference point for that particular species.

(vii) For the purpose of retaining nonresident antelope, elk or deer preference points in this Section, any sportsperson failing to purchase a preference point within two (2) consecutive calendar years shall lose all accumulated preference points for that species and shall be considered as a first year applicant for any subsequent calendar year in which the applicant submits an application for a license.

(viii) For the purpose of retaining bighorn sheep and moose preference points in this Section, any sportsperson whose residency status changes and who has accumulated preference points will retain those points as long as the sportsperson applies for a license for that particular species within two (2) consecutive calendar years. Failing to apply for a license or preference point within two (2) consecutive calendar years, the sportsperson shall lose all accumulated preference points for that particular species.



(ix) A person may only request to contest their preference point values to the License Review Board for the five (5) year period immediately preceding their request.

(c) If a person desires to apply for a preference point only and not receive a license, the person shall apply for and receive a preference point by paying the proper fee and making application during the preference point only application period specified in Section 20 of this regulation.

(d) If an applicant's preference points have been deleted because the applicant caused more than one (1) customer record to be generated then those preference points shall not be restored. The Fiscal Division Chief may make an exception in the case of name changes because of marriage, divorce, adoption, or legal name change.

(e) The preference points associated with a sportsperson identification number provided on an application shall be the only preference points considered for an individual applicant participating in a preference point drawing.

(f) Upon drawing a full price bighorn sheep or moose license, all accumulated preference points by the applicant for that species shall be deleted. No person shall apply for or receive a full price bighorn sheep license or preference point for full price bighorn sheep within any consecutive five (5) year period of having received a full price bighorn sheep license through the drawing. No person shall apply for or receive a moose license or preference point for moose within any consecutive five (5) year period of having received a moose license through the drawing.

(i) Preference points are assigned to residents and nonresidents who are unsuccessful in either the full price bighorn sheep or moose drawings. The nonresident preference point fee, in addition to the statutorily prescribed application fee, shall be retained from the license fee remitted. The preference point fee for nonresidents shall be one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) for full price bighorn sheep and one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) for moose.

(ii) In lieu of applying for a full price bighorn sheep or moose license, a person may elect to purchase a preference point for each species. The applicant is not required to pay the statutorily prescribed application fee. The preference point fee for residents shall be seven dollars (\$7) per species and the fee for nonresidents shall be one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) for full price bighorn sheep, and one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) for moose.

(g) A preference point shall only be assigned to nonresident antelope, deer or elk applicants who participate in the initial drawing for full price licenses and who have remitted the proper preference point fee and who are unsuccessful in drawing their first choice license. The preference point fee, in addition to the statutorily prescribed application fee, shall be retained from the total amount remitted. The preference point fee for nonresidents shall be thirty-one dollars (\$31) for antelope, forty-one dollars (\$41) for deer, fifty-two dollars (\$52) for elk and ten dollars (\$10) per species for nonresident youth.

(i) In lieu of applying for a nonresident antelope, deer or elk license and remitting the proper preference point fee, a nonresident applicant may elect to purchase a preference point for each species. The preference point fee for nonresidents shall be thirty-one dollars (\$31) for antelope, forty-one dollars (\$41) for deer, fifty-two dollars (\$52) for elk and ten dollars (\$10) per species for nonresident youth. The applicant, when only applying for preference points, is not required to pay the statutorily prescribed application fee. Individuals who have drawn their first choice license in the initial draw are prohibited from purchasing or receiving a preference point in the same calendar year.

(ii) Upon drawing a license for the applicant's first choice in the initial drawing for nonresident antelope, deer or elk, all accumulated preference points by the applicant for that species shall be deleted and the applicant shall be prohibited from purchasing a preference point for that species in the same calendar year.

**Section 22. Leftover Drawing.** Limited quota licenses that were not issued through the initial drawings shall be offered in a competitive leftover drawing.

(a) A leftover drawing shall be conducted for antelope, bighorn sheep, deer, elk, moose, wild bison and mountain goat licenses remaining after the initial drawings.

(b) The application period shall be determined on an annual basis by the Fiscal Division Chief. Completed applications and license fees must be submitted during the application period.

(c) Both residents and nonresidents shall draw against the same quota.

(d) The maximum allowable number of applications in a party shall be six (6). Residents and nonresidents may apply together in the same party. Party applicants are required to submit their applications for the same species, hunt area and type in the same order of preference. All members of a party may either receive licenses or refunds on their license fees.

(e) All applicants shall participate in the respective random leftover drawing, giving no advantage to applicants with preference points.

**Section 23. Reservation of Full Price Licenses.** Individuals who have been issued a Governor's Complimentary License for a full price big game animal and who have been unable to use the license for good cause, may reserve a license for the same species for the immediately succeeding calendar year only. Individuals who have been issued a limited quota, full price big or trophy game license and who have been unable to use the license for good cause may reserve a license for the same species, hunt area, and season type for the immediately succeeding calendar year only. Conditions of this reservation are set forth in subsections (a), (b), (c) and (d) of this Section.

(a) To qualify for consideration of reservation of a limited quota, full price big or trophy game license due to a natural disaster, the licensee shall request the reservation on a form

provided by the Department. The request, along with the unused and unaltered license with all coupons intact, shall be received by the Department before the earliest opening date of the season for the designated species, including the special archery season, as specified in Commission rules and regulations during the year for which the initial license is issued. The licensee requesting a license reservation shall sign an affidavit verifying that the license was not used during any hunting season. All requests for the reservation of licenses shall be reviewed and determined by the License Review Board.

(b) For reasons related to being unable to use the license for good cause, other than natural disaster and military deployment, the licensee shall request the reservation on a form provided by the Department.

(i) The licensee shall fully complete the license reservation request form. This form, and the unused and unaltered license with all coupons intact, shall be submitted to the Department by the deadline date listed on the License Reservation Information sheet.

(ii) A Physician Certification for License Reservation Form and a written "Restriction from Hunting Activity" statement, written on the physician's official prescription slip or physician's letterhead, shall be submitted to the Department within thirty (30) days from the date an applicant's completed License Reservation Request Form is received by the Department.

(iii) For reasons related to being unable to use the license for good cause, other than natural disaster and disabling injury or illness, military personnel who receive permanent change of station (PCS) orders or are assigned away from their home duty station on temporary orders (TDY) for the majority of the regular season, shall provide to Headquarters a copy of official military orders from the Armed Forces of the United States along with the unused and unaltered license with all coupons intact.

(iv) In no case shall a person be allowed to reserve any license if the person fails to submit the unused and unaltered license with all coupons intact to the Department before the earliest opening date of the season, including special archery seasons, for the designated species as specified in Commission rules and regulations during the year for which the license is issued. The licensee requesting a license reservation shall sign an affidavit verifying that the license was not used during any hunting season.

(c) Any person who has been granted a limited quota elk or limited quota deer license reservation from the License Review Board related to being unable to use the license for good cause may subsequently purchase a general license, if eligible, for the same species during the current calendar year.

(d) Prior to the respective drawing, license quotas in the subsequent year for areas where licenses have been reserved may be adjusted to reflect reservations as provided by Wyoming statute and this Chapter.

(e) In circumstances where related season, quota or sex limitation of the hunt area for the unused license changes in the subsequent year, the following options shall be offered:

(i) If the unused license allowed taking either sex of animal, but that type no longer exists, the licensee shall be given a choice of a license for an antlered (male) or antlerless (female) animal in the subsequent year.

(ii) If the unused license was limited to taking an antlerless or female animal, but that license type no longer exists, the licensee shall be given either an any or an antlered or male only license at the Department's discretion in the subsequent year.

(iii) If the license was limited to taking an antlered or male animal, but that type no longer exists, the licensee shall be given either an any or an antlerless or female only license at the Department's discretion in the subsequent year.

(iv) If in the subsequent year, the entire hunt area is closed to hunting of the species listed on the unused license, the licensee shall be offered a license for the same species and sex limitations in another area of the licensee's choice.

(v) If in the next year, the entire state has been closed to hunting of the species listed on the unused license, the licensee shall not be issued another license to hunt that species. Under this circumstance, the licensee shall be issued a refund of the fee paid for the unused license.

(f) Applicants requesting the reservation of a limited quota, full price big or trophy game license shall submit the administrative fee of ten dollars (\$10) no later than May 15 in the succeeding calendar year, along with a completed Department form prior to the reissuance of the license.

(g) Any limited quota, full price big or trophy game license that is reissued to a qualified applicant shall count toward the total number of licenses a person may apply for and receive during any one calendar year.

(h) Any person who has been granted a license reservation under this section, for which preference points have been accumulated, shall not have preference points restored and may not be eligible to purchase a preference point for that species during the same year the original license was issued.

(i) Any person who has been granted a license reservation under this section shall not be eligible to participate in the initial drawing the following year for the same species and license type.

**Section 24. Applicant Disqualification.** The applicant(s) is solely responsible for the veracity of information on the completed application submitted through the ELS. Applications shall be disqualified from participating in drawings for the following reasons:

(a) The applicant's privilege to purchase or receive any hunting license or preference points has been suspended by a court order or the Wildlife Violator Compact;

(b) The applicant causes more than one (1) sportsperson identification number to have been assigned;

(c) Submission by an individual of more than one (1) completed application for a license for the same big or trophy game species, wild turkey or wild bison unless authorized by Commission regulation;

(d) Applying for a license the applicant is not eligible to receive by Rule and Regulation or Statute;

(e) The applicant will not reach twelve (12) years of age by December 31 of the year the application is made for the purchase of a preference point. An applicant less than twelve (12) years of age may apply for and receive a big or trophy game hunting license provided the applicant will reach twelve (12) years of age during the season for the designated species as specified in Commission Rules and Regulations during the year for which the license is valid.

(f) The applicant attempts to manipulate or circumvent Department licensing security procedures in the ELS system in order to submit or modify an application.

(g) Any person who has an application disqualified under this section shall be in violation of this regulation and such violation shall be punishable as provided by Title 23, Wyoming Statutes, for violation of Commission regulations.

#### **Section 25. Suspension or Revocation of License.**

(a) Non-Payment of Child Support.

(i) Upon receipt from the Department of Family Services of a certified copy of an order from a Court to withhold, suspend, or otherwise restrict a license or preference point issued by the Commission, the Game and Fish Department shall notify the party named in the court order by first-class mail of the withholding, suspension, or restriction in accordance with the court order. The Game and Fish Department shall mail this notice by first-class mail to the party named and to the address provided by the Department of Family Services.

(ii) Upon receipt of a notice from the Department of Family Services that the obligor is in compliance with the court order, the Game and Fish Department shall immediately reinstate the license unless the license has been suspended or revoked for other reasons. The Department shall by first-class mail notify the party named and to the address provided by the Department of Family Services that the individual's license privileges have been reinstated. The Department shall also mail by first-class mail to the obligor any licenses in the Game and Fish Department's possession at the time of reinstatement.

(iii) The Department shall maintain a written record indicating to whom the notice was mailed and the address to which the notice was mailed.

(b) Wildlife Violator Compact. The Department may suspend license privileges in accordance with Commission Regulation, Chapter 54, Home State Suspension Procedures for the Wildlife Violator Compact dated July 10, 2015, and which does not include any later amendments or editions of the incorporated matter.

**Section 26. Withdrawal or Modification of Application, Refund of License Fees and Reissuance of Certain Licenses.** Licenses, permits, stamps, tags, preference points or competitive raffle chances issued under Title 23, Wyoming Statutes or this regulation become the permanent property of the licensee and shall not be canceled or any fee refunded after the license, permit, stamp, tag, preference point or competitive raffle chance(s) has been issued, except as specified in this section or otherwise as set forth in Commission regulation.

(a) A request for a voluntary withdrawal of an application before a drawing shall be accepted through the ELS by the date indicated in Section 20(d) and (e) for the initial drawing, and by the application closing date for the leftover drawing.

(i) Applicants may not submit a voluntary withdrawal form for the purchase of a preference point only, Super Tag or Super Tag Trifecta competitive raffle chance.

(b) A modification of an application must be completed through the ELS by the date indicated in Section 20(d) and (e) for the initial drawing, and by the application closing date for the leftover drawing.

(i) An applicant may only request changes to hunt area and type or change their withdrawal flag indicator on their reduced price application for the initial drawing through the ELS.

(c) To request a refund of a license fee in this subsection, the licensee shall submit the request for a refund in writing along with the license unaltered and with all coupons intact to the Department during the calendar year for which the license is valid. The licensee shall also execute and submit at the time of a refund request a Department affidavit describing the reason(s) the licensee was not able to exercise the license privileges which includes a sworn statement that the licensee did not exercise any hunting privileges granted by the license including any or all seasons for the designated species as specified in Commission regulation during the calendar year for which the license was valid. If the license is destroyed, lost or illegible, the licensee shall state on the Department affidavit to that effect and submit with the written request for refund in the calendar year for which the license is valid. If the licensee is granted a refund for a license, the individual may apply for and receive any remaining issue-after license for the same species in accordance with state statutes and Commission regulations. Application fees and any applicable preference point fees will not be refunded. All license refund requests shall be reviewed and determined by the License Review Board.

(d) To qualify for a refund of a license fee in accordance with this section, the licensee shall meet one (1) of the following provisions:

(i) In the case of the death of the licensee, a written request for a license refund supported by a copy of the respective death certificate shall be submitted to the Department. The date of death on such certificate shall have resulted in the licensee not being able to participate in the majority of the regular or special archery season. All refunds issued under this subsection shall be made payable to the estate of the decedent unless the license fee was paid by a nonprofit charitable organization. The nonprofit charitable organization shall provide supporting documentation of payment of the license fee.

(ii) In the case of the death of the licensee's spouse, parents, grandparents, siblings, lineal descendants and their spouses, step-parent, step-sibling, step-children, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, step-son-in-law or step-daughter-in-law or the death of a member of a party application, the licensee shall submit a written request for a license refund supported by the respective death certificate. The date of death shall have resulted in the licensee not being able to participate in the majority of the regular or special archery season.

(iii) In the case of incapacitating illness or injury of the licensee, the licensee's spouse, parents, grandparents, siblings, lineal descendants and their spouses, step-parent, step-sibling, step-children, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, step-son-in-law or step-daughter-in-law, or incapacitating illness or injury of a member of a party application, supported by a physician's sworn statement on a Department form that the licensee is incapable of performing tasks necessary to exercise the privileges of the license;

(iv) Military personnel who receive permanent change of station (PCS) orders and military personnel who are assigned away from their home duty station on temporary orders (TDY) for the majority of the regular season, all of this being supported by a copy of official military orders from the Armed Forces of the United States, and such orders require the affected personnel to move away from their home duty station, shall accompany the written request for the license refund;

(v) Individuals who are not able to participate in the majority of the regular season for the species specified in Commission rules and regulations during the year for which the license is issued as a result of a court subpoena, jury duty, Grand Jury investigation or attorneys required to attend criminal cases. A certified copy of the court document shall accompany the written request for the license refund;

(vi) When the Department determines fifty percent (50%) or more of the hunting opportunity and access to the public land within an individual hunt area outside of designated wilderness has been closed due to administrative actions of the state or federal government in closing of the public access to public lands, or due to a natural disaster, including but not necessarily limited to, wildland fires, the licensee of a limited quota antelope, full price bighorn sheep, limited quota deer, limited quota elk, moose, mountain goat, or wild bison license may request a license fee refund;

(A) When the Department determines one hundred percent (100%) of all the hunt areas are closed or the hunting season is prevented from occurring due to administrative actions of the state or federal government, a black bear, gray wolf, mountain lion or wild bison licensee may request a license fee refund. The closing of hunt areas due to harvest quotas being met does not qualify a licensee for a license fee refund.

(vii) An error on the part of the Department or its authorized agent where the applicant has been issued a license not requested. An applicant may request in writing to the License Review Board to review a decision made by a Department employee or an agent of the Department in the handling of the application for, or the issuance of a license, permit, or preference point if the decision is contrary to statute or rule and regulation promulgated by the Commission. All decisions of the License Review Board shall abide by provisions of state and federal statutes and Commission regulations.

(viii) Any youth licensee may be granted a license refund if the youth licensee's opportunity to hunt is jeopardized as a result of any license refund granted by the Department as specified in sections (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii), or (viii) of this subsection;

(ix) A sponsoring organization of a person with a life-threatening illness that has received a license under Section 13 may be granted a license refund if the licensee's opportunity to hunt is jeopardized as a result of incapacitating illness or injury supported by a physician's sworn statement on forms provided by the Department that the licensee is incapable of performing tasks necessary to exercise the privileges of the license.

(e) Refunds shall not be allowed under the following circumstances:

(i) The licensee illegally purchased more licenses than what was authorized for purchase by Commission regulation or Wyoming statute;

(ii) For any license, permit, stamp or tag in which the privilege to use the license, permit, stamp or tag expires on December 31 in the year issued, the deadline to submit a written request for a refund shall be December 31 of that year.

(iii) For any license in which the hunting season to use that license has been extended into January of the succeeding calendar year, the deadline to submit a written request for a refund of that license shall be January 31 of the year in which the hunting season expires.

(iv) Refunds shall be denied in any circumstance where the licensee hunted on the license for the designated species as specified in Commission rules and regulations, including special archery seasons, during the year for which the license is issued.

(f) There shall be no right of appeal to the Commission for any decision rendered by the License Review Board or the Department for any provision of this section.



(g) Restoration of preference points. In any case where a license may be obtained by the accumulation of preference points, or preference points may be obtained in lieu of application for a license and a license refund is granted by the Department, all accumulated preference points, including any preference point that may have been earned for the year the license is issued, shall be restored to the applicant.

(h) In the case of the death of a licensee who has been issued an any wild bison license or a mountain goat license, a written request for the license to be surrendered to the Department and reissued to an immediate family member of the decedent shall be made to the License Review Board. The request shall be supported by a copy of the respective death certificate, and the date of death on such certificate shall have resulted in the licensee not being able to participate in the majority of the regular or special archery hunting season.

(i) The license shall be reissued to a qualified immediate family member of the decedent at no fee.

(ii) The license shall be reissued for the same species, hunt area and license type as the license surrendered.

(iii) A license reissued to an immediate family member of a decedent shall count against the maximum number of licenses a person may otherwise apply for and receive as a condition of Commission regulations.

**Section 27. Alteration or Transfer of Licenses, Permits, Stamps, Tags, Preference Points or Competitive Raffle Chances to Another Person Prohibited; Use by Another Person Prohibited; Invalidation by Improper Fees.** Department licenses, permits, stamps or tags shall not be altered by anyone other than authorized Department personnel.

(a) No license, permit, stamp, tag, preference point or competitive raffle chances shall be transferred, or used for the purpose of taking wildlife, except by the individual to whom it was issued and therein named and while in that individual's possession. No individual shall take or attempt to take any wildlife using another individual's license, permit, stamp or tag. Any license, permit, stamp, tag, preference point or competitive raffle chances shall not be valid unless the proper fees have been received by the Department.

(b) Licenses, excluding lifetime licenses, shall only become valid when signed by the person in whose name the license is issued in the space provided on the license for the owner's signature, and where applicable, co-signed by a parent or legal guardian.

(c) Any Department enforcement officer may seize as evidence any license, permit, stamp or tag that was obtained in violation of Commission regulations or Wyoming statute.

**Section 28. License Expiration.** All licenses, excluding licenses to operate game bird farms, shall expire on the last day of the calendar year in which issued except, the Commission by regulation provides that big game licenses and wild bison licenses issued in one (1) calendar

year are valid through the closing date established in January of the next succeeding calendar year when the Commission establishes a hunting season for big game animals or wild bison for which the licenses are valid that opens in one (1) calendar year and closes in January of the next succeeding calendar year. All daily hunting and fishing licenses shall only be valid for the calendar day(s) delineated on the license. A nonresident five (5) day fishing license is valid for five (5) consecutive days.

**Section 29. Super Tag Licenses and Super Tag Trifecta Licenses.** Wyoming statutes provide for the issuance of big game, trophy game and wild bison licenses to be issued through a competitive raffle process. Big game, trophy game and wild bison licenses authorized under this section shall be valid for the species for which the license has been issued.

(a) These licenses shall be valid in any hunt area in accordance with Commission regulations, except for the following:

(i) A Super Tag License or a Super Tag Trifecta License for moose shall not be valid in any moose hunt area which has a total quota of ten (10) or less antlered or any moose licenses.

(ii) A Super Tag License or a Super Tag Trifecta License for full price bighorn sheep shall not be valid in any bighorn sheep hunt area which has a total quota of eight (8) or less full price bighorn sheep licenses.

(iii) A Super Tag License or a Super Tag Trifecta License shall not be valid within Grand Teton National Park.

(iv) A Super Tag License or a Super Tag Trifecta License for wild bison shall not be valid in any wild bison hunt area which has a total quota of ten (10) or less any wild bison licenses.

(b) Recipients of a Super Tag License and Super Tag Trifecta License shall be exempt from the provisions in this Chapter limiting the number of big game, trophy game or wild bison licenses an individual may possess in any one (1) calendar year. An individual is eligible to receive a Super Tag License or Super Tag Trifecta License for big game, trophy game or wild bison annually. Recipients shall be exempt from the five (5) year waiting period and preference points shall not be lost if an individual receives a Super Tag License or Super Tag Trifecta License for moose or a full price bighorn sheep and shall be exempt from the once in a lifetime license restriction for mountain goat and wild bison licenses. Preference points shall not be lost if an individual receives a Super Tag License or Super Tag Trifecta License for antelope, deer or elk.

(c) There shall be up to eleven (11) successful recipients of licenses from all the individuals that purchased a Super Tag License or Super Tag Trifecta License competitive raffle chance. Up to ten (10) individual recipients shall be issued one Super Tag License as follows: one (1) antelope license, or one (1) bighorn sheep license, or one (1) black bear license, or one

(1) deer license, or one (1) elk license, or one (1) gray wolf license, or one (1) moose license, or one (1) mountain goat license, or one (1) mountain lion license or one (1) wild bison license. The successful recipient of a Super Tag License shall be based on what species of big game, trophy game or wild bison license was randomly drawn for the participating recipient. One (1) successful applicant shall be issued Super Tag Trifecta Licenses, allowing that individual to choose, at their discretion, no more than three (3) different species of big game, trophy game and wild bison licenses.

(d) Super Tag License and Super Tag Trifecta License competitive raffle chances shall be sold annually beginning on July 15 and ending on July 1 each succeeding year.

(i) The price for a single Super Tag License competitive raffle chance shall be ten dollars (\$10) for both residents and nonresidents. The price for a single Super Tag Trifecta License competitive raffle chance shall be thirty dollars (\$30) for both residents and nonresidents. The number of competitive raffle chances that any one person may purchase is not limited in number.

(ii) For an individual species Super Tag License competitive raffle chance, a person shall choose which species of big game or trophy game or wild bison they purchase a competitive raffle chance for. An applicant may choose to purchase a competitive raffle chance(s) for multiple species.

(iii) For a Super Tag Trifecta License competitive raffle chance, a person does not need to select the individual species of big game or trophy game or wild bison at the time they purchase a raffle chance.

(iv) A person purchasing a Super Tag License or Super Tag Trifecta License competitive raffle chance shall not be eligible to submit a voluntary withdrawal form or be eligible for a refund for competitive raffle chances purchased.

(e) A competitive drawing shall be conducted to determine the winners of the individual species Super Tag Licenses and Super Tag Trifecta License.

(i) There shall be no preference given to residents or nonresidents in the drawing or issuance of a Super Tag License or Super Tag Trifecta License.

(f) License fees for successful Super Tag License and Super Tag Trifecta License holders shall be as set forth in Wyoming Statute or Commission regulation.

(g) No person shall purchase a competitive raffle chance for a Super Tag License or Super Tag Trifecta License during any calendar year in which the person's privilege to obtain a license or preference point has been revoked or suspended by a court or the Wildlife Violator Compact.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

~~Mark Anselmi~~ David Rael, Vice President

Dated: ~~March 14~~ July 11, 2018

# STATEMENT OF REASONS

## CHAPTER 46

### FISHING REGULATIONS

W.S. § 23-1-302(a) empowers the Commission to fix season and bag limits, open, shorten or close seasons on any species or sex of wildlife (defined in § 23-1-101) and to establish rules and regulations necessary for control of the game species.

Fishing regulations are usually set for a two-year period unless it is necessary to reflect legislative changes in regulation. The Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) strives to provide diverse, quality fisheries resources and angling opportunities by regularly evaluating the effectiveness and need for regulations and adjusts them accordingly. These revisions are based on biological assessments of fisheries resources and public input.

References to counties were revised. Counties are consistently referenced in the header line for each regulation exception. Additional references to counties were only used for water names that apply to multiple Wyoming waters in different counties.

#### Section 2. Definitions;

(h): Deleted “, or have in possession,” since “Possession Limit” is defined separately.

(z): Replaced the word “drainage” with “locations” because all possession areas are not drainages.

#### Section 4. Methods;

(g)(iv): Added Hawk Springs Reservoir to list of waters with a Special Winter Ice Fishing Provision.

#### Section 5. Creel Limits;

Changed title from “General Creel Limits” to “Daily Creel and Possession Limits” which are terms with definitions in Section 2.

(i): Added a combined stream and lake limit for the Trout category to clarify that the daily creel and possession limit for trout is 6, rather than 9, for anglers fishing a combination of streams and lakes.

#### Section 6. Seining and Trapping of Fish;

(g): Added a regulation that makes it illegal to tamper with or remove another seining license holder’s traps without written permission.

(i) and (j): Removed references to “holding facility”, a term defined in Chapter 10 of WGFD regulations that includes ponds. Intent is to prohibit wild caught live baitfish from being held in ponds without a private fish stocking authorization.

(k): Added a regulation that implements Department personnel authority to inspect a seining license holder's baitfish and require fish to be removed or destroyed if unauthorized species are found.

Section 7. Live Baitfish Dealers;

Removed multiple references to "holding facility" for reasons described for Section 6(i) above.

(o)(i): Added language allowing live baitfish to be "destroyed" where removal from Wyoming is not reasonable.

Section 8. Use of Baitfish;

(c): Addressed a regulatory loophole, by adding a regulation prohibiting anglers from possessing live baitfish when fishing on waters where use of live baitfish is prohibited.

Section 17. Area 1 Exceptions to General Provisions;

Restructured the regulations in this section, moving all regulations pertaining to Grand Teton National Park (GTNP) and the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway (JDR) to Section 20. The JDR makes up much of the area between Grand Teton National Park and Yellowstone National Park. Also moved one exception related to Snake River proper so that all Snake River exceptions are presented from upstream to downstream; moved from (s) to (i).

In order to simplify regulations, several antiquated exceptions to the statewide stream regulation were removed.

Section 18. Area 1 Live Baitfish;

Added regulation that allows commercially preserved dead baitfish to be used in Area 1.

Section 20. Grand Teton National Park;

Added language such that Section 20 regulations also apply to waters in the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway (JDR).

Moved multiple regulations from Section 17 to Section 20 so that all regulations exceptions in Grand Teton National Park and the JDR are found in Section 20.

Removed bait regulations from subsection (b) due to redundancy with Section 18 baitfish regulations.

Section 22. Area 2 Exceptions to General Provisions;

Deleted the Stream exception (a) for Area 2 so that the statewide stream regulation shall apply. This change will eliminate the "No more than one cutthroat shall exceed twelve inches" regulation from most streams in Area 2.

In an attempt to simplify regulations, multiple exceptions to the statewide stream regulation were removed.

(g)(i): Removed portions of this regulation exception that are redundant with the statewide stream regulation.

(u): Added an exception for a new Dubois community fishing pond (Pete's Pond) to extend fishing opportunity between fish stocking events.

Section 23. Area 2 Live Baitfish:

Removed Live Baitfish location A to simplify baitfish regulations in Area 2 and to protect declining populations of burbot from overharvest. Very few Area 2A seining and trapping licenses have been sold in recent years. The single remaining baitfish location in Area 2 (2B) will be renamed 2A.

Section 25. Area 3 Exceptions to General Provisions:

(h): Added regulation exception for North Sayles Reservoir #1 to address regional angler desire for additional opportunities to fish for trophy sized trout.

(i): Removed liberal creel limit for brown trout in Sand Creek to simplify regulations. The regulation was not resulting in desired harvest of brown trout.

Section 26. Area 3 Live Baitfish:

(a)(iii): Removed the Little Missouri, Little Powder and Cheyenne River drainages from the Designated Wild Caught Live Baitfish Possession Area. Intent is to reduce the likelihood of illicit fish introductions by prohibiting the possession of live wild caught minnows that originated in the Belle Fourche drainage in other drainages where they can neither be collected nor used. Possession of commercially produced minnows will still be allowed in all drainages.

(c): Added regulation allowing the holder of a seining license to collect baitfish for use as dead bait from the Tongue River and Goose Creek drainages to address angler desires.

Section 28. Area 4 Exceptions to General Provisions:

Deleted the Stream exception (a) for Area 4 so that the statewide stream regulation shall apply. This change will eliminate the "No more than one cutthroat shall exceed twelve inches" regulation from most streams in Area 2.

(d): Deleted an antiquated seasonal fishing closure on Boulder Creek.

(c): Boulder Lake is accessed through the Fall Creek Wildlife Habitat Management Area. Changed the lake closure to align with dates the Wildlife Habitat Management Area is closed.

(g)(ii): Increased creel and possession limits for Lake Trout smaller than 28 inches in Flaming Gorge Reservoir. This reservoir is managed primarily for trophy sized lake trout and kokanee salmon. However, the abundance of trophy lake trout is declining and due in part to a growing population of lake trout smaller than 28 inches. Growth rates for these smaller lake trout are slowing as they compete with each other for limited food resources. The proposed regulation is intended to highlight the abundance of smaller lake trout and encourage additional angler harvest of these fish.

(q): Deleted a closure at an inflow to High Savery Reservoir that was intended to spawning weir that is no longer used.

(s): Adjusted dates of a seasonal fishing closure on Meadow Creek to align with Boulder Lake mentioned above.

(y): Deleted a regulation exception for Naughton Power Plant Pond because the pond is now toxic and will no longer support aquatic life.

Section 30. Flaming Gorge Reservoir Reciprocal Stamp:

Revised language to conform to the updated Reciprocal Fishing Agreement (RFA) between the WGFD and the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources. The proposed changes to Section 30 would eliminate the sale of stamps to anglers from states other than Utah, thereby requiring those anglers to purchase nonresident fishing licenses from the state they wish to fish in. Past language limited harvest to a single creel limit, “regardless of the number of stamps or licenses held”. The revised language would allow anglers that possess either two fishing licenses (UT and WY) or a fishing license and a reciprocity stamp to harvest a limit of fish from each state. The price of the stamp was last increased in 1996, when it increased from \$5 to \$10. The WGFD Commission recently directed the WGFD to recommend a reasonable increase in the cost of the stamp for 2019. Either state may choose to withdraw from the RFA with 90 days notice to the other state agency.

Section 32. Area 5 Exceptions to General Provisions:

(a) through (c): Simplified regulations by eliminating regulation that applied to trout and brook trout in combination. The statewide regulations for stream and lakes will apply to the trout category (species other than brook trout and lake trout). Area 5 exceptions to brook trout creel limits are proposed that restrict harvest of brook trout on lakes to 6 fish rather than the statewide limit of 16.

(d): Removed Alsop Lake special regulation due to occasional winterkills, limited trophy potential and a documented reduction in ice angler use due to the regulation exception.

(f): Extended the fishing closure on Bump Sullivan Reservoir to avoid conflicts between anglers and waterfowl hunters on this small reservoir.

Removed special regulations from the North Platte River below Pathfinder Dam, between Alcova and Gray Reef Reservoir, and Bessemer Bend Bridge to Guernsey Dam to simplify regulations.

Section 33. Area 5 Live Baitfish:

Eliminated subsections (a) and (b) due to redundancy with other portions of Section 33.

(a)(i): Removed the North Platte River proper from the dam at Dave Johnson Power Plant to Glendo Dam (including Glendo Reservoir) from the list of waters where wild caught live baitfish from location A could be used. Asian Clam, an aquatic invasive species, is established downstream of Glendo Dam and life stages can be moved via water and baitfish. Change is



intended to reduce spread of this AIS via baitfish. Reorganized the waters in the list alphabetically.

(a)(ii): Removed the Laramie River drainage east of I25 and the North Platte River drainage from Dave Johnson Dam to Glendo Dam from the location A baitfish collection area, but added 8 new standing waters and the canal system below the Whalen Diversion to the live baitfish collection area. Intent is to allow baitfish collection on waters where the baitfish can be used, protect native species of greatest conservation need in portions of the Laramie River drainage east of I-25, and contain the spread of Asian Clam to waters below Glendo Dam. Reorganized waters so that lists in (i) and (ii) are in same order.

(a)(iii): Removed the North Platte River between the Dave Johnson Power Plant and Glendo Dam, including Glendo Reservoir, for the wild caught live baitfish possession area for location A. Intent is to keep the collection, use and possession areas restricted to waters in the North Platte River downstream of Glendo Dam. Numerous species are found in the collection area that do not occur in Plains Lakes and other waters in Albany County. Excluding Albany County from the possession area will help avoid introductions of unwanted species and AIS.

(b): Moved the downstream boundary of the Area 5 location B live baitfish collection area to Glendo Dam so that collection, use and possession area boundaries for locations A and B are consistent.

(f): Deleted Area 5 Live Baitfish location D for simplification. Very few seining licenses are sold for this area.



## WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

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July 16, 2018

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** David Dewald, Senior Assistant Attorney General

**FROM:** David Zafft, Fisheries Management Coordinator

**COPY TO:** Alan Osterland, Mike Choma and Terri Weinhandl

**SUBJECT:** Regulation Changes Subsequent to Public Comment, Chapter 46,  
Fishing Regulations

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department (Department) conducted thirteen (13) public meetings across the state (70 members of the public attended) to address draft regulation proposals for Chapter 46. Draft proposals were also available for viewing and public comment through the Department website from April 20 to June 4, 2018. The Department received ninety-three (93) written comments (45 mailed and 48 online) for Chapter 46.

The majority of the comments (57) were directly related to extend the artificial flies and lures only section of the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone River to include the entire main-stem river in Wyoming. Fifty-eight percent (58%) of those commenting on this proposal opposed the proposed regulation change. Most opposition was from local families that enjoy fishing with bait and many expressed concern that the proposal unfairly catered to fly anglers and would result in lost opportunity for young and novice anglers. Based on public comment, the Department eliminated this proposed regulation change.

Most of the attendees at the public meeting in Jackson expressed opposition to the proposal to change the stream creel limit in the Snake River drainage (Area 1) to the statewide stream regulation. Twelve (12) written comments also pertained to this proposal and all were opposed to the change. Anglers expressed strong concern that the change would allow anglers to harvest three (3) spawning size cutthroat trout, rather than one, and that this level of harvest would be excessive for streams managed as wild, native cutthroat trout fisheries. Based on public comment, the Department eliminated this proposed regulation change. Due to this opposition to changing creel limits in Area 1, the proposal to apply the existing creel limit for lakes in Grand Teton National Park to all waters (streams and lakes) in the Park was also eliminated. The existing Area 1 stream regulation was added to Section 20 for clarification.

The proposed regulation changes would have eliminated the following baitfish regulation in Grand Teton National Park and replaced it with the Area 1 Live Baitfish regulation in Section 18 of Chapter 46;

“The use or possession of fish, fish eggs (real or artificial) or fish parts for bait is prohibited in all waters within Grand Teton National Park, except that it shall be permissible to possess or use the following dead, nongame fish on or along the shores of Jackson Lake: redbreasted shiner, speckled dace, longnose dace, Paiute sculpin, mottled sculpin, Utah chub, and Utah sucker.”

The intent of the proposed change was to simplify the baitfish regulation in the Snake River drainage (Area 1) by making the regulations the same, inside and outside of Grand Teton National Park (GTNP). The proposed change would have opened all lakes in Grand Teton National Park (and the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway or “JDR”), as well as the Buffalo Fork River, Gros Ventre River and the Snake River downstream of Wilson to the use of dead baitfish. The change would also have allowed the *possession* of dead baitfish on waters throughout the Park, complicating enforcement. Two written comments and the majority of those attending the public meeting in Jackson were strongly opposed to opening additional waters to the use of dead baitfish. As a result, the Department proposed the following revised regulation for GTNP and the JDR;

“The use or possession of live baitfish is prohibited. The use or possession of dead baitfish or parts thereof is prohibited on all waters except that it shall be permissible to possess or use the following dead baitfish on any lake where fishing is not restricted to the use of artificial flies and lures only: redbreasted shiner, speckled dace, longnose dace, Paiute sculpin, mottled sculpin, Utah chub, Utah sucker and commercially preserved dead baitfish.”

The only impact of this change would be to expand the possession and use of dead baitfish from Jackson Lake to all lakes in GTNP and the JDR. We believe this change is much more closely aligned with Department goals and public desires.

The Commission also set the fee for a Wyoming reciprocal fishing stamp in regulation. Purchase and possession of this stamp will allow a person with a valid Utah resident to fish the Wyoming portions of the Flaming Gorge Reservoir without having to purchase a non-resident Wyoming fishing license.

No other changes were made to the proposed 2019 Fishing Regulations subsequent to public comment.

# Wyoming Game and Fish Department Comment Form



The Department welcomes comment regarding proposed changes to regulations. Questions about these proposed regulation changes should be directed to Department Regional Offices for clarification. No individual Department response will be generated from questions submitted through this comment form. Written comments shall be accepted at all Department sponsored meetings, by standard mail at the address below, or on the WGFD website at <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/Get-Involved/Public-Meetings>. Comments will not be submitted via email, fax or telephone. All written comments must be received at the below address no later than 5:00 p.m., June 4, 2018.

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



**Please use a separate form for each of the regulations below**

- Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation
- Chapter 44, Regulation for Issuance of Licenses, Permits, Stamps, Tags, Preference Points and Competitive Raffle Chances
- Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations
- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

**Comments:**

I support the Section 22 - Clarks Fork - fishing by artificial flies and lures. I believe this will improve the fishery in this area.

Some years ago I spoke with someone who grew up at the Beartooth (Drug Ranch) Ranch. He indicated fishing was very good at the ranch and there were lots of big trout in the 1960's in that area. There were also fewer white fish.

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

Cody

Duane Feick  
Printed Name  
Cody, WY

4/26/18  
Date

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form



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- Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations
- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

As an angler who was born and raised here fishing the Buffalo Bill Reservoir and the North Fork River above it I am very worried about how poorly they are fishing now. All the fires and those tons and tons of snow really caused terrible effects on the fishing here. Almost every fish I caught last fall and winter were extremely thin not doing well. The lakes and river were so muddy that those fish really suffered.

To be honest I stopped fishing it because I didn't want to hurt any of those fish worse than they have been already.

I want the North Fork to be catch and release only until the fish numbers and the health of these fish can recover.

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

Cray

Josh George

Printed Name

4/26/18

Date



## Comments on Clarks Fork of Yellowstone Proposed Fishing Regulation Changes

I attended the meeting in Cody in late May that discussed the proposed change in the fishing regulations on the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone River (CF). I live in Clark and have fished that river for the last 19 years or so. I only fly fish and practice catch and release. Over the years I have caught and released many rainbow, brown, cutthroat and even a few brook trout. I have also caught some hybrids. I am glad that the Game and Fish stopped stocking the cutthroat trout in 2016. It was a waste of money. The fish did not survive well and were called "hot dogs with fins" by the locals. Over the last 19 years, I have never been checked by a redshirt on this stretch of the river below the canyon. That is not a complaint but an observation. A single warden, Chris Queen, is not sufficient to patrol this river. Given that fact, who is going to stop the bait fisherman on the CF? Chris Queen does a good job given the circumstances. My brother in law fishes the CF when he visits. He is a specialized worm dunker. He uses size 4 bait hooks, small portions of worms, light leaders and a water filled clear bubble. In July a few years ago, in one day he caught and released over 50 trout without killing a single one. I netted them all from my raft and they were all hooked in the mouth. I recognize he is the exception. I can promise you he won't fish the CF again. He believes fly fisherman are self-serving elitists.

I don't believe that eliminating bait fisherman on the CF will accomplish a thing. It is meant to satisfy the trout shops in Cody and Trout Unlimited. They are all well intentioned. They see fish numbers dropping on the North Fork of the Shoshone. They are projecting the reasons for this on bait fisherman. That may be true of the Shoshone. It is a fishery hammered by fisherman from the road near Pahaska down to Buffalo Bill. That just isn't the case on the CF. It is not a roadside stream. I seldom see any fisherman on the CF fishing unless it is a few weekends in July and August. Most are in rafts and many are affiliated with the guided fishing trips. I seldom see gut piles of trout on the CF. I have found a few dead trout floating in the river. Most of them were the little planted cutthroat. They may have just died because it was too tough a go for them. Just for the record, I have seen some dead trout with a "Hopper Sandwich" fly buried in their throat.

In my opinion, the biggest problem with this lower section of the CF is habitat, run off, irrigation diversions and poor irrigation practices. Fixing those is cost prohibitive and a hassle. My concerns and thoughts are as follows:

1. Pat O'Hara Creek dumps a lot of mud and silt into the CF just below the Clark Canal Diversion off County Road 7RP. I don't know if this is from cattle or from the poor soil or what. This starts as early as March and depending on rainfall can extend into September. It can't be a good thing. When the CF is a muddy mess, you can bet this creek is a major culprit.
2. Because of the many fires over the years, the amount of silt and dirt in the CF can make it unfishable from April through as late as August. The local tributaries like Little Rock and Bennet Creek in this stretch don't throw much mud. I think that Elk Creek, North Crandall and Crandall Creek during a rainfall or thunderstorm dump tons of silt into the CF. I have been on the north bank above North Crandall Creek and seen mud cascading into that creek and consequently downstream into the CF. That can't be good for trout. I don't believe that anything but time will fix this.

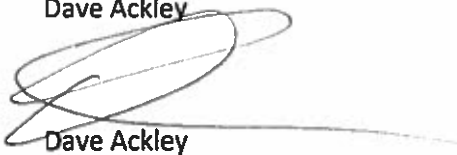
3. The Clark Canal Diversion blocks fish movement at various times of the year. About a mile down the Clark Canal above that diversion, there is a gate with some minor return into the CF. I have caught trout below that gate on the Clark Canal. I always wonder what happens to those trout when the canal is rapidly dewatered later in the fall.

4. Bennett Creek is frequently dewatered by the time it crosses under the Canyon Road. This usually occurs in mid-summer. Why is this allowed? It is a viable trout stream when it has water. A few years ago, the Corp of Engineers investigated a person who took a backhoe and diverted Bennett Creek into Little Rock Creek about a mile above where it naturally ran into Little Rock Creek. I know what happened to the trout that were living in that dewatered stretch.

5. Little Rock Creek throws the most water into the CF in the area involved in this change. It is a freestone stream that seldom is discolored. Above County Road 8UC, this stream is full of mostly brown trout until you reach the upper stretches where an incredible population of reproducing rainbows exists. There is also a large population of brook trout that frequent a spring creek just above the last private holding in that canyon. On Little Rock Creek, there is an irrigation diversion about 100 ft. upstream from the new creek bridge on County Road 8UC. It blocks fish migration for most of the year. I have caught rainbows and cutthroats below the diversion. Above it, I just catch browns. The irrigation canal just above the diversion, has no weir to block fish moving down the canal. I have seen large brown trout flopping in downstream fields that have been dry docked by flood irrigating from that canal. High on Little Rock Creek in the narrow canyon below Deep Lake, some habitat improvements to slow the water down would be helpful. Despite that fast flow, the rainbows thrive up there. Access can be a problem for road fisherman.

I don't want to complain. I know resources for the Game and Fish are severely limited. I just don't think eliminating the worm dunkers on the CF will accomplish a damn thing with regard to fish numbers. I don't believe they are the culprits in the declining fish population. They may be on the North Fork of the Shoshone but the pressure, access, mud and irrigation issues are completely different on these rivers. <sup>DA</sup>

Dave Ackley



Dave Ackley



# Wyoming Game and Fish Department Chapter 46, Live Baitfish Comment Form

Please take a few minutes to write down your comments related to the proposed 2019 regulation recommendations and what changes, if any, you would suggest. Written public comments shall be accepted at all public information gatherings, by standard mail at the address below, or on the WGFD website at [wgfd.wyo.gov/fishing-regs-update](http://wgfd.wyo.gov/fishing-regs-update). Comments WILL NOT be accepted via e-mail, fax or telephone. Unsigned comment forms WILL NOT be forwarded to the Commission for their consideration.

**All written comments must be received at the address below no later than 5:00 p.m. July 4, 2018.**

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



Comments:

I FISH MAINLY WHEATLAND #1 + GRAY ROCK  
SO I WOULD HAVE A 5A LICENSE BUT I CATCH  
GLENDO 2 OR 3 TIMES A YEAR SO I WOULD HAVE  
TO FIND OTHER BAIT SOMEWHERE ELSE  
COULD SOMEONE STILL CATCH SUCKER-MINNOWS  
USE THEM DEAD

TIM MORAN  
15 WESTVIEW CIRCLE  
WHEATLAND WYO. 82201

mail

(Please use back of sheet for additional comments)

  
Signature

4-26-2018  
Date

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form



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Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



Please use a separate form for each of the regulations below

- Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation
- Chapter 44, Regulation for Issuance of Licenses, Permits, Stamps, Tags, Preference Points and Competitive Raffle Chances
- Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations
- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

- ① I support the proposed regulation changes on the Clark's Fork of the Yellowstone to read "Clark's Fork River proper in Park County. (i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only."  
I propose an addendum to read "3 trout in possession". The Clark's Fork is in serious decline and a 6 fish limit will add to the decline in Wyoming's 1st Wild and Scenic River.
- ② All native Yellowstone Cutthroat should be NO KILL on the North Fork of the Snake, Clark's Fork, Greybull and Wood River. By not putting a protective limit restriction says to the "average Joe" that native fisheries are not as important as the G & F says the cutthroat are.

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

mail

Tim Wade  
Printed Name

5/1/2018  
Date

Frank Barton  
347 Aster St.  
Casper, WY 82604

April 30, 2018

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
Attn: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



RE: Proposed changes to Live Bait and or Seine license rules

I received the request to provide comments pertaining to the proposed changes to the live bait trapping license. I am typing the letter, because I don't write very well at all, so I hope you will accept this.

**Proposed change to locations 2A:** Agree, make it all Location 2. In fact the whole state should be one area. I find it ridiculous that a properly licensed fisherman can't go throw a minnow trap in the water, catch a few minnows or crawdads, and go fishing. If the department wants more money, then have a minnow/crawdada license for this instance.

**Proposed changes reference to holding of live bait fish:** I don't understand this one. I'm not being sarcastic, but where else would they be held?

**Proposed changes to allow WG&F to come inspect my holding facility:** With all due respect, absolutely NOT! I don't fully know Wyoming law, (I'm new here), but don't you already have that right with probable cause? I would understand if I was offering the minnows for sale, but for the person that just wants to have some bait fish for personal use. No. Again, I argue that there should be two bait fish licenses, one for personal use, and one for commercial use. It wouldn't be that hard at all. Then if someone wants to have a commercial live bait license, then that business can be subject to additional rules.

Sincerely

Frank Barton

mail



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3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604

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- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

**Comments:**

*People of all ages who are physically challenged should be able to fish here as well as small children. Using a hook and worm to catch fish should be allowed as well as fly fishing. Why discriminate?*



(Please use reverse for additional comments)

*Nancy Woolard*  
Printed Name

*5/8/18*  
Date

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form

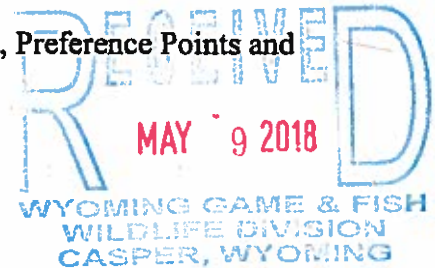


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- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species



Comments:

*Brad Blount SPID 1555695167*

*I am an avid sportsman and love to fly fish and will fully support any regulations for the Clark Fork of the Yellowstone to become a fly/lure only river. I believe these types of regulations help maintain a healthier fish population and will create a more established fishery for years to come.*

*Thank you for your time.*

*Bradley T. Blount*

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

*Brad T Blount*  
Printed Name

*5/11/2018*  
Date



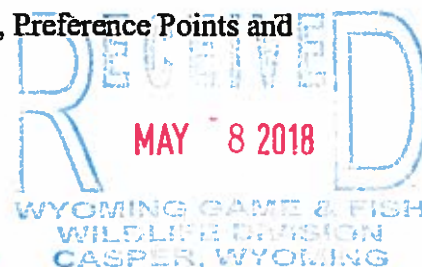
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Comments:

*I support the proposed changes "Fly's and Lures" only on the Clark's Fork River system in Park County.*

*The cutthroat "Native" trout should be "NO KILL" We need protection per previous meetings I attended with G+F recently.*

*SPID #18200723241*

*mail*

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

*DAVE R. McMillan*  
Printed Name

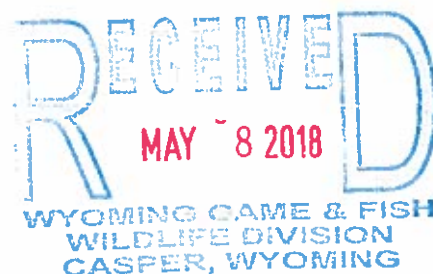
*5/1/18*  
Date

April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper, Wyoming 82604

and Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
5400 Bishop Boulevard  
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82006

*Sent via U.S. Mail and E-mail*  
(<http://wgfd.wyo.gov>)



**Re: *Proposed Changes to Fishing Regulations for Snake River***

Dear Sir/Ma'am:

I have been advised that Wyoming Game and Fish is considering changes to regulations involving the number of Cutthroat Trout allowed to be harvested from the Snake River and use of live bait.

The Western Slope Snake River Cutthroat is a prized native fish. We should do everything to protect the Cutthroat. I have fished for 25 years here in Jackson and have lived here for the past 15 years. I fish with a Guide 9-10 times a year and fish by hiking along the Snake River another 20+ days each year. I have never harvested a Cutthroat. I do harvest Brook Trout as an invasive species and Rainbow Trout from the South Fork of the Snake.

I have been advised that there is a false belief that to permit harvesting will enhance tourism. Most tourists to our region stay in hotels and do not have cooking facilities. Tourists tend to eat at restaurants. The enjoyment of fishing is the thrill in the catch not the kill or eating of the catch.

I have been advised another change under consideration would be to allow live bait use. This is a dangerous idea. It is difficult to battle invasive species and to chance the introduction of an invasive species into the Snake River Drainage is a horrendous idea. Invasive Species have devastated other rivers and lakes. Protect our Waters.

mail

Letter to Wyoming Game & Fish

*Re: Proposed Changes to Fishing Regulations for Snake River*

April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Page Two

We should seek to preserve the natural environment of the Snake River and protect our fish and animals that rely on our assistance to preserve their environment.

Please consider this as a public comment on changes being considered by Wyoming Game and Fish.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard A. Barlow', written in a cursive style.

Richard A. Barlow

P.O. Box 144

Moose, Wyoming 83012

RAB/kmb





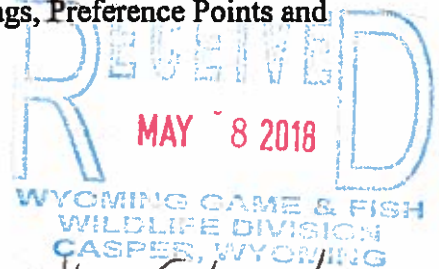
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Casper WY 82604

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- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species



Comments:

I support flies and lures only on the Clarks Fork. 20 years ago, the fishing was great on the river. Now, the fishing is not so good.

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

Neerina Adwhiteman  
Printed Name

MAY 1, 2018  
Date

# Wyoming Game and Fish Department Comment Form



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- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

*We support the Area 2 regulations for the Clark's Fork.*

*mail*

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

OLIVER + DONNA MOORE  
Printed Name

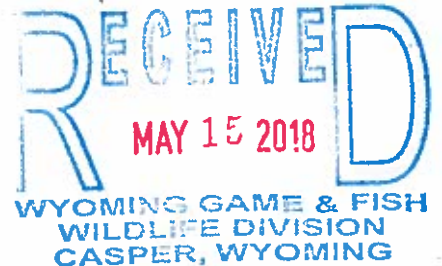
5/9/18  
Date

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
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Comments:

I oppose The proposed rule change for Snake River cutthroats. Please keep The creel limit as it is - 3 fish, only 1 more than 12". The current rule is not confusing. It is not broke - please don't fix it. A statewide cutthroat rule of 3 fish, only 1 more than 12" would be preferable, if the aim is to "simplify" regs. Our <sup>native</sup> cutthroat are facing environmental challenges like warming water, as well as increased fishing pressure, so let's keep protecting them.

I also am averse to The idea of allowing more bait to be used on waters in Grand Teton National Park. I worry about The spread of invasive species into The watershed, including parasites. Artificial flies + lures only are OK with me  
(Same on Pacific Creek)

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

Jim Stanford  
Printed Name

5/14/18  
Date

Jackson



May 12, 2018

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Attn: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper, WY 82604



Re: Proposed Changes to Trout Regulations, Jackson Area I

Dear Sirs –

I am writing to ask you not to change the creel limits on trout in and around Jackson, Wyoming.

While I appreciate the concept of simplifying the language around creel limits to seek consistency across the state, I am opposed to the proposed changes for the following reasons:

1. The existing language around creel limits (“Three trout, no more than one trout shall exceed 16 inches; and, no more than one cutthroat trout shall exceed 12 inches”) is very clear and not at all confusing to anyone. I have never spoken to a single fisherman who was unaware of these limits. Thus, the ‘simplification’ is wholly unnecessary.
2. I am unaware of any scientific study that justifies the change that allows taking 3 trout up to 15.99 inches. If such a study exists, can you please provide the citation?
3. I am also unaware of any scientific study that justifies taking larger cutthroat trout. Given that they don’t often exceed 16 inches in western Wyoming streams, I believe that the proposed language (“Three trout, no more than one trout shall exceed 16 inches) will degrade the stream fishing experience in western Wyoming. This makes no logical sense, especially because the rationale (simplifying stream limit regulations) is wholly unnecessary.

I urge the commissioners to reject the proposed regulations for stream limits in western Wyoming, but especially in and around Jackson, Wyoming.

Sincerely yours,

Peter T. Regan  
PO Box 7405  
Jackson, WY 83002  
(512)-785-9661  
petertregan@gmail.com

mail

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form

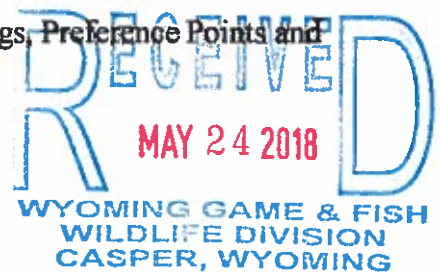


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3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604

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- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species



Comments:

Regarding the size limit for cutthroats in Area 1 being simplified to the statewide 3 fish one over 16 inches, my opinion is that as long as I have lived in Wyoming (over 70 years), the fishing for large wild cutts has never been better on Salt River - & that, despite all the fishing pressure we now have. I believe that we have enough fish eaters in Star Valley that would be able to take 2 14-15 inch cutts plus one over 16 inches that it would reduce the average size of trout here. Worse, it would remove 3 spawning size cutthroats from the population rather than just one. Salt R., Greys R., Snake R. & the Hoback are the native range for the fine-spotted Snake River cutthroats - they are a special fish for Wyoming, and we should do all we can to help them thrive. The Big Game managers don't mind making complicated regulations for every mountain & canyon - I think fisherman can deal with a small complication to benefit our native cutts.

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

T. Paul Stauffer  
Printed Name  
T. Paul Stauffer

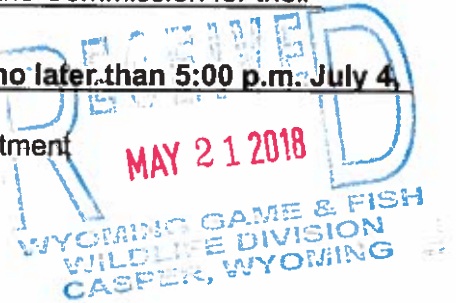
5-20-18  
Date

## Wyoming Game and Fish Department Chapter 46, Live Baitfish Comment Form

Please take a few minutes to write down your comments related to the proposed 2019 regulation recommendations and what changes, if any, you would suggest. Written public comments shall be accepted at all public information gatherings, by standard mail at the address below, or on the WGFD website at [wgfd.wyo.gov/fishing-regs-update](http://wgfd.wyo.gov/fishing-regs-update). Comments WILL NOT be accepted via e-mail, fax or telephone. Unsigned comment forms WILL NOT be forwarded to the Commission for their consideration.

**All written comments must be received at the address below no later than 5:00 p.m. July 4, 2018.**

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



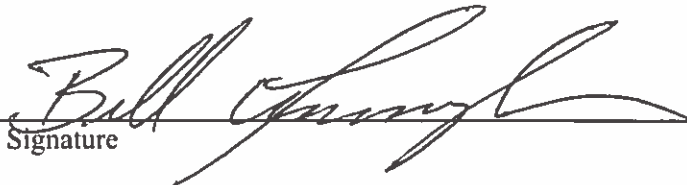
Comments:

I Think there is to much Regs on minnows. Why Cant you use minnows State wide in wyo. like south dakota Docs. Just asking

If I have a friend check my traps I will have to give him a permission slip to take back to my tank

mail

(Please use back of sheet for additional comments)

  
Signature

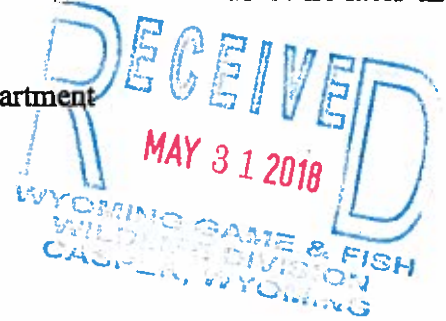
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Casper WY 82604



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- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

I would like to see the Clarksfork River restricted to Wyoming resident fishing only. Wyoming residents should be allowed to "worm" or "fly" fish in the Clarksfork River. Non-residents have many fishing options in the Cody area.

mail

Nancy Woolard  
Printed Name

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

May 27, 2018  
Date



# Wyoming Game and Fish Department Comment Form



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- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species



*cc*  
title entry, *Library Science*, a catalog entry of a book, document, etc., by title, usually arranged alphabetically by the first word other than an article.  
title-holder (tī'tl/er hōl/dar), n. 1. one who holds a title. 2. Sports, one who holds a championship; present champion. [TITLE + HOLDER]  
title insurance, insurance protecting the owner or mortgagee of real estate from lawsuits or claims arising from a defective title.

*Clark hasn't changed the spelling.*  
*Clark... what's in a name? It's what some folks call home. They live there for a reason. Allow them to manage the water ways, or they will allow city folks to manage them!*  
*Fish are not into commercialism. IN FACT - the OPPOSITE*

*mail*

*Ann Elaine McNabb Per KKio 5-26-18*  
Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
*Ann Elaine McNabb-Per KKio*

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

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Comments:

This comment is regarding a proposal to disallow bait fishing on the Clark's Fork River in Park County. The proposal is intended to improve the profits of certain outfitters. Since there are creel limits already in place, bait fishing would not deplete the numbers of fish in the river any more than lure or fly fishing. This proposal would be detrimental to local Clark area residents who enjoy fishing the Clark's Fork River by whatever means they choose, especially the children and elderly. Therefore, I am against this proposal.

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

Carol A. Ingram  
Printed Name

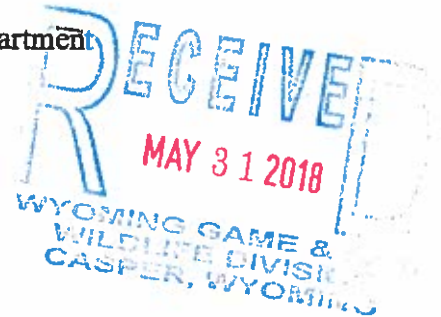
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- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

This comment is regarding the proposal to disallow bait fishing on the Clark's Fork of the Yellowstone in Park County. It was originated by certain outfitters to lock in their commercial activities to the exclusion of those who enjoy fishing this river by currently legal means. It is an attempt at regulatory overreach, that as a citizen of Clark I deeply oppose. It will have a detrimental effect on long-held family traditions and introducing young children to this important outdoor recreation. I urge you in the strongest terms possible to deny this proposal.

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

JAMES M. INGRAM  
Printed Name

5/20/18  
Date

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form



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Comments:

As the mother of a 3 year old girl that loves to fish, I think it is very important to continue allowing usage of worms for bait on the Clark's Fork!

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

Alyssa Lydic  
Printed Name

5/13/18  
Date

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- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

If we are going as far as to outlaw worms, maybe we should just outlaw fishing all together!

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

Ronnie Seleen  
Printed Name

5/22/18  
Date

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form



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Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



Please use a separate form for each of the regulations below

- Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation
- Chapter 44, Regulation for Issuance of Licenses, Permits, Stamps, Tags, Preference Points and Competitive Raffle Chances
- Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations
- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

Please continue to allow "worm" fishing in the Clark's fork River in Clark, WY. Restricting it to "fly" fishing only would hinder inexperienced + young fishermen.

Commercial fishing enterprises should suggest regulations for their area only. Cody fishermen suggest regulations for the many fishing areas in Cody. Clark fishermen suggest regulations for the limited spots to fish in Clark.

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

Brant Woolard  
Printed Name

5/25/18  
Date

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form



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- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

My 3½ year old grand daughter loves to fish. Her 4 year old friend loves to fish too. They both use worms. At that little, most kids don't learn to fly fish. If you make the Clarks Fork River artificial lures only, they won't be able to fish it. This could discourage a whole generation of future fly fishers.

Please do NOT make the Clarks Fork River artificial lures only!

Why don't you have a meeting in Clark to hear what the residents who live here think?

Thank you

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

Shirley Bentley  
Printed Name

5-29-18  
Date

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form



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Casper WY 82604



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- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

Restrict commercial outfits from using the Clarkfork river. I don't want commercial outfits to ruin it for local fishing.

After guides and outfitters have used up all the Cody fishing they want to come to Clark and ruin it for the locals.

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

KEITH WOOLARD  
Printed Name

5-28-18  
Date



Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form



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Wildlife Division  
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3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



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- Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations
- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

Individuals Only should be allowed to fish in the Clarks Fork River. NO COMMERCIAL OUTFITTERS. If we leave them here control, they would eliminate individuals from using the River in our own back yards. It should be individuals Only for fishing. Let the outfitters go to Rivers around Cody. Cody would lose the business.

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

Evelyn Woolard  
Printed Name

5/28/18  
Date

# Wyoming Game and Fish Department Comment Form



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Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



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- Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations
- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

**Comments:**

*It should be the sportsman's given right to fish with the aid of their choosing - Licensure issues then (us) the right to the water, and no entity should be allowed to limit his/her means of enjoying the sport -*

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

Gabriel Inglis  
Printed Name

5/24/18  
Date

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form



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Wildlife Division  
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Casper WY 82604



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- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

I believe this takes away our rights as sportsmen.  
 I believe that restricting us to use artificial bait just does more  
 to pollute the river and hurt the environment.  
 We all pay for tags and follow the rules and we should  
 have the right to use either of the two.

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacob J Inglis  
Printed Name

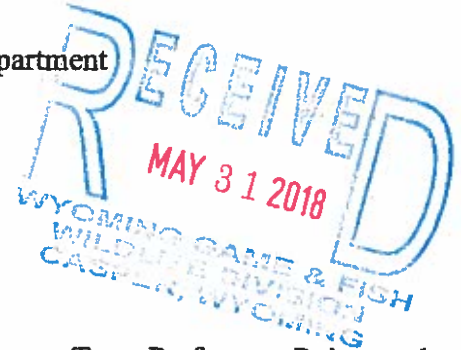
\_\_\_\_\_  
5/24/2018  
Date

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form



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Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
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3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



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- Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations
- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

Some retired people can not afford to fish with artificial bait. To restrict fishing to only one segment of sportsmen is unfair, when we all have to pay to support all fishing.

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

*Joe Inglis*  
Printed Name Joseph W. Inglis

*5/24/2018*  
Date

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form



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3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



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- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

I have never had luck with artificial bait  
my best luck has always been with live bait.

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

Ethan N Inglis  
Printed Name

5/24/2018  
Date

# Wyoming Game and Fish Department Comment Form



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Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



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- Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations
- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

my Grand kids dont know how to Fly Fish  
or spinner fish. I would like let my Grand kids  
catch a fish on there own with a worm.

Why cant people meet in Clark for decisions like  
this, so we can no what is going on. Im glad I  
heard about this from Todd Bentley.

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

Brett McCoy  
Printed Name

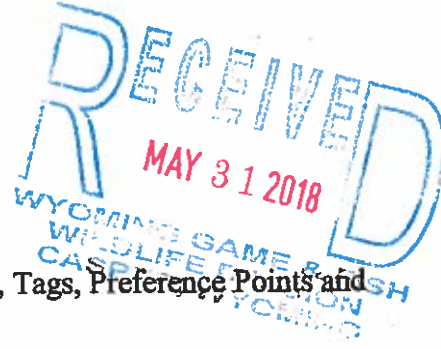
5-24-18  
Date

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form



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Casper WY 82604



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- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

Please reconsider the "artificial lure only" regulation for the lower Clarksfork River - NOT everyone is a fly fisherman. Grandkids learn to fish on worms!

Any public meeting pertaining to the Clark area or Clarksfork River NEEDS to be held at the Clark Recreation Center NOT at 5:30 p.m. on a workday in Cody!!

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

Todd Bentley  
Printed Name

5/24/2018  
Date

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form



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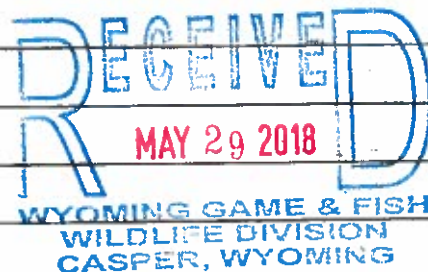
Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604

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- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

I am very much opposed to the proposal to make all of Wyo. Clark's Fork river artificial. I fish both ways bait and artificial as well as my grandkids do. I also think stocking of brown trout and some type of rainbow below forest line would be fun for many people.



(Please use reverse for additional comments)

mail

Lewis Stahl  
Printed Name

5-25-18  
Date

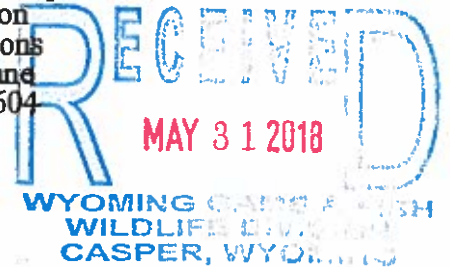


Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
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Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



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- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

This is ~~not~~ absurd, to put a restriction on something because of a couple of people. Children don't fly fish, they fish with worms. This would stop them from being able to fish.  
I like to fish with worms myself.

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

Larry Dodge  
Printed Name

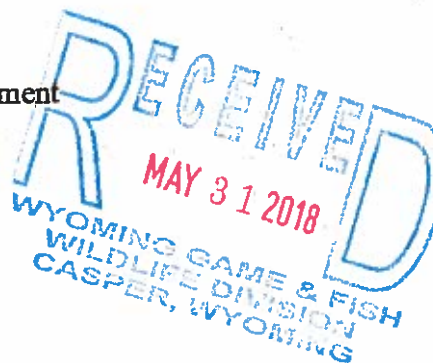
5-26-18  
Date

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Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



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- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

*It should be the sportsmans choice to use the bait  
that he chooses to use.*

---

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---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

*mail*

(Please use reverse for additional)

*Debra A Inglis*  
Printed Name

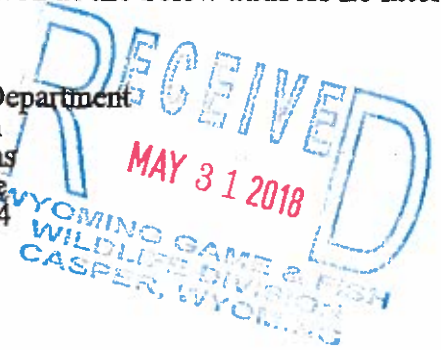
*5/28/2018*  
Date

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
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- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

The sportsman should be able to use bait of choice,  
We pay for our license.

Multiple horizontal lines for additional comments.

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

Millie Copper  
Printed Name

5/27/2018  
Date



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Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



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- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

Why Should just a few people get to use the river. I just a gateway to go completely to catch & Release.

mail

(Please use reverse for additional)

Joe Cooper  
Printed Name

5-27-18  
Date

JOSEPH COOPER

# Wyoming Game and Fish Department Comment Form



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3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



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- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

LEAVE THE CLARK'S FOLK THE WAY ITS ALWAYS BEEN. BAIT FISHERS NEED A PLACE TO FISH ALSO.

mail

(Please use reverse for additional)

Tim J. Morgan  
Printed Name

05-29-18  
Date



Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form

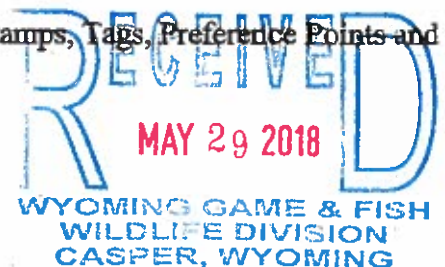


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- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species



Comments:

I moved to Clark 2 years ago. One of the things that attracted me to the area was the fishing on the Clark's Fork of the Yellowstone.

I fish this river, as do all of my visiting friends and relatives. I am not a fisherman who uses flies and lures.

I am very much opposed to the proposal to make all of Wyoming's Clark's Fork River artificial bait only. Not only will it curtail my fishing, but that of young and elderly fishermen as well.

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

Printed Name

Date

Judy Stahl

5/25/18

mail

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
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Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604

RECEIVED  
MAY 28 2018  
WYOMING GAME & FISH  
WILDLIFE DIVISION  
CASPER, WYOMING

**Please use a separate form for each of the regulations below**

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- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

In Area 2, Clark's Fork regulations, I support artificial only (flies + lures)

mail

Carissa Camp  
Printed Name

5-8-18  
Date

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)



Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form



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Casper WY 82604



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- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

The use of live bait is a Perfectly natural Practice. And is no threat to fish or anything else. Not to mention the easiest for young kids just learning to fish.

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments)

E.S. Kelley  
Printed Name

May 28 2018  
Date

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations - 2019

**1** I strongly support the proposed regulation on the Clark's Fork River near Clark. This will simplify the regulation for the entire river within the state. In addition, with trout numbers so low, and the overall productivity of the river so low, a reduction in harvest is warranted in an effort to increase trout numbers to a level that would increase angler satisfaction. The past 10 years have seen a dramatic reduction in the quality of fishing on the Clark's Fork. I strongly support the regulation proposed for North Sayles Reservoir #1. There is an increasing number of anglers who are looking for public waters that provide an opportunity to catch large trout. This regulation will help address unmet need.

**Final Comment**                      **Crooks, Robert**                      **Cody, WY**                      4/20/2018 12:01:00 PM

---

**2** Consider the walleye possession limit to be 2 days limits. Due to the travel distance to most of the good walleye fishing a multi day trips are common. If you limit out the 1st day you are prevented from fishing the next day. It is difficult to justify the travel costs for 1 day of fishing. Thanks

**Final Comment**                      **Fritz, Ted**                      **Laramie, WY**                      4/20/2018 1:27:00 PM

---

**3** If you are going to take away the one fly and lure only trophy managed lake in our region (Alsop) then please restore the trophy lake designation to Diamond Lake now that it is back in use with a water agreement.

**Final Comment**                      **Patton, Sam**                      **Laramie, WY**                      4/20/2018 1:29:00 PM

---

**4** I disagree with increasing creel limit on Lake Trout in Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

**Final Comment**                      **ROSKIE, Ron**                      **IYMAN, WY**                      4/21/2018 1:31:00 PM

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**5** I am in favor of making the Clark's fork of the Yellowstone a bait free fishery with only catch and release regulations. The Clark's Fork isn't the fishery it once was and it needs all the help in the world to bring it back.

**Final Comment**                      **Van Antwerp, Blair**                      **Cody, WY**                      4/21/2018 4:03:00 PM

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**6** I support the proposed changes to fishing regulations on the Clarks Fork River. Restricting techniques to artificial lures/flyes will enhance the sustainability of the fishery.

**Final Comment**                      **Anderson, Tom**                      **Cody, WY**                      4/22/2018 10:31:00 AM

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**7** I am writing to support the proposed regulation for artificial flies and lures only on the Lower Clark's Fork River. The fish population on this river is very low and steps need to be taken to reduce the harvest pressure. The quality of the fishing has been in a steady decline the last 15 years that I have fished on this river. Steps need to be taken to improve this water.

**Final Comment**                      **Reed, Thomas**                      **Cody, WY**                      4/22/2018 1:57:00 PM

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**8** I support the following regulation change for the Clarks Fork River. (fe) Clark's Fork River proper from the Wyoming/Montana state line downstream to the Shoshone National Forest Boundary (at mouth of Clarks Fork River Canyon) in Park County. (i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only. [Rationale: Propose extending the tackle restriction from the mouth of Clark's Fork Canyon to the Montana State Line. The restriction would apply to all of the Clark's Fork River in Wyoming. Regulation is proposed primarily due to the elimination of stocking and feedback from regional anglers that desire a tackle restriction.]

**Final Comment**                      **Feick, Dudane**                      **Cody, WY**                      4/23/2018 8:06:00 AM

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**9** Wyoming is an awful place for wildlife. Hunting wolves is on 365 days a year across 85% of the state, where wolves are classified as shoot-on-sight vermin. Guns, snares, explosives, trucks, and snowmobiles - almost

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations - 2019

any form of violence is allowed to kill these animals. These are Barbaric methods of cruelty in killing innocent wildlife. It's the 21st century. Is this what wildlife "management" should look like in our time?" please reconsider changing your methods. thank you in advance

**Final Comment**                      **Gallager, jill**                      **Franklin Lakes Bergen County, NJ**                      4/24/2018 6:07:00 AM

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**10** Limit of cutthroat in Paintrock Creek, Big Horns (Middle fork) is 2. Need that raised - it is hard to get to that creek and 2 is no motive to go. AND - the creek was killed off a few years back to eliminate brookies. They are still there.

**Final Comment**                      **Frahm, David**                      **Worland, WY**                      4/26/2018 12:01:00 PM

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**11** Please consider the change in regulations to the Clarks Fork river to artificial fly and lure only. The regulations should also be changed to reduce the number of trout kept from this river. It is a special drainage that is facing a lot of troubles and I would hate to see it be lost. Please act now to make changes that will allow this river to bounce back from its current problems.

**Final Comment**                      **Landerman, Mark**                      **Cody, WY**                      4/26/2018 1:10:00 PM

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**12** You should consider giving senior citizens a reduced price fishing license, both res and non-res. In Colorado it is \$1 for an annual senior citizen fishing license. Thanks.

**Final Comment**                      **Rohde, Terry**                      **Watkins, CO**                      4/26/2018 1:53:00 PM

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**13** To whom it may concern, I strongly oppose the proposed changes in the fishing regulations, specifically in regards to increase the bag limit on Cutthroat. Allowing people to keep 3 fish, 1 over 16" is not in the best interest of our fisheries. This will allow people to keep two 15" fish and one 17" fish...all spawning age fish. One fish, not to exceed 12", is plenty. On rivers such as the Salt, the Greys, and many other tribes of the snake, and on the snake itself, these proposed regs will have a dramatic and negative impact on the fisheries. Northwest WY is one the last strongholds of the Cutthroat and we should be protecting it! thank you for your consideration. Spencer Van Schaack

**Final Comment**                      **Van Schaack, Spencer**                      **jackson, WY**                      4/26/2018 4:36:00 PM

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**14** I think the proposed rule change to the Lower Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone from the mouth of the Clarks Fork Canyon to the Montana state line is a very BAD idea. I strongly support our western way of life and Wyoming heritage. For many generations, fathers and grandfathers have taken their children and grandchildren to catch grasshoppers or dig worms to take them fishing. For some, maybe, even for the first time. This section of river is easily accessible for families, elderly, and the young to take a day and experience the outdoors. To change this to artificial only to satisfy the special interest of a few is VERY WRONG. If you agree to this change, maybe you should move back to where ever you came from and leave us alone. Let a grandpa take his grandchild outdoors, drowned a worm, and talk about life.

**Final Comment**                      **THIEL, LLOYD**                      **POWELL, WY**                      4/26/2018 8:12:00 PM

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**15** I support the proposed regulation change to artificial flies and lures only on the Clarks Fork River proper.

**Final Comment**                      **Clark, Blake**                      **Cody, WY**                      4/26/2018 11:31:00 PM

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**16** I would like to see a permit to be able to order statewide minnows without having to purchase dealers permit if the sportsman is using them for personal use and not for sale

**Final Comment**                      **Nepper, Bruce**                      **Torrington, WY**                      4/29/2018 5:45:00 PM

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**17** I would like to say that I fully support the proposed rule changes concerning region 3 minnow seining and trapping regulations. I am in full agreement that minnow trapping and euthanizing be allowed in the Tongue

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations - 2019

River and Goose Creek drainages. If these changes could be implemented this year it would be appreciated but if not, then 2019 is fine. Thank you very much for listening to our concerns and taking comments.

**Final Comment**                      **Deeds, Larry**                      **Sheridan , WY**                      4/30/2018 8:30:00 PM

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**18** Regarding Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations. As a Wyoming resident for 70 years and "Pioneer" licensed angler I want to go on record as supporting the proposed changes for the lower Clarks Fork drainage.

**Final Comment**                      **Sandbak, Paul**                      **Cody, WY**                      5/1/2018 12:06:00 PM

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**19** I support the proposed change to incorporate the "flies and lures only" restriction to the entire Clark's Fork River. Also, in light of data recently presented by the G&F, I would be in support of more stringent creek restrictions on the North Fork of the Shoshone River and would prefer "catch and release" restrictions on rainbow, cutthroat and hybrid trout on both the river and Buffalo Bill Reservoir. Thank You.

**Final Comment**                      **Ferri, Robert**                      **Cody, WY**                      5/1/2018 4:07:00 PM

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**20** I support the change to the bait fish regulation in the upper Wind River area of Area 2. Seems like a good faith effort to keep the area free from unwanted fish species.

**Final Comment**                      **Crooks, Robert**                      **Cody, WY**                      5/1/2018 7:33:00 PM

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**21** I am requesting that the WGFD make Smallmouth Bass in Fontenelle Reservoir, "catch and release only!" The Smallies are a very special fish that has thrived up until the illegal introduction of burbot, but still there are age classes from the 6" range to 20" range, so this specie has adapted very well to these conditions. I also believe that more smallies need to be stocked in there and understand that the fisheries personnel say that these "Smallmouth Bass were ONLY a experimental introduction!" Also, the section between the CC Bridge to Fontenelle Dam prohibit wading past 5 feet from shore to protect the spawning grounds of trout, kokanee, bass etc., to protect their spawning success of all the fore mentioned species! Too many fly fisherman wading completely across the Green River to wade around in the spawning beds of these fish! It has become out of control! Reduce Brook Trout limit to 6 , in all streams in this area,also.Thank you for your consideration of my thoughts!

**Final Comment**                      **Vilos, Jim**                      **Kemmerer, WY**                      5/3/2018 3:41:00 PM

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**22** I'm an avid Flaming Gorge angler and agree with boosting the lake trout limit. I've noticed a decline in the lake trout body condition. I'd also like Wyo to get Utah to increase the small lake trout limit. I'm fine with a reasonable price increase in the reciprocal stamp.

**Final Comment**                      **Cutler , Brad**                      **Taylorsville , UT**                      5/3/2018 4:39:00 PM

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**23** Flaming Gorge Lake Trout Limit Increase I strongly support increasing the Lake Trout limit from 8 to 12 fish on Flaming Gorge, with one fish over 28 inches. This increase will allow anglers to harvest more fish to help with the population problem in the reservoir. It has been argued that an increase is not warranted if people are not utilizing the existing limit. This may be true concerning summer anglers. However, ice anglers are effective at catching lake trout pups and are harvesting limits of lake trout. To help deal with the lake trout issue, please allow anglers, especially ice anglers, to harvest 12 fish per day. I would like to see the limit increased even further, but support the recommendation. Flaming Gorge Reciprocal Stamp It would be very counter productive for fisheries management (burbot and lake trout pup) through angler pressure and exploitation to remove the reciprocal stamp option on Flaming Gorge. Fisheries managers are reaching out to the public and encouraging them to target burbot and lake trout pups. If you eliminate or raise the price of the stamp, it is going to be counter productive to the goals for angler exploitation of these fish species. Simply put, eliminating or raising the cost of the stamp will limit angler use, and perhaps dramatically. The increase in revenue from increasing the stamp cost is insignificant. The possible negative ramifications from lack of angler participation in fisheries management easily outweigh the minimal increase in revenue from the reciprocal stamp increase. Continue to allow anglers to help you manage the fishery and do not hinder them by an unnecessary fee increase or stamp elimination altogether. Thank You for the opportunity to provide input on these pivotal and important management decisions.

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations - 2019

**Final Comment**                      **Hanberg, Miles**                      **Vernal, UT**                      5/3/2018 5:30:00 PM

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**24** I support the proposed change limiting the clarks fork river to flies and lures only

**Final Comment**                      **Laughlin, Michael**                      **Cody, WY**                      5/9/2018 6:21:00 AM

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**25** We urge you to not accept the proposed changes as outlined in Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations. We know that one of the goals of your office is to promote outdoor recreation for families. Most children don't have the gross motor skills, or families the financial means, to be successful fly fishing. Few kids do as well with lures as they do with worms or grasshoppers. Chap 46, then, would discourage families from fishing. As a retired teacher, I support family activities in the outdoors, away from screens. These activities need to be encouraged, not discouraged. Therefore we do urge the committee not to pass Chapter 46.

**Final Comment**                      **Ringler, Cathy and**  
**Von Ringler**                      **Powell, WY**                      5/10/2018 7:17:00 AM

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**26** I support the proposed Chapter 46 Section 22 Area 2 regulation to establish the Clarks Fork River as a lures or fly fishery.

**Final Comment**                      **Jones, Calvin**                      **Powell, WY**                      5/10/2018 1:24:00 PM

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**27** As a Park County resident and avid fisherperson, I often find myself fishing the Clarks Fork. It is a casual observation, but the fishing does not seem to be as good as it "use to be". I believe that changing of the regulations to artificial lure and fly may go a long way in improving this fishery. I favor this change in the regulations. Thank you for your attention, Elaine Tabacinski

**Final Comment**                      **Tabacinski, Elaine**                      **Cody, WY**                      5/10/2018 4:25:00 PM

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**28** As a Park County resident and avid fisher person I fish the Clark's Fork quite often. I feel strongly that the new regulation which restricts the fishing to artificial lure and flies is a good one. This new regulation can only help to improve the fishery and fishing on this river. Thank you for your attention. Elaine Tabacinski

**Final Comment**                      **Tabacinski, Elaine**                      **Cody, WY**                      5/10/2018 4:32:00 PM

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**29** As an active Trout Unlimited volunteer, I support the regulation change for the Clark's Fork River, requiring artificial flies and lures only for fishing.

**Final Comment**                      **ANDERSON, LORNA**                      **CODY, WY**                      5/11/2018 4:37:00 PM

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**30** I am 75 years old & have fished Area 1 waters (Salt, Greys, Snake) all my life. The present regulations (one cutthroat over 12 inches 3 fish total 1 over 16 inches) have had significant benefit for our hard fished Salt River cutthroats. Last summer the river experienced heavy pressure because it was one of the first waters to clear following an extreme runoff season. Despite that, in October I floated the river on a heavy fished section (A/G Lane to Narrows), and found plenty of wild cutts in the 14-16 inch range. I never saw these large trout (except browns) in the 1970's and 80's when catchable cutts were being stocked, and after special regs & slot limits started in the late 80's onward, none of the regs worked as good as the current ones. These large wild cutthroats are a treasure in this their native range & bring a lot of fishermen here to enjoy them. Now some of my Utah & Wyoming friends who love to take home a limit, are going to be harvesting two 14-15 inch cuts plus one over 16 inches. I am afraid that will have a negative effect on these beautiful trout both from killing spawning size trout and from removing these beauties from the river. Please, don't do this to us & our cutthroats! T. Paul Stauffer

**Final Comment**                      **Stauffer, Thomas**                      **Afton, WY**                      5/12/2018 2:12:00 PM

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**31** I attended the Public informational meeting in Jackson last evening, hosted by the Jackson District WGFD. I have read the proposed fishing regulation changes and strongly OPPOSE any such changes. By allowing a cutthroat trout over 16 inches to be harvested, you are increasing pressure on the very best spawning

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations - 2019

age fish. I also feel there is more psychological pressure to keep a 16 inch fish than a 12 inch fish. I believe the very low documented harvest rate of cutthroat trout would shift toward more fish killed if the larger size limit were approved. I also feel Pacific Creek should NOT be open to bait fishing in any part of its course. I RECOMMEND THE FISHING REGULATIONS FOR THE JACKSON DISTRICT BE KEPT AS THEY NOW ARE AND THE PROPOSED CHANGES NOT ADVANCED.

**Final Comment**                      **Butcher, Dennis**                      **Jackson, WY**                      5/15/2018 1:16:00 PM

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**32** Simply put, the proposed more liberal regulations will result in less fish and poorer fishing. Taking more fish out of a stream results in less fish in the stream. Especially larger spawning age fish. Small streams like the Greys and the Salt suffer from this already. They simply can not absorb heavy fishing pressure as it is. With anglers keeping more fish {and they already do on these streams-little to no enforcement present} and the angling experience deteriorating there will soon be no point in fishing in many areas. As an example last year I took a drive up the Greys after the big Pioneer Days weekend thinking I was going to spend some time Fly Fishing. At every pull out along the road near the stream I found a pile of fish guts. It was disgusting. Fishing was very poor for the rest of the season. As campers accumulate along the stream, and the concept of "lets get dinner" continues, the stream becomes barren of fish. These visitors mostly live in heavily stocked put and take fisheries and do not understand how fragile a wild trout environment is. What we need is more catch and release regulations, and more actual enforcement, not more liberal limit regs. Please consider this carefully and do not pass these new regulations. The native wild trout need more protection, not more frying pans.

**Final Comment**                      **Ackerman, Walter**                      **Alpine, WY**                      5/16/2018 9:25:00 AM

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**33** I support the proposed new fishing regulations for the lower Clark's Fork River. In my 25 years fishing this river, the catch rate as significantly decreased, trout species composition has changed and fishing pressure has increased. There needs to be better protection for the remaining fish population while WGF hopefully implements research and management to improve fish habitat and increase fish spawning and recruitment. This entire section of stream is severely impacted by greedy irrigation practices and fish passage blockage by road culverts and irrigation dams.

**Final Comment**                      **Fortunato, Len**                      **Cody, WY**                      5/18/2018 2:34:00 PM

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**34** I agree with all the proposed fishing regulation changes. In addition my opinion is that the limit on walleye at glendo and greyrocks resivour should be reduced to a total of 3. With no size restriction. To help protect the resource .

**Final Comment**                      **rasmussen, matt**                      **douglas, WY**                      5/18/2018 4:49:00 PM

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**35** I support the proposed artificial flies and lures regulation on the Clark's Fork. Hopefully it will make the fishing better and I support the new proposed regulation.

**Final Comment**                      **Lyman, Aaron**                      **Cody, WY**                      5/20/2018 4:49:00 PM

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**36** i like the new changes

**Final Comment**                      **rhodes, robin**                      **bear river, WY**                      5/22/2018 9:35:00 PM

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**37** i like the new changes should help alot

**Final Comment**                      **horvath, tony**                      **bear river, WY**                      5/22/2018 9:41:00 PM

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**38** I support the proposed regulation change on the Clark's Fork. It's my opinion that the flies and lures only regulation will benefit the fishery by reducing harvest, and allow fish numbers to increase. The Clark's Fork used to be a better fishery than it is now. I also support the regulation change to create a trophy trout water on Bud Love Habitat Area by Buffalo. I have never fished over there, but probably would if that change results in a water with trophy trout in it.

**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations - 2019**

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**Final Comment**                      **Crooks, Julie**                      **Cody, WY**    5/23/2018 4:07:00 PM

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**39** I do not want the option of live bait taken away while fishing in the Clark's fork due to the fact that live bait is the only thing I fish with and I enjoy fishing, also I have a 3 year old that loves to fish and he does not know how to use other forms of bait. So please reconsider taking this option away from our community, thank you for your time.

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**Final Comment**                      **Martin, Alicia**                      **Clark, WY**    5/23/2018 7:54:00 PM

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**40** As a Fisher I really don't want my choice of live bait taken away as this is the only form of bait I use and I enjoy fishing, also I have a 3 year old son and he does not know how to use any other form of bait and he loves to fish as well. So please reconsider taking away the option of using live bait in the Clark's fork. Thank you for your time.

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**Final Comment**                      **Martin, Alicia**                      **Powell/clark, WY**    5/23/2018 8:10:00 PM

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**41** I am opposed to the proposed changes in regulations relative to the Clark's Fork of the Yellowstone (requiring flies or artificial lures from the mouth of the canyon to the MT border). This change in regulation might well exclude the possibility for younger anglers to get involved in fishing. I live in Clark and I routinely hike, hunt, or fish portions of the river. This stretch is not impacted by overfishing (hence overharvest) and I really see no need for a change in regulation. My cynical view is that outfitters wish to change the regulations to monopolize fishing with clients on this section of the river. The public meeting on this proposed regulation should have been held at the hatchery or at the Clark community center to encourage local participation.

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**Final Comment**                      **Watson, Jack**                      **Clark, WY**    5/24/2018 1:28:00 PM

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**42** Rather than restrict fishing in the Clarksfork River to "fly" fishing only, I think it should be open to worm fishing as well. I do think that it should be restricted to Wyoming residents only! Fishing guides and outfitters have plenty of fishing opportunities in the Cody area to take non-resident fishermen. I would like to see the Clarksfork River in the Clark WY area restricted to Wyoming residents only and allow worm fishing.

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**Final Comment**                      **WOOLARD, BRANT**                      **POWELL, WY**    5/28/2018 9:57:00 AM

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**43** I have been a resident of Clark WY for 36 years. For 14 of those years I lived on the bank of the Clarks Fork River about 3 miles out of the mouth of the canyon. I raised my sons there and was able to take them fishing with the choice of bait being worms that the boys had dug out of my flower beds. For the next 26 years I have lived 1/2 mile from the river and have been able to do the same with my grand children and now with 2 great grandchildren. I am opposed to those who fish with artificial bait such as lures and flies now trying to get the Game and Fish to stop me from this simple out door activity with my family by changing the law for live bait in the main Clarksfork River. I and my whole family are opposed to the proposed changes in the fishing regulation that involves this 'lower part' of our Clarks Fork River here through the community of Clark. I did NOT appreciate the fact that there was no meeting held within our community to inform the public here of this proposed regulation change.

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**Final Comment**                      **Dodge, Barbara**                      **Clark, WY**    5/28/2018 11:32:00 AM

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**44** I have not fished Flaming Gorge for approx. 15 years. I understand that burbot have been introduced and that they are causing an issue with some of the fish, especially with the bass population. I would suggest that burbot not have a limit on this lake. They are not a desired fish as they are most aggressive and do not seem to help a fishery pretty much wherever they end up. Montana has some of the same problems. Thanks.

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**Final Comment**                      **Dursteler, Tracy**                      **Idaho Falls, ID**    5/31/2018 5:59:00 PM

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**45** I can understand the desire to simplify the regulations but we need to retain more restrictive bag limits on our native cutthroat trout. I recommend a 2 trout limit any sz. That keeps this simple. Anglers need to

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations - 2019

understand that they have to quit fishing once they reach their limit. I live in Alpine, WY and we take our native Cutthroat fishing for granted. In addition to the limits above, certain high quality spawning tributaries sb closed to fishing until the fry have emerged from the redds, Thanks you!

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**Final Comment**                      **Dubisz, James**                      **Alpine, WY**                      6/1/2018 9:14:00 AM

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**46** I believe that Wyoming should continue to protect fisheries - and especially native trout - by limiting the size and numbers of fish that can be kept. Every state I've ever fished in had different regulations for different waters - so increasing size and keep limits just to make it "easier" for the public is not really a valid argument for increasing the killing of fish that are rare and becoming rarer. Limits in Grand Teton National Park are really sufficient right now and don't need adjusting. Also - allowing live bait in waters where it's currently prohibited is a step in the wrong direction. We've all been pretty happy with the way things have been in the past, and these changes will only serve to make fisheries worse.

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**Final Comment**                      **Dudinyak, Linda**                      **Jackson, WY**                      6/1/2018 9:26:00 AM

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**47** Part 1 Following are the comments of the Center for Biological Diversity ("Center") concerning Wyoming's 2018 draft regulation for the 2018 wolf hunting season. The Center is a non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the protection of native species and their habitats through science, policy, and environmental law. The Center has more than 1.6 million members and online activists dedicated to the protection and restoration of endangered species and wild places, including over 1,000 members and supporters in Wyoming. The Center has worked for many years to protect imperiled plants and wildlife, including gray wolves. During Wyoming's first hunting season after delisting in 2017, Wyoming proposed a high quota of 44 wolves for the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area ("WTGMA") and no restriction on the killing of wolves in what Wyoming has deemed the Predatory Zone. At the close of the season, hunters and trappers had reported killing 82 gray wolves, including 44 wolves in the Trophy Game Management Area and 38 wolves in the designated Predatory Zone. Additionally, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department ("WGFD") reported conducting 62 lethal removals of wolves in Wyoming. The aggressive hunting season coupled with numerous agency removals led to a 16 percent decline in Wyoming's wolf population outside Yellowstone National Park and the Winder River Reservation. Now, under a misguided goal of further reducing the population, WGFD proposes an increased quota of 58 wolves in the WTGMA while simultaneously increasing the permitted license purchase per person from 1 to 2 licenses. The quotas will be increased in, amongst others, Hunt Areas 1, 2, and 3, all of which border Yellowstone National Park and increase the likelihood of wolves that spend most of their time in the park being killed by hunters when they step outside park boundaries. Similarly, the hunt quota in Hunt Area 8, which borders Grand Teton National Park, will also be increased. Moreover, even though hunting quotas were exceeded in three hunt areas (Hunt Areas 2, 5, and 11) last year when two wolves were taken on the same day, now Wyoming seeks to extend the required reporting period in designated Wilderness Areas from 24 hours to 3 days after returning from the Wilderness Area or within ten days from the date of harvest, further increasing the likelihood that quotas will be exceeded.

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**Final Comment**                      **Santarsiere, Andrea**                      **Victor, ID**                      6/1/2018 4:29:00 PM

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**48** I ask you not to increase either the number of cutthroat kept, nor the size of Cutthroat kept. The Snake River system is one of the last strongholds of native cutthroat trout. If anything we should be moving more towards catch and release regulations, not allowing more fish of spawning age to be killed. Game and Fish's reasoning for changing the regulation seems to be to simplify the regulations. When we asked our local game and fish enforcement officers if people were often confused by the special regulation for Area 1 they said they have rarely if ever encountered people confused by the regulations. It seems you are trying to fix a problem that doesn't exist. The right way to simplify the regs would be to protect all Cutthroat Trout Statewide. Either apply the current Snake River regs to to apply to Cutthroat Trout state wide, or better yet make all Cutthroat Trout in the entire State Catch and Release. All you need to do is look at the number of out-of-state fishing licenses you sell in Teton County compared to all other counties to see what an economic boon a healthy, native Cutthroat Trout fishery can be. As the State of Wyoming puts together one commission after another to try to increase tourism, protect the environment, get people outdoors, and improve economies, they need only look at the Snake River as an example of the right way to do things. The amount of pressure on Snake River Cutthroat is extremely high. The main reason the population stays healthy is that 95% of guides here strictly practice catch and release. It is often hard talking our out of state guests into catch and release. It is much easier to do so when the regulations clearly protect the species.



**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations - 2019**

The amount of pressure on these trout increases every year. Fishing, habitat, water quality, and so much more. Lets do everything in our power to protect these fish and our way of life. Thank You.

**Final Comment**

**Ellerstein, David**

**Jackson, WY**

6/4/2018 3:34:00 PM

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## CHAPTER 46

### FISHING REGULATIONS

**Section 1. Authority.** These regulations are promulgated by authority of Wyoming Statutes § 23-1-101, § 23-1-302, § 23-2-206, § 23-2-209, § 23-3-201, § 23-3-202, § 23-3-308, § 23-3-401, § 23-4-101, § 23-4-103, and § 23-6-111.

**Section 2. Definitions.** Definitions shall be as set forth in Title 23, Wyoming Statutes, Commission regulations, and the Commission also adopts the following definitions:

(a) “Artificial Flies and Lures” means manmade flies and lures. Artificial lures are single devices regardless of the number of hooks, including spoons, spinners and plugs made of metal, plastic, wood or other non-edible materials, or plastic products made to resemble worms, eggs, fish or other aquatic organisms. Artificial flies includes flies, streamers, jigs, or poppers tied from such materials as thread, feathers, hair or tinsel. Artificial flies and lures do not include living or dead organisms or edible parts thereof, natural or prepared organic food stuffs, or chemical attractants, regardless if the chemical attractant is added in the manufacturing process or applied afterward.

(b) “Aquaria” means any enclosures used to contain organisms that prevent escape. Aquaria shall have a closed system of water circulation with no risk of contacting the surface waters of this state.

(c) “Artificial Light” means any man-made light or lighting device.

(d) “Bait” means living or dead organisms or edible parts thereof, natural or prepared organic food, and chemical attractants used in the taking of fish.

(e) “Baitfish” means nongame fish not designated as aquatic invasive species that were collected or purchased for use as bait.

(f) “Business Establishment” means a single business location with an associated physical address designated on the live baitfish dealer’s license.

(g) “Commercially Produced Live Baitfish” means adult fathead minnows that were propagated and reared in a Department approved private fish hatchery.

(h) “Creel Limit” means the total number of game fish a person may harvest and reduce to possession during any one (1) day regardless of the method or methods of harvest.

(i) “Dates” means the dates mentioned are inclusive.

(j) “Day” means calendar day.

(k) “Drainage” means the river or stream proper and the area of land, including all streams and standing waters, that drains into that river or stream.

(l) “Fishing Contest” means any event for catching fish on waters of this state, excluding licensed fishing preserves or hatchery catch out ponds, where an entry or participation fee is charged and fifty (50) or more adult (18 years of age or older) anglers participate on a given date.

(m) “Fishing Contest Permit” means a document issued by the Department that grants the permittee authorization to conduct a fishing contest.

(n) “Game Fish”, unless otherwise provided for specific waters or drainages, means:

- (i) bass (GENUS *Micropterus* and *Ambloplites*);
- (ii) bluegill, pumpkinseed and sunfish (GENUS *Lepomis*);
- (iii) crappie (GENUS *Pomoxis*);
- (iv) walleye and sauger (GENUS *Sander*);
- (v) yellow perch (GENUS *Perca*);
- (vi) trout, salmon, and char (GENUS *Salmo*, *Oncorhynchus*, and *Salvelinus*);
- (vii) whitefish and cisco (GENUS *Prosopium*);
- (viii) grayling (GENUS *Thymallus*);
- (ix) pike (GENUS *Esox*);
- (x) catfish and bullheads (GENUS *Ameiurus*, *Ictalurus*, *Noturus*, and *Pylodictis*);
- (xi) burbot (GENUS *Lota*);
- (xii) sturgeon (GENUS *Scaphirhynchus*); and
- (xiii) freshwater drum (GENUS *Aplodinotus*).

(o) “Lake” means a body of standing water in a depression of land and includes reservoirs, ponds (excluding ponds created by beavers) and gravel and mining pits.

(p) “Live Baitfish Dealer” means a person licensed by the Department to sell live baitfish.

(q) “Live Baitfish Dealer of Record” means the designated individual legally accountable for all aspects of the live baitfish dealer.

(r) “Length” means the total length of a fish in inches, as measured in a straight line along a flat surface, from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail.

(s) “Nongame Fish” means all fish not defined as game fish or aquatic invasive species, including baitfish.

(t) “Possession Limit” means the maximum number of game fish that may legally be in possession at any time and in any form. Game fish in transit or storage, including home or domicile, shall be considered in possession. Possession limits apply regardless of how many days an angler has fished.

(u) “Special Fishing Contest Provision” means a provision promulgated for exclusion of fishing contests from specific waters.

(v) “Special Winter Ice Fishing Provision” means a provision promulgated for the ice covered period for specific waters.

(w) “Stream” means water in a permanent bed or channel with a current that is usually continuous in one direction and includes creeks, rivers, irrigation ditches, drains, canals, sloughs and ponds created by beavers. Streams may not flow continuously during low-flow periods. Ponds or puddles in a stream channel during low flow periods shall be considered to be a stream.

(x) “Trout bead” means a bead constructed from any non-edible material to resemble a trout egg that is fished on a line or leader above a hook or artificial fly. Beads associated with spinners, bait harnesses and other types of artificial lures are not considered trout beads.

(y) “Wild Caught Live Baitfish Possession Area” means the specific locations in Area 2, 3 or 5 where wild caught live baitfish may be possessed regardless of whether they were captured by a seining license holder or obtained from a live baitfish dealer.

### **Section 3. Seasons and Fishing Hours.**

(a) Fishing is permitted year-round twenty-four (24) hours a day in any waters of this state except as otherwise provided by Commission regulation for specific areas, streams, lakes, or portions thereof. Exceptions are listed with the regulations for each drainage area in Sections 17, 20, 22, 25, 28 and 32.

### **Section 4. Methods.**

(a) It is legal to use hand lines, set lines, poles, or tip ups when fishing through the ice and the angler is in attendance.

(b) Internal organs, eggs, eyes, fins, and skin of game fish are the only portions that may be used legally as bait. Any part of nongame fish may be used as bait. The use of bait may be restricted on specific waters as described in Sections 17, 22, 25, 28 and 32.

(c) Artificial light may be used while fishing with legal fishing methods except as prohibited in Section 10.

(d) Corn may be possessed and used as bait in all waters where fishing with bait is permitted.

(e) Use or possession of bait is prohibited in areas or on waters where fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(f) A trout bead fixed on a line or leader two (2) inches or less from the eye of a bare hook is considered an artificial lure. Fishing with a trout bead more than two (2) inches from the eye of a bare hook or artificial fly is considered snagging and is prohibited.

(g) The following method restrictions apply for waters listed in subsection (iv) of this Section.

(i) The use of more than two (2) lines is permitted only during the ice covered period, and only when the angler is fishing through the ice, on waters listed below as being included under the Special Winter Ice Fishing Provision.

(ii) No person shall use more than six (6) lines at any time to fish.

(iii) When using more than two (2) lines;

(A) The angler's name shall be attached to each line, pole or tip-up;

(B) The angler shall be no more than three hundred (300) yards from all lines; and,

(C) The angler shall check his/her own lines.

(iv) The following waters are included under the Special Winter Ice Fishing Provision:-

(A) Alcovia Reservoir;

(B) Big Horn Lake in Big Horn County;

(C) Big Sandy Reservoir;

(D) Boulder Lake in Sublette County;

(E) Boysen Reservoir;

(F) Deaver Reservoir in Park County;

(G) Flaming Gorge Reservoir;

(H) Fontenelle Reservoir in Lincoln County;

(I) Glendo Reservoir;

(J) Goldeneye Reservoir;

(K) Gray Reef Reservoir;

(L) Grayrocks Reservoir;

(M) Guernsey Reservoir;

(N) Harrington Reservoir in Big Horn County;

- (O) Hawk Springs Reservoir;
- (P) Keyhole Reservoir;
- (Q) Kortess Reservoir;
- (R) Lake DeSmet;
- (S) Lake Hattie;
- (T) Ocean Lake in Fremont County;
- (U) Pathfinder Reservoir;
- (V) Pilot Butte Reservoir;
- (W) Seminoe Reservoir;
- (X) Sulphur Creek Reservoir in Uinta County;
- (Y) Wardell Reservoir;
- (Z) Wheatland Reservoir #1 in Platte County;
- (AA) Wheatland Reservoir #3 in Albany County; and,
- (AB) Woodruff Reservoir.

**Section 5. Creel limits.**

(a) Except as otherwise provided, no person shall harvest and keep during any one (1) day, or have in possession, more than the number and length of game fish specified in the creel limits listed below. Please refer to subsection (c) of this Section. Exceptions are listed with the regulations for each drainage area in Sections 17, 22, 25, 28 and 32.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Creel and Possession Limits</b>
(i) Trout (in combination includes brown, cutthroat, grayling, golden, rainbow, salmon, splake, tiger trout, and other trout hybrids). Excludes brook trout and lake trout.	Lakes: six (6) Streams: three (3) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches.  Streams and lakes combined: six (6)
(ii) Brook trout	sixteen (16)
(iii) Lake trout	six (6) No more than one (1) lake trout shall exceed twenty-four (24) inches.
(iv) Whitefish	six (6)
(v) Largemouth and smallmouth bass in combination	six (6)
(vi) Walleye	six (6)
(vii) Channel catfish	six (6)
(viii) Northern pike	See drainage area exceptions.
(ix) Tiger muskie (sterile northern pike muskellunge hybrid)	one (1) All tiger muskie less than thirty-six (36) inches in length shall be released to the water immediately.
(x) Yellow perch, black bullhead, stonecat, crappie, rock bass, bluegill, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, green sunfish-bluegill hybrid, freshwater drum in combination	fifty (50)
(xi) Burbot (ling)	three (3).
(xii) Sauger	two (2)
(xiii) Shovelnose sturgeon	two (2)
(b)	Except as otherwise provided in the exception for an individual water, the total combined creel and possession limit for the trout category, regardless of the waters (streams, lakes, or a combination of both) a person is fishing, shall not exceed six (6) trout per day or in possession.

(c) Any fish caught that is not to be counted in the creel limit shall be immediately released to the water with as little injury to the fish as possible. Any fish placed on a stringer, in a container, in a live well, or not released immediately to the water, shall be considered to be reduced to possession of the angler and shall be killed prior to being transported from the water of origin. No fish that has been reduced to possession of the angler shall be released alive without prior written approval from the Department.

(d) All fish possessed or transported shall be kept in a manner that species and numbers can be determined. When length limits apply, the whole body shall remain intact (gills and entrails can be removed) while in transit or in the field. Where length limits do not apply, a piece of skin large enough to allow species identification (at least one (1) inch square) shall remain on all fish fillets while in transit or in the field, except as otherwise provided in Sections 22, 25 and 32 for walleye and sauger harvested in the Wind River, Big Horn River and Tongue River drainages and Glendo Reservoir and in Section 28 for lake trout harvested in Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

(e) There are no creel or possession limits on nongame fish. Nongame fish may be taken by the use of legal fishing methods during any season open for the taking of game fish.

#### **Section 6. Seining and Trapping of Fish.**

(a) Seining and trapping licenses (hereafter referred to as seining license) for the purpose of taking baitfish may be obtained from Game and Fish Department Regional Offices or from the Cheyenne Headquarters.

(b) No person shall seine, net, trap or spear baitfish without first obtaining a valid seining license. A valid seining license is required when using a seine, net, trap or spear to take baitfish, even those that will be used as dead bait. Any brook stickleback (*Culaea inconstans*) taken by a trap, net or seine must be immediately killed.

(c) No person shall have more than one (1) seining license each calendar year.

(d) Seining or trapping and use of baitfish shall only be done as specified in regulations for the specific drainage areas in Sections 18, 23, 26, 29 and 33. Locations where baitfish may be obtained, possessed and used shall be specified on the seining license.

(e) Legal gear for taking baitfish includes seines, traps, cast nets, umbrella nets and dip nets. There are no restrictions on the size of mesh or net size for cast nets, umbrella nets or dip nets. Collection gear shall be hand operated.

(i) Seines used for the purpose of taking baitfish shall not be more than five (5) feet deep.

(ii) Traps used for the purpose of taking baitfish shall not be more than thirty-six (36) inches long, twelve (12) inches deep, twelve (12) inches wide or twelve (12) inches in diameter and the throat shall not exceed one (1) inch width.

(A) A seining license holder shall not use more than five (5) traps at a time.



(B) A holder of both a seining license and live baitfish dealer's license shall have no restriction on the number of traps that can be used.

(C) The owner's name and seining license number shall be attached to each trap while in use.

(f) Any game fish taken by trap, net or seine shall be released to the water immediately.

(g) No person shall intentionally tamper with or remove a trap or net, or remove fish from a trap or net that is set and maintained in compliance with Commission regulations without written permission from the seining license holder.

(h) Any live nongame fish captured for use as dead bait shall be killed immediately and shall not be transported live.

(i) All wild caught live baitfish transported out of the water of capture shall be held in aquaria when not in use.

(i) Wild caught live baitfish confined to a live car, net, pen or other enclosure in the same water from which the baitfish were captured are exempt from the aquaria holding requirement.

(j) All aquaria and enclosures shall have the owner's name and seining license number attached while in use.

(k) A seining license holder shall allow Department personnel to inspect live baitfish and all aquaria and enclosures used to hold live baitfish during reasonable hours.

(i) If an inspection discloses species of wildlife not authorized by the Department or an aquatic invasive species, the Department may order the wildlife, including all fish in aquaria and enclosures, removed from Wyoming or destroyed.

(l) Wild caught live baitfish may be held indefinitely by the holder of a valid, unexpired seining license, but shall not be released, abandoned or allowed to escape.

(m) A seining license holder shall not sell live baitfish without first possessing a valid live baitfish dealer's license.

(n) A seining license holder shall be allowed to give live baitfish to other anglers in his or her fishing party for use only when the seining license holder is present. All live baitfish shall be returned to the seining licensee while not in use, and shall remain in the wild caught live baitfish possession area listed on the seining license.

(o) A seining license holder shall be allowed to give dead baitfish to other anglers for use as dead bait.

(p) Seining licenses are subject to suspension or revocation for failure to comply with the seining and trapping conditions specified in Sections 6, 18, 23, 26, 29 and 33.

(i) Any revocation of a seining license other than a court hearing revocation shall be subject to contested case proceedings in accordance with Commission Regulation Chapter 27, Rules Of Practice Governing Contested Cases Before The Wyoming Game and Fish Commission.

### **Section 7. Live Baitfish Dealers.**

(a) Any person desiring to sell live baitfish shall apply for and receive a valid live baitfish dealer's license prior to selling live baitfish except holders of a valid Wyoming commercial fish hatchery license who may sell live baitfish to live baitfish dealers for resale. Application for a live baitfish dealer's license shall be made on forms provided by the Department. The applicant shall provide information including, but not limited to, the physical location of the business and a description of facilities to be used for holding fish.

(b) Commercially produced live baitfish may be transported into the state for the sole purpose of resale, provided that:

(i) The recipient is a live baitfish dealer in possession of a valid live baitfish dealer's license or an in-state Department approved private fish hatchery; and,

(ii) The recipient has written authorization from the Chief of Fisheries to receive live baitfish from a Department approved out-of-state fish hatchery; and,

(iii) Vehicles used for the transport of live baitfish into the state shall be placarded indicating that the equipment is being used to transport live fish. Letters, numbers or symbols displayed on the placard shall be at least three (3) inches in height, excluding shading and bordering, and shall be of a color that contrasts with the placard background color. Anyone in the process of transporting live baitfish for the purpose of resale shall be in possession of written authorization from the Chief of Fisheries to ship or transport live baitfish into the state. Live baitfish shipped by common carrier (e.g., UPS, Federal Express) are exempt from this requirement; and,

(iv) The Chief of Fisheries shall be notified immediately by the live baitfish dealer if a shipment contains any other fish species, vegetation or other organisms. The shipment of concern shall be quarantined and held at the business establishment until final disposition is determined following inspection by the Department.

(c) The Chief of Fisheries may choose not to authorize a live baitfish dealer to receive live baitfish from a Department approved out-of-state fish hatchery if the dealer has failed to comply with any provision of Sections 6 or 7.

(d) A live baitfish dealer of record shall be established for each live baitfish dealer's license. Employees of a live baitfish dealer are authorized to sell live baitfish at the business establishment. The current year's live baitfish dealer's license shall be displayed for public viewing at the business establishment. If a parent company has multiple business establishments, a live baitfish dealer's license shall be required at each separate business establishment selling live baitfish.

(e) All wild caught live baitfish transported out of the water of capture shall be held in aquaria when not in use.

(i) Wild caught live baitfish confined to a live car, net, pen or other enclosure in the same water from which the baitfish were captured are exempt from the aquaria holding requirement.

(f) All enclosures and aquaria shall have the owner's name and live baitfish license number attached while in use.

(g) Live baitfish may be held indefinitely by the holder of a valid live baitfish dealer license for the current year, but shall not be released, abandoned or allowed to escape.

(h) A live baitfish dealer may be licensed to obtain and sell:

(i) Commercially produced live baitfish for use in all locations east of the continental divide where permitted as described in Sections 23, 26 and 33; OR,

(ii) Commercially produced live baitfish and wild caught live baitfish for use in one specific live baitfish location; OR,

(iii) Commercially produced live baitfish for use in all locations east of the continental divide where permitted as described in Sections 23, 26 and 33 and wild caught live baitfish for use in one specific live baitfish location. Commercially produced live baitfish and wild caught live baitfish shall have separate fish holding facilities and the live baitfish dealer shall maintain separate records for each facility.

(i) All wild caught live baitfish obtained, possessed, or sold shall be subject to the restrictions specified in Sections 6, 8, 18, 23, 26, 29 and 33.

(j) A live baitfish dealer may receive live baitfish from other licensed live baitfish dealers, provided that all wild caught live baitfish were obtained from the same live baitfish location for which the dealer is licensed.

(k) Live baitfish dealers shall issue a receipt to the buyer at the time of sale. Receipts shall be filled out completely, they shall be issued by the live baitfish dealer or an employee of the live baitfish dealer and no information on the receipt shall be completed by the buyer. The receipt shall show the dealer's name and address, the number and species of fish sold, the date of the transfer, appropriate expiration date and where the fish shall be used. Receipt forms shall be provided by the Department.

(i) Live baitfish dealers authorized to sell wild caught live baitfish shall issue receipts that expire fifteen (15) consecutive days from the date of sale.

(ii) Live baitfish dealers authorized to sell only commercially produced live baitfish shall issue receipts that expire thirty (30) consecutive days from the date of sale.

(l) Live baitfish dealers shall keep records of live baitfish sources on forms provided by the Department. All live baitfish brought into the business establishment shall be promptly recorded on the record of live baitfish source, including baitfish collected under the dealer's own

seining license and baitfish received from commercial fish hatchery license holders, Department approved fish hatcheries, and other licensed live baitfish dealers.

(m) Live baitfish dealers shall maintain at the established business location legible, current, accurate and complete baitfish receipts and records of live baitfish sources.

(n) Copies of the completed receipts and records of live baitfish sources shall be returned to a Department regional office or to the Cheyenne Headquarters (License Section) by January 15 for transactions that occurred the prior calendar year.

(o) Department personnel may inspect the holding facilities, aquaria, enclosures and fish of live baitfish dealers during normal business hours.

(i) If an inspection discloses species of wildlife not authorized by the Department or an aquatic invasive species, the Department may order the wildlife, including all fish in the holding facilities, aquaria, and enclosures removed from Wyoming or destroyed.

(p) Live baitfish dealer licenses are subject to suspension or revocation for failure to comply with any provision of this Section.

(i) Any revocation of a live baitfish dealer license other than a court hearing revocation shall be subject to contested case proceedings in accordance with Commission Regulation Chapter 27, Rules Of Practice Governing Contested Cases Before The Wyoming Game and Fish Commission.

#### **Section 8. Use of Baitfish.**

(a) The use or possession of live baitfish is prohibited throughout Areas 1 and 4 (defined in Sections 16 and 27) and on all waters in Areas 2, 3, and 5 except as otherwise provided in Sections 18, 23, 26, 29 and 33 which describe where live baitfish may be obtained, possessed and used.

(b) The specific waters from which wild caught live baitfish may be seined, netted or trapped and used are listed in Sections 18, 23, 26, 29 and 33. Wild caught live baitfish shall not be transported out of the designated wild caught live baitfish possession area from which they were collected. This area shall be listed on the seining license, live baitfish dealer license or live baitfish receipt.

(c) No person shall possess live baitfish while fishing on any water where the use of live baitfish is prohibited.

(d) Commercially produced live baitfish may be transported and possessed throughout Areas 2, 3 and 5 (east of the continental divide) except where the use of live baitfish is prohibited. Use or possession of commercially produced live baitfish is prohibited on all waters except as otherwise provided in Sections 18, 23, 26, 29 and 33.

(e) Possession of live brook stickleback (*Culaea inconstans*) is prohibited in Wyoming.

(f) Persons with live baitfish in possession shall produce, upon request from Department personnel, either a receipt from a licensed live baitfish dealer or a valid, unexpired seining license verifying the origin of the live baitfish.

(g) No live baitfish shall be transported into the state for use as live baitfish except as provided in Section 7.

(h) All live baitfish shall be held in aquaria when not in transport or in use.

(i) Live baitfish shall not be released, abandoned, or allowed to escape and must be killed when the receipt expires.

(j) Dead baitfish may be used as bait. Restrictions on the use of dead baitfish are designated within the regulations for the specific drainage area in Sections 18, 20, 23, 26, 29 and 33. Nongame fish taken by the use of legal fishing methods during any season open for the taking of game fish may be used as dead bait. Any live baitfish captured for use as dead bait shall be killed immediately and shall not be transported live.

**Section 9. Closure of Fish Holding Facilities.** All fish rearing and retaining ponds used by the state including those located at state fish hatcheries, or any that may be constructed elsewhere, are closed to fishing throughout the calendar year. Temporary facilities at spawning station sites are closed to fishing during the time they are in use by the Department.

**Section 10. Underwater Spear Gun Fishing.**

(a) Fish may be taken by underwater spear gun fishing only in lakes.

(b) No person shall use an underwater spear gun to take game fish under water without obtaining a fishing license.

(c) The use of artificial light to take game fish with a spear gun is prohibited.

(d) All spears used on spear guns shall be attached to the spear gun with a lanyard with a maximum length of twenty (20) feet.

(e) Underwater spear gun fishing is not permitted within one hundred (100) yards of any designated swimming or water ski areas, boat dock, ramp or spillway.

(f) A diver flag shall be displayed on the water when diving or underwater spear gun fishing. It shall be a rectangular flag that is either blue and white in color or red in color with a white diagonal stripe, not less than twelve (12) inches x twelve (12) inches and displayed no less than three (3) feet above the surface of the water.

(g) The limit on walleye taken by spear gun shall be two (2) per day or in possession, except where designated as nongame fish or where otherwise provided for Alcova Reservoir in Section 33. All other general and water-specific creel and possession limits shall apply.

**Section 11. Transportation of Live Fish.** No person shall transport live fish or live fish eggs from the water of capture, except as provided by Commission regulations or as authorized by the Department.

**Section 12. Tagging or Marking Fish.** No person shall tag or mark fish and release them into the waters of this state without prior written approval from the Department.

**Section 13. Ice Fishing Shelters.** Any person utilizing an enclosed ice fishing shelter on the waters of this state shall remove the shelter from the body of water before ice-out.

**Section 14. Fishing Contests.**

(a) Fishing contests held on waters of this state shall be approved and authorized in writing by the Department. No person shall conduct a fishing contest without first obtaining a fishing contest permit. The permittee shall adhere to all requirements and stipulations provided on the fishing contest permit.

(b) Applications. Anyone desiring to hold a fishing contest shall submit an application for a fishing contest permit on a form provided by the Department. Fishing contest applications may be submitted one (1) year (365 days) prior to the start of the fishing contest, but shall be submitted at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of the fishing contest.

(c) Live Release Fishing Contests. No person shall release live fish in a fishing contest without a fishing contest permit authorizing live release.

(d) Reasons for Denying Fishing Contest Permits. The Department may deny an application if information is falsified on the application, or if the application is incomplete or incorrectly filled out. Fishing contest permits shall not be issued if the Department determines the fishing contest does not comply with Wyoming Statutes, Commission regulations, shall be harmful to the fisheries resource, or that public use facilities such as boat ramps, parking areas, campgrounds, and related facilities are inadequate to support the contest. Failure to comply with the requirements of the fishing contest permit is a violation of Commission regulations and may result in denial of future fishing contest permits.

(e) Post-Fishing Contest Report Required. Within thirty (30) days after completion of the fishing contest, the permittee shall submit a legible, complete and accurate written report to the Department on a form provided by the Department. Failure to submit this report may result in denial of future fishing contest permits.

(f) Fishing Contest-free Period. The following restrictions apply for waters covered by the special fishing contest provision.

(i) Waters included under the special fishing contest provision are listed with the regulations for those drainage areas in Section 32.

(ii) The Department shall authorize fishing contests such that each water included in the "Special Fishing Contest Provision" has a period of at least two (2) weeks when fishing contests are not allowed.

(iii) The specific dates when contests are not allowed are listed with the regulations for those drainage areas in Section 32.

**Section 15. Established Check Stations, Mandatory Reporting.** Upon request of any authorized Department representative, anyone who has been fishing shall produce a valid license

and conservation stamp, if required, and fish. Even if the fish in possession have been cut and wrapped or processed, the person transporting fish shall stop and report at the check station.

**Section 16. Area 1 Coverage.** Area 1 means the Snake River, Salt River, Greys River, Hoback River, Gros Ventre River and Buffalo Fork River drainages and all drainages west of the Teton and Snake River Ranges.

**Section 17. Area 1 Exceptions to General Provisions.** Fishing is permitted as described in Sections 1 through 15 of this Chapter, except as otherwise specified in this Section:

(a) All streams within Area 1, unless indicated otherwise, in Fremont, Lincoln, Sublette, and Teton counties.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches; and,

(B) No more than one (1) cutthroat trout shall exceed twelve (12) inches.

(b) All waters within Area 1 in Fremont, Lincoln, Sublette, and Teton counties.

(i) The creel limit on mountain whitefish shall be twenty-five (25) per day or in possession.

(ii) Burbot (ling) and northern pike are designated as nongame fish.

(iii) All burbot and northern pike caught shall be killed immediately.

(c) Flat Creek on the National Elk Refuge from the McBride Bridge downstream to the posted closure sign in Teton County.

(i) Closed to fishing from November 1 through July 31.

(ii) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) shall be cutthroat trout; and,

(B) All cutthroat trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(iii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies only.

(d) Flat Creek from the posted closure sign on the National Elk Refuge downstream to the west boundary of the National Elk Refuge in Teton County.

(i) Closed to fishing throughout the calendar year.

(e) Greys River proper from Corral Creek downstream to the Murphy Creek Bridge in Lincoln County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(f) Nowlin Creek on the National Elk Refuge upstream from the “Closed Area” signs in Teton County.

(i) Closed to fishing throughout the calendar year.

(g) Nowlin Creek on the National Elk Refuge from “Closed Area” signs downstream to its confluence with Flat Creek in Teton County.

(i) Closed to fishing from November 1 through July 31.

(ii) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) shall be cutthroat trout; and,

(B) All cutthroat trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(iii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies only.

(h) Salt River drainage upstream from the Upper Narrows Bridge (Wyoming Highway 238) in Lincoln County.

(i) All trout shall be released to the water immediately from November 1 through December 31.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only from November 1 through December 31.

(i) Salt River from one quarter ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ) mile below the Highway 238 Bridge downstream to the Diversion (Murray) Fishing Access as posted in Lincoln County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(j) Snake River proper from the Yellowstone National Park boundary downstream to Jackson Lake in Teton County.

(i) All cutthroat trout shall be released to the water immediately from November 1 through March 31.

(k) Snake River proper from one hundred fifty (150) feet below Jackson Lake dam downstream to the gauging station one thousand (1,000) feet below Jackson Lake dam in Teton County.

(i) All cutthroat trout shall be released to the water immediately from November 1 through March 31.

(l) Snake River proper from one thousand (1,000) feet below Jackson Lake dam (at gauging station) downstream to the Wyoming Highway 22 Bridge (Wilson Bridge) in Teton County.



(i) All cutthroat trout shall be released to the water immediately from November 1 through March 31.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(m) Snake River proper from Wyoming Highway 22 Bridge (Wilson Bridge) downstream to Palisades Reservoir in Lincoln and Teton counties.

(i) All cutthroat trout shall be released to the water immediately from November 1 through March 31.

(n) Soda Lake in the Gros Ventre River drainage in Teton County.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be one (1) per day or in possession.

(A) All trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

**Section 18. Area 1 Live Baitfish.** The use or possession of live baitfish in Area 1 is prohibited except that licensed live baitfish dealers may possess live baitfish native to the drainage until the time of sale. Holders of valid seining licenses may only seine, net, trap or spear baitfish native to the drainage for use as dead bait, excluding the waters within Grand Teton National Park and the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway. Any baitfish captured, except those to be held by licensed live baitfish dealers, shall be killed immediately. Baitfish permissible for use as dead bait in the Snake River drainage are redbreast shiner, speckled dace, longnose dace, Paiute sculpin, mottled sculpin, Utah chub, Utah sucker and commercially preserved dead baitfish.

**Section 19. Palisades Reservoir Boundaries.** The boundaries of Palisades Reservoir shall be the confluence of the Snake and Greys rivers and McCoy Creek Bridge on the Salt River arm.

**Section 20. Grand Teton National Park and John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway Exceptions to General Provisions.**

(a) Fishing is permitted as described in Sections 1 through 18 of this Chapter, except as otherwise specified in this Section. Fishing shall be in conformance with laws and regulations of the Commission, the state of Wyoming and the regulations of the National Park Service.

(b) All lakes within the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway and Grand Teton National Park in Area 1, unless indicated otherwise.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than three (3) shall be cutthroat trout; and,

(B) No more than one (1) cutthroat trout shall exceed twelve (12) inches.

(c) All streams within the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway and Grand Teton National Park in Area 1, unless otherwise indicated.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches; and,

(B) No more than one (1) cutthroat trout shall exceed twelve (12) inches.

(d) All streams within the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway and Grand Teton National Park, excluding Buffalo Fork River, Gros Ventre River, Pacific Creek, Polecat Creek and Snake River.

(i) Closed to fishing December 1 through July 31.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(e) The following fishless lakes are closed to fishing throughout the calendar year: Christian Ponds, Hedrick Pond, Moose Pond, Sawmill Pond, and Swan Lake.

(f) Blacktail Spring Ponds.

(i) Closed to fishing December 1 through July 31.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(g) Jackson Lake.

(i) Closed to fishing from October 1 through October 31.

(h) Snake River proper.

(i) See Snake River exceptions in Section 17.

(i) The use or possession of live baitfish is prohibited. The use or possession of dead baitfish or parts thereof is prohibited on all waters except that it shall be permissible to possess or use the following dead baitfish on any lake where fishing is not restricted to the use of artificial flies and lures only; redbreast shiner, speckled dace, longnose dace, Paiute sculpin, mottled sculpin, Utah chub, Utah sucker and commercially preserved dead baitfish.

(j) The use of archery equipment and spearguns is prohibited.

**Section 21. Area 2 Coverage.** Area 2 means the Wind River, Bighorn River, Shoshone River, Clarks Fork and Yellowstone River drainages.

**Section 22. Area 2 Exceptions to General Provisions.** Fishing is permitted as described in Sections 1 through 15 of this Chapter, except as otherwise specified in this Section:

(a) All waters within Area 2 in Big Horn, Fremont, Hot Springs, Johnson, Park, Teton and Washakie counties.

- (i) Northern pike are designated as nongame fish.
- (ii) All northern pike caught shall be killed immediately.

(b) Bighorn and Wind river drainage lakes and streams in Area 2 in Big Horn, Fremont, Hot Springs, Park and Washakie counties.

(i) All walleye and sauger shall be kept whole (gills and entrails may be removed) until the angler is off the water or ice and done fishing for the day. Once off the water or ice and done fishing for the day, walleye and sauger can be filleted for transportation and storage. A piece of skin large enough to allow species identification (at least one (1) inch square) shall remain on all fish fillets while in transit or in the field.

(c) Big Horn Lake downstream from the causeway (Highway 14A) in Big Horn County.

(i) The creel and possession limits are as follows:

(A) Trout - five (5) fish per day, ten (10) fish in possession;

(B) Bass - ten (10) fish per day, twenty (20) in possession;

(C) Walleye and sauger - six (6) fish per day no more than three (3) shall be sauger, twelve (12) fish in possession, no more than three (3) shall be sauger. All walleye and sauger must be kept whole (gills and entrails may be removed) until the angler is off the water or ice and done fishing for the day;

(D) Channel catfish - six (6) fish per day or in possession;

(E) Burbot (ling) - three (3) fish per day or in possession;

(F) Shovelnose sturgeon – two (2) fish per day or in possession; and,

(G) Other game species - no limit.

(d) Buffalo Bill Reservoir, excluding South Fork and Diamond Creek Dike Ponds in Park County.

(i) That portion lying west of a straight line connecting the mouths of Rattlesnake Creek and Sheep Creek (commonly known as Spring Creek) up the drainage to Gibbs Bridge is closed to fishing from April 1 through July 14.

(ii) The creel limit on trout (excluding lake trout) shall be three (3) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than two (2) shall be cutthroat trout; and,

(B) No more than one (1) trout (excluding lake trout) shall exceed eighteen (18) inches.

(iii) Walleye are designated as nongame fish.

- (iv) All walleye caught shall be killed immediately.
- (e) Clarks Fork River proper from the Wyoming/Montana state line downstream to the Shoshone National Forest Boundary (at mouth of Clarks Fork River Canyon) in Park County.
  - (i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.
- (f) Deaver Reservoir in Park County.
  - (i) The creel limit of walleye shall be three (3) per day or in possession.
- (g) East Fork of the Wind River drainage streams upstream from the confluence with the Wind River, including Bear Creek and Wiggins Fork, in Fremont County.
  - (i) All cutthroat trout shall be released to the water immediately.
  - (ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.
- (h) East Newton Lake in Park County.
  - (i) All trout, including brook trout, shall be released to the water immediately.
  - (ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.
- (i) Fish Lake in Fremont County.
  - (i) The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day or in possession.
    - (A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches.
- (j) Grace Lake in Big Horn County.
  - (i) The creel limit on brook trout shall be two (2) per day or in possession.
  - (ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.
- (k) Lake Cameahwait (Bass Lake) in Fremont County.
  - (i) The creel limit on largemouth bass shall be two (2) per day or in possession.
    - (A) All bass between ten (10) and fifteen (15) inches (inclusive) shall be released to the water immediately; and,
    - (B) No more than one (1) bass shall exceed fifteen (15) inches.
- (l) Little Moose Lake in Park County.
  - (i) The creel limit on trout shall be two (2) per day or in possession.
  - (ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.
- (m) Luce Reservoir in Park County.

- (i) All trout shall be released to the water immediately.
- (ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.
- (n) Luckey Pond in Fremont County.
  - (i) Closed to ice fishing.
- (o) North Fork of the Shoshone River drainage from Newton Creek downstream to Gibbs Bridge (including Newton Creek) in Park County.
  - (i) Closed to fishing from April 1 through June 30.
- (p) North Fork of the Shoshone River drainage upstream of Gibbs Bridge in Park County.
  - (i) The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day; or in possession.
    - (A) No more than two (2) shall be cutthroat trout; and,
    - (B) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed eighteen (18) inches.
- (q) Nowood River drainage streams upstream from the confluence with the Bighorn River including Paintrock and Tensleep Creeks in Big Horn, Johnson, and Washakie counties.
  - (i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day, or in possession.
- (r) Pelham Lake in Fremont County.
  - (i) The creel limit on trout shall be two (2) per day or in possession.
    - (A) All trout less than sixteen (16) inches shall be released to the water immediately.
    - (ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.
- (s) Pete's Pond in Fremont County.
  - (i) The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day or in possession.
- (t) Renner Reservoir in Big Horn County.
  - (i) The creel limit on largemouth bass shall be six (6) per day or in possession.
    - (A) No more than one (1) bass shall exceed twelve (12) inches.
- (u) Shell Creek drainage streams upstream from the confluence with the Bighorn River in Big Horn County.
  - (i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day, or in possession.
- (v) Shoshone Lake and Shoshone Creek in Fremont County.

- (i) Closed to fishing from September 1 through June 14.
  - (ii) The creel limit on brook trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.
- (w) Shoshone River drainage streams from Buffalo Bill Dam downstream to Big Horn Lake in Big Horn and Park counties.
- (i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.
    - (A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches.
- (x) Swamp Lake in Park County.
- (i) The creel limit on brook trout shall be two (2) per day or in possession.
  - (ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.
- (y) The “Rise” of the Middle Fork of the Popo Agie River downstream to the Bridge on the Sinks Canyon Road in Fremont County.
- (i) Closed to fishing throughout the calendar year.
- (z) Upper Brooks Lake in Fremont County.
- (i) The creel limit on game fish shall be six (6) per day or in possession.
  - (ii) No more than two (2) game fish shall exceed twelve (12) inches.

**Section 23. Area 2 Live Baitfish.** The use or possession of live baitfish in Area 2 is prohibited except as otherwise specified in this Section and Sections 6 and 8.

(a) Area 2 Live Baitfish location A. Live baitfish may be used for bait in the waters listed in subsection (i), provided the baitfish are obtained from a licensed live baitfish dealer authorized to sell baitfish for use in these waters or the baitfish were seined or trapped from the waters listed below in subsection (ii). Live baitfish restricted to use in location A shall not be transported out of the designated wild caught live baitfish possession area defined in subsection (iii).

- (i) Live baitfish may be used in the following waters:
  - (A) Wardell Reservoir;
  - (B) Big Horn Lake in Big Horn County;
  - (C) Bighorn River;
  - (D) Deaver Reservoir in Park County;
  - (E) Harrington Reservoir in Park County;
  - (F) Shoshone River downstream from Penrose Dam;
  - (G) Wind River downstream from Boysen Reservoir;

- (H) Boysen Reservoir;
- (I) Ocean Lake in Fremont County; and,
- (J) Pilot Butte Reservoir.

(ii) A holder of a valid seining license may seine, net, trap or spear baitfish from the following waters:

(A) Wind River and Bighorn River drainages downstream from the western boundary of the Wind River Reservation.

(iii) The designated wild caught live baitfish possession area for location A is the Wind River and Bighorn River drainages downstream from the western boundary of the Wind River Reservation.

**Section 24. Area 3 Coverage.** Area 3 means the Niobrara River, Cheyenne River, Stockade-Beaver Creek, Sand Creek, Belle Fourche River, Little Missouri River, Little Powder River, Powder River, Tongue River, and Little Bighorn River drainages.

**Section 25. Area 3 Exceptions to General Provisions.** Fishing is permitted as described in Sections 1 through 15 of this Chapter, except as otherwise specified in this Section:

(a) All streams within Area 3, unless indicated otherwise, in Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Natrona, Sheridan, Washakie and Weston counties.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.

(b) All waters within Area 3 in Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Natrona, Sheridan, Washakie and Weston counties, with the exception of all waters within the boundaries of Keyhole State Park.

(i) Northern pike are designated as nongame fish.

(ii) All northern pike caught shall be killed immediately.

(c) Bull Creek in Sheridan County.

(i) All trout (except brook trout) shall be released to the water immediately.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(d) Keyhole Reservoir, all waters within the boundaries of Keyhole State Park in Crook County.

(i) The creel limit on northern pike shall be three (3) per day or in possession.

(A) All northern pike less than thirty (30) inches in length shall be released to the water immediately.

(e) Middle Fork of Powder River, from Bachaus Creek downstream to the Bar C Road (Johnson County Road 238) on the Bar C Ranch in Johnson County.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches.

(f) Muddy Guard Reservoir No. 1 in Johnson County.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be one (1) per day or in possession.

(A) All trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(g) North Tongue River drainage upstream from the Mouth of Bull Creek in Sheridan County.

(i) All trout (except brook trout) shall be released to the water immediately.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(h) North Sayles Reservoir #1 (on Bud Love WHMA) in Johnson County.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be one (1) per day or in possession.

(ii) All trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(iii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(i) Sand Creek, from the forest service boundary above Ranch "A" downstream to Interstate 90 in Crook County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only on the Ranch "A" Public Fishing Area.

(j) Tongue River drainage lakes and streams in Area 3 in Johnson and Sheridan counties.

(i) All walleye and sauger shall be kept whole (gills and entrails may be removed) until the angler is off the water or ice and done fishing for the day. Once off the water or ice and done fishing for the day, walleye and sauger can be filleted for transportation and storage. A piece of skin large enough to allow species identification (at least one (1) inch square) shall remain on all fish fillets while in transit or in the field.

**Section 26. Area 3 Live Baitfish.** The use or possession of live baitfish in Area 3 is prohibited except as otherwise specified in this Section and Sections 6 and 8.

(a) Area 3 Live Baitfish location A. Live baitfish may be used for bait in the waters listed in subsection (i), provided the baitfish are obtained from a licensed live baitfish dealer



authorized to sell baitfish for use in these waters or the baitfish were seined or trapped from the waters listed below in subsection (ii). Live baitfish restricted to use in location A shall not be transported out of the designated wild caught live baitfish possession area defined in subsection (iii).

(i) Live baitfish may be used in the following waters:

- (A) Keyhole Reservoir; and,
- (B) Belle Fourche River proper.

(ii) A holder of a valid seining license may seine, net, trap or spear baitfish from the following waters:

- (A) Keyhole Reservoir; and,
- (B) Belle Fourche River drainage.

(iii) The designated wild caught live baitfish possession area for location A is the Belle Fourche River drainage and the Little Powder River drainage upstream of the confluence of Cottonwood Creek in Campbell County.

(b) Area 3 Live Baitfish location B. Live baitfish may be used for bait in the waters listed in subsection (i), provided the baitfish are obtained from a licensed live baitfish dealer authorized to sell commercially produced live baitfish as described in Section 7 (h).

(i) Commercially produced live baitfish may be used in the following waters:

- (A) Lake DeSmet;
- (B) Healy Reservoir in Johnson County; and,
- (C) LAK Reservoir.

(c) Area 3 Live Baitfish location C. The use or possession of live baitfish in Area 3C is prohibited. A holder of a valid seining license may seine, net, trap or spear baitfish in the Tongue River and Goose Creek (Sheridan and Johnson counties) drainages upstream of the Wyoming-Montana state line. Any live baitfish captured shall be killed immediately and used only as dead bait.

**Section 27. Area 4 Coverage.** Area 4 means the Green River, Little Snake River, Bear River and Great Divide Basin drainages.

**Section 28. Area 4 Exceptions to General Provisions.** Fishing is permitted as described in Sections 1 through 15 of this Chapter, except as otherwise specified in this Section:

(a) All waters within Area 4 in Carbon, Lincoln, Sublette, Sweetwater and Uinta counties.

(i) Burbot (ling), walleye, yellow perch and northern pike are designated as nongame fish.

(ii) All burbot, walleye, yellow perch and northern pike caught shall be killed immediately.

(b) Bear River drainage streams including Smiths Fork and Salt Creek (also called Thomas Fork) drainages, unless indicated otherwise, in Lincoln and Uinta counties.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than three (3) shall be a cutthroat trout; and,

(B) No more than one (1) cutthroat trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches.

(c) Burnt Lake in Sublette County.

(i) Closed to fishing from November 21 through April 30.

(d) Currant Creek in Sweetwater County.

(i) Closed to fishing from April 1 through June 30.

(ii) All cutthroat trout shall be released to the water immediately.

(iii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(e) Fall Creek in Sublette County.

(i) Closed to fishing from May 1 through June 30 from Burnt Lake downstream five hundred (500) yards.

(f) Fish Creek drainage (of South Piney Creek) on the Bridger-Teton National Forest upstream from the forest boundary in Sublette County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(g) Flaming Gorge Reservoir in Sweetwater County.

(i) The creel limit on trout (excluding lake trout) shall be four (4) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than three (3) shall be kokanee salmon.

(ii) The creel limit on lake trout shall be twelve (12) per day, twenty-four (24) in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) lake trout in possession shall exceed twenty-eight (28) inches.

(iii) All kokanee salmon caught from September 10 through November 30 shall be released to the water immediately.

(iv) All lake trout shall be kept whole (gills and entrails may be removed) until the angler is off the water or ice and done fishing for the day. Once off the water or ice and done fishing for the day, lake trout can be filleted for transportation and storage. A piece of skin large enough to allow species identification (at least one (1) inch square) shall remain on all fish fillets while in transit or in the field.

(v) All smallmouth bass shall be returned to the water immediately.

(vi) The possession or use of gaffs for landing fish is prohibited.

(vii) See Section 30. Flaming Gorge Reservoir Reciprocal Stamp.

(h) Flume Creek below Fontenelle Reservoir in Sweetwater County.

(i) Closed to fishing throughout the calendar year.

(i) Green River from Warren Bridge (Hwy 191) downstream to the Swain's (Wood's) Bridge, Sublette County Road 23-179 in Sublette County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(j) Green River from Fontenelle Dam downstream approximately one (1) mile to the U.S. Geological Survey gauge station (cable crossing) at the Weeping Rocks Campground in Sweetwater County.

(i) Closed to fishing from October 1 through December 31.

(k) Green River from the Sweetwater County Road 8 Bridge, 4.5 miles below Fontenelle Dam, downstream to the Big Sandy River in Sweetwater County.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be one (1) per day or in possession.

(A) All trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(l) Halfmoon Lake in Sublette County.

(i) The creel limit on lake trout shall be two (2) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) lake trout shall exceed twenty-four (24) inches.

(m) Ham's Fork River from Viva Naughton Reservoir downstream to Kemmerer City Reservoir in Lincoln County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(n) Jim Bridger Pond in Sweetwater County.

(i) Closed to ice fishing.

- (o) Kemmerer City Reservoir in Lincoln County.
  - (i) The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day or in possession.
    - (A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches.
  - (ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.
- (p) Kendall Warm Springs and Kendall Warm Springs Creek in Sublette County.
  - (i) Closed to fishing throughout the calendar year.
- (q) LaBarge Creek, five hundred (500) feet downstream of the fish migration barrier located between Big Fall Creek and Turkey Creek on the Bridger-Teton National Forest in Lincoln County.
  - (i) Closed to fishing throughout the calendar year.
- (r) Lake Alice in Lincoln County.
  - (i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.
    - (A) No more than two (2) cutthroat trout shall exceed twelve (12) inches.
  - (ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.
- (s) Meadow Creek in Sublette County.
  - (i) Closed to fishing from May 1 through June 30.
- (t) Meadow Lake in Sublette County.
  - (i) The portion east of the Game and Fish Department markers shall be closed to fishing from May 1 through June 30.
  - (ii) The entire lake is closed to fishing from November 21 through April 30.
- (u) New Fork River above the New Fork Lakes in Sublette County.
  - (i) Closed to fishing from September 1 through April 30.
- (v) New Fork River from the Mesa Road Bridge (Sublette County Road 23-123) downstream to the confluence with the East Fork River in Sublette County.
  - (i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.
- (w) North Cottonwood Creek drainage (including Maki Creek) on the Bridger-Teton National Forest upstream from the forest boundary in Sublette County.
  - (i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(x) North Horse Creek and Lead Creek drainage on the Bridger-Teton National Forest upstream from the forest boundary in Sublette County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(y) North Piney Creek drainage on the Bridger-Teton National Forest upstream from the forest boundary in Sublette County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(z) North Piney Lake and upstream tributaries in Sublette County.

(i) Closed to fishing from June 1 through July 15.

(ii) The creel limit on cutthroat trout shall be one (1) per day or in possession.

(iii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(aa) Pinedale Children's Pond in Sublette County.

(i) It shall be unlawful for persons fourteen (14) years of age and older to fish.

(ab) Rock Crib Lake in Sublette County.

(i) The creel limit on brook trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.

(ac) Salt Creek (also called Thomas Fork) drainage (including Raymond Creek) upstream from the Wyoming-Idaho state line in Lincoln County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(ad) Smiths Fork drainage upstream from the Hobble Creek confluence (including Hobble Creek drainage) in Lincoln County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(ae) Soda Lake north of Pinedale in Sublette County.

(i) Closed to fishing from November 15 through April 30.

(ii) The creel limit on trout (including brook trout) shall be one (1) per day or in possession.

(af) South Cottonwood Creek drainage, excluding Soda Lake ponds, on the Bridger-Teton National Forest upstream from the forest boundary in Sublette County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(ag) South Horse Creek drainage on the Bridger-Teton National Forest upstream from the forest boundary in Sublette County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

- (ah) State Hospital Pond in Uinta County.
  - (i) State Hospital Pond is open only to patients of the Wyoming State Hospital.
- (ai) Viva Naughton Reservoir in Lincoln County.
  - (i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.
    - (A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed twenty (20) inches.
  - (ii) Upstream face of Viva Naughton Dam closed to fishing throughout the calendar year (no one shall fish from the dam).
- (aj) Wagon Creek Lake in Sublette County.
  - (i) The creel limit on brook trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.

**Section 29. Area 4 Live Baitfish.** The use or possession of live baitfish in Area 4 is prohibited. A holder of a valid seining license may seine, net, trap or spear baitfish in the Green and Bear River drainages, excluding Kendall Warm Springs, Halfmoon Lake, Little Halfmoon Lake, Burnt Lake, the Bitter Creek drainage upstream of Rock Springs city limits and the Big Sandy drainage upstream of Big Sandy Reservoir. Any live baitfish captured shall be killed immediately and used only as dead bait.

**Section 30. Flaming Gorge Reservoir Reciprocal Stamp.** A person possessing a valid Utah resident fishing license and a valid Wyoming reciprocal fishing stamp, may fish in the Wyoming portions of Flaming Gorge Reservoir and may take creel and possession limits from Wyoming waters of the reservoir in compliance with Wyoming fishing regulations. The fee for a Wyoming reciprocal stamp shall be thirty dollars (\$30).

A person possessing a valid Wyoming resident fishing license and a valid Utah reciprocal fishing stamp, may fish in the Utah portions of Flaming Gorge Reservoir and may take creel and possession limits from Utah waters of the reservoir in compliance with Utah fishing regulations.

**Section 31. Area 5 Coverage.** Area 5 means the North Platte River, Sweetwater River and South Platte River drainages.

**Section 32. Area 5 Exceptions to General Provisions.** Fishing is permitted as described in Sections 1 through 15 of this Chapter, except as otherwise specified in this Section:

- (a) All lakes within Area 5, unless indicated otherwise, in Albany, Carbon, Converse, Goshen, Laramie, Natrona, Niobrara, and Platte counties.
  - (i) The creel limit on brook trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.
- (b) All streams within Area 5, unless indicated otherwise, in Albany, Carbon, Converse, Goshen, Laramie, Natrona, Niobrara and Platte counties.
  - (i) The creel limit on brook trout shall be sixteen (16) per day or in possession.

(c) The total combined creel limit for the brook trout category, regardless of the waters (streams, lakes or a combination of both), a person is fishing, shall not exceed sixteen (16) per day or in possession.

(d) All waters within Area 5 in Albany, Carbon, Converse, Goshen, Laramie, Natrona, Niobrara and Platte counties.

(i) Burbot (ling) and northern pike are designated as nongame fish.

(ii) All burbot and northern pike caught shall be killed immediately.

(e) Alcova Reservoir in Natrona County.

(i) The creel limit on walleye shall be twelve (12) per day or in possession.

(ii) The two (2) fish limit on walleye taken by spear gun (Section 10) shall not apply.

(f) Bump Sullivan Reservoir in Goshen County.

(i) Closed to fishing from November 1 through the last day of February~~15~~.

(g) Crow Creek, Dale Creek, Horse Creek and Lodgepole Creek drainages on the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest (Pole Mountain District) upstream from the forest boundary in Albany County.

(i) The creel limit on brook trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.

(h) Dome Rock Reservoir in Carbon County.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be one (1) per day or in possession.

(A) All trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(i) Edness Kimball Wilkins State Park, all ponds within the park in Natrona County.

(i) Closed to fishing, seining, and trapping throughout the calendar year.

(j) Encampment River, from Highway 230 at Riverside downstream to its confluence with the North Platte River in Carbon County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(k) Glendo Reservoir including the North Platte River downstream from the bridge on Highway 319 (near Orin Junction) to Glendo Reservoir in Platte County.

(i) All walleye less than fifteen (15) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(ii) All walleye must be kept whole (gills and entrails may be removed) until the angler is off the water or ice and done fishing for the day. Once off the water or ice and done fishing for the day, walleye can be filleted for transportation and storage.

(iii) The Special Fishing Contest Provision applies (see Section 14 (f)).

(A) No fishing contests shall be approved from June 15 through June 30 during each calendar year.

(l) Grayrocks Reservoir in Platte County.

(i) Between the spillway and floating regulatory buoys or as designated by regulatory signing is closed to fishing throughout the calendar year.

(ii) The creel limit on largemouth and smallmouth bass in combination shall be three (3) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) shall exceed twelve (12) inches.

(m) Huck Finn Pond in Albany County.

(i) It shall be unlawful for persons fourteen (14) years of age and older to fish.

(n) Lake Absarraca (Country Club Lake) in Laramie County.

(i) All largemouth and smallmouth bass less than fifteen (15) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(o) North Platte River from Colorado-Wyoming state line downstream to the Saratoga Inn Bridge in Carbon County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(p) North Platte River from Kortez Dam downstream to the confluence with Sage Creek (Miracle Mile) in Carbon County.

(i) The creel limit on walleye shall be twelve (12) per day or in possession.

(q) North Platte River from vehicle bridge eight tenths (0.8) of a mile downstream from Pathfinder Dam downstream to Alcova Reservoir in Natrona County.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be one (1) per day or in possession.

(A) All trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(r) North Platte River from Gray Reef Dam downstream eight (8) miles to the upstream boundary of the Lusby Public Fishing Area in Natrona County.



- (i) The creel limit on trout shall be one (1) per day or in possession.
  - (A) All trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.
- (ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.
  - (iii) That portion lying between the “Closed Area” signs at the gauge cable crossings (the first cable crossing is approximately 700 yards downstream from Gray Reef Dam) is closed to fishing from April 1 through April 30.
- (s) Packers Lake in Goshen County.
  - (i) All largemouth and smallmouth bass less than fifteen (15) inches shall be released to the water immediately.
- (t) Sloans Lake in Laramie County.
  - (i) All largemouth and smallmouth bass less than fifteen (15) inches shall be released to the water immediately.
- (u) Springer Reservoir in Goshen County.
  - (i) Closed to fishing from November 1 through February 15.

**Section 33. Area 5 Live Baitfish.** The use or possession of live baitfish in Area 5 is prohibited except as specified in this Section and Sections 6 and 8.

(a) Area 5 Live Baitfish location A. Live baitfish may be used for bait in the waters listed in subsection (i), provided the baitfish are obtained from a licensed live baitfish dealer authorized to sell baitfish for use in these waters or the baitfish were seined or trapped from the waters listed in subsection (ii). Live baitfish restricted to use in location A shall not be transported out of the designated wild caught live baitfish possession area defined in subsection (iii).

- (i) Live baitfish may be used in the following waters:
  - (A) Bump Sullivan Reservoir;
  - (B) Festo Lake;
  - (C) Grayrocks Reservoir;
  - (D) Guernsey Reservoir;
  - (E) Hawk Springs Reservoir;
  - (F) North Platte River proper downstream from Glendo Dam to the Wyoming-Nebraska state line;
  - (G) Packers Lake;

- (H) Rock Lake in Platte County;
- (I) Springer Reservoir; and,
- (J) Wheatland Reservoir #1 in Platte County;

(ii) A holder of a valid seining license may seine, net, trap, or spear baitfish from the following waters:

- (A) Bump Sullivan Reservoir;
- (B) Festo Lake;
- (C) Grayrocks Reservoir;
- (D) Guernsey Reservoir;
- (E) Hawk Springs Reservoir;
- (F) North Platte River proper from Glendo Dam downstream to the Wyoming-Nebraska state line;

- (G) Packers Lake;
- (H) Rock Lake in Platte County;
- (I) Springer Reservoir;
- (J) Wheatland Reservoir #1 in Platte County; and,
- (K) Canals and ditches within Wyoming that are in the Interstate and Fort Laramie canal systems in Goshen County downstream from the Whalen Diversion on the North Platte River.

(iii) The designated wild caught live baitfish possession area for location A is the North Platte River drainage below Glendo Dam, excluding all locations in the South Platte River drainage and all locations in Albany County.

(b) Area 5 Live Baitfish location B. Live baitfish may be used for bait in the waters listed in subsection (i), provided the baitfish are obtained from a licensed live baitfish dealer authorized to sell baitfish for use in these waters or the baitfish were seined or trapped from the waters listed below in subsection (ii). Live baitfish restricted to use in location B shall not be transported out of the designated wild caught live baitfish possession area defined in subsection (iii).

(i) Live baitfish may be used in the following waters:

- (A) Pathfinder Reservoir;
- (B) Alcova Reservoir;
- (C) Gray Reef Reservoir;

- (D) Glendo Reservoir;
- (E) Kortez Reservoir; and,

(F) North Platte River proper between Seminoe Dam and Glendo Dam, except eight (8) river miles from Gray Reef Dam to the upstream boundary of the Lusby Public Fishing Area and from the vehicle bridge eight-tenths (0.8) of a mile downstream from Pathfinder Dam downstream to Alcova Reservoir.

(ii) A holder of a valid seining license may seine, net, trap, or spear baitfish from the following waters:

(A) North Platte River drainage from Seminoe Dam downstream to Glendo Dam.

(iii) The designated wild caught live baitfish possession area for location B is the North Platte River drainage below Seminoe Dam downstream to Glendo Dam.

(c) Area 5 Live Baitfish location C. Live baitfish may be used for bait in the waters listed in subsection (i), provided the baitfish are obtained from a licensed live baitfish dealer authorized to sell baitfish for use in these waters or the baitfish were seined or trapped from the waters listed below in subsection (ii). Live baitfish restricted to use in location C shall not be transported out of the designated wild caught live baitfish possession area defined in subsection (iii).

(i) Live baitfish may be used in the following waters:

(A) Seminoe Reservoir; and,

(B) North Platte River from Seminoe Reservoir to Interstate Highway 80.

(ii) A holder of a valid seining license may seine, net or trap baitfish from the following waters:

(A) North Platte River drainage from Interstate Highway 80 downstream to Seminoe Dam.

(iii) The designated wild caught live baitfish possession area for location C is the North Platte River drainage from Interstate Highway 80 downstream to Seminoe Dam.

**Section 34. Emergency Closure.** Specified waters may be closed to all fishing because of an emergency upon forty-eight (48) hours notice.

**Section 35. Free Fishing Day.** Anglers may fish without payment of any fee and without acquiring a license pursuant to W.S. § 23-2-201 or a conservation stamp under W.S. § 23-3-306 on the first Saturday of June each calendar year. Anglers may exercise the privileges of sport fishing licensees subject to limitations imposed by law and Commission rule and regulation.

**Section 36. Effective Date.** These regulations are effective January 1, 2019 and shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded by the Commission.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

David Rael, Vice President

Dated: July 11, 2018

# WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

## CHAPTER 46

### FISHING REGULATIONS

**Section 1. Authority.** These regulations are promulgated by authority of ~~W.S.~~ Wyoming Statutes § 23-1-101, § 23-1-302, § 23-2-206, § 23-2-209, § 23-3-201, § 23-3-202, § 23-3-308, § 23-3-401, § 23-4-101, § 23-4-103, and § 23-6-111.

**Section 2. Definitions.** Definitions shall be as set forth in Title 23, Wyoming Statutes, Commission regulations, and the Commission also adopts the following definitions:

(a) “Artificial Flies and Lures” means manmade flies and lures. Artificial lures are single devices regardless of the number of hooks, including spoons, spinners and plugs made of metal, plastic, wood or other non-edible materials, or plastic products made to resemble worms, eggs, fish or other aquatic organisms. Artificial flies includes flies, streamers, jigs, or poppers tied from such materials as thread, feathers, hair or tinsel. Artificial flies and lures do not include living or dead organisms or edible parts thereof, natural or prepared organic food stuffs, or chemical attractants, regardless if the chemical attractant is added in the manufacturing process or applied afterward.

(b) “Aquaria” means any enclosures used to contain organisms that prevent escape. Aquaria shall have a closed system of water circulation with no risk of contacting the surface waters of ~~the State~~this state.

(c) “Artificial Light” means any man-made light or lighting device.

(d) “Bait” means living or dead organisms or edible parts thereof, natural or prepared organic food, and chemical attractants used in the taking of fish.

(e) “Baitfish” means nongame fish not designated as aquatic invasive species that were collected or purchased for use as bait.

(f) “Business Establishment” means a single business location with an associated physical address designated on the live baitfish dealer’s license.

(g) “Commercially Produced Live Baitfish” means adult fathead minnows that were propagated and reared in a Department approved private fish hatchery.

(h) “Creel Limit” means the total number of game fish a person may harvest and reduce to possession during any one (1) day, ~~or have in possession~~, regardless of the method or methods of harvest.

(~~j~~i) “Dates” means the dates mentioned are inclusive.

(~~k~~j) “Day” means calendar day.

(~~h~~k) “Drainage” means the river or stream proper and the area of land, including all streams and standing waters, that drains into that river or stream.

(~~m~~l) “Fishing Contest” means any event for catching fish on waters of ~~the~~this state, excluding licensed fishing preserves or hatchery catch out ponds, where an entry or participation fee is charged and fifty (50) or more adult (18 years of age or older) anglers participate on a given date.

(~~n~~m) “Fishing Contest Permit” means a document issued by the Department that grants the permittee authorization to conduct a fishing contest.

(~~o~~n) “Game Fish”, unless otherwise provided for specific waters or drainages, means:

- (i) bass (GENUS Micropterus and Ambloplites);
- (ii) bluegill, pumpkinseed and sunfish (GENUS Lepomis);
- (iii) crappie (GENUS Pomoxis);
- (iv) walleye and sauger (GENUS Sander);
- (v) yellow perch (GENUS Perca);
- (vi) trout, salmon, and char (GENUS Salmo, Oncorhynchus, and Salvelinus);
- (vii) whitefish and cisco (GENUS Prosopium);
- (viii) grayling (GENUS Thymallus);
- (ix) pike (GENUS Esox);
- (x) catfish and bullheads (GENUS Ameiurus, Ictalurus, Noturus, and  
Pylodictis);
- (xi) burbot (GENUS Lota);
- (xii) sturgeon (GENUS Scaphirhynchus); and
- (xiii) freshwater drum (GENUS Aplodinotus).

(~~p~~o) “Lake” means a body of standing water in a depression of land and includes reservoirs, ponds (excluding ponds created by beavers) and gravel and mining pits.

(~~q~~p) “Live Baitfish Dealer” means a person licensed by the Department to sell live baitfish.

(~~r~~q) “Live Baitfish Dealer of Record” means the designated individual legally accountable for all aspects of the live baitfish dealer.

(~~s~~r) “Length” means the total length of a fish in inches, as measured in a straight line along a flat surface, from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail.

(~~ts~~) “Nongame Fish” means all fish not defined as game fish or aquatic invasive species, including baitfish.

(~~tt~~) “Possession Limit” means the maximum number of game fish that may legally be in possession at any time and in any form. Game fish in transit or storage, including home or domicile, shall be considered in possession. Possession limits apply regardless of how many days an angler has fished.

(~~vu~~) “Special Fishing Contest Provision” means a provision promulgated for exclusion of fishing contests ~~for~~from specific waters.

(~~wv~~) “Special Winter Ice Fishing Provision” means a provision promulgated for the ice covered period for specific waters.

(~~xw~~) “Stream” means water in a permanent bed or channel with a current that is usually continuous in one direction and includes creeks, rivers, irrigation ditches, drains, canals, sloughs and ponds created by beavers. Streams may not flow continuously during low-flow periods. Ponds or puddles in a stream channel during low flow periods shall be considered to be a stream.

(~~yx~~) “Trout bead” means a bead constructed from any non-edible material to resemble a trout egg that is fished on a line or leader above a hook or artificial fly. Beads associated with spinners, bait harnesses and other types of artificial lures are not considered trout beads.

(~~zy~~) “Wild Caught Live Baitfish Possession Area” means the specific ~~drainage-~~locations in Area 2, 3 or 5 where wild caught live baitfish may be possessed regardless of whether they were captured by a seining license holder or obtained from a live baitfish dealer.

### **Section 3. Seasons and Fishing Hours.**

(a) Fishing is permitted year-round twenty-four (24) hours a day in any ~~of the~~ waters ~~in the~~ of this state except as otherwise provided by Commission regulation for specific areas, streams, lakes, or portions thereof. Exceptions are listed with the regulations for each drainage area in Sections 17, 20, 22, 25, 28 and 32.

### **Section 4. Methods.**

(a) It is legal to use hand lines, set lines, poles, or tip ups when fishing through the ice and the angler is in attendance.

(b) Internal organs, eggs, eyes, fins, and skin of game fish are the only portions that may be used legally as bait. Any part of nongame fish may be used as bait. The use of bait may be restricted on specific waters as described in Sections 17, 22, 25, 28 and 32.

(c) Artificial light may be used while fishing with legal fishing methods except as prohibited in Section 10.

(d) Corn may be possessed and used as bait in all waters where fishing with bait is permitted.



(e) Use or possession of bait is prohibited in areas or on waters where fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(f) A trout bead fixed on a line or leader two (2) inches or less from the eye of a bare hook is considered an artificial lure. Fishing with a trout bead more than two (2) inches from the eye of a bare hook or artificial fly is considered snagging and is prohibited.

(g) The following method restrictions apply for waters listed in subsection (iv) of this Section.

(i) The use of more than two (2) lines is permitted only during the ice covered period, and only when the angler is fishing through the ice, on waters listed below as being included under the Special Winter Ice Fishing Provision.

(ii) No person shall use more than six (6) lines at any time to fish.

(iii) When using more than two (2) lines;

(A) The angler's name shall be attached to each line, pole or tip-up;

(B) The angler shall be no more than three hundred (300) yards from all lines; and,

(C) The angler shall check his/her own lines.

(iv) The following waters are included under the Special Winter Ice Fishing Provision:

(A) Alcova Reservoir ~~in Natrona County;~~

(B) Big Horn Lake in Big Horn County;

(C) Big Sandy Reservoir ~~in Sweetwater County;~~

(D) Boulder Lake in Sublette County;

(E) Boysen Reservoir ~~in Fremont County;~~

(F) Deaver Reservoir in Park County;

(G) Flaming Gorge Reservoir ~~in Sweetwater County;~~

(H) Fontenelle Reservoir in Lincoln County;

(I) Glendo Reservoir ~~in Platte County;~~

(J) Goldeneye Reservoir ~~in Natrona County;~~

(K) Gray Reef Reservoir ~~in Natrona County;~~

(L) Grayrocks Reservoir ~~in Platte County;~~

(M) Guernsey Reservoir ~~in Platte County;~~

- (N) Harrington Reservoir in Big Horn County;
- (O) Hawk Springs Reservoir;
- ~~(OP)~~ Keyhole Reservoir in Crook County;
- ~~(PQ)~~ Kortes Reservoir in Carbon County;
- ~~(QR)~~ Lake DeSmet in Johnson County;
- ~~(RS)~~ Lake Hattie in Albany County;
- ~~(ST)~~ Ocean Lake in Fremont County;
- ~~(TU)~~ Pathfinder Reservoir in Carbon and Natrona counties;
- ~~(UV)~~ Pilot Butte Reservoir in Fremont County;
- ~~(VW)~~ Seminole Reservoir in Carbon County;
- ~~(WX)~~ Sulphur Creek Reservoir in Uinta County;
- ~~(XY)~~ Wardell Reservoir in Big Horn County;
- ~~(YZ)~~ Wheatland Reservoir #1 in Platte County;
- (ZAA) Wheatland Reservoir #3 in Albany County; and,
- (AAAB) Woodruff Reservoir in Uinta County.

**Section 5. Creel limits.**

(a) Except as otherwise provided, no person shall harvest and keep during any one (1) day, or have in possession, more than the number and length of game fish specified in the ~~general~~ creel limits listed below. Please refer to subsection (c) of this Section. Exceptions are listed with the regulations for each drainage area in Sections 17, 22, 25, 28 and 32.

Category	<u>General Creel Limits and Possession Limits</u>
(i) Trout (in combination includes brown, cutthroat, grayling, golden, rainbow, salmon, splake, tiger trout, and other trout hybrids). Excludes brook trout and lake trout.	Lakes: six (6) Streams: three (3) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches.  <u>Streams and lakes combined: six (6)</u>
(ii) Brook trout	sixteen (16)
(iii) Lake trout	six (6) No more than one (1) lake trout shall exceed twenty-four (24) inches.
(iv) Whitefish	six (6)
(v) Largemouth and smallmouth bass in combination	six (6)
(vi) Walleye	six (6)
(vii) Channel catfish	six (6)
(viii) Northern pike	See drainage area exceptions.
(ix) Tiger muskie (sterile northern pike muskellunge hybrid)	one (1) All tiger muskie less than thirty-six (36) inches in length shall be released to the water immediately.
(x) Yellow perch, black bullhead, stonecat, crappie, rock bass, bluegill, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, green sunfish-bluegill hybrid, freshwater drum in combination	fifty (50)
(xi) Burbot (ling)	three (3). <del>See drainage area exceptions in Sections 17, 28 and 32.</del>
(xii) Sauger	two (2)
(xiii) Shovelnose sturgeon	two (2)
(b) Except as otherwise provided in the exception for an individual water, the total combined creel <u>and possession</u> limit for the trout category, regardless of the waters (streams,	

lakes, or a combination of both) a person is fishing, shall not exceed six (6) trout per day or in possession.

(c) Any fish caught that is not to be counted in the creel limit shall be immediately released to the water with as little injury to the fish as possible. Any fish placed on a stringer, in a container, in a live well, or not released immediately to the water, shall be considered to be reduced to possession of the angler and shall be killed prior to being transported from the water of origin. No fish that has been reduced to possession of the angler shall be released alive without prior written approval from the Department.

(d) All fish possessed or transported shall be kept in a manner that species and numbers can be determined. When length limits apply, the whole body shall remain intact (gills and entrails can be removed) while in transit or in the field. Where length limits do not apply, a piece of skin large enough to allow species identification (at least one (1) inch square) shall remain on all fish fillets while in transit or in the field, except as otherwise provided in Sections 22, 25 and 32 for walleye and sauger harvested in the Wind River, Big Horn River and Tongue River drainages and Glendo Reservoir and in Section 28 for lake trout harvested in Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

(e) There are no creel or possession limits on nongame fish. Nongame fish may be taken by the use of legal fishing methods during any season open for the taking of game fish.

#### **Section 6. Seining and Trapping of Fish.**

(a) Seining and trapping licenses (hereafter referred to as seining license) for the purpose of taking baitfish may be obtained from Game and Fish Department Regional Offices or from the Cheyenne Headquarters.

(b) No person shall seine, net, trap or spear baitfish without first obtaining a valid seining license. A valid seining license is required when using a seine, net, trap or spear to take baitfish, even those that will be used as dead bait. Any brook stickleback (*Culaea inconstans*) taken by a trap, net or seine must be immediately killed.

(c) No person shall have more than one (1) seining license each calendar year.

(d) Seining or trapping and use of baitfish shall only be done as specified in regulations for the specific drainage areas in Sections 18, 23, 26, 29 and 33. Locations where baitfish may be obtained, possessed and used shall be specified on the seining license.

(e) Legal gear for taking baitfish includes seines, traps, cast nets, umbrella nets and dip nets. There are no restrictions on the size of mesh or net size for cast nets, umbrella nets or dip nets. Collection gear shall be hand operated.

(i) Seines used for the purpose of taking baitfish shall not be more than five (5) feet deep.

(ii) Traps used for the purpose of taking baitfish shall not be more than thirty-six (36) inches long, twelve (12) inches deep, twelve (12) inches wide or twelve (12) inches in diameter and the throat shall not exceed one (1) inch width.

(A) A seining license holder shall not use more than five (5) traps at a time.

(B) A holder of both a seining license and live baitfish dealer's license shall have no restriction on the number of traps that can be used.

(C) The owner's name and seining license number shall be attached to each trap while in use.

(f) Any game fish taken by trap, net or seine shall be released to the water immediately.

(g) No person shall intentionally tamper with or remove a trap or net, or remove fish from a trap or net that is set and maintained in compliance with Commission regulations without written permission from the seining license holder.

(gh) Any live nongame fish captured for use as dead bait shall be killed immediately and shall not be transported live.

(hi) All wild caught live baitfish transported out of the water of capture shall be held in aquaria when not in use.

(i) Wild caught live baitfish confined to a ~~holding facility~~ live car, net, pen or other enclosure in the same water from which the baitfish were captured are exempt from the aquaria holding requirement.

(j) All ~~holding facilities and~~ aquaria and enclosures shall have the owner's name and seining license number attached while in use.

(k) A seining license holder shall allow Department personnel to inspect live baitfish and all aquaria and enclosures used to hold live baitfish during reasonable hours.

(i) If an inspection discloses species of wildlife not authorized by the Department or an aquatic invasive species, the Department may order the wildlife, including all fish in aquaria and enclosures, removed from Wyoming or destroyed.

(kl) Wild caught live baitfish may be held indefinitely by the holder of a valid, unexpired seining license, but shall not be released, abandoned or allowed to escape.

(lm) A seining license holder shall not sell live baitfish without first possessing a valid live baitfish dealer's license.

(mn) A seining license holder shall be allowed to give live baitfish to other anglers in his or her fishing party for use only when the seining license holder is present. All live baitfish shall be returned to the seining licensee while not in use, and shall remain in the wild caught live baitfish possession area listed on the seining license.

(no) A seining license holder shall be allowed to give dead baitfish to other anglers for use as dead bait.

(øp) Seining licenses are subject to suspension or revocation for failure to comply with the seining and trapping conditions specified in Sections 6, 18, 23, 26, 29 and 33.

(i) Any revocation of a seining license other than a court hearing revocation shall be subject to contested case proceedings in accordance with Commission Regulation Chapter 27, Rules Of Practice Governing Contested Cases Before The Wyoming Game and Fish Commission.

### **Section 7. Live Baitfish Dealers.**

(a) Any person desiring to sell live baitfish shall apply for and receive a valid live baitfish dealer's license prior to selling live baitfish except holders of a valid Wyoming commercial fish hatchery license who may sell live baitfish to live baitfish dealers for resale. Application for a live baitfish dealer's license shall be made on forms provided by the Department. The applicant shall provide information including, but not limited to, the physical location of the business and a description of facilities to be used for holding fish.

(b) Commercially produced live baitfish may be transported into the state for the sole purpose of resale, provided that:

(i) The recipient is a live baitfish dealer in possession of a valid live baitfish dealer's license or an in-state Department approved private fish hatchery; and,

(ii) The recipient has written authorization from the Chief of Fisheries to receive live baitfish from a Department approved out-of-state fish hatchery; and,

(iii) Vehicles used for the transport of live baitfish into the state shall be placarded indicating that the equipment is being used to transport live fish. Letters, numbers or symbols displayed on the placard shall be at least three (3) inches in height, excluding shading and bordering, and shall be of a color that contrasts with the placard background color. Anyone in the process of transporting live baitfish for the purpose of resale ~~must~~shall be in possession of written authorization from the Chief of Fisheries to ship or transport live baitfish into the state. Live baitfish shipped by common carrier (e.g., UPS, Federal Express) are exempt from this requirement; and,

(iv) The Chief of Fisheries shall be notified immediately by the live baitfish dealer if a shipment contains any other fish species, vegetation or other organisms. The shipment of concern shall be quarantined and held at the business establishment until final disposition is determined following inspection by the Department.

(c) The Chief of Fisheries may choose not to authorize a live baitfish dealer to receive live baitfish from a Department approved out-of-state fish hatchery if the dealer has failed to comply with any provision of Sections 6 or 7.

(d) A live baitfish dealer of record shall be established for each live baitfish dealer's license. Employees of a live baitfish dealer are authorized to sell live baitfish at the business establishment. The current year's live baitfish dealer's license shall be displayed for public viewing at the business establishment. If a parent company has multiple business

establishments, a live baitfish dealer's license shall be required at each separate business establishment selling live baitfish.

(e) All wild caught live baitfish transported out of the water of capture shall be held in aquaria when not in use.

(i) Wild caught live baitfish confined to a ~~holding facility~~ live car, net, pen or other enclosure in the same water from which the baitfish were captured are exempt from the aquaria holding requirement.

(f) All ~~holding facilities~~ enclosures and aquaria shall have the owner's name and live baitfish license number attached while in use.

(g) Live baitfish may be held indefinitely by the holder of a valid live baitfish dealer license for the current year, but shall not be released, abandoned or allowed to escape.

(h) A live baitfish dealer may be licensed to obtain and sell:

(i) Commercially produced live baitfish for use in all locations east of the continental divide where permitted as described in Sections 23, 26 and 33; OR,

(ii) Commercially produced live baitfish and wild caught live baitfish for use in one specific live baitfish location; OR,

(iii) Commercially produced live baitfish for use in all locations east of the continental divide where permitted as described in Sections 23, 26 and 33 and wild caught live baitfish for use in one specific live baitfish location. Commercially produced live baitfish and wild caught live baitfish shall have separate fish holding facilities and the live baitfish dealer shall maintain separate records for each facility.

(j) All wild caught live baitfish obtained, possessed, or sold shall be subject to the restrictions specified in Sections 6, 8, 18, 23, 26, 29 and 33.

(k) A live baitfish dealer may receive live baitfish from other licensed live baitfish dealers, provided that all wild caught live baitfish were obtained from the same live baitfish location for which the dealer is licensed.

(l) Live baitfish dealers shall issue a receipt to the buyer at the time of sale. Receipts shall be filled out completely, they shall be issued by the live baitfish dealer or an employee of the live baitfish dealer and no information on the receipt shall be completed by the buyer. The receipt shall show the dealer's name and address, the number and species of fish sold, the date of the transfer, appropriate expiration date and where the fish shall be used. Receipt forms shall be provided by the Department.

(i) Live baitfish dealers authorized to sell wild caught live baitfish shall issue receipts that expire fifteen (15) consecutive days from the date of sale.

(ii) Live baitfish dealers authorized to sell only commercially produced live baitfish shall issue receipts that expire thirty (30) consecutive days from the date of sale.

(~~m~~) Live baitfish dealers shall keep records of live baitfish sources on forms provided by the Department. All live baitfish brought into the business establishment shall be promptly recorded on the record of live baitfish source, including baitfish collected under the dealer's own seining license and baitfish received from commercial fish hatchery license holders, Department approved fish hatcheries, and other licensed live baitfish dealers.

(~~m~~) Live baitfish dealers shall maintain at the established business location legible, current, accurate and complete baitfish receipts and records of live baitfish sources.

(~~n~~) Copies of the completed receipts and records of live baitfish sources shall be returned to a Department regional office or to the Cheyenne Headquarters (License Section) by January 15 for transactions that occurred the prior calendar year.

(~~o~~) Department personnel may inspect the holding facilities, aquaria, enclosures and fish of live baitfish dealers during normal business hours.

(i) If an inspection discloses species of wildlife not authorized by the Department or an aquatic invasive species, the Department may order the wildlife, including all fish in the holding facilities, aquaria, and enclosures removed from Wyoming or destroyed.

(~~p~~) Live baitfish dealer licenses are subject to suspension or revocation for failure to comply with any provision of this Section.

(i) Any revocation of a live baitfish dealer license other than a court hearing revocation shall be subject to contested case proceedings in accordance with Commission Regulation Chapter 27, Rules Of Practice Governing Contested Cases Before The Wyoming Game and Fish Commission.

### **Section 8. Use of Baitfish.**

(a) The use or possession of live baitfish is prohibited throughout Areas 1 and 4 (defined in Sections 16 and 27) and on all waters in Areas 2, 3, and 5 except as otherwise provided in Sections 18, 23, 26, 29 and 33 which describe where live baitfish may be obtained, possessed and used.

(b) The specific waters from which wild caught live baitfish may be seined, netted or trapped and used are listed in Sections 18, 23, 26, 29 and 33. Wild caught live baitfish shall not be transported out of the designated wild caught live baitfish possession area from which they were collected. This area shall be listed on the seining license, live baitfish dealer license or live baitfish receipt.

(c) No person shall possess live baitfish while fishing on any water where the use of live baitfish is prohibited.

(~~d~~) Commercially produced live baitfish may be transported and possessed throughout Areas 2, 3 and 5 (east of the continental divide) except where the use of live baitfish is prohibited. Use or possession of commercially produced live baitfish is prohibited on all waters except as otherwise provided in Sections 18, 23, 26, 29 and 33.



(~~d~~e) Possession of live brook stickleback (*Culaea inconstans*) is prohibited in Wyoming.

(~~e~~f) Persons with live baitfish in possession shall produce, upon request from Department personnel, either a receipt from a licensed live baitfish dealer or a valid, unexpired seining license verifying the origin of the live baitfish.

(~~f~~g) No live baitfish shall be transported into the state for use as live baitfish except as provided in Section 7.

(~~g~~h) All live baitfish shall be held in aquaria when not in transport or in use.

(~~h~~i) Live baitfish shall not be released, abandoned, or allowed to escape and must be killed when the receipt expires.

(j) Dead baitfish may be used as bait. Restrictions on the use of dead baitfish are designated within the regulations for the specific drainage area in Sections 18, 20, 23, 26, 29 and 33. Nongame fish taken by the use of legal fishing methods during any season open for the taking of game fish may be used as dead bait. Any live baitfish captured for use as dead bait shall be killed immediately and shall not be transported live.

**Section 9. Closure of Fish Holding Facilities.** All fish rearing and retaining ponds used by the state including those located at state fish hatcheries, or any that may be constructed elsewhere, are closed to fishing throughout the calendar year. Temporary facilities at spawning station sites are closed to fishing during the time they are in use by the Department.

**Section 10. Underwater Spear Gun Fishing.**

(a) Fish may be taken by underwater spear gun fishing only in lakes.

(b) No person shall use an underwater spear gun to take game fish under water without obtaining a fishing license.

(c) The use of artificial light to take game fish with a spear gun is prohibited.

(d) All spears used on spear guns shall be attached to the spear gun with a lanyard with a maximum length of twenty (20) feet.

(e) Underwater spear gun fishing is not permitted within one hundred (100) yards of any designated swimming or water ski areas, boat dock, ramp or spillway.

(f) A diver flag shall be displayed on the water when diving or underwater spear gun fishing. It shall be a rectangular flag that is either blue and white in color or red in color with a white diagonal stripe, not less than twelve (12) inches x twelve (12) inches and displayed no less than three (3) feet above the surface of the water.

(g) The limit on walleye taken by spear gun shall be two (2) ~~walleye~~ per day or in possession, except where designated as nongame fish or where otherwise provided for Alcova Reservoir in Section 33. All other general and water-specific creel and possession limits shall apply.

**Section 11. Transportation of Live Fish.** No person shall transport live fish or live fish eggs from the water of capture, except as provided by Commission regulations or as authorized by the Department.

**Section 12. Tagging or Marking Fish.** No person shall tag or mark fish and release them into the waters of ~~the~~this state without prior written approval from the Department.

**Section 13. Ice Fishing Shelters.** Any person utilizing an enclosed ice fishing shelter on the waters of ~~the~~this state shall remove the shelter from the body of water before ice-out.

**Section 14. Fishing Contests.**

(a) Fishing contests held on waters of ~~the~~this state shall be approved and authorized in writing by the Department. No person shall conduct a fishing contest without first obtaining a fishing contest permit. The permittee shall adhere to all requirements and stipulations provided on the fishing contest permit.

(b) Applications. Anyone desiring to hold a fishing contest shall submit an application for a fishing contest permit on a form provided by the Department. Fishing contest applications may be submitted one (1) year (365 days) prior to the start of the fishing contest, but shall be submitted at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of the fishing contest.

(c) Live Release Fishing Contests. No person shall release live fish in a fishing contest without a fishing contest permit authorizing live release.

(d) Reasons for Denying Fishing Contest Permits. The Department may deny an application if information is falsified on the application, or if the application is incomplete or incorrectly filled out. Fishing contest permits shall not be issued if the Department determines the fishing contest does not comply with Wyoming Statutes, Commission regulations, shall be harmful to the fisheries resource, or that public use facilities such as boat ramps, parking areas, campgrounds, and related facilities are inadequate to support the contest. Failure to comply with the requirements of the fishing contest permit is a violation of Commission regulations and may result in denial of future fishing contest permits.

(e) Post-Fishing Contest Report Required. Within thirty (30) days after completion of the fishing contest, the permittee shall submit a legible, complete and accurate written report to the Department on a form provided by the Department. Failure to submit this report may result in denial of future fishing contest permits.

(f) Fishing Contest-free Period. The following restrictions apply for waters covered by the special fishing contest provision.

(i) Waters included under the special fishing contest provision are listed with the regulations for those drainage areas in Section 32.

(ii) The Department shall authorize fishing contests such that each water included in the "Special Fishing Contest Provision" has a period of at least two (2) weeks when fishing contests are not allowed.

(iii) The specific dates when contests are not allowed are listed with the regulations for those drainage areas in Section 32.

**Section 15. Established Check Stations, Mandatory Reporting.** Upon request of any authorized Department representative, anyone who has been fishing shall produce a valid license and conservation stamp, if required, and fish. Even if the fish in possession have been cut and wrapped or processed, the person transporting fish shall stop and report at the check station.

**Section 16. Area 1 Coverage.** Area 1 means the Snake River, Salt River, Greys River, Hoback River, Gros Ventre River and Buffalo Fork River drainages and all drainages west of the Teton and Snake River Ranges.

**Section 17. Area 1 Exceptions to General Provisions.** Fishing is permitted as described in Sections 1 through ~~14~~15 of this Chapter, except as otherwise specified in this Section:

~~(a) All lakes within Grand Teton National Park in Teton County.~~

~~(i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.~~

~~(A) No more than three (3) shall be cutthroat trout; and,~~

~~(B) No more than one (1) cutthroat trout shall exceed twelve (12) inches.~~

~~(b)~~ a All streams within Area 1, unless indicated otherwise, in Fremont, Lincoln, Sublette, and Teton counties.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches; and,

(B) No more than one (1) cutthroat trout shall exceed twelve (12) inches.

~~(c)~~ b All waters within Area 1 in Fremont, Lincoln, Sublette, and Teton counties.

(i) The creel limit on mountain whitefish shall be twenty-five (25) per day or in possession.

(ii) Burbot (ling) and northern pike are designated as nongame fish.

(iii) All burbot and northern pike caught shall be killed immediately.

~~(d) All streams and Blacktail Spring Ponds within Grand Teton National Park below Jackson Lake Dam, excluding Buffalo Fork River, Pacific Creek, Gros Ventre River and Snake River in Teton County.~~

~~(i) Closed to fishing December 1 through July 31.~~

~~(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.~~

(ec) Flat Creek on the National Elk Refuge from the McBride Bridge downstream to the posted ~~boundary~~closure sign in Teton County.

(i) Closed to fishing from November 1 through July 31.

(ii) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) shall be cutthroat trout; and,

(B) All cutthroat trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(iii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies only.

(fd) Flat Creek from the posted ~~boundary~~closure sign on the National Elk Refuge downstream to the west boundary of the National Elk Refuge in Teton County.

(i) Closed to fishing throughout the calendar year.

(ge) Greys River proper from Corral Creek downstream to the Murphy Creek Bridge in Lincoln County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

~~(h) Jackson Lake, Grand Teton National Park in Teton County.~~

~~(i) Closed to fishing from October 1 through October 31.~~

(jf) Nowlin Creek on the National Elk Refuge ~~above~~upstream from the “Closed Area” signs in Teton County.

(i) Closed to fishing throughout the calendar year.

(kg) Nowlin Creek on the National Elk Refuge from “Closed Area” signs downstream to its confluence with Flat Creek in Teton County.

(i) Closed to fishing from November 1 through July 31.

(ii) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) shall be cutthroat trout; and,

(B) All cutthroat trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(iii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies only.

~~(l) Pacific Creek downstream from the wilderness boundary to the confluence with the Snake River in Teton County.~~

~~(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.~~

(mh) Salt River drainage upstream from the Upper Narrows Bridge (Wyoming Highway 238) in Lincoln County.

(i) All trout shall be released to the water immediately from November 1 through December 31.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only from November 1 through December 31.

(ni) Salt River from one quarter (1/4) mile below the Highway 238 Bridge downstream to the Diversion (Murray) Fishing Access as posted in Lincoln County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(j) Snake River proper from the Yellowstone National Park boundary downstream to Jackson Lake in Teton County.

(i) All cutthroat trout shall be released to the water immediately from November 1 through March 31.

~~(o) Snake River proper for a distance of one hundred fifty (150) feet below the downstream face of Jackson Lake Dam, Grand Teton National Park in Teton County.~~

~~(i) Closed to fishing throughout the calendar year.~~

(pk) Snake River proper from one hundred fifty (150) feet below Jackson Lake dam downstream to the gauging station one thousand (1,000) feet below Jackson Lake dam in Teton County.

(i) All cutthroat trout shall be released to the water immediately from November 1 through March 31.

~~(ii) The use or possession of fish, parts thereof, or fish eggs for bait is prohibited. Refer to Grand Teton National Park fishing regulations.~~

(ql) Snake River proper from one thousand (1,000) feet below Jackson Lake dam (at gauging station) downstream to the Wyoming Highway 22 Bridge (Wilson Bridge) in Teton County.

(i) All cutthroat trout shall be released to the water immediately from November 1 through March 31.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(rm) Snake River proper from Wyoming Highway 22 Bridge (Wilson Bridge) downstream to Palisades Reservoir in Lincoln and Teton counties.

(i) All cutthroat trout shall be released to the water immediately from November 1 through March 31.

~~(s) — Snake River proper from Yellowstone National Park boundary downstream to Jackson Lake in Teton County.~~

~~(i) — All cutthroat trout shall be released to the water immediately from November 1 through March 31.~~

~~(tn) Soda Lake in the Gros Ventre River drainage in Teton County.~~

~~(i) The creel limit on trout shall be one (1) per day or in possession.~~

~~(A) All trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.~~

~~(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.~~

**Section 18. Area 1 Live Baitfish.** The use or possession of live baitfish in Area 1 is prohibited except that licensed live baitfish dealers may possess live baitfish native to the drainage until the time of sale. Holders of valid seining licenses may only seine, net, trap or spear baitfish native to the drainage for use as dead bait ~~in Area 1, excluding the waters within Grand Teton National Park and the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway (refer to Section 20 for Jackson Lake exception).~~ Any baitfish captured, except those to be held by licensed live baitfish dealers, shall be killed immediately. Baitfish permissible for use as dead bait in the Snake River drainage are reidside shiner, speckled dace, longnose dace, Paiute sculpin, mottled sculpin, Utah chub, ~~and Utah sucker and commercially preserved dead baitfish.~~

**Section 19. Palisades Reservoir Boundaries.** The boundaries of Palisades Reservoir shall be the confluence of the Snake and Greys rivers and McCoy Creek Bridge on the Salt River arm.

**Section 20. Grand Teton National Park and John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway Exceptions to General Provisions.**

~~(a) Fishing is permitted in Grand Teton National Park as described in Sections 1 through 18 of this Chapter, except as otherwise specified in this Section. Fishing shall be in conformance with laws and regulations of the Commission, the state of Wyoming and the regulations of the National Park Service.~~

~~(b) — The use or possession of fish, fish eggs (real or artificial) or fish parts for bait is prohibited in all waters within Grand Teton National Park, except that it shall be permissible to possess or use the following dead, nongame fish on or along the shores of Jackson Lake: reidside shiner, speckled dace, longnose dace, Paiute sculpin, mottled sculpin, Utah chub, and Utah sucker. Please refer to Grand Teton National Park Regulations.~~

~~(b) All lakes within the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway and Grand Teton National Park in Area 1, unless indicated otherwise.~~

~~(i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.~~

~~(A) No more than three (3) shall be cutthroat trout; and,~~

(B) No more than one (1) cutthroat trout shall exceed twelve (12) inches.

(c) All streams within the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway and Grand Teton National Park in Area 1, unless otherwise indicated.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches; and,

(B) No more than one (1) cutthroat trout shall exceed twelve (12) inches.

(d) All streams within the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway and Grand Teton National Park, excluding Buffalo Fork River, Gros Ventre River, Pacific Creek, Polecat Creek and Snake River.

(i) Closed to fishing December 1 through July 31.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(ee) The following fishless lakes are closed to fishing throughout the calendar year: Christian Ponds, Hedrick Pond, Moose Pond, Sawmill Pond, and Swan Lake.

(f) Blacktail Spring Ponds.

(i) Closed to fishing December 1 through July 31.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(g) Jackson Lake.

(i) Closed to fishing from October 1 through October 31.

(h) Snake River proper.

(i) See Snake River exceptions in Section 17.

(i) The use or possession of live baitfish is prohibited. The use or possession of dead baitfish or parts thereof is prohibited on all waters except that it shall be permissible to possess or use the following dead baitfish on any lake where fishing is not restricted to the use of artificial flies and lures only; reidside shiner, speckled dace, longnose dace, Paiute sculpin, mottled sculpin, Utah chub, Utah sucker and commercially preserved dead baitfish.

~~(dj) The use of archery equipment and spearguns is prohibited in all waters in Grand Teton National Park.~~

**Section 21. Area 2 Coverage.** Area 2 means the Wind River, Bighorn River, Shoshone River, Clarks Fork and Yellowstone River drainages.

**Section 22. Area 2 Exceptions to General Provisions.** Fishing is permitted as described in Sections 1 through ~~4~~15 of this Chapter, except as otherwise specified in this Section:

~~(a) All streams within Area 2, unless indicated otherwise, in Big Horn, Fremont, Hot Springs, Johnson, Park, Teton and Washakie counties.~~

~~(i) The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day or in possession.~~

~~(A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches; and,~~

~~(B) No more than one (1) cutthroat trout shall exceed twelve (12) inches.~~

~~(b)~~ (a) All waters within Area 2 in Big Horn, Fremont, Hot Springs, Johnson, Park, Teton and Washakie counties.

(i) Northern pike are designated as nongame fish.

(ii) All northern pike caught shall be killed immediately.

~~(e)~~ (b) Bighorn and Wind river drainage lakes and streams in Area 2 in Big Horn, Fremont, Hot Springs, Park and Washakie counties.

(i) All walleye and sauger shall be kept whole (gills and entrails may be removed) until the angler is off the water or ice and done fishing for the day. Once off the water or ice and done fishing for the day, walleye and sauger can be filleted for transportation and storage. A piece of skin large enough to allow species identification (at least one (1) inch square) shall remain on all fish fillets while in transit or in the field.

~~(d)~~ (c) Big Horn Lake downstream from the causeway (Highway 14A) in Big Horn County.

(i) The creel and possession limits are as follows:

(A) Trout - five (5) fish per day, ten (10) fish in possession;

(B) Bass - ten (10) fish per day, twenty (20) in possession;

(C) Walleye and sauger - six (6) fish per day no more than three (3) shall be sauger, twelve (12) fish in possession, no more than three (3) shall be sauger. All walleye and sauger must be kept whole (gills and entrails may be removed) until the angler is off the water or ice and done fishing for the day;

(D) Channel catfish - six (6) fish per day or in possession;

(E) Burbot (ling) - three (3) fish per day or in possession;

(F) Shovelnose sturgeon – two (2) fish per day or in possession; and,

(G) Other game species - no limit.



(ed) Buffalo Bill Reservoir, excluding South Fork and Diamond Creek Dike Ponds in Park County.

(i) That portion lying west of a straight line connecting the mouths of Rattlesnake Creek and Sheep Creek (commonly known as Spring Creek) up the drainage to Gibbs Bridge is closed to fishing from April 1 through July 14.

(ii) The creel limit on trout (excluding lake trout) shall be three (3) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than two (2) shall be cutthroat trout; and,

(B) No more than one (1) trout (excluding lake trout) shall exceed eighteen (18) inches.

(iii) Walleye are designated as nongame fish.

(iv) All walleye caught shall be killed immediately.

(fe) Clarks Fork River proper from the Wyoming/Montana state line downstream to the Shoshone National Forest Boundary (at mouth of Clarks Fork River Canyon) in Park County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(gf) Deaver Reservoir in Park County.

(i) The creel limit of walleye shall be three (3) per day or in possession.

(hg) East Fork of the Wind River drainage streams upstream from the confluence with the Wind River, including Bear Creek and Wiggins Fork, in Fremont County.

(i) ~~The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day or in possession.~~ All cutthroat trout shall be released to the water immediately.

~~(A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches.~~

~~(B) All cutthroat trout shall be released to the water immediately.~~

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(jh) East Newton Lake in Park County.

(i) All trout, including brook trout, shall be released to the water immediately.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(ki) Fish Lake in Fremont County.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches.

(lj) Grace Lake in Big Horn County.

- (i) The creel limit on brook trout shall be two (2) per day or in possession.
- (ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

~~(mk)~~ Lake Cameahwait (Bass Lake) in Fremont County.

(i) The creel limit on largemouth bass shall be two (2) per day or in possession.

(A) All bass between ten (10) and fifteen (15) inches (inclusive) shall be released to the water immediately; and,

(B) No more than one (1) bass shall exceed fifteen (15) inches.

~~(nl)~~ Little Moose Lake in Park County.

- (i) The creel limit on trout shall be two (2) per day or in possession.
- (ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

~~(om)~~ Luce Reservoir in Park County.

- (i) All trout shall be released to the water immediately.
- (ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

~~(pn)~~ Luckey Pond in Fremont County.

- (i) Closed to ice fishing.

~~(q)~~ Middle Depression Reservoir in Fremont County.

~~(i) The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day or in possession.~~

~~(A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches.~~

~~(r)~~ North Fork of the Shoshone River drainage from Newton Creek downstream to Gibbs Bridge (including Newton Creek) in Park County.

- (i) Closed to fishing from April 1 through June 30.

~~(sp)~~ North Fork of the Shoshone River drainage upstream of Gibbs Bridge in Park County.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day, or in possession.

(A) No more than two (2) shall be cutthroat trout; and,

(B) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed eighteen (18) inches.

~~(tj)~~ Nowood River drainage streams upstream from the confluence with the Bighorn River including Paintrock and Tensleep Creeks in Big Horn, Johnson, and Washakie counties.

- (i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day, or in possession.
- ~~(ur)~~ Pelham Lake in Fremont County.
  - (i) The creel limit on trout shall be two (2) per day or in possession.
  - (A) All trout less than sixteen (16) inches shall be released to the water immediately.
  - (ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.
- ~~(s)~~ Pete's Pond in Fremont County.
  - ~~(i)~~ The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day or in possession.
- ~~(vt)~~ Renner Reservoir in Big Horn County.
  - (i) The creel limit on largemouth bass shall be six (6) per day or in possession.
    - (A) No more than one (1) bass shall exceed twelve (12) inches.
- ~~(wu)~~ Shell Creek drainage streams upstream from the confluence with the Bighorn River in Big Horn County.
  - (i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day, or in possession.
- ~~(xv)~~ Shoshone Lake and Shoshone Creek in Fremont County.
  - (i) Closed to fishing from September 1 through June 14.
  - (ii) The creel limit on brook trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.
- ~~(yw)~~ Shoshone River drainage streams from Buffalo Bill Dam downstream to Big Horn Lake in Big Horn and Park counties.
  - (i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.
    - (A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches.
- ~~(zx)~~ Swamp Lake in Park County.
  - (i) The creel limit on brook trout shall be two (2) per day or in possession.
  - (ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.
- ~~(aay)~~ The "Rise" of the Middle Fork of the Popo Agie River downstream to the Bridge on the Sinks Canyon Road in Fremont County.
  - (i) Closed to fishing throughout the calendar year.
- ~~(bbz)~~ Upper Brooks Lake in Fremont County.

- (i) The creel limit on game fish shall be six (6) per day or in possession.
- (ii) No more than two (2) game fish shall exceed twelve (12) inches.

**Section 23. Area 2 Live Baitfish.** The use or possession of live baitfish in Area 2 is prohibited except as otherwise specified in this Section and Sections 6 and 8.

~~(a) — Area 2 Live Baitfish location A. Live baitfish may be used for bait in the waters listed in subsection (i), provided the baitfish are obtained from a licensed live baitfish dealer authorized to sell baitfish for use in these waters or the baitfish were seined or trapped from the waters listed in subsection (ii). Live baitfish restricted to use in location A shall not be transported out of the designated wild caught live baitfish possession area defined in subsection (iii).~~

~~(i) — Fathead minnows and lake chubs are the only live baitfish species that may be used in the following waters:~~

- ~~(A) — Torrey Lake;~~
- ~~(B) — Ring Lake; and,~~
- ~~(C) — Trail Lake.~~

~~(ii) — A holder of a valid seining license may seine, net or trap fathead minnows or lake chubs from the Wind River drainage upstream from the western boundary of the Wind River Indian Reservation excluding Torrey, Ring and Trail lakes. All other baitfish captured shall be killed immediately for use as dead bait or released to the water immediately.~~

~~(iii) — The designated wild caught live baitfish possession area for location A is the Wind River drainage upstream from the western boundary of the Wind River Reservation.~~

(b<sub>a</sub>) Area 2 Live Baitfish location BA. Live baitfish may be used for bait in the waters listed in subsection (i), provided the baitfish are obtained from a licensed live baitfish dealer authorized to sell baitfish for use in these waters or the baitfish were seined or trapped from the waters listed below in subsection (ii). Live baitfish restricted to use in location BA shall not be transported out of the designated wild caught live baitfish possession area defined in subsection (iii).

- (i) Live baitfish may be used in the following waters:
  - (A) Wardell Reservoir;
  - (B) Big Horn Lake in Big Horn County;
  - (C) Bighorn River;
  - (D) Deaver Reservoir in Park County;
  - (E) Harrington Reservoir in Park County;
  - (F) Shoshone River downstream from Penrose Dam;

- (G) Wind River downstream from Boysen Reservoir;
- (H) Boysen Reservoir;
- (I) Ocean Lake in Fremont County; and,
- (J) Pilot Butte Reservoir.

(ii) A holder of a valid seining license may seine, net, trap or spear baitfish from the following waters:

(A) Wind River and Bighorn River drainages downstream from the western boundary of the Wind River Reservation.

(iii) The designated wild caught live baitfish possession area for location ~~B~~A is the Wind River and Bighorn River drainages downstream from the western boundary of the Wind River Reservation.

**Section 24. Area 3 Coverage.** Area 3 means the Niobrara River, Cheyenne River, Stockade-Beaver Creek, Sand Creek, Belle Fourche River, Little Missouri River, Little Powder River, Powder River, Tongue River, and Little Bighorn River drainages.

**Section 25. Area 3 Exceptions to General Provisions.** Fishing is permitted as described in Sections 1 through ~~14~~15 of this Chapter, except as otherwise specified in this Section:

(a) All streams within Area 3, unless indicated otherwise, in Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Natrona, Sheridan, Washakie and Weston counties.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.

(b) All waters within Area 3 in Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Natrona, Sheridan, Washakie and Weston counties, with the exception of all waters within the boundaries of Keyhole State Park.

(i) Northern pike are designated as nongame fish.

(ii) All northern pike caught shall be killed immediately.

(c) Bull Creek in Sheridan County.

(i) All trout (except brook trout) shall be released to the water immediately.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(d) Keyhole Reservoir, all waters within the boundaries of Keyhole State Park in Crook County.

(i) The creel limit on northern pike shall be three (3) per day or in possession.

(A) All northern pike less than thirty (30) inches in length shall be released to the water immediately.

(e) Middle Fork of Powder River, from Bachaus Creek downstream to the Bar C Road (Johnson County Road 238) on the Bar C Ranch in Johnson County.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches.

(f) Muddy Guard Reservoir No. 1 in Johnson County.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be one (1) per day or in possession.

(A) All trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(g) North Tongue River drainage upstream from the Mouth of Bull Creek in Sheridan County.

(i) All trout (except brook trout) shall be released to the water immediately.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(h) North Sayles Reservoir #1 (on Bud Love WHMA) in Johnson County.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be one (1) per day or in possession.

(ii) All trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(iii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

~~(h)~~ Sand Creek, from the forest service boundary above Ranch "A" downstream to Interstate 90 in Crook County.

~~(i) The creel limit on brown trout is twelve (12) per day or in possession.~~

~~(A) All other trout shall be released to the water immediately; and,~~

~~(B) No more than one (1) brown trout shall exceed twelve (12) inches.~~

~~(h)~~ Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only on the Ranch "A" Public Fishing Area.

(j) Tongue River drainage lakes and streams in Area 3 in Johnson and Sheridan counties.

(i) All walleye and sauger shall be kept whole (gills and entrails may be removed) until the angler is off the water or ice and done fishing for the day. Once off the water

or ice and done fishing for the day, walleye and sauger can be filleted for transportation and storage. A piece of skin large enough to allow species identification (at least one (1) inch square) shall remain on all fish fillets while in transit or in the field.

**Section 26. Area 3 Live Baitfish.** The use or possession of live baitfish in Area 3 is prohibited except as otherwise specified in this Section and Sections 6 and 8.

(a) Area 3 Live Baitfish location A. Live baitfish may be used for bait in the waters listed in subsection (i), provided the baitfish are obtained from a licensed live baitfish dealer authorized to sell baitfish for use in these waters or the baitfish were seined or trapped from the waters listed below in subsection (ii). Live baitfish restricted to use in location A shall not be transported out of the designated wild caught live baitfish possession area defined in subsection (iii).

(i) Live baitfish may be used in the following waters:

(A) Keyhole Reservoir; and,

(B) Belle Fourche River proper.

(ii) A holder of a valid seining license may seine, net, ~~or~~ trap or spear baitfish from the following waters:

(A) Keyhole Reservoir; and,

(B) Belle Fourche River drainage.

(iii) The designated wild caught live baitfish possession area for location A is the Belle Fourche River drainage, ~~Little Missouri drainage, Little Powder drainage and Cheyenne River drainage~~ and the Little Powder River drainage upstream of the confluence of Cottonwood Creek in Campbell County.

(b) Area 3 Live Baitfish location B. Live baitfish may be used for bait in the waters listed in subsection (i), provided the baitfish are obtained from a licensed live baitfish dealer authorized to sell commercially produced live baitfish as described in Section 7 (h).

(i) Commercially produced live baitfish may be used in the following waters:

(A) Lake DeSmet ~~in Johnson County~~;

(B) Healy Reservoir in Johnson County; and,

(C) LAK Reservoir ~~in Weston County~~.

(c) Area 3 Live Baitfish location C. The use or possession of live baitfish in Area 3C is prohibited. A holder of a valid seining license may seine, net, trap or spear baitfish in the Tongue River and Goose Creek (Sheridan and Johnson counties) drainages upstream of the Wyoming-Montana state line. Any live baitfish captured shall be killed immediately and used only as dead bait.

**Section 27. Area 4 Coverage.** Area 4 means the Green River, Little Snake River, Bear River and Great Divide Basin drainages.

**Section 28. Area 4 Exceptions to General Provisions.** Fishing is permitted as described in Sections 1 through ~~4~~15 of this Chapter, except as otherwise specified in this Section:

~~(a) — All streams within Area 4, unless indicated otherwise, in Carbon, Lincoln, Sublette, Sweetwater and Uinta counties.~~

~~(i) — The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day or in possession.~~

~~(A) — No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches; and,~~

~~(B) — No more than one cutthroat trout shall exceed twelve (12) inches.~~

~~(b)~~ (a) All waters within Area 4 in Carbon, Lincoln, Sublette, Sweetwater and Uinta counties.

(i) Burbot (ling), walleye, yellow perch and northern pike are designated as nongame fish.

(ii) All burbot, walleye, yellow perch and northern pike caught shall be killed immediately.

~~(b)~~ (b) Bear River drainage streams including Smiths Fork and Salt Creek (also called Thomas Fork) drainages, unless indicated otherwise, in Lincoln and Uinta counties.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than three (3) shall be a cutthroat trout; and,

(B) No more than one (1) cutthroat trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches.

~~(d) — Boulder Creek from the inlet of Boulder Lake to the confluence of the North Fork of Boulder Creek in Sublette County.~~

~~(i) — Closed to fishing from April 1 through June 30.~~

~~(e)~~ (c) Burnt Lake in Sublette County.

(i) Closed to fishing from November ~~15~~21 through April 30.

~~(f)~~ (d) Currant Creek in Sweetwater County.

(i) Closed to fishing from April 1 through June 30.

(ii) All cutthroat trout shall be released to the water immediately.

(iii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.



- (ge) Fall Creek in Sublette County.
- (i) Closed to fishing from May 1 through June 30 from Burnt Lake downstream five hundred (500) yards.
- (hf) Fish Creek drainage (of South Piney Creek) on the Bridger-Teton National Forest upstream from the forest boundary in Sublette County.
- (i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.
- (jg) Flaming Gorge Reservoir in Sweetwater County.
- (i) The creel limit on trout (excluding lake trout) shall be four (4) per day or in possession.
- (A) No more than three (3) shall be kokanee salmon.
- (ii) The creel limit on lake trout shall be ~~eight (8)~~ twelve (12) per day, ~~or twenty-four (24)~~ in possession.
- (A) No more than one (1) lake trout in possession shall exceed twenty-eight (28) inches.
- (iii) All kokanee salmon caught from September 10 through November 30 shall be released to the water immediately.
- (iv) All lake trout ~~must~~shall be kept whole (gills and entrails may be removed) until the angler is off the water or ice and done fishing for the day. Once off the water or ice and done fishing for the day, lake trout can be filleted for transportation and storage. A piece of skin large enough to allow species identification (at least one (1) inch square) shall remain on all fish fillets while in transit or in the field.
- (v) All smallmouth bass shall be returned to the water immediately.
- (vi) The possession or use of gaffs for landing fish is prohibited.
- (vii) See Section 30. Flaming Gorge Reservoir Reciprocal Stamp.
- (kh) Flume Creek below Fontenelle Reservoir in Sweetwater County.
- (i) Closed to fishing throughout the calendar year.
- (hi) Green River from Warren Bridge (Hwy 191) downstream to the Swain's (Wood's) Bridge, Sublette County Road 23-179 in Sublette County.
- (i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.
- (mj) Green River from Fontenelle Dam downstream approximately one (1) mile to the U.S. Geological Survey gauge station (cable crossing) at the Weeping Rocks Campground in Sweetwater County.
- (i) Closed to fishing from October 1 through December 31.

(~~nk~~) Green River from the Sweetwater County Road 8 Bridge, 4.5 miles below Fontenelle Dam, downstream to the Big Sandy River in Sweetwater County.

(i) The ~~creek limited~~ creel limit on trout shall be one (1) per day or in possession.

(A) All trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(~~ol~~) Halfmoon Lake in Sublette County.

(i) The creel limit on lake trout shall be two (2) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) lake trout shall exceed twenty-four (24) inches.

(~~pm~~) Ham's Fork River from Viva Naughton Reservoir downstream to Kemmerer City Reservoir in Lincoln County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

~~(q) High Savery Reservoir in Carbon County.~~

~~—(i) The North Fork Savery Creek inflow from the concrete fish trap (dam) downstream to the reservoir is closed to fishing September 1 to September 30.~~

(~~rn~~) Jim Bridger Pond in Sweetwater County.

(i) Closed to ice fishing.

(~~so~~) Kemmerer City Reservoir in Lincoln County.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be three (3) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed sixteen (16) inches.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(~~tp~~) Kendall Warm Springs and Kendall Warm Springs Creek in Sublette County.

(i) Closed to fishing throughout the calendar year.

(~~uq~~) LaBarge Creek, five hundred (500) feet downstream of the fish migration barrier located between Big Fall Creek and Turkey Creek on the Bridger-Teton National Forest in Lincoln County.

(i) Closed to fishing throughout the calendar year.

(~~vr~~) Lake Alice in Lincoln County.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.

inches. (A) No more than two (2) cutthroat trout shall exceed twelve (12)

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(~~ws~~) Meadow Creek in Sublette County.

(i) Closed to fishing from ~~April~~ May 1 through June 30.

(~~x~~) Meadow Lake in Sublette County.

(i) The portion east of the Game and Fish Department markers shall be closed to fishing from May 1 through June 30.

(ii) The entire lake is closed to fishing from November ~~15~~ 21 through April 30.

(~~y~~) ~~Naughton Plant Pond in Lincoln County.~~

(~~i~~) ~~Closed to ice fishing.~~

(~~ii~~) ~~The creel limit on trout shall be two (2) per day or in possession.~~

(~~zu~~) New Fork River above the New Fork Lakes in Sublette County.

(i) Closed to fishing from September 1 through April 30.

(~~av~~) New Fork River from the Mesa Road Bridge (Sublette County Road 23-123) downstream to the confluence with the East Fork River in Sublette County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(~~bw~~) North Cottonwood Creek drainage (including Maki Creek) on the Bridger-Teton National Forest upstream from the forest boundary in Sublette County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(~~ex~~) North Horse Creek and Lead Creek drainage on the Bridger-Teton National Forest upstream from the forest boundary in Sublette County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(~~dy~~) North Piney Creek drainage on the Bridger-Teton National Forest upstream from the forest boundary in Sublette County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(~~ez~~) North Piney Lake and upstream tributaries in Sublette County.

(i) Closed to fishing from June 1 through July 15.

(ii) The creel limit on cutthroat trout shall be one (1) per day or in possession.

(iii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(~~a~~faa) Pinedale Children's Pond in Sublette County.

(i) It shall be unlawful for persons fourteen (14) years of age and older to fish.

(~~a~~gab) Rock Crib Lake in Sublette County.

(i) The creel limit on brook trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.

(~~a~~hac) Salt Creek (also called Thomas Fork) drainage (including Raymond Creek) upstream from the Wyoming-Idaho state line in Lincoln County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(~~a~~iad) Smiths Fork drainage upstream from the Hobble Creek confluence (including Hobble Creek drainage) in Lincoln County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(~~a~~jae) Soda Lake north of Pinedale in Sublette County.

(i) Closed to fishing from November 15 through April 30.

(ii) The creel limit on trout (including brook trout) shall be one (1) per day or in possession.

(~~a~~kaf) South Cottonwood Creek drainage, excluding Soda Lake ponds, on the Bridger-Teton National Forest upstream from the forest boundary in Sublette County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(~~a~~lag) South Horse Creek drainage on the Bridger-Teton National Forest upstream from the forest boundary in Sublette County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(~~a~~mah) State Hospital Pond in Uinta County.

(i) State Hospital Pond is open only to patients of the Wyoming State Hospital.

(~~a~~nai) Viva Naughton Reservoir in Lincoln County.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed twenty (20) inches.

(ii) Upstream face of Viva Naughton Dam closed to fishing throughout the calendar year (no one shall fish from the dam).

(~~a~~oaj) Wagon Creek Lake in Sublette County.

(i) The creel limit on brook trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.

**Section 29. Area 4 Live Baitfish.** The use or possession of live baitfish in Area 4 is prohibited. A holder of a valid seining license may seine, net, trap or spear baitfish in the Green and Bear River drainages, excluding Kendall Warm Springs, Halfmoon Lake, Little Halfmoon Lake, Burnt Lake, the Bitter Creek drainage upstream of Rock Springs city limits and the Big Sandy drainage upstream of Big Sandy Reservoir. Any live baitfish captured shall be killed immediately and used only as dead bait.

**Section 30. Flaming Gorge Reservoir Reciprocal Stamp.** ~~A person may utilize a valid Wyoming fishing license to fish in the Utah portions of Flaming Gorge Reservoir if the person possesses a valid Utah reciprocal fishing stamp. A person may utilize a valid Utah fishing license to fish in the Wyoming portions of Flaming Gorge Reservoir if the person possesses a valid Wyoming reciprocal fishing stamp. Anglers purchasing a reciprocal fishing stamp shall validate the stamp by signing in ink across the face of the stamp. Anglers who acquire a reciprocity stamp authorization through the Department's electronic license service shall not be required to meet the signature portion of this Section. Each licensed angler may take only one (1) creel limit regardless of the number of fishing licenses or stamps held.~~ A person possessing a valid Utah resident fishing license and a valid Wyoming reciprocal fishing stamp, may fish in the Wyoming portions of Flaming Gorge Reservoir and may take creel and possession limits from Wyoming waters of the reservoir in compliance with Wyoming fishing regulations. The fee for a Wyoming reciprocal fishing stamp shall be thirty dollars (\$30).

A person possessing a valid Wyoming resident fishing license and a valid Utah reciprocal fishing stamp, may fish in the Utah portions of Flaming Gorge Reservoir and may take creel and possession limits from Utah waters of the reservoir in compliance with Utah fishing regulations.

**Section 31. Area 5 Coverage.** Area 5 means the North Platte River, Sweetwater River and South Platte River drainages.

**Section 32. Area 5 Exceptions to General Provisions.** Fishing is permitted as described in Sections 1 through ~~4~~15 of this Chapter, except as otherwise specified in this Section:

(a) All lakes within Area 5, unless indicated otherwise, in Albany, Carbon, Converse, Goshen, Laramie, Natrona, Niobrara, and Platte counties.

(i) ~~The general daily creel and possession limit for brook trout (Section 5) shall not apply. The total creel limit on trout and brook trout in combination, The creel limit on brook trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.~~

(b) All streams within Area 5, unless indicated otherwise, in Albany, Carbon, Converse, Goshen, Laramie, Natrona, Niobrara and Platte counties.

(i) The creel limit on brook trout shall be sixteen (16) per day or in possession.

(c) The total combined creel limit for the brook trout category, regardless of the waters (streams, lakes or a combination of both), a person is fishing, shall not exceed sixteen (16) per day or in possession.

(bd) All waters within Area 5 in Albany, Carbon, Converse, Goshen, Laramie, Natrona, Niobrara and Platte counties.

(i) Burbot (ling) and northern pike are designated as nongame fish.

(ii) All burbot and northern pike caught shall be killed immediately.

(ee) Alcova Reservoir in Natrona County.

(i) The creel limit on walleye shall be twelve (12) per day or in possession.

(ii) The two (2) fish limit on walleye taken by spear gun (Section 10) shall not apply.

~~(d) Alsop Lake in Albany County.~~

~~(i) The creel limit on trout shall be two (2) per day or in possession.~~

~~(A) All trout less than sixteen (16) inches shall be released to the water immediately.~~

~~(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.~~

(ef) Bump Sullivan Reservoir in Goshen County.

(i) Closed to fishing from November 1 through the last day of February 15.

(fg) Crow Creek, Dale Creek, Horse Creek and Lodgepole Creek drainages on the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest (Pole Mountain District) upstream from the forest boundary in Albany County.

(i) The creel limit on brook trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.

(gh) Dome Rock Reservoir in Carbon County.

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be one (1) per day or in possession.

(A) All trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(hi) Edness Kimball Wilkins State Park, all ponds within the park in Natrona County.

(i) Closed to fishing, ~~minnow~~-seining, and ~~minnow~~ trapping throughout the calendar year.

(j) Encampment River, from Highway 230 at Riverside downstream to its confluence with the North Platte River in Carbon County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(k) Glendo Reservoir including the North Platte River downstream from the bridge on Highway 319 (near Orin Junction) to Glendo Reservoir in Platte County.

(i) All walleye less than fifteen (15) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(ii) All walleye must be kept whole (gills and entrails may be removed) until the angler is off the water or ice and done fishing for the day. Once off the water or ice and done fishing for the day, walleye can be filleted for transportation and storage.

(iii) The Special Fishing Contest Provision applies (see Section 14 (f)).

(A) No fishing contests shall be approved from June 15 through June 30 during each calendar year.

(l) Grayrocks Reservoir in Platte County.

(i) Between the spillway and floating regulatory buoys or as designated by regulatory signing is closed to fishing throughout the calendar year.

(ii) The creel limit on largemouth and smallmouth bass in combination shall be three (3) per day or in possession.

(A) No more than one (1) shall exceed twelve (12) inches.

(m) Huck Finn Pond in Albany County.

(i) It shall be unlawful for persons fourteen (14) years of age and older to fish.

(n) Lake Absarraca (Country Club Lake) in Laramie County.

(i) All largemouth and smallmouth bass less than fifteen (15) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(o) North Platte River from Colorado-Wyoming state line downstream to the Saratoga Inn Bridge in Carbon County.

(i) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(p) North Platte River from Kortez Dam downstream to the confluence with Sage Creek (Miracle Mile) in Carbon County.

(i) The creel limit on walleye shall be twelve (12) per day or in possession.

~~(q) North Platte River from Pathfinder Dam downstream eight tenths (0.8) of a mile to the vehicle bridge in Natrona County.~~

~~(i) The creel limit on trout shall be one (1) per day or in possession.~~

~~(r) North Platte River from vehicle bridge eight tenths (0.8) of a mile downstream from Pathfinder Dam downstream to Alcova Reservoir in Natrona County.~~

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be one (1) per day or in possession.

(A) All trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

~~(s) North Platte River from Alcova Dam downstream to Gray Reef Reservoir in Natrona County.~~

~~(i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.~~

~~(t) North Platte River from Gray Reef Dam downstream eight (8) miles to the upstream boundary of the Lusby Public Fishing Area in Natrona County.~~

(i) The creel limit on trout shall be one (1) per day or in possession.

(A) All trout less than twenty (20) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

(ii) Fishing is permitted by the use of artificial flies and lures only.

(iii) That portion lying between the "Closed Area" signs at the gauge cable crossings (the first cable crossing is approximately 700 yards downstream from Gray Reef Dam) is closed to fishing from April 1 through April 30.

~~(u) North Platte River drainage streams from Bessemer Bend Bridge (Natrona County Road 308) downstream to Guernsey Dam in Albany, Converse, Natrona and Platte counties.~~

~~(i) The creel limit on trout shall be six (6) per day or in possession.~~

~~(A) No more than one (1) trout shall exceed twenty (20) inches.~~

~~(v) Packers Lake in Goshen County.~~

(i) All largemouth and smallmouth bass less than fifteen (15) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

~~(w) Sloans Lake in Laramie County.~~

(i) All largemouth and smallmouth bass less than fifteen (15) inches shall be released to the water immediately.

~~(x) Springer Reservoir in Goshen County.~~

(i) Closed to fishing from November 1 through February 15.

**Section 33. Area 5 Live Baitfish.** The use or possession of live baitfish in Area 5 is prohibited except as specified in this Section and Sections 6 and 8.

~~(a) Live baitfish may be used for bait in Seminoe, Kortez, Pathfinder, Alcova, Gray Reef, Glendo, Guernsey, Grayrocks, Hawk Springs, Bump Sullivan, Wheatland #1, and Springer~~



~~reservoirs, Rock, Festo, and Packers lakes, and the North Platte River proper from Interstate Highway 80 downstream to the Wyoming-Nebraska state line (except eight (8) river miles from Gray Reef Dam to the upstream boundary of the Lusby Public Fishing Area and from vehicle-bridge eight tenths (0.8) of a mile downstream from Pathfinder Dam downstream to Alcova Reservoir) provided the baitfish are obtained from a licensed live baitfish dealer authorized to sell baitfish for use in those waters.~~

~~(b) — Seining and trapping of live baitfish is prohibited in all waters in the Horse Creek drainage, the South Platte River drainage, the Medicine Bow National Forest and all waters located west of Interstate Highway 25 in the Laramie River drainage.~~

(ea) Area 5 Live Baitfish location A. Live baitfish may be used for bait in the waters listed in subsection (i), provided the baitfish are obtained from a licensed live baitfish dealer authorized to sell baitfish for use in these waters or the baitfish were seined or trapped from the waters listed ~~below~~ in subsection (ii). Live baitfish restricted to use in location A shall not be transported out of the designated wild caught live baitfish possession area defined in subsection (iii).

(i) Live baitfish may be used in the following waters:

(A) ~~Glendo Reservoir~~Bump Sullivan Reservoir;

(B) ~~Guernsey Reservoir~~Festo Lake;

(C) Grayrocks Reservoir;

~~(D)~~ Guernsey Reservoir;

~~(E)~~ Hawk Springs Reservoir;

~~(F)~~ North Platte River proper downstream from Glendo Dam to the Wyoming-Nebraska state line;

~~(G)~~ Packers Lake;

~~(H)~~ Rock Lake in Platte County;

~~(I)~~ Springer Reservoir; and,

~~(EJ)~~ Wheatland Reservoir #1 in Platte County;

~~(F)~~ Bump Sullivan Reservoir;

~~(G)~~ Springer Reservoir;

~~(H)~~ Rock Lake;

~~(I)~~ Festo Lake;

~~(J)~~ Packers Lake; and,

~~(K) — North Platte River proper downstream from the dam at Dave Johnston Power Plant (Converse County) to the Wyoming-Nebraska state line.~~

(ii) A holder of a valid seining license may seine, net, ~~or trap,~~ or spear baitfish from the following waters:

~~(A) — North Platte River drainage from the dam at Dave Johnston Power Plant (Converse County) downstream to Glendo Dam except in the Medicine Bow National Forest;~~

~~(B) — North Platte River proper downstream from Glendo Dam to the Wyoming-Nebraska state line; and,~~

~~(C) — Laramie River drainage east of Interstate Highway 25.~~

(A) Bump Sullivan Reservoir;

(B) Festo Lake;

(C) Grayrocks Reservoir;

(D) Guernsey Reservoir;

(E) Hawk Springs Reservoir;

(F) North Platte River proper from Glendo Dam downstream to the Wyoming-Nebraska state line;

(G) Packers Lake;

(H) Rock Lake in Platte County;

(I) Springer Reservoir;

(J) Wheatland Reservoir #1 in Platte County; and,

(K) Canals and ditches within Wyoming that are in the Interstate and Fort Laramie canal systems in Goshen County downstream from the Whalen Diversion on the North Platte River.

(iii) The designated wild caught live baitfish possession area for location A is the North Platte River drainage below ~~the Dave Johnston Power Plant (Converse County)~~Glendo Dam, excluding all locations in the South Platte River drainage and all locations in Albany County.

~~(d)~~ Area 5 Live Baitfish location B. Live baitfish may be used for bait in the waters listed in subsection (i), provided the baitfish are obtained from a licensed live baitfish dealer authorized to sell baitfish for use in these waters or the baitfish were seined or trapped from the waters listed below in subsection (ii). Live baitfish restricted to use in location B shall not be transported out of the designated wild caught live baitfish possession area defined in subsection (iii).

(i) Live baitfish may be used in the following waters:

(A) Pathfinder Reservoir;

(B) Alcova Reservoir;

(C) Gray Reef Reservoir;

(D) Glendo Reservoir;

(E) Kortez Reservoir; and,

(F) North Platte River proper between Seminoe Dam and Glendo Dam, except eight (8) river miles from Gray Reef Dam to the upstream boundary of the Lusby Public Fishing Area and from the vehicle bridge eight-tenths (0.8) of a mile downstream from Pathfinder Dam downstream to Alcova Reservoir.

(ii) A holder of a valid seining license may seine, net, ~~or trap, or spear~~ baitfish from the following waters:

(A) North Platte River drainage from Seminoe Dam downstream to ~~the dam at Dave Johnston Power Plant (Converse County)~~ Glendo Dam.

(iii) The designated wild caught live baitfish possession area for location B is the North Platte River drainage below Seminoe Dam (~~Carbon County~~) downstream to Glendo Dam (~~Platte County~~).

(ec) Area 5 Live Baitfish location C. Live baitfish may be used for bait in the waters listed in subsection (i), provided the baitfish are obtained from a licensed live baitfish dealer authorized to sell baitfish for use in these waters or the baitfish were seined or trapped from the waters listed below in subsection (ii). Live baitfish restricted to use in location C shall not be transported out of the designated wild caught live baitfish possession area defined in subsection (iii).

(i) Live baitfish may be used in the following waters:

(A) Seminoe Reservoir; and,

(B) North Platte River from Seminoe Reservoir to Interstate Highway 80.

(ii) A holder of a valid seining license may seine, net or trap baitfish from the following waters:

(A) North Platte River drainage from Interstate Highway 80 downstream to Seminoe Dam.

(iii) The designated wild caught live baitfish possession area for location C is the North Platte River drainage ~~below~~ from Interstate Highway 80 downstream to Seminoe Dam (~~Carbon County~~).

~~(f) — Area 5 Live Baitfish location D. Live baitfish may not be used in this area. Any baitfish seined or trapped from the waters listed below in subsection (i) shall be killed immediately or released to the water immediately.~~

~~(i) — A holder of a valid seining license may seine, net or trap baitfish for use as dead bait from the following waters:~~

~~(A) — North Platte River drainage upstream from Interstate Highway 80 to the Medicine Bow National Forest.~~

**Section 34. Emergency Closure.** Specified waters may be closed to all fishing because of an emergency upon forty-eight (48) hours notice.

**Section 35. Free Fishing Day.** Anglers may fish without payment of any fee and without acquiring a license pursuant to W.S. § 23-2-201 or a conservation stamp under W.S. § 23-3-306 on the first Saturday of June each calendar year. Anglers may exercise the privileges of sport fishing licensees subject to limitations imposed by law and Commission rule and regulation.

**Section 36. Effective Date.** These regulations are effective January 1, ~~2017~~2019 and shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded by the Commission.

~~WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION~~

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
~~T. Carrie Little~~David Rael, Vice President

Dated: ~~July 7, 2016~~July 11, 2018

## STATEMENT OF REASONS

### CHAPTER 47

#### GRAY WOLF HUNTING SEASONS

W.S. § 23-1-302 directs and empowers the Commission to fix seasons and bag limits, open, shorten or close seasons for gray wolves designated as trophy game animals.

The Commission proposes to amend the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons regulation to establish annual hunting seasons, licensing limitations, gray wolf harvest registration procedures and bag limits for the 2018 hunting season. Any additional proposed changes to season dates, specific hunt area limitations, mortality limits, hunt area boundaries or other gray wolf hunting provisions shall be made available for public comment during all public meetings held around the state.

Section 3. An edit has been made indicating there shall be an open season during 2018 for the hunting of gray wolves as set forth in this regulation.

Section 4. An edit has been made to allow a person to purchase up to two (2) gray wolf hunting licenses during any one (1) calendar year. The time period to register a gray wolf is being modified and language is also being added to allow additional time to register gray wolves taken in designated wilderness areas. Mortality limits have been modified to reflect the current population of gray wolves in Wyoming and future management through hunter harvest. The proposed hunt area mortality limits are being developed to maintain a recovered gray wolf population.

Section 6. New hunt area boundary descriptions are being proposed for gray wolf hunt areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 11. New hunt areas have been developed for Hunt Area 13, Whiskey Mountain and Hunt Area 14, Fremont Lake.

Sections 9 and 10 have been removed to comply with the Governor's initiative to reduce regulations where possible.

Minor grammatical and formatting edits have been incorporated to provide additional clarity but do not change the intent of the rules and regulations.

**Individual Public Comments**

Due to the format of public comments received from the Center for Bio Diversity for Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons, the electronic comments have not been included in the final rules packet.

The electronic public comments will be provided to the Governor's Office, Legislative Service Office and Attorney General's Office separate from this filing.



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GAY LYNN BYRD  
PATRICK CRANK  
KEITH CULVER  
PETER J. DUBE  
MIKE SCHMID

---

July 16, 2018

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** David Dewald, Senior Assistant Attorney General

**FROM:** Mike Choma, Wildlife Law Enforcement Supervisor

**COPY TO:** Brian Nesvik, Scott Edberg, Doug Brimeyer and Terri Weinhandl

**SUBJECT:** Regulation Changes Subsequent to Public Comment Period: Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department (Department) conducted ten (10) public meetings (64 people in attendance) across the state to address draft regulation proposals for Chapter 47. Draft proposals were also available for viewing and public comment through the Department website from April 20 to June 4, 2018. The Department received 317 written comments and one (1) petition for Chapter 47.

Wyoming residents provided 42 comments; 57% opposed to the draft regulation changes, 22% in support, and 21% not specifying opposition or support. Non-residents provided 275 individual comments; 97% opposed to the draft regulation, 1% in support and 2% not specifying opposition or support.

The vast majority of the comments in opposition to this regulation cited opposition to wolf/trophy hunting, the importance of wolves to the ecosystem and potential negative effects that wolf hunting would have on tourism and the state economy.

Comments in support of this regulation asked for the hunting season to open with the earlier big game rifle seasons, to keep hunt areas open until the mortality limit is reached, inclusion of an early archery season, some hunt area boundary adjustments and an increase in mortality limit for hunt areas 5, 10 and 14.

Subsequent to the public comment period, the Commission approved opening the hunting season earlier (September 1 vs October 1) for gray wolves in all hunt areas, except for Hunt Area 12 in which gray wolves are designated as trophy game animals from October 15 through the last day of February and predatory animals from March 1 through October 14.

No other changes were made to the proposed 2018 gray wolf hunting season regulations subsequent to the public comment period.

# Wyoming Game and Fish Department Comment Form



The Department welcomes comment regarding proposed changes to regulations. Questions about these proposed regulation changes should be directed to Department Regional Offices for clarification. No individual Department response will be generated from questions submitted through this comment form. Written comments shall be accepted at all Department sponsored meetings, by standard mail at the address below, or on the WGFD website at <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/Get-Involved/Public-Meetings>. Comments will not be submitted via email, fax or telephone. All written comments must be received at the below address no later than 5:00 p.m., June 4, 2018.

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



Please use a separate form for each of the regulations below

- Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation
- Chapter 44, Regulation for Issuance of Licenses, Permits, Stamps, Tags, Preference Points and Competitive Raffle Chances
- Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations
- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

Comment attached / gave in to the offices  
from National Wolfwatcher Coalition

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

Laramie

KRISTINA GAYLER  
Printed Name

05/02/2018  
Date



**Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting  
Seasons**



PO Box 161281  
Duluth, MN 55816  
[www.wolfwatcher.org](http://www.wolfwatcher.org)

The National Wolfwatcher Coalition is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting positive attitudes about wolves through education. Nationwide, we have over 800,000 followers, representing not only Wyoming residents but thousands of others who contribute to the state's tourism economy, specifically travelling to Wyoming in the hope of catching a glimpse of a wild wolf.

The National Wolfwatcher Coalition does not support the quota of 58 wolves within the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area (TGMA). While some will consider this quota "conservative", we believe the increase of 14 wolves is unreasonable for the following reasons:

- Wolves can be hunted and trapped any time as a predatory animal in most of the state.
- Within the TGMA any wolf in the act of damaging livestock can be killed by the owner or any other person charged by the owner with the care of the livestock or dog.
- Aerial gunning of wolves inside the TGMA is allowed to control livestock depredations, to achieve ungulate management objectives if wolves are determined to be a significant cause for not meeting those objectives, or to address human safety issues.
- Yellowstone Park interpreters annually talk to anywhere from 30,000 to 50,000 people a year about wolves and in a recent Park survey, the number one animal visitors hope to see is the wolf. When a Park wolf is killed legally or illegally, it creates world-wide outrage and reflects poorly on the state.
- We are especially concerned that the quota in Unit 2 was increased to 8. We believe all zones adjacent to our National Parks be closed to wolf hunting, not just the portion in John D. Rockefeller Parkway. At a minimum, the zones should be redrawn as to create large buffer zones, closed to wolf hunting, around our National Parks.

*Christina Saylor*

- We further recommend that the quota be reduced for every illegally wolf killed during the year within the trophy zone. This would send a strong message that poaching will not be tolerated.
- Our National Parks provide an economic benefit to local gateway communities (defined as 60-mile radius around each park boundary). In 2016, the economic output for Yellowstone National Park was \$680 million (Tetons it was \$779 million).
- Wildlife viewing is also an important economic driver for Wyoming. An analysis from the University of Wyoming found that in 2016, wildlife viewers spent \$335 million on travel and \$30 million on equipment compared to hunters who spent about \$126 million on travel and \$80 million on equipment.

Wyoming already has extremely liberal wolf management regulations. There is no scientific reason to hunt wolves within the TGMA.

We do not support the hunting of wolves in wilderness areas. These areas are where wolves are least likely to cause conflicts and places where wolves should be allowed to live and raise families without being hunted

The North American Wildlife Conservation Model states that wildlife is held in the public trust to be managed for all and does not support the casual killing of wildlife. Hatred is not a valid reason.

Washington State University researchers have found that it is counter-productive to kill wolves to keep them from preying on livestock.

Research also suggests that hunting wolves does not increase tolerance or reduce poaching. In one study, it was found that poaching increased, suggesting that liberalizing wolf culling may have sent a negative message about the value of wolves or that poaching prohibitions would not be enforced.

Another study showed that hunters of wolves showed little inclination to conserve wolves.

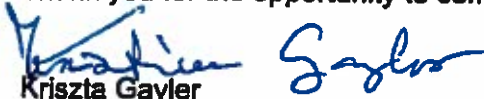
We believe Wyoming Fish & Game should do more to educate the public, including hunters, about the positive aspects of wolves. For example, there is strong evidence that wolf predation could markedly decrease prevalence of CWD. Wolves facilitate the recovery of browse-sensitive understory herbs and forest regeneration. Long-term trophic linkages have been identified in the Northern Range of Yellowstone National Park between wolves, elk, and deciduous tree species — aspen and cottonwood.

Just because we can kill wolves; doesn't mean we should. Politically based management does little to protect the ecological benefits of wolves and does not increase tolerance.

*Christina Gaylor*

In summary, we ask for buffer zones adjacent to the National Parks, where there is no wolf hunting and greatly reduce the quotas elsewhere within the TGMA. Any wolf killed illegally should be deducted from the quota for that unit, thus sending the message that Wyoming truly cares about wildlife.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

  
Kriszta Gayler  
Colorado/Wyoming Representative



April 26, 2018

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
Attn: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper, WY 82604



Re: 2018 Wyoming wolf hunting regulations

Dear Wyoming Game and Fish Department,

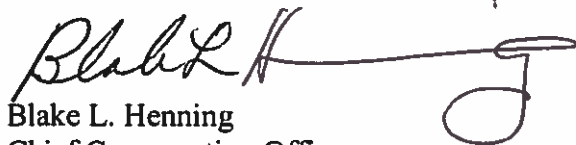
The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed 2018 Wyoming wolf hunting regulations.

RMEF strongly supports state-based management of the gray wolf. We recommend approval of the 2018 Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) proposed wolf hunting seasons, mortality limits, hunt area boundaries, landowner protection options, and other language, as proposed.

RMEF supports the WGFD proposal to adjust mortality limits and hunt area boundaries to better meet management goals, including higher limits where wolf-livestock conflicts are elevated or in areas where wolves may impact big game populations. This results in an overall increase in the mortality limit to 58 wolves, up from 44 wolves in 2017. RMEF recognizes the WGFD's use of the best available population and mortality data in setting appropriate harvest levels and managing for a recovered wolf population.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed 2018 Wyoming wolf hunting regulations.

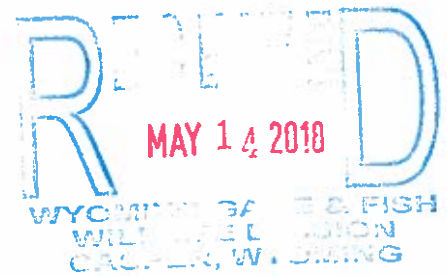
Sincerely,



Blake L. Henning  
Chief Conservation Officer



May 9, 2018



Marilyn Mills  
Grant Tonkin  
4301 S Pierce St, #12D  
Littleton, CO 80123

We try to visit Wyoming at least once a year and we usually bring friends and family. We come primarily to see your amazing wildlife.

We read that tourism generated over \$3.5 billion in revenue for Wyoming in 2016 and that you have approximately 10 million visitors per year. We also read that visitor spending generates over \$150 million in local and state tax revenues. We assume the largest percentage of Wyoming's visitors come to see the animals and your beautiful scenery and that only a very small percentage visit to hunt. We are also sure very little of that \$3.5 billion in revenue comes from hunting.

We have no problem with hunting animals for food but we think it is a mistake to continue to allow hunting of both wolves and grizzly bears. For the very limited number of hunters that will participate you will upset significantly more tourists who come to see wolves, bears and other wildlife.

If Wyoming continues to disregard the feelings and concerns of visitors who do not want hunting of wolves and grizzly bears we believe it will hurt your tourism and revenue. We know we will spend our time and money in Montana or stay home in Colorado.

As you develop and implement Wyoming's hunting policies please keep in mind all of your visitors who oppose hunting.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Mills  
Grant Tonkin

*mail*

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form



The Department welcomes comment regarding proposed changes to regulations. Questions about these proposed regulation changes should be directed to Department Regional Offices for clarification. No individual Department response will be generated from questions submitted through this comment form. Written comments shall be accepted at all Department sponsored meetings, by standard mail at the address below, or on the WGFD website at <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/Get-Involved/Public-Meetings>. Comments will not be submitted via email, fax or telephone. All written comments must be received at the below address no later than 5:00 p.m., June 4, 2018.

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



Please use a separate form for each of the regulations below

- Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation
- Chapter 44, Regulation for Issuance of Licenses, Permits, Stamps, Tags, Preference Points and Competitive Raffle Chances
- Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations
- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

Dear Wyoming Game and Fish Department,  
I am writing you this letter to advocate for the wolf population and welfare in Wyoming. I live right next door to you in Colorado and have a masters Degree in Science. I have read comments from ranchers & trophy hunters and find the logic behind their (way too much) pressure you to allow wolf hunting for unsuicentific and proven facts. We need wolves to keep the ecosystem intact. Research show that there are more of us that would spend money to visit Wyoming to photograph & enjoy seeing wildlife - alive and wild - than hunters & ranches. It is very dangerous for you to be allowed to be pressured by those groups.

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

rhonda.berne@me.com  
mail

Rhonda Bern  
Printed Name  
29049 Western Lane  
Date  
May 10, 2018  
Evergreen CO 80439

Executive Council  
Brenda Barrett  
Mark Barke  
Mark Butler  
Phil Frauch  
David Graber  
Rebecca L. Harriott  
Donald J. Hellmann  
Bob Mackereth  
Doug Morris  
Mike Murray  
Dick Ring  
Sheridan Steele



# The Coalition To Protect America's National Parks

*Voices of Experience*

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION – NO HARD COPY TO FOLLOW

May 08, 2018

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
Attn: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



**Subject: Proposed Revision of Chapter 47 Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons**

Dear Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD):

I am writing to you on behalf of over 1,500 members of the Coalition to Protect America's National Parks (Coalition), a non-profit organization composed entirely of retired, former, or current employees of the National Park Service (NPS). The Coalition studies, educates, speaks, and acts for the preservation of America's National Park System (System). As a group, we collectively represent more than 35,000 years of experience managing and protecting America's most precious and important natural and historic places. We count among our members many former employees of Yellowstone or Grand Teton National Parks, who are quite familiar with the restoration of gray wolves to the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE).

The Coalition is most concerned about the potential adverse impacts that Wyoming's draft "Chapter 47 Wolf Hunting Seasons" regulation may have on wildlife and wildlife viewing opportunities in the immediate vicinity of Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and the John D. Rockefeller Memorial Parkway. We hereby submit the following comments on the draft regulation found at:

[https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/July\\_CH-47\\_Draft-4-18-18-5.pdf](https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/July_CH-47_Draft-4-18-18-5.pdf)

## BACKGROUND

**Wolf Restoration** – The restoration of the Northern Rocky Mountain gray wolf population is one the great wildlife success stories of the late 20<sup>th</sup> century and early 21<sup>st</sup> century. In 1995, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) reintroduced 41 gray wolves (wolves) into Yellowstone National Park as a nonessential experimental population under the Endangered Species Act with the goal of reestablishing a sustainable gray wolf population in the northern Rocky Mountains. USFWS was the federal agency charged with administering, monitoring, and managing the wolf population following reintroduction until wolves reached recovery levels and Endangered Species Act protections could be removed ("delisting"). The wolf population expanded quickly in number and distribution throughout northwest Wyoming. The population reached the required delisting criteria by late 2002 and has exceeded the recovery criteria every year since.

mail

Wolves were first delisted in Wyoming in September 2012. This decision was based upon USFWS approval of Wyoming's gray wolf management plan and related State regulations and statutes, and in effect transferred wolf management authority from USFWS to the State. The delisting decision was challenged in U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C., which overturned the delisting and returned management authority for wolves in Wyoming back to the USFWS. The District Court decision was subsequently appealed by USFWS and the State of Wyoming. The U.S. Court of Appeals ruled in favor of USFWS's delisting decision and returned management of wolves to the State on April 25, 2017. Since delisting, wolves in Wyoming outside Yellowstone National Park and the Wind River Reservation (WYO) are monitored and managed by WGFD; and WGFD instituted a recreational wolf hunt in WYO fall 2017.

Under the terms of the delisting agreement between Wyoming and the USFWS, the state of Wyoming is required to maintain wolves at or above the minimum delisting criteria of  $\geq 100$  wolves and  $\geq 10$  breeding pairs in WYO, with Yellowstone National Park and the Wind River Reservation providing the additional buffer of  $\geq 50$  wolves and  $\geq 5$  breeding pairs necessary to meet the  $\geq 150$  wolf and  $\geq 15$  breeding pair requirement for the state (USFWS 2012). While the state does not have management authority over wolves in all areas in WYO, such as Grand Teton National Park and the National Elk Refuge, these areas are small and the wolf packs using these areas are not solely contained within their boundaries. Therefore, wolves in Grand Teton National Park and the National Elk Refuge are assigned to WYO and potentially subject to being hunted as the animals move freely jurisdictions.

**Hunting on non-federal inholdings within Grand Teton National Park** – There are approximately 2,300 acres of State- or privately owned non-federal “inholdings” within the boundaries of Grand Teton National Park. From the adoption of the Grand Teton Enabling Act in 1950 until 2014, it was NPS's view that 36 C.F.R. § 2.2 and its predecessor regulations governed the treatment of wildlife everywhere within the boundaries of Grand Teton, including on non-federal inholdings. Apart from shooting of elk under the Joint Elk Reduction Program, no hunting or other killing of any other species was permitted anywhere inside the Park boundaries, including on inholdings. NPS reassessed its position concerning its jurisdiction in 2014 after a wolf was killed on a private inholding. On November 11, 2014, NPS wrote WGFD, stating (*in part*): “...we have concluded that 36 CFR 2.2 does not apply to private inholdings within Grand Teton.” NPS did not explain why it had changed its position. In 2015, NPS agreed with WGFD that bison could be hunted on State-owned inholdings, in essence abdicating NPS's prior assertion of jurisdiction to regulate or prohibit hunting on inholdings within Grand Teton.

For decades, Grand Teton National Park has served as a vital sanctuary for numerous wildlife species, including bison and antelope to black bears and mountain lions, that are otherwise considered “big game animals,” “trophy game animals,” or “predatory animals” under W.S. §23-1-101(a). The NPS decision leaves these species vulnerable to hunting, trapping, or baiting should they cross the generally invisible boundaries that separate federally owned Park lands from inholdings. This decision also creates the very real possibility that park visitors who come to Grand Teton to view wildlife in their natural habitat may witness the animals being killed on non-federal lands within the boundaries of the park. Since the NPS notification in November 2014, Wyoming has exercised its discretion to authorize regulated hunting of additional species – so far elk, bison, and mule deer – on park inholdings. Now that gray wolves have been removed from protections of the Endangered Species Act, presumably the State is empowered to authorize killing them on the inholdings.

The question of whether the NPS or the State has the primary jurisdiction for managing wildlife (including hunting) on Grand Teton's non-federal inholdings is the subject of current litigation (*National Parks Conservation Association et al v. USDOJ and NPS*, Case No. 1:16-cv-00552). While the Coalition is not party to the lawsuit, we agree with Plaintiff's contention that the NPS erroneously abdicated its authority to regulate or prohibit hunting on non-federal inholdings within Grand Teton National Park. We realize that the current WGFD comment period is not the proper forum to resolve the jurisdiction question. We are simply providing this information as context for our comments below on Wyoming's proposed wolf hunting regulations.



## COMMENTS ON THE WOLF HUNTING REGULATIONS

**1) WGFD's proposed increase in wolf hunt mortality limits will adversely impact wildlife and wildlife viewing opportunities within Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks – Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks are world renowned wildlife viewing areas. The parks protect some of the best and last remaining landscapes that shelter iconic North American wildlife species such as bison, gray wolves, and grizzly bears. Wolves and other "charismatic mega-fauna" are tremendously popular with the millions of park visitors who are drawn to the area every year. In 2017 alone, Yellowstone and Grand Teton combined attracted over 7.4 million visitors, who spent \$1.09 billion in the region. And that spending generated over \$1.37 billion in total economic output. Regrettably, the WGFD wolf hunt proposal gives no apparent consideration to the intrinsic, as well as economic, value of conserving this iconic species in its natural setting. Instead, it seems a capitulation to the yearning of a few to shoot a wolf. While we disagree with the hunt in general, we are particularly concerned about the proposed significant increase in wolf mortality limits over the 2017 level.**

In Section 4(h) of the proposed regulation, WGFD proposes to increase the total number of wolves in WYO that can be killed during the hunt from 44 in 2017 to 58 in 2018, a 32% increase. To fully understand the impact of the proposed increase, one must consider it in the context of other causes of wolf mortality. According to WGFD's "Wyoming Gray Wolf Monitoring and Management 2017 Annual Report"<sup>1</sup>, in WYO there were a total of 162 documented wolf deaths and ≥238 wolves alive at the end of year, equating to an estimate of ≥400 wolves. Causes of mortality included: control = 61; trophy game hunting = 43; public take of predatory animals = 33, other human causes = 11; natural = 8; and unknown causes = 6. The number of wolf deaths versus total number of wolves equates to an overall mortality rate of 40% in WYO.

In contrast, only 5 wolves died in Yellowstone National Park in 2017: 1 was killed by other wolves, 1 kicked and killed by an ungulate, 1 died of canine distemper virus, 1 was illegally shot inside the park boundary and had to be euthanized by park staff, and 1 died of unknown natural causes. There were ≥97 wolves (in ≥11 packs) living primarily in the park at the end of the year, for a total ≥102 wolves in Yellowstone in 2017 with a mortality rate of 5%.

While it is not unexpected that wolf mortality would be higher in WGFD managed areas outside of Yellowstone National Park, the contrast is striking: 5 %wolf mortality in the park vs. 40% mortality in WGFD managed areas (i.e., WYO). As a result, the Coalition is very concerned that the proposed increase in hunting quotas will exacerbate existing levels of wolf mortality in WYO and adversely impact wildlife viewing opportunities in and near the national parks. We urge WGFD to reconsider its proposed increases in mortality limits. Given the other causes of wolf mortality in WYO, which are generally unmanageable, at most there should be no increase in wolf hunting quotas above the 2017 levels.

**2) Section 4(a) as it relates to wolf hunting in Yellowstone National Park – As written, the regulation incorporates by reference W.S. §23-1-101(a) definitions of "trophy game animals" and "predatory animals" that essentially preclude State-managed wolf hunting (or hunting of any type) within Yellowstone NP. We agree that NPS, not WGFD, has jurisdiction for wildlife management within Yellowstone NP and support this provision in the proposed regulation.**

**3) Section 4(a) as it relates to wolf hunting in Grand Teton National Park – Section 4(a) of the draft regulation states, in part: "These regulations, and any allowance for hunting, do not apply to lands administered by the National Park Service within Grand Teton National Park (emphasis added) or the National**

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<sup>1</sup>[https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/Wildlife/Large%20Carnivore/2017-Wyoming-Wolf-Annual-Report\\_FINAL\\_2018-04-10.pdf](https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/Wildlife/Large%20Carnivore/2017-Wyoming-Wolf-Annual-Report_FINAL_2018-04-10.pdf)

Elk Refuge.” As described previously (in “Wolf Restoration” section above), wolves in Grand Teton are assigned to WYO and potentially subject to being hunted. In addition, given the previously described issue regarding wildlife management jurisdiction on the non-federal inholdings within Grand Teton NP, the proposed regulation is ambiguous as to whether the State intends to allow recreational wolf hunting on the inholdings or not. This section should be revised, as suggested below, to eliminate any uncertainty:

Section 4(a): These regulations, and any allowance for hunting, do not apply to lands administered by the National Park Service (*add*) or non-federal inholdings (*<add>*) within Grand Teton National Park or the National Elk Refuge.

**4) Section 4(a) as it relates to wolf hunting on the National Elk Refuge** – As described previously (in “Wolf Restoration” section above), wolves in the National Elk Refuge are assigned to WYO and potentially subject to being hunted. As written, the regulation would NOT allow wolf hunting on the National Elk Refuge. We support the prohibition of wolf hunting on the Refuge.

**5) Section 4(i) precludes wolf hunting in the John D. Rockefeller Memorial Parkway** – Section 4(i) states: “Gray wolf hunting shall be closed in that portion of Hunt Area 6 in the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway.” We strongly support this provision and believe it is necessary and beneficial to protect this important wildlife migration corridor that provides secure habitat connecting the two national parks.

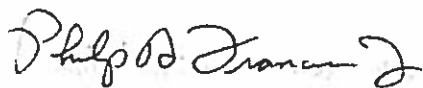
## CLOSING COMMENTS

In closing, our primary concerns with the recreational wolf hunting proposal are the following:

- 1) The proposed increase in wolf mortality limits will exacerbate adverse impacts to wildlife and wildlife viewing opportunities in or near Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. We urge WGFD to NOT increase hunting quotas above those identified in the 2017 regulations.
- 2) As worded, there is the lack of clarity regarding the intent and potential of the State to allow recreational wolf hunting on non-federal inholdings within the boundaries of Grand Teton National Park. We believe WGFD should revise the wording in Section 4 of the draft to explicitly preclude wolf hunting on the inholdings.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Philip A. Francis, Jr., Chair  
Coalition to Protect America's National Parks

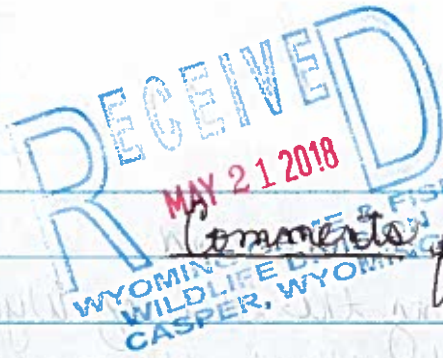
Email: [pfran42152@aol.com](mailto:pfran42152@aol.com)

Mail: 201 I Street, NE #805, Washington, DC 20002

Web: [www.protectnps.org](http://www.protectnps.org)

cc: Jessica Crowder, Policy Advisor to Wyoming Governor Matt Mead  
Sue Masica, Regional Director, National Park Service  
Dan Wenk, Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park  
David Vela, Superintendent, Grand Teton National Park

May 14, 2018



## Comments for Grey Wolf Hunting Season Chapter 47

Wyoming's web site states:

Wyoming is where the untamed spirit of the West and majestic natural beauty.

Best experience - Wyoming National Parks where to spot wildlife.

Hunting opportunities for Elk, Mule Deer and Antelope ARE UP NOTABLY 2018!!!

Wolves are a scapegoat in Wyoming.

Elk are not scarce as Wyoming has stated. They just move on.

Wyoming wants all the wolves in their state gone, which also include Yellowstone National Park, where wolves are free until they cross the imaginary line, then they are trophy hunted and killed in Wyoming.

Wyoming wants to kill more wolves that last year from 44 to 58. Yet 85% of the State of Wyoming wolves are trapped and killed.

The purchase of two Grey Wolf hunting license instead of one sounds to me that Wyoming wants to end the existence of the wolf in Wyoming.

OVER →

Remember that these wolves and Yellowstone Park Wolves bring the State of Wyoming alot of money yearly. Without the wolves their would be no tourism!

As long as Wyoming keeps killing the herd that feeds them Wyoming will not be part of a tourist destination.

There will come a time when Wyoming makes up to find that the wolves are endangered at the hands of man in Wyoming and they will be put on the Endangered Species List by the U.S. citizens and some political senators they will be then protected by the carelessness of man in Wyoming.

Wyoming needs to learn how to co exist, co existing will ensure fewer dead livestock, fewer dead wolves and fewer angry people.

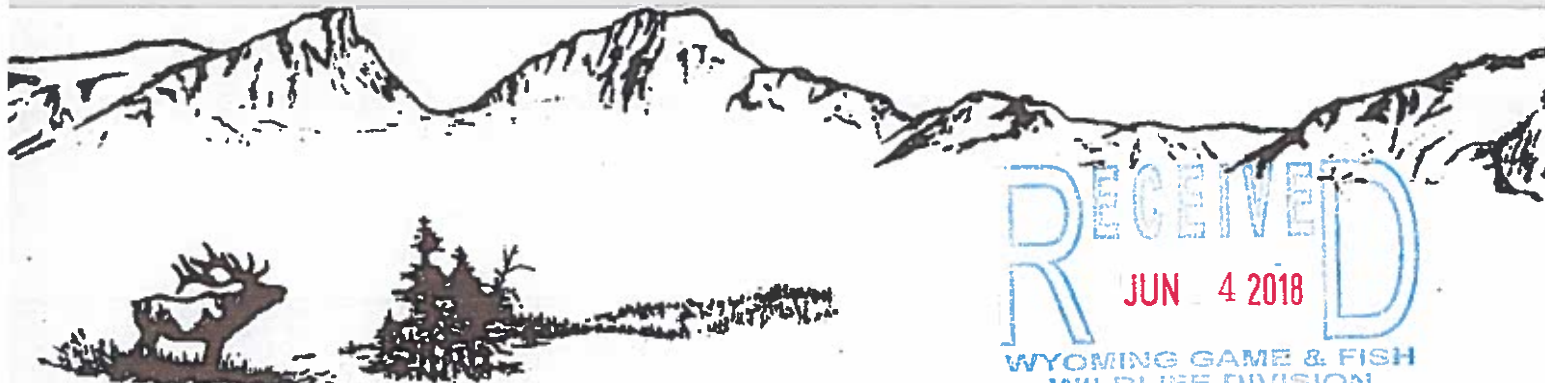
Wolves deserve to have their rightful place on the Wyoming landscapes for a healthy ecosystem.

Wolves can solve CWD along with healthier wildlife and give economic opportunities. I disagree with a wolf killing in the fall.

Thankyou,

Susan Simone

5/14/18



RECEIVED  
JUN 4 2018  
WYOMING GAME & FISH  
WILDLIFE DIVISION  
CASPER, WYOMING

# BALD MOUNTAIN OUTFITTERS

**TERRY A. POLLARD**  
*Outfitter / Guide*

MAY 30, 2018  
WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT  
WILDLIFE DIVISION  
ATTENTION: WOLF REGULATIONS  
3030 ENERGY LANE  
CASPER, WYOMING 82604

Dear Game and Fish Commissioners:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your proposed Wolf Hunting Regulations for the 2018 season and beyond. In my opinion, the introduction of the 'exotic' Canadian wolf into our wildlife ecosystem was a huge mistake and will continue to be detrimental to our wildlife populations. What began as an 'experimental, non-essential, Yellowstone Park only endeavor' has expanded to Trophy game animal and predatory animal status in our State. I realize that this introduction was conducted by the Federal government and that our State Game and Fish Department has simply 'inherited' the management of the Canadian wolf. I truly applaud the Wyoming Game and Fish Department and our Wyoming Legislature for your efforts in trying to manage this species.

**Wolf Hunt area Boundaries:** The wolf area that I operated in last year was area 11. There was a quota of 3 wolves and the season opened on October 1, 2017. The 2017 quota had 2 of the 3 wolves taken by 7:30 am on October 1 in an area between the New Fork Lakes and Willow Lake, south of the proposed Jim Creek boundary (2 additional wolves were taken on the same day north of Jim Creek). I am in favor of your proposal to further divide up the hunt areas as your 2018 recommendation has done. The northern boundary of the new hunt area 14, the Fremont Lake area, is proposed as Jim Creek. I would ask that you give serious consideration to moving that boundary to Pine Creek. It is my belief that the quota for the proposed area 14 will once again be filled in the area North of Pine Creek to Jim Creek and probably on the first day of the hunt. The Pine Creek to Fremont Lake would serve as a more natural boundary for wolf area 14 and would coincide with the boundaries of elk areas 96 and 97 and moose areas 3 and 5. I would recommend that the area North of Pine Creek be included in the 'new' wolf area 11 which has a 15 wolf quota.

**Proposed Wolf Quota, Hunt area 14:** It is proposed that Hunt area 14 for the 2018 season will only have a 1 wolf quota! My outfitting area is basically from Pine Creek to Boulder Creek. During the past 3-5 years we have been witnessing a steady increase in wolf numbers and big game harassment by those wolves. During our September and October elk seasons, we are seeing the majority of our elk herds have relocated to the rougher canyons and rocky, deadfall areas rather than the high open country that they historically were located. I feel that this change in behavior is due to wolf predation and harassment of the elk herds. Five years ago, we had only been seeing about 3 wolves in our historic hunt areas around Horseshoe Lake. Last season we were seeing at least 7 in the Horseshoe Lake Area and saw clear sign of more than that in the Miller Lake region just south of Pine

2018

P.O. BOX 754 • PINEDALE, WY 82941  
TELEPHONE: (307) 367-6539  
FAX: (307) 367-6542  
E-MAIL: tpollard@wyoming.com



Creek. The wolf populations are difficult for us to estimate just like they are difficult for the Game and Fish personnel to accurately estimate. We spend a great deal of time from July through mid-November in the proposed area 14 and it is our estimate that there were at least 15-25 wolves going into the winter. Have some of those wolves denned in the area? How many will we be seeing in 2018? A quota of 1 wolf will have little to no effect on the number of wolves in the proposed area 14.

There are 3 elk feed grounds my recommended wolf area 14, Fall Creek, Scab Creek and Muddy. The winter 2017/18 saw a significant increase in wolf interaction on these feed grounds over past years. It was thought that the wolves moved the elk completely away from the Fall Creek feed ground and with the low snow conditions, they simply didn't return. What will happen in winter 2018/19 if there is deep snow around the Fall Creek Feed ground? Will the elk go to the Fayette Ranch and get into their cattle herds and cause Brucellosis concerns? The Scab Creek Feed ground saw the elk chased away from the feed ground about every fourth or fifth day. The elk didn't end up leaving the feed ground area but were definitely displaced during the critical winter months. It is our contention that there were at least two separate packs of wolves preying on these two feed ground elk.

Although we are very concerned about our elk herds, we are much more worried about our moose herd in hunt areas 3 & 4. Hunt areas 3 & 4 have been an extremely good areas over the years and we have taken some exceptional moose in the areas & historically sighted a large number of moose. We were still 100% successful during the 2018 moose season and had 5 hunters in those area. We did find that we had to hunt longer and to hunt much harder in order to harvest the bulls that our hunters wanted. In discussing the situation with Dean Clause and Jordan Kraft, we all agreed that cutting the moose quota to 5 rather than 10 was probably a sound action in area 3.

I observed with great interest the progression of the Jackson moose herd after the initial release of the Canadian Wolves. It didn't take many years of wolf predation to result in all of the areas North of Jackson being closed to hunting and the quota's in many of the adjacent areas being significantly decreased. In order to mitigate some of the wolf predation and harassment of our elk and moose herds, I would vehemently recommend the following:

- 1) Change the Northern boundary of proposed wolf area 14, the Fremont Lake Area, to Pine Creek rather than Jim Creek, and**
- 2) Increase the wolf quota in proposed wolf area 14 to at least 3 wolves rather than the current proposal of 1.**

**Although our moose and elk herds are still in very good shape in our areas, I fear that the moose herds in areas 3 and 4 could face devastating wolf predation and the elk in areas 97 and 98 will continue to see increasing predation and harassment if these changes aren't adopted. I hope that you will be proactive to protect our elk and moose herds before we see devastating predation loses. Thank you for your time and consideration.**

Sincerely,



Terry Pollard

Outfitter/guide, resident hunter

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Comment Form



The Department welcomes comment regarding proposed changes to regulations. Questions about these proposed regulation changes should be directed to Department Regional Offices for clarification. No individual Department response will be generated from questions submitted through this comment form. Written comments shall be accepted at all Department sponsored meetings, by standard mail at the address below, or on the WGFD website at <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/Get-Involved/Public-Meetings>. Comments will not be submitted via email, fax or telephone. **All written comments must be received at the below address no later than 5:00 p.m., June 4, 2018.**

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



Please use a separate form for each of the regulations below

- Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation
- Chapter 44, Regulation for Issuance of Licenses, Permits, Stamps, Tags, Preference Points and Competitive Raffle Chances
- Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations
- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

Please see attached comments. (These were also submitted online into multiple "error" messages.)  
Thank you.

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

Monica Glickman  
Printed Name

May 27, 2018  
Date

Wyoming's introduction states that: [a]s part of the management of wolves Wyoming uses hunting as it does with many other species. I suggest that is not so.

With other species, the long-term health of the animal is a primary consideration. Wyoming's hunting regulations do not permit wolves to move and migrate safely between protected national parks, as they must to find food and ensure the genetic viability of the species.

Are hunters in Wyoming encouraged or required to hunt with honor? That is, to hunt with respect for the life of the animal killed; to use methods which incorporate standards of decency and fair play? I applaud your prohibition against the use of radio tracking equipment. Do you permit the use of airplanes and/or drones to locate, chase, or kill wolves? Do you permit the placing of carcasses to encourage wolves to come into the open? Do you permit the use of recordings of young in distress to attract wolves? Do you permit trapping before shooting? If so, your hunting regulations do not meet minimum standards of fair play.

Wyoming wolves are designated in Wyoming's proposed hunting regulation as either "predatory" or "trophy game" animals. "Gray wolves located in Hunt Area 12 are designated as predatory animals from March 1 through October 14 and during this time period may be taken without a license." (Section 4 (j), emphasis added.) Does this also mean wolves deemed predatory may be taken free of Wyoming's restrictions on hunting numbers, methods and techniques?

Is there no way to look at the gray wolf other than as a predator or trophy game animal? What about icon of Western life? What about joy to the heart of those who encounter them face-to-face? What about animal whose presence balances ecosystems and promotes the health of their prey by taking the old and sick?

Wyoming wolf managers are living a land version of *Moby Dick*. All that is evil in the world – and not subject to human control – resides not in the white whale, but instead in the gray wolf. You stalk him with implacable rage that has no place in the hunter's arsenal.

It's a new world. Ranchers can and are learning to live in peace with the wolf. So can you, Wyoming's wolf managers. Lead – don't follow. Step to the forefront, educate, and move into the twenty-first century. Wolves and people can and already do co-exist.

Thank you,



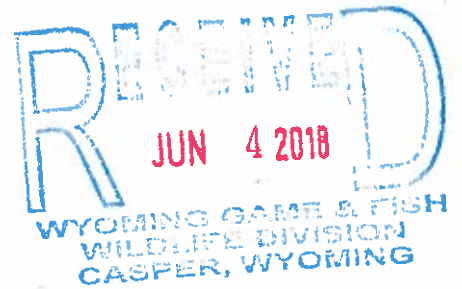
Monica Glickman

Denver, CO

visiting in Wyoming in June and August, 2018

Please excuse possible multiple online submissions. After clicking "submit", my comment was followed by error messages.





June 4, 2018

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
3030 Energy Land  
Casper WY 82604

Attn: Regulations Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Season  
Submitted electronically at WGFD site

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit the following comments regarding the Draft Chapter 47, Wyoming Gray Wolf Hunting Season (Plan) on behalf of the 20,000-plus regional and national followers of Wyoming Untrapped (WU). Wyoming Untrapped is a 501(c)3, not-for-profit organization based in Jackson, Wyoming whose mission it is to *"create an environment safe for people, pets and wildlife through education, trapping reform and advocacy."*

Living and working in Wyoming for decades, we greatly appreciate the state's unparalleled wildlife diversity and abundance. We also recognize and respect that what we have is in many ways the result of the good work of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department's (Department) dedicated biologists and the agency's leadership. We thank you for that.

**STATEMENT:**

Wyoming Untrapped would like to thank the Department for prohibiting wolf trapping and the use of dogs for wolf hunting within the Trophy Game Area. WU would also clearly state that we oppose any sport hunting of wolves, whether as trophy game or as predators.

**NEED FOR A WOLF HUNT:**

Wyoming Untrapped takes exception to the premises put forth by Department staff for continuing Wyoming's wolf hunt and specifically for increasing the kill quota. At a recent meeting in Jackson, Department personnel attempted to make the case for both the hunt and the quota increase based on the premise that wolves had "moved elk off historical winter grounds" (specifically Department operated feed grounds in the Upper Gros Ventre

*hand delivered jackson office*

Valley). Department personnel added that this was upsetting to the Department feeding crew, and without proof, implied that this movement was also detrimental to the elk (Koshmri 2018).

Regarding elk abandoning their traditional feed grounds, this may very well turn out to be beneficial for the habitat surrounding the feed grounds. Without hundreds of elk concentrated on that small area for 5 to 6 months each year, the habitat may now have a chance to rebound a bit. And, there was no evidence provided that the elk suffered higher than usual winter mortality on their new winter habitat. WU sees this concern as being more about having decades of tradition suddenly change and the Department not being willing to accept change. We submit that change might be beneficial for the elk and the habitat. For the Department to imply that wolves had “done bad” and thus deserve more hunting pressure is unfounded, unprofessional and unfortunate.

A second reason put forth for a wolf hunt is the assertion that wolves need to be “controlled” i.e. killed, to protect domestic livestock. Recent studies have shown that when anthropogenic removal of wolves occurred over a broad landscape (such as Wyoming’s wolf Trophy Game Area) *“the odds of livestock depredations increased 4% for sheep and 5% for cattle with increased wolf control-up until wolf mortality exceeded the mean intrinsic growth rate for wolves at 25%.”* *“Depredations began to decline after mortality exceeded 25%.”* (Wiegus, R. 2014).

Professional opinion has it that an annual wolf mortality rate greater than 25% is not sustainable over the long period if federal relisting of wolves is to be avoided. The assumption is that mortality rates greater than 25% will likely result in breeder loss, smaller pack size, pack instability and possible dissolution followed by compensatory increases in breeding pairs, numbers of wolves and hence, increases in depredations.

WU understands the rights and needs of livestock owners to protect their property, but this may be better accomplished with focused removal of depredating wolves carried out by professional personnel instead of the broad-scale and un-focused approach of a hunting season.

#### APPROPRIATENESS OF A WOLF HUNT:

We are opposed to sport hunting of wolves for several reasons, including the significant role wolves play as an apex predator within the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Researchers over the past twenty-plus years have compiled an indisputable body of evidence supporting the conclusions that the random, continuous and large-scale removal of wolves, and other apex predators has a disproportionate, cascading impact on the entire ecosystem they occupy. (We will only provide a few critical citations, the Department’s biological staff is aware of these publications, and we are confident that other commenters will cite this point in detail.)

These negative impacts begin when a population of apex predators, particularly wide-ranging, low-density species such as the wolf are subject to indiscriminate, random anthropogenic removals, particularly hunting. Not only is there an impact to ecosystem function brought on simply because the population is held below environmental limitations, but there are additional and significant impacts resulting from the disruption of the social order within packs when key members are removed.

Ken Mills, Large Carnivore Specialist, is credited as saying during a Jackson meeting that it is “possible” that some packs may incur heavy losses due to changes in the Gros Ventre hunting Plan, but he doesn’t think that any packs will be wiped out (Koshmrl 2018). WU thinks that this sentiment is misinformed.

A Comprehensive study of wolf populations from throughout North America, authored by 19 leading wolf biologists, concluded that when key individuals, usually breeding individuals, are removed, some packs dissolved and abandoned their territories (av. 38.2%). For example, when one breeder was removed, 25.8% of the packs dissolved whereas 84.6% of the packs dissolved when both breeders were removed. Reproduction occurred in 56.2% of the packs the year after the loss of one breeder and only 9.1% of the time when both breeders were removed (Brainerd, S. et al 2006). Clearly, random killing of pack members can have impacts significantly greater than just the addition of one or two bodies added to the mortality tally. With no disrespect meant towards Mr. Mills, WU stands by this and other research documenting similar outcomes following the loss of key pack members—a scenario likely to play out repeatedly with Wyoming’s proposed wolf plan.

Cassidy, K.A. et al (2016), spell out how pack stability and survivorship, and consequently territorial integrity and population limitations are positively affected by larger, stable packs made up of a range of ages. And with significant disruption (loss of key members), the pack age and social structure, hunting patterns and efficiency can be negatively impacted. It is no stretch to anticipate that under these conditions, smaller packs consisting of younger and less experienced members may turn to easier prey such as domestic stock.

There is also strong scientific evidence that when populations of apex predators, and again specifically wolves are left to their own devices and grow to the limits of the system’s carrying capacity, they begin to control their numbers through fewer and smaller litters and increased intra-specific territorial conflicts resulting in deaths (Smith, D.W et al. 2012). And the opposite is also true; when wolf numbers are artificially reduced, and all other environmental factors remain supportive, wolves are very likely to compensate by increasing litter size and having younger and/or more adults breeding.

Research demonstrates that if a population is reduced by whatever action(s), it will likely rebound to the point where it will once again become self-limiting. All this is to say that when left alone, wolves are density-dependent and will limit their own numbers.

Because of their high sociability, stable packs develop hunting strategies including extraordinary cooperation during hunting. Stable packs are likely to initiate higher degrees of territorial behavior than packs whose members are in flux due to human-caused removals, including sanctioned hunting seasons. And stable packs will have more accumulated knowledge of their territory and its prey distribution, again likely resulting in higher hunting efficiency and prey utilization.

Another advantage of having stable packs that know and defend their territories is that they will likely avoid dangerous areas, such as occupied livestock range. Simply stated, a stable wolf population will partition the landscape into defended territories and exist at a population level that the environment can support.

The indiscriminate hunting of wolves can have significant impacts that will reverberate throughout the ecological systems. Wolves are apex species and exist not as individuals but as social units-as packs. Leave them alone and they will flat out control their own numbers (Ordiz, A. et al. 2013.). Witness the Yellowstone wolf population: after 20-plus years, this sub-population has stabilized around 100 individuals—without human intervention, control or hunting. And the Northern elk herd, a primary food source is on a steady increase.

Another reason often put forth to justify a sanctioned wolf hunt is the claim that wolves need to be “controlled” i.e. killed, to protect domestic livestock. Recent studies have shown that when anthropogenic removal of wolves occurred over a broad landscape (such as Wyoming’s wolf Trophy Game Area) *“the odds of livestock depredations increased 4% for sheep and 5% for cattle with increased wolf control-up until wolf mortality exceeded the mean intrinsic growth rate for wolves at 25%.”* *“Depredations began to decline after (wolf) mortality exceeded 25%.”* (Wiegus, R. 2014).

The research did show that livestock depredations did decrease as wolf mortality exceeded the 25% threshold. However, professional opinion holds that an annual wolf mortality rate greater than 25% is likely not sustainable over the long period if federal delisting of wolves is to be avoided. And even if the wolf population did persist, the impacts of a high mortality rate will likely result in more depredations, the very opposite of the intended outcome.

Wyoming Untrapped understands the rights and needs of livestock owners to protect their property, but this may be better accomplished with professional agency personnel focused on the removal of depredating wolves instead of the broad-scale and un-focused hunting season approach. And, any agency removal should only occur after all reasonable non-lethal methods have been employed.

#### THE NORTH AMERICAN MODEL OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION:

Wyoming Untrapped also opposes the hunting of wolves because it violates several principles of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation (NAMWC). First, wildlife is

held as a Public Trust Resource by state or federal agencies and is not owned by anyone. This, in conjunction with wildlife being Allocated by Wildlife Law wherein the public – all the public has input into law-making causes us to ask: why, after years of the Department “taking public comment,” we who have alternate views regarding wolf management have yet to see any significant changes made from any of the original Plans? This can hardly be viewed as respecting, let alone incorporating the public’s input.

#### WYOMING’S DUAL CLASSIFICATION:

We also disagree with the State of Wyoming and the Department for maintaining a Plan ascribing dual status to Wyoming’s wolves. In so doing, the State has designated, and the Department continues to manage 85% of the state as a Wolf-Predator Zone within which the State allows and condones the killing of wolves at any time, by any means and for no better reason than to simply kill a wolf. This means that wolves can be shot, trapped, run to death with snowmobiles or other vehicles at any time and nearly anywhere they exist. It allows for the killing of wolves in their dens- along with their dependent and defenseless offspring by gassing, explosives and execution with fires. This is amoral and absolutely contrary to the NAMWC principle that “Wildlife Should Only be Killed for a Legitimate Purpose” (Bookhout, T.A. 2012. P.18).

In addition, the killing of wolves in the Predator Zone by any means also violates the very premise of “Fair Chase” as defined by numerous individuals, organizations and in many publications. Nowhere is the principle of “Fair Chase” better defined then by Jim Posewitz (as quoted in Lein, D. 2014): [fair chase]” address *the balance between the hunter and the hunted. It is a balance that allows hunters to occasionally succeed while animals generally avoid being taken.*” Many of the actions carried out against wolves within the Predator Zone allow them no chance of escape. These activities are contrary to the principle of “Fair Chase.”

Discussions about what constitutes unethical hunting, inevitably concludes that the use of aircraft (and “drones”) to locate animals and the herding or chasing of animals with motorized vehicles violates the “Fair Chase” principle. In simple terms, “Fair Chase” means *“hunting without taking advantage of the animals and allowing them a fair chance to escape in defense[.]”* (Bullen, V. 2018). What is allowed and often happens within the Predator Zone cannot in any way be called hunting or “Fair Chase”—it is simply barbaric and inhumane behavior that brings disgrace to all bona-fide, ethical hunters.

How can the State of Wyoming and the Department support, let alone justify establishing a Predator Zone for wolves? Even if the abhorrent killing practices are technically legal within the Predator Zone, they are by every reasonable standard amoral and demonstrate a complete disregard for the principle of “Fair Chase” and the ethical treatment of wildlife. If the Department remains silent and does nothing to eliminate the Predator Zone, does not call-out the inhumane killing practices employed therein, and does nothing to remove the

wolf's Predator Status within 85% of the State, the Department, and the State are tacitly condoning and remain complicit in this unethical killing activity.

All Wyoming wolves, except those within Yellowstone (YNP) and Grand Teton National Parks (GTNP), the John D. Rockefeller Memorial Parkway (JDRP), the National Elk Refuge (NER) and the Wind River Indian Reservation (WRIR) should be designated as a game species without exception. The current dual status designation is not responsible, twenty-first century wildlife management; it is instead a total abdication of management responsibility by the Department.

And last, hunting wolves by the general public serves no purpose other than as an expression of "blood lust" and a catalyst for "bragging rights". There is no derived food value, only ego gratification. Many members of WU were brought up in hunting families and were taught that you only kill what you will eat. WU still subscribes to that value. A trophy hunt of wolves feeds nothing more than the personal ego, and as it all too often occurs within the Predator Zone, is a disgrace to the ethical hunting community. Again, Wyoming's wolves should have big game status with a year-round closed hunting season.

#### HUNT AREA CONFIGURATIONS Sec. 4(h):

For years WU, and many others have asked the Game and Fish Commission to change the configuration of the HA's, particularly HA's 1, 2, 3, 6, and 8, and 9. Instead of having these HA's radiate out from YNP, GTNP and the NER as they currently do, their boundaries should be reconfigured to resemble concentric arcs moving away from the park boundaries, with the HA closest to the parks acting as a buffer and having a very low or zero quota.

This configuration would have three positive aspects: first, it would protect wolves that venture out of the parks from being shot, second, it would allow for increased quotas focused farther from the parks where livestock depredations may be more likely to occur, and third, if quotas are judicially applied, the overall quota can remain unchanged.

For two reasons, the current HA configuration exposes park and refuge wolves to considerable hunting pressure. First, because these wolves spend some or most of their time within the protective confines of the park and refuge (and near a conspicuous human population), they may be somewhat habituated to and less fearful of humans. And second, these wolves face significant hunting pressure because their home ranges and the HA's are relatively accessible to hunters.

In an attempt to assess hunter impact on these 6 wolf packs, we conducted a rough analysis of information from the 2017 season. We estimated that 15 hunter-killed wolves, or 34% of the 44 quota came from the 4 HA's abutting GTNP and the NER (HA's 6, 8, 9 and 10).

Based on further calculations, the 4 HA's contained at least 6 packs (totaling 46 individuals) that had home ranges partially or completely overlapping the park and/or the refuge

(Annual Report. 2017. Table 1, Fig. 1). And as many as 10 of the 15 (67%) wolves killed by hunters in the 4 HA's came from these 6 packs. When all known mortalities are added in, these 6 packs lost a grand total of 20 of their 46 members. In other words, at least 43% of the members of the packs whose home ranges overlap to some extent GTNP and the NER were lost in 2017. All but one of the mortalities is attributed to human actions.

When one considers the probability of these mortalities including one or both breeding adults in a pack and considering the potential for pack break-up and loss of reproductive potential due to breeder loss, and the subsequent flux in surrounding territories, we must conclude that human activities, particularly sanctioned hunting of wolves had a significant impact on the wolves of Grand Teton National Park and the National Elk Refuge.

#### ECONOMIC VALUE OF WOLVES:

Absent specific data regarding the positive economic impact of wolf viewing in Jackson Hole, we rely upon data from a 2005 survey conducted in YNP (Duffield, et al. 2006) which estimated the economic impact to the region of wolf tourism at +\$35.5 million (2005 dollars). We can safely say that the positive economic impact of having viewable wolves in the Jackson Hole is equally significant. In fact, it is likely tens-of-times greater than all the costs of managing wolves in the region, including livestock losses and alleged diminished hunting opportunities attributable to wolves. In other words, we feel confident in saying that a cost-benefit analysis of having wolves in the Jackson Hole region would show a very significant positive impact to the region's economy.

We have no way of knowing how the local economy is impacted by the loss of 43% of the 6 packs whose home ranges abut or overlap the park and refuge. However, we feel confident that a loss of this magnitude has a severe impact on viewing opportunities and hence, a related impact upon our tourism economy. Removing that many wolves from packs that spend some or most of their time in and near GTNP and the NER, is unwarranted and reflects little or no respect for local interests, national park values and mandates, and the local and state tourist economies.

Clearly, wolves are worth much more as "watchable wildlife" than as "hutable wildlife." And wolves are worth much more alive than dead.

#### PROPOSED HA CONFIGURATIONS:

Before we proceed, we must reiterate our unequivocal opposition to any sport hunting of wolves in Wyoming. However, barring that preferred outcome, we strenuously object to increasing the kill for 2018. We bring this up here because it factors into the reconfiguration currently being proposed.

The 2018 Plan proposes splitting HA's 5 and 11 into two new units, 13 and 14 and increasing the kill quota for 2018 from 44 to 58—a 32% increase. We also do not understand the rationale for having a floating quota of 15 for HA's 8, 9 and the newly shrunken HA 11. If

there was ever an argument to be made by the Department that HA's were set up to direct off-take of wolves to specific landscapes, this new "floating" quota appears to blow that argument out of the water. As proposed, all 15 wolves killed by hunters could be from any one of several packs in the HA's. But more significantly, they could all be taken from packs that overlap GTNP and the NER. This is unacceptable and demonstrates no respect for GTNP or NER wolves and the interested public- who also owns these wolves.

Wyoming Untrapped respectfully requests that HA's 6,8, and 9 be reconfigured as previously described, and that if the two new HA's (13 & 14) are necessary, that they have lower kill quotas ascribed to each; quotas that in total come to far fewer than what is currently proposed for those HA's.

#### SEASONAL TROPHY HA 12:

Hunt Area 12 is of particular concern to WU. The Department states that HA 12 will be managed as a wolf movement corridor between Idaho and Wyoming to help ensure adequate genetic diversity within the Wyoming wolf population. However, when Wyoming's HA's management plan is viewed in context to that of neighboring Idaho- the anticipated "source" of immigrating wolves, the potential for successful movement between the two states is severely limited.

Between the two states and their various wolf hunting seasons (and trapping season in Idaho), there is not one single day of the year when wolves moving through that area are not subject to hunting or trapping on one or both sides of the state line. Not one.

Specifically, the Idaho Big Game (Wolf) Hunt Units (HU) adjacent to Wyoming's HA 12 are open to hunting from August 30th to March 31<sup>st</sup> (Idaho 2017-2018). Unfortunately, during that same time, and longer (March 1<sup>st</sup> to October 14<sup>th</sup>) Wyoming's HA 12 is officially a Predator Zone during which period all wolves can be killed by anyone at any time and by any means. Also, Idaho allows trapping from November 15<sup>th</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> within the HU along the northern approximate one-third of the shared state boundary. To be realistic, this so-called safe wolf movement corridor exists only on paper, certainly at no time does it exist upon the landscape.

If Wyoming is truly committed to maintaining genetic diversity within its wolf population, then WU urges the Commission to eliminate the Predator Zone aspect from HA 12 and manage it as a year-round, "zero quota" ~ i.e. "no take" HA. At least then, Wyoming can say it has done its part to accommodate inter-population, inter-state wolf movements.

#### DEFINITIONS – MORTALITY Sec. 2(a):

In defining mortality, dictionaries do not differentiate between types of death. Mortality means death, whatever the cause. When used to assess the status and condition of Wyoming's wolf population, mortality figures need to consider all mortality, whether human-caused or not. To exclude wolves killed by "Department take", "legal take permits",



and those “...taken under the authority of §W.S.23-3-115(c)”, which are all human-caused, is simply incomprehensible. Any wolf mortality is a dead wolf and needs to be accounted for and factored into any population assessment. And making an exemption for “...known natural and accidental gray wolf deaths[.]” is also unacceptable and diminishes the credibility of populations estimates and status reports.

Plus, what is an “accidental” death if not natural or human-caused?

Section 4(h) needs to be re-written to state that ALL known mortalities will be identified, recorded and used in all population assessments, modeling and predictions, and that this information will be made available to the public in the annual report.

**HUNTING REGULATIONS Sec. 4(a):**

The second sentence of Section 4 (a) needs to be re-written as follows: *“These regulations, and any allowance for hunting, do not apply to all lands within the boundaries of Grand Teton National Park, the John D. Rockefeller Memorial Parkway or the National Elk Refuge.”* The point is that hunting of wolves on Grand Teton Park inholdings and within the John D. Rockefeller Memorial Parkway should not occur.

Also, the last sentence of Sec. 4(a) should be re-written as follows: *“Gray wolves in Wyoming are designated as predatory animals as defined in §W.S. 23-1-101(a)(viii)(B) except for:*

- (ii) Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park, the John D. Rockefeller Memorial Parkway, the National Elk Refuge; and,*
- (iii) All lands within the boundaries of the Wind River Reservation.”*

Regarding Sec. 4(a)(ii), the point is that by omitting GTNP, the NER and the JDRP, it appears that Wyoming has management authority over wolves within those Federal jurisdictions. Gray wolves occurring within the boundaries of GTNP, the JDRP and the NER should never be hunted.

Regarding Sec. 4(a)(iii), the point of this recommendation is that all gray wolves within the boundaries of the Wind River Indian Reservation, including within private inholding, should be managed by and have their status determined by Reservation authorities.

Regarding Sec. 4(f), the last sentence should be re-written as follows: *“The pelt and skull shall be presented in an unfrozen condition to allow collection of biological samples for DNA analysis to assess genetic connectivity and to determine the age and sex of the gray wolf.”* DNA collection “may be request(ed) and “voluntarily provided...from the gray wolf...” killed within the Predator Zone for genetics sampling. This should be mandatory.

The point here is that tissue samples should be taken so that DNA analysis can be done on all hunter-taken wolves. Only through rigorous and extensive sampling can the genetic diversity- and health of the population be determined.

**WOLVES DESIGNATED AS PREDATORY ANIMALS – Sec. 8:**

Although WU vigorously opposes having any Predator Zone designation, barring that outcome, we request that Sec. 8(a) should contain a sentence making it clear that the public will have easy and timely access to the following information: the date, location, sex, and method of death of all wolves taken as designated predatory animals. Simply stated, this basic information (without individual hunter information) should be readily available to the public, which is currently not the case.

**THE PUBLIC TRUST:**

All wildlife Native to the United States is held in public trust by designated public agencies as described in The Public Trust Doctrine (PTD). In the case of wolves in Wyoming, their management is a responsibility shared between the Game and Fish Commission, the National Park Service and the National Wildlife Refuge System. In all cases, public trust means managing for the benefit of the resource and the public (Wildlife Society, 2010).

Wolf management decisions need to be founded on more than hunting quotas. They need to consider all mortality regardless of cause. At the end of 2017, it was estimated that 347 wolves resided in Wyoming, including the two parks and the WRIR (238 were counted within Wyoming's jurisdiction). And during the same year, it is reported that at least 168 wolves died from various causes throughout the state (162 mortalities occurred within Wyoming's jurisdiction) (Annual Report, 2018. Table 1).

Simple calculations would then conclude that at least 515 wolves (347 living + 168 deaths = 515) resided in the state at some time during 2017, and 400 of those (238 living + 162 deaths = 400) resided within Wyoming's jurisdiction. And simple calculations would conclude that Wyoming's entire wolf population suffered a mortality rate of 33% (168/515 = 33%), and the state's jurisdictional wolves suffered a mortality rate of 41% (162/400 = 41%). Hunters killed 44 wolves (43 legal + 1 illegal taken by a hunter = 44) or 11% of Wyoming's portion of the mortality figure (44 kills/400 population = 11%).

Wyoming's human-caused wolf mortality totaled 144 (Annual Report, 2018, Table 2) or 36% of the population (144/400 = 36%). A wolf population cannot sustain itself for the long haul with an annual mortality rate of 41%. It cannot sustain itself with an annual, human-caused mortality rate of 36%.

Regardless of what the current wolf population might be, increasing the hunt quota to 58 will ensure that the overall mortality rate for 2018 will remain far above sustainable levels. This is not acceptable public trust management. Wyoming's wolf management plan should focus on reducing human-caused mortalities and accepting that natural mortalities and

depredation removals will occur, the logical place to lower the mortality figure is by closing the hunt season, or at least reducing the hunt quota, not increasing it.

Together, the NAMWC and the PTD, clearly state that wildlife should be managed by best science for the benefit of the public in compliance with existing laws. The National Park Service Organic Act of 1916 (Organic Act, 1916) proclaims the purpose of National Parks to be: *"...to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations[.]"* (emphasis added). Our National Parks, often called "America's best idea," and referred to by President G.W. Bush as "America's gift to the world" (as cited by: U.S. Dept. Int. 2005), are a model for parks around the world. And Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks form the conservation core of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

The followers of WU, along with many citizens of the world expect our National Parks to act as "arks" for native wildlife—safe havens for those species residing therein. When the home ranges of wolf packs are reviewed, only 5 packs appear to have home ranges entirely within the boundaries of the parks, and all 5 occur within Yellowstone N.P., (Lamar Canyon, 8-Mile, Prospect Peak, Mollie's, and Wapiti Lake). No packs have their entire home ranges within Grand Teton National Park. (Annual Report, 2017, Fig. 1 & Table 3). The 5 YNP packs account for a "minimum" of 55 wolves.

Of the 5 packs, only one, the 8-Mile pack is listed as *"Border pack with MT, assigned to Yellowstone National Park"*, making it very likely that members of this pack cross into the hunting zones of Montana (Annual Report, 2017, Table 3). Two additional packs, the Lamar Canyon and Prospect Packs have home ranges very near the Park's boundaries.

It needs to be mentioned that home ranges very likely do not represent the actual and larger areas frequented by wolves—they simply represent the polygons formed by locations verified either visually or with radio collar monitoring. In other words, pack members likely venture beyond the limits of the polygons, and potentially out of the safe havens of the park and into state hunt areas. And, knowing the movement capabilities of wolves, most wolves within YNP, regardless of their home range descriptions might, during their lives venture beyond the Park's protective boundaries.

If one divides the 55 wolves of the 5 "safe" park packs by the 515, the total population alive in 2017 (See: Public Trust, above), we can say that only 11% of the Wyoming's wolf population is safely living within our protected National Parks. If we only count the two packs (Wapiti Lake and Mollie's) with home ranges well within the safe confines of the Park's borders we have 35 wolves divided by the region's total population of 515, resulting in having only 7% of the region's wolf population safe from sanctioned anthropogenic removal.

When we look at wolf distribution throughout the western United States, we see no other geographical area where wolves now exist that might provide a protected “no hunt zone.” None. In a 2010 article, renowned Yellowstone wolf biologist, Doug Smith is quoted as saying that in 2004 “...*there’s not one wolf pack entirely contained within Glacier National Park,*” (French, B. 2010). It is likely that the same holds true today. And there are no other parks or refuges large enough to exclusively accommodate a wolf pack.

Our point here is that throughout the lower 48 states, Yellowstone, the environmental core of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, the protected core of Wyoming’s wolf population is likely the only area remaining in the 48 states where native wolves can find a safe harbor. And even in this instance, that safe harbor accommodates roughly 55 wolves—only 55 wolves out of the 400 to 500 wolves living in the GYE are mostly protected from sanctioned human killing. Only 55 wolves within the entire contiguous 48 states are free to live out their lives relatively free of human interference.

Although many may say that wolves are doing well in the region, it is WU’s conclusion that the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, with its proposed aggressive 2018 hunting season- a plan structured to maintain just the minimum population necessary to prevent re-listing under the Endangered Act, is not doing enough to insure the wolf’s long-term survival. We feel that the Department is not living up to the obligations of responsible wildlife stewardship as prescribed in the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation and the Public Trust Doctrine, and, that the Department is putting politics over best science. The Department is simply not living up to the public’s expectations to manage all wildlife, including wolves for the benefit of all citizens. And we feel the Department’s Plan may even jeopardize the wolves residing within our two premier National Parks.

**CLOSING:**

Wyoming Untrapped considers it philosophically indefensible to have a sanctioned gray wolf hunting season, or to allow wolves to be killed as predatory animals. And, although we firmly believe that the Department’s 2018 Wolf Management Plan ignores many of the fundamentals of both the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation and the Public Trust Doctrine, and that it largely ignores best available science, we respectfully submit these comments for your collective consideration. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Lisa Robertson,  
President, Board of Directors  
Franz J. Camenzind, Ph.D.  
WU Advisory Council  
Board of Directors

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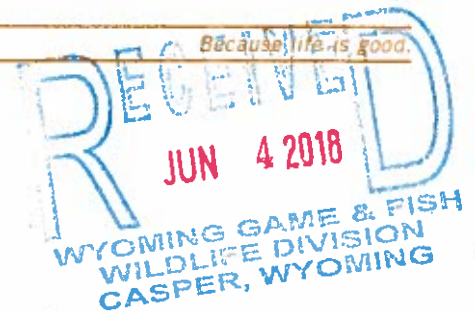
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CENTER for BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY



May 29, 2018

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper, WY 82604

Dear Wyoming Game and Fish Department,

Enclosed please find a copy of 878 comments from supporters with the Center for Biological Diversity opposing your proposal to allow hunters to kill even more wolves than last year.

The 2017 hunt already lowered the state's wolf population by 16 percent -- a staggering drop in a single year. Your department admits that its new proposal to allow hunters to kill 58 wolves in the trophy game area and to increase bag limits from one to two is aimed at further reducing the state's wolf population.

Wolves are native to Wyoming, and their habitat shouldn't be limited to Yellowstone National Park. That's why the enclosed comments ask you to reassess your goals and stop making the killing of native wildlife a top priority. Wolves are an important part of Wyoming's natural heritage, and everything possible should be done to ensure their protection and future health.

Thank you for your consideration.

For the wild,

Cybele Knowles  
Communications Associate  
cknowles@biologicaldiversity.org  
(520) 623-5252 x 324

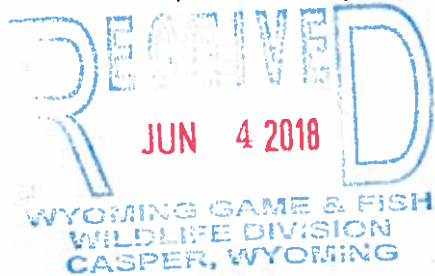
Enclosure

mail w/co

# SCOGA

## Sublette County Outfitters & Guides Association

P.O. BOX 845, PINEDALE, WYOMING 82941 \* [www.westernwyomingoutfitters.com](http://www.westernwyomingoutfitters.com)



May 30, 2018

WYOMING GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT  
WILDLIFE DIVISION  
ATTENTION: WOLF REGULATIONS  
3030 ENERGY LANE  
CASPER, WYOMING 82604

Dear Game and Fish Commissioners,

The Sublette County Outfitters and Guides Association represent the majority of Outfitters/guides in Sublette County. Although Sublette County hasn't been devastated to the extent that our neighbors in the Jackson and Cody regions have, we are starting to see increasing wolf predation and harassment of our elk and most especially our moose herds. We would like to recommend that the Game and Fish Commission consider the following recommendations and statements:

- 1) **The 'experimental, non-essential, Yellowstone Only' release of Canadian wolves has had a devastating impact to many of our areas around Jackson and Cody. We are currently seeing many more wolves and impacts to our big game herds and therefore our Sublette County Outfitters operations. We hope that you can be proactive and institute the following recommendations to help control the growing wolf menace in our areas.**
- 2) **We support the further dividing of the wolf hunt areas and the increase to 15 wolves in the proposed hunt area 11.**
- 3) **We have serious concerns about the proposed wolf hunting boundary between hunt area 11 and 14. The proposal currently calls for the northern boundary of hunt area 14 to begin at Jim Creek. We feel strongly that the boundary should follow the Pine Creek down to Fremont Lake and NOT go clear to Jim Creek. The quota in the previous wolf hunt area 11 was 3 wolves in 2017. Two of the three wolves were harvested quite a ways south of Jim Creek and two more were taken in the Green**

mail

**River Lakes Area. The boundary of Jim Creek for the proposed area 14 is simply too far North. We would like to recommend that you consider changing that north boundary to the Pine Creek drainage down to Fremont Lake. The proposed Fremont Lake, Pine Creek wolf hunt boundary change would coincide with the existing boundary for Elk area 96 and 97, and Moose area 3 and 5.**

- 4) We understand the importance of maintaining the minimum wolf population in order to keep the species under State management but designating only 1 wolf for area 14 is simply too few. We would like to recommend that you consider at least a 3 wolf quota in the area.**
- 5) There are three elk feed grounds in our recommended area 14 wolf area. We are seeing increasing harassment and movement away from the feed grounds due to wolf predation and harassment. This movement away from the feed grounds can have many unwanted ramifications including the potential of co-mingling with cattle herds and the potential to spread Brucellosis.**

Thank you for your time and consideration, please let me know if you have any specific questions.

Sincerely,

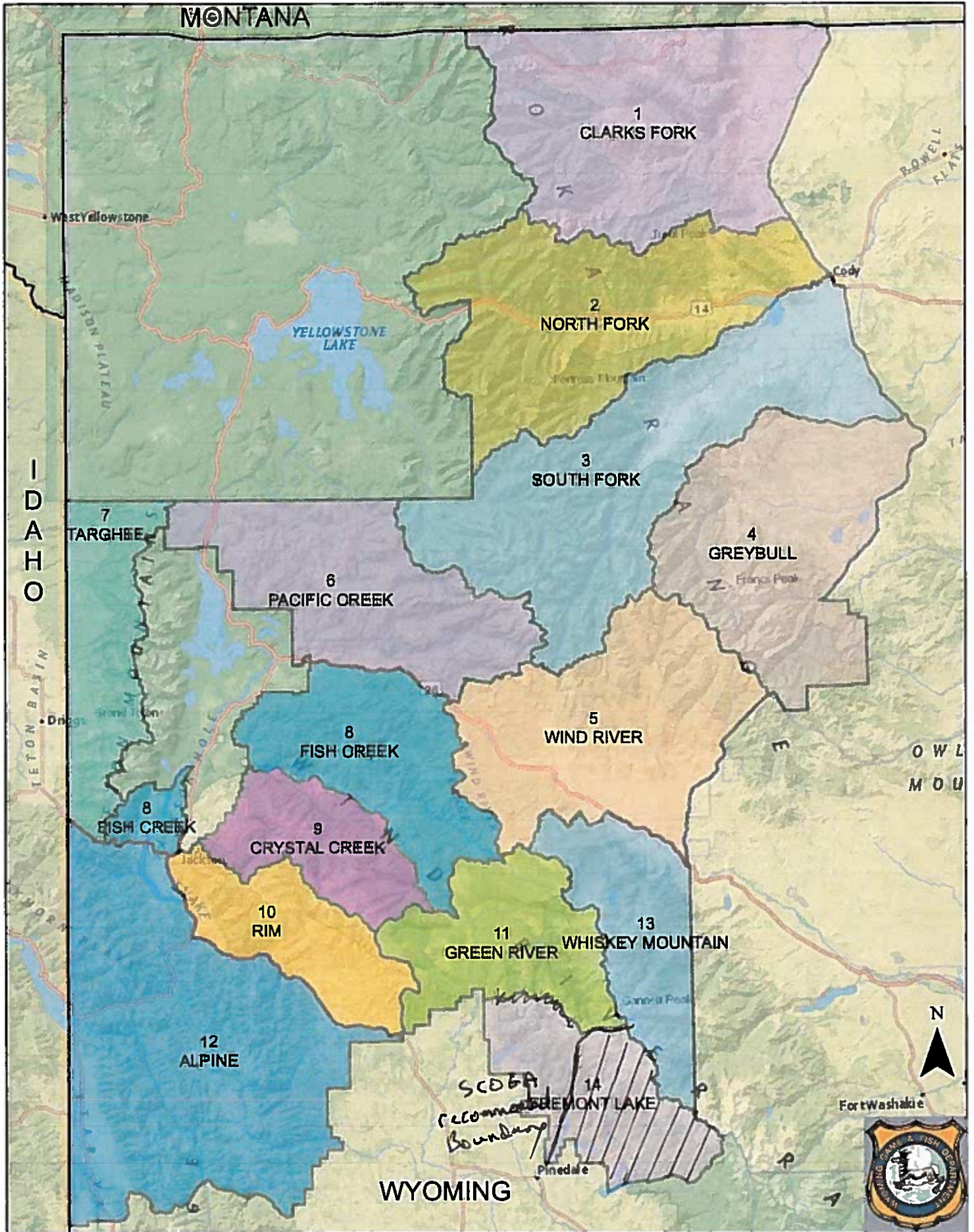


Terry Pollard, President

SCOGA



# PROPOSED WYOMING WOLF HUNT AREAS: 2018



## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**1** I think that raising the quota is a great idea. The wolves were reduced to restore balance. It feel the population has reached too many. Now they are a danger to the livestock and they have ruined elk herds. Let's give the ranchers and sportsman more opportunity to harvest more of them.

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**Final Comment**                      **Maxfield , Tyler**                      **Big Piney , WY**                      4/21/2018 7:57:00 AM

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**2** Wolves are an essential part of a healthy ecosystem. Currently, Wyoming is seeing chronic wasting disease in its ungulate population. Wolves target the weak animals in a herd, so it makes sense that allowing more wolves could help to contain CWD. Hunters target the biggest, strongest "trophy" animals. Wolves can help to bring balance. Also, of issue, is that Yellowstone wolves migrate out of the park- they do not recognize artificial boundaries. These wolves belong to the citizens of the country and it is wrong for the state of Wyoming to take their lives.

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**Final Comment**                      **Wallon Haynes, Linda**   **Bozeman, MT**                      4/21/2018 11:00:00 AM

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**3** THIS exercise in BARBARITY is NOT "Wildlife Management," it is Wildlife ANNIHILATION!! They killed off a vast majority of Mexican Wolves, and were repaid with repeated outbreaks of HANTA Virus... don't you idiots ever learn anything?? Wolves are in nature for a reason, namely to provide balance for the food chain!! I'm going to tell everyone I know to avoid WASTING their money in Wyoming, a state which kills all its WILDLIFE...

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**Final Comment**                      **Daniels, Christine**                      **Norwood, MA**                      4/21/2018 1:26:00 PM

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**4** I oppose the slaughter of these endangered wolves. This state shows no compassion or concern for these wolves. They can be shot to snared without question. It is disgusting. I will never spend a dollar of money in Wyoming. I will go somewhere where wildlife is appreciated and protected. It is not in Wyoming. The only thing being taken care of are the trophy hunters.

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**Final Comment**                      **Shabbott, Mary**                      **Punta gorda, FL**                      4/21/2018 3:50:00 PM

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**5** I need to understand why F&G are so determined to keep killing wolves. Studies have shown how wolves played an integral role in revitalizing Yellowstone. Additionally, tourism is the NUMBER 2 source of revenue for Wyoming. Tourist dollars are critical to our state. Animals that have been shot,snared or poisoned are NOT what tourists come to see. Does F&G need the money from permits to stay alive? If so, I know plenty of people who would help. Killing wolves, grizzly bears,bison, cohorts,foxes is insane and horrific. Stop the madness and thirst for killing.

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**Final Comment**                      **Osnos, Annette**                      **Jackson, WY**                      4/22/2018 7:57:00 AM

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**6** I live in zone 2 and near zone 1. You are proposing a quota of 8 wolves to be killed in zone 2. I assume you are doing this just for the hunting opportunity because our packs not only self-regulate but rarely cause problems. Why are you upping the quotas so high around the Park? With your high quotas, you will basically decimate our wolf pack in Sunlight/Crandall area for no reason. You will also be exposing easily killed Park wolves who migrate with the elk to be killed. I feel the G&F is going in the wrong direction. Instead of looking at areas where wolves pose little risk to livestock, you are simply increasing quotas so hunters can kill wolves. I completely disagree with these increased quotas that will decimate our wolf packs.

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**Final Comment**                      **Patten, Leslie**                      **Cody, WY**                      4/22/2018 8:49:00 AM

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**7** I believe this is an unconscionable act. More and more research proven that animals, fish have souls. Have you read The Soul of an Octopus by Sy Montgomery? The octopus in the book recognized the woman who feed him and reacted to him. What are we doing by killing a mother, father, or pup wolf? We are destroying a family. Do we have no humanity or humility to protect them and let them live their lives? They have not done harm to anyone. The reality is lack of education. This includes you at the Wyoming Game and Fish. Why do you have the right to play God? Our planet has a natural way to weed out the weak. Regretfully signing off to a human injustice, Virginia Lynch Dean

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Dean, Virginia</b>	<b>Jackson, CT</b>	4/22/2018 9:21:00 AM
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**8** To whom it May Concern: I believe this is an unconscionable act. More and more research proven that animals, fish have souls. Have you read The Soul of an Octopus by Sy Montgomery? The octopus in the book recognized the woman who feed him and reacted to him. What are we doing by killing a mother, father, or pup wolf? We are destroying a family. Do we have no humanity or humility to protect them and let them live their lives? They have not done harm to anyone. The reality is lack of education. This includes you at the Wyoming Game and Fish. Why do you have the right to play God? Our planet has a natural way to weed out the weak. Regretfully Virginia Lynch Dean

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Dean, Virginia</b>	<b>Jackson, WY</b>	4/22/2018 9:25:00 AM
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**9** I agree with the increase in mortality limits for wolf management. We must keep the population of wolves down to help protect our big game herds.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Wormington, Richard</b>	<b>Lovell, WY</b>	4/22/2018 10:25:00 AM
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**10** Stop your barbarous treatment of wolves. They have a right to be there. Tourists come to Wyoming to see wolves and bears. Not cows and sheep. Allow the wolves to be on the public land. The ranchers can use their own land. I dont want my tax dollars used to kill wiolves and subsidise the ranchers profits. My suggestion is that you kill no wolves in the upcoming season. Do the right thing for once.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Graham, Glenn</b>	<b>Redwood City, CA</b>	4/22/2018 7:22:00 PM
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**11** Please, please stop this senseless killing of wolves! They are an essential part of the Eco System and must be saved and protected!!

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Dishaw, A</b>	<b>Geneva, NY</b>	4/22/2018 9:05:00 PM
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**12** Wolves are a critical part of the health of their ecosystem. I understand their potential danger to livestock, but hunting them is not the answer. They are apex predators which are crucial to keeping the ecosystem healthy. Please instead work with wolf specialists or experts, people working to rehabilitate wolves. Understanding them is key to solving these problems instead of causing worse long term problems in favor of what might seem to be a short term solution but which would only cause problems. Wolves are neophobic. There are other solutions to any potential problems. I urge you to talk to experts and fully consider all your options. Keep Wyoming beautiful and healthy.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Kelly, Alexandra</b>	<b>San Diego , CA</b>	4/23/2018 8:57:00 AM
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**13** I generally do not support wolf hunting in Wyoming and am concerned that striking section 9 of the wolf hunting regulations is a bad idea. It appears as though this is an attempt to remove penalties associated with poaching, wolves specifically in this case. I urge you to retain section 9 and to further criminalize illegal take of all species.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Crabtree, Justin</b>	<b>Wilson, WY</b>	4/23/2018 10:59:00 AM
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**14** The wolf provides a culling of the weak and injured animals so don't allow hunters to mindlessly kill wolves for sport.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Stewart, Nancy</b>	<b>Port Saint Lucie, FL</b>	4/23/2018 11:49:00 AM
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**15** Hello, I now live in the UK but lived in Alberta for many years and have visited Wyoming many times on holiday, camping etc. Please consider the fact that so many tourists and people in general love wildlife and would like them to be able to live rather than being shot and killed by humans with telescopic guns. You are so lucky to have bears and wolves and the wonderful wildlife in your beautiful state. We have killed off all such animals in Britain hundred of years ago. Learn from us and cherish your wildlife. Warm wishes. Emma

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Plaskitt, Emma</b>	<b>High Wycombe,</b>	4/23/2018 2:26:00 PM
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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**16** The numbers justify increasing the quota. Please do so to balance areas under attack by overpopulation of the wolves.

**Final Comment**                      **Erickson, McKay**                      **Afton, WY**    4/23/2018 3:48:00 PM

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**17** Thank you for letting me submit comments. I am happy that the WY G&F is looking to continually manage large predators in a responsible fashion. No one I know is in favor of extirpating wolves from the state, but wants responsible management so that other wildlife populations (specifically large ungulates) can thrive in this great state we live in. Managing one species to the detriment of all others is the opposite of responsibility, and that is what the federal government and lawsuit-happy "environmentalists" have allowed to happen for far too long. Keep up the good work and please keep the pressure on the wolves and grizzlies to ensure their future by having a healthy fear of humans, and to ensure the future of other wildlife populations in their ranges.

**Final Comment**                      **Mason, Brandon**                      **Ralston, WY**    4/23/2018 4:40:00 PM

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**18** I AM A WYOMING NATIVE . I BELIEVE THAT ANY WOLF OUTSIDE THE TETON/YELLOW STONE NATIONAL PARKS, CAN BE SHOT YEAR ROUND. AND/OR TRAPPED AND RE-INTRODUCED TO THE NORTHEAST AND TO THE SMOKEY MOUNTAINS. BOTH AREAS WERE WOLF HABITAT. WHAT IS GOOD FOR US SHOULD BE GOOD FOR THE EASTERN STATES, SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE GRIZZLES IN A RE-INTRODUCTION PROJECT FOR THE EASTERN STATES.

**Final Comment**                      **ROBESON, JIM**                      **LANDER, WY**    4/23/2018 5:53:00 PM

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**19** This is an unconscionable atrocity which makes me question just how far we have evolved as sentient beings. This senseless killing can be stopped and these helpless animals saved. Numbers can be controlled through humane sterilization methods. Any other means simply satisfies thrill killing. Even if we're not willing to save exotic creatures across the globe, we can at least save our defenseless dwindling wildlife on our home turf.

**Final Comment**                      **McCullough , Sherry**                      **Trenton , MI**    4/23/2018 6:12:00 PM

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**20** I fully support the hunting of wolves in Wyoming. Just as there is a need to manage deer and elk, due to the fact that humans have expanded into their natural range, we also need to manage the wolf population. I believe there will be dire consequences if we let the population go unchecked.

**Final Comment**                      **Sant, Jake**                      **Andover, KS**    4/23/2018 7:26:00 PM

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**21** I fully support wolf hunting in Wyoming. Even though wolves are a majestic animal, I believe there is a need to manage the population.

**Final Comment**                      **Sant, Celeste**                      **Andover, KS**    4/23/2018 7:29:00 PM

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**22** ATTACHMENT A To Wyoming Game and Fish Commissioner's April 23rd 2018 Petition For Regulation Change Attachment A Protect The Wolves™ Pack is a Native American Group that is claiming 501c4 status in that the Group speaks for our Sacred Species. All living things are considered Sacred to the majority of Indigenous people that respect their Elders Teachings. Indigenous People hold that Wildlife are Sacred: Animals, in many of today's Indigenous cultures, are imbued with powerful spiritual significance. In the Seven Sacred Teachings, "the traditional concepts of respect and sharing that form the foundation of the Indigenous way of life are built around the seven natural laws, or sacred teachings. Each teaching honors one of the basic virtues intrinsic to a full and healthy life. Each law is embodied by an animal to underscore the point that all actions and decisions made by man are manifest on a physical plain. While the animal world taught man how to live close to the earth, and the connection that has been established between the animal world and that of the indigenous has instilled a respect for all life in those who follow the traditional Indigenous way."

**Final Comment**                      **Newby, Mary**                      **Alpine, AZ**    4/23/2018 9:54:00 PM

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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**23** Love – Eagle Respect – Buffalo Courage – Bear Honesty – Bigfoot Wisdom – Beaver Humility – Wolf Truth – Turtle The Indigenous People do not discount items held sacred by other cultures, yet it continues to be an issue when the Indigenous speak of what they hold Sacred. Wyoming Game and Fish are Trustees of not only Indian Trust Resources but also the Publics Resources, and are attempting to manage Resources like Wolves that are considered Federal resources as well. These Species fall under the Protection of not only the Indian Trust, but the Public Trust as well as United Nations legal Protections as they perhaps exit Yellowstone National Park as evidenced below under CITES. Prior to setting any Wolf Hunting Season surrounding Yellowstone National Park Protect The Wolves™ Pack requests that you consider our petition for Regulation change that includes a 50km Sacred Resource Protection Safety Zone around Yellowstone National Park. Yellowstone Park, not only holds countless Sacred Sites, but also many different sacred species in the beliefs of the Indigenous People. These animals that have resided in the Park have become humanized over time, in effect means that they do not stand a chance should they exit Federally Protected Lands. Wildlife are not able to see boundaries, and as such not only deserve Protection under the Laws of the United Nations, but also those mandated upon the Trustees that fall under the Indian Trust, Public Trust, as well as Natures Trust within these areas surrounding Our National Park. Should you refuse to set this petition for requested Regulation Change to the next available meeting, along with the delay in setting any Wolf Hunting Seasons, You will be in direct Violation of not only the Above mentioned Trusts, but the Laws of The United Nations. It is Imperative that our Nations Trustees begin to manage the Publics Resources in the best interest of all included, The Indian Trust, as well as “The Public” Trust, as well as The United Nations. There is already sufficient case law that has proven our Indigenous Resources under the Indian Trust do not have to solely exist within Reservation boundaries. With regard to our sacred objects, it should not matter where our sacred resources as in wildlife exist. As evidenced under the Environmental Protection Act as well as our Religious Freedom Act.

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**Final Comment**                      **Newby, Mary**                      **Alpine, AZ**                      4/23/2018 9:58:00 PM

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**24** Please see Definition of Indian Country. Definition of Indian Country Indian country is defined at 18 U.S.C. § 1151 as: all land within the limits of any Indian reservation under the jurisdiction of the United States Government, notwithstanding the issuance of any patent, and, including rights-of-way running through the reservation; all dependent Indian communities within the borders of the United States whether within the original or subsequently acquired territory thereof, and whether within or without the limits of a state; and All Indian allotments, the Indian titles to which have not been extinguished, including rights-of-way running through the same. Consistent with the statutory definition of Indian country, as well as federal case law interpreting this statutory language, lands held by the federal government in trust for Indian tribes that exist outside of formal reservations are informal reservations and, thus, are Indian country. The Yellowstone National Park falls into this Category because it contains many Sites Sacred to the Indigenous as well as Sacred Wildlife of which Wolves, Grizzlies, Bison to name a few are held Sacred by the majority of Tribes. The Trusts, all-inclusive prohibit Trustees from managing Resources that are at the request and demand of Special Interest Groups like Cattle Ranchers or Trophy Hunters, to manage the Trusts resources in a manner only geared towards these Special Interest Groups. Further these Trusts mandate that there shall be no special interest Groups involved in the suggestion of or included in the management of said public resources. Dependent Indian communities are a category of Indian country that are not Indian reservations or individual Indian allotments and that satisfy two basic criteria. First, the U.S. Government for the use of Indians as Indian land must have set them aside. Second, they must be under federal superintendence – that is, the federal government must exercise a degree of control or oversight of these lands for Indian purposes. Which now brings the Indian Trust, Public Trust, as well as The Laws of the United Nations to bear upon Wyoming’s attempt to manage resources that fall into the above categories. The Wolf, not only being Sacred to the Indigenous, are also considered a species protected under UN Law. Please see the inclusion as referenced in CITE

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**Final Comment**                      **Newby, Mary**                      **Alpine, AZ**                      4/23/2018 10:01:00 PM

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**25** The Canis Lupus is a Listed Species under Checklist of CITES Species CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, 27 U.S.T. 108) — Establishes a system of import/export regulations to prevent the over-exploitation of plants and animals listed in three appendices to the Convention. Different levels of trade regulations are provided depending on the status of the listed species and the contribution trade makes to decline of the species. Procedures are provided for periodic amendments to the appendices. CITES was signed by 80 nations in Washington, D.C., on March 3, 1973. United States ratification occurred on September 13, 1973, with documents submitted to the

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

depository government (Switzerland) on January 14, 1974. CITES entered into force on July 1, 1975. Implementing legislation for the United States was provided by enactment of P.L. 93-205, the Endangered Species Act of 1973. Executive Order 11911, signed April 13, 1976, designated Management and Scientific Authorities to grant or deny requests for import or export permits. Public Law 96-159, signed December 28, 1979 (93 Stat. 1255) designates the Secretary of Interior, acting through the Fish and Wildlife Service, as both the Management and Scientific Authority for implementation of CITES. It also created an International Convention Advisory Commission, which was later abolished by P.L. 97-304, October 13, 1982.

**Final Comment**                      **Newby, Mary**                      **Alpine, AZ**                      4/23/2018 10:05:00 PM

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**26** Public Law 97-304 also requires the Secretary of State to report to Congress when a reservation is not taken to the inclusion of a species in the appendices when the United States votes against it. In addition, these amendments require certain scientific authority findings to be based upon the best available biological information, but no State is required to make population estimates for such determinations. As of November 28, 1999, 146 countries were party to the Convention, and they had held ten biennial meetings of the Conference of the Parties. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service hosted the Ninth Conference in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, in 1994. For more information on CITES, go to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service International Affairs CITES website at: [http://checklist.cites.org/#/en/search/output\\_layout=alphabetical&level\\_of\\_listing=0&show\\_synonyms=1&show\\_author=1&show\\_english=1&show\\_spanish=1&show\\_french=1&scientific\\_name=Canidae&page=1&per\\_page=20](http://checklist.cites.org/#/en/search/output_layout=alphabetical&level_of_listing=0&show_synonyms=1&show_author=1&show_english=1&show_spanish=1&show_french=1&scientific_name=Canidae&page=1&per_page=20) In Summary, we ask that you do what is right, and set aside any setting of wolf seasons until this petition for Regulation change can be 100 percent fully evaluated. Wolves, Grizzlies, as well as Bison are considered a Sacred Animal, as such should be guaranteed the same protections that the Government places upon the Freedom of Religion. Especially when these Sacred Species exit the boundaries of Yellowstone National Park where many Indigenous Sacred places and wildlife currently are protected, then exit park without knowing that they remain protected. Respectfully, Mary Newby

**Final Comment**                      **Newby, Mary**                      **Alpine, AZ**                      4/23/2018 10:09:00 PM

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**27** Wyoming is an awful place for wildlife. Hunting wolves is on 365 days a year across 85% of the state, where wolves are classified as shoot-on-sight vermin. Guns, snares, explosives, trucks, and snowmobiles - almost any form of violence is allowed to kill these animals. These are Barbaric methods of cruelty in killing innocent wildlife. It's the 21st century. Is this what wildlife "management" should look like in our time?" please reconsider changing your methods. thank you in advance

**Final Comment**                      **Gallager, jill**                      **Franklin Lakes, NJ**                      4/24/2018 6:08:00 AM

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**28** There needs to be an archery pre-season in September for wolves. Archers are all ready in the woods at that time and are un-able to harvest while they are out. The chances for an archer to harvest a wolf is very limited and that would at least allow the opportunity. Thanks.

**Final Comment**                      **Capron, Jeff**                      **Cody, WY**                      4/24/2018 9:25:00 AM

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**29** I realize that ranching is big business in Wyoming, but the tourism dollars Wyoming receives from people visiting to see the wildlife outweighs the revenue from ranching. I am against any trophy hunting, especially the Gray Wolf. Ranchers need to make an effort to coexist with the wolves and trophy hunters should not be killing a species that is harmless to humans and trying to re-establish itself in the Rockies.

**Final Comment**                      **higgins, james**                      **littleton, CO**                      4/24/2018 11:15:00 AM

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**30** The gray wolves were wrongfully removed from the endangered species list and need to be protected. The PUBLIC wants to protect our natural resources - not slaughter them. Do not open Gray Wolf hunting season in 2018. You will lose tourism business generated by those of us who want to appreciate native wildlife. And the ecosystem needs apex predators to thrive. Act on the side of native wild life instead of ranchers!

**Final Comment**                      **West, April**                      **Santa Rosa, CA**                      4/24/2018 12:07:00 PM

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**31** I support WGFD in their effort keeping wolf numbers in check with hunting/trapping. I agree ranchers and farmers need to protect their livelihood and shoot problem wolves. Numbers of wolves available to harvest

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

need to be tracked regularly, and satisfy the Fish/Wildlife stipulations, so we don't end up in another lawsuit that can postpone hunting them in Wyoming.

**Final Comment**                      **Johnson, Jason**                      **Cheyenne, WY**                      4/24/2018 12:41:00 PM

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**32** Wolf hunts are not effective for a Wolf Management Strategy. Scientific studies have proven that "Wolf Hunts" actually make Wolf Depredations worse. Effective Wolf Management begins with SCIENCE, and not opinion from Ranchers and Hunters. Wyoming Game and Fish Department is failing when it comes to having a viable Wolf Management Strategy that is ALSO dedicated to their recovery. Stop catering to Hunters and Ranchers and institute a sound Wolf Recovery Program that is beneficial to our eco systems that keep our Wilderness in balance. Having only 277 Wolves in Wyoming is not a sufficient number to even hold a Wolf Hunt, and IF it was ANY other Wild Animal it would still be listed as ENDANGERED, but Wyoming is a FAILURE with protecting their Wildlife or Wilderness.

**Final Comment**                      **Linger, Shari**                      **Clearwater, FL**                      4/24/2018 2:05:00 PM

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**33** Just read you are gonna up the amount of wolves to be hunted cause the wolves have changed, what ??? What is really sad is I have lived here since 2001 and now will tell my family and friends do not spend your money in Wyoming spend it elsewhere. They will not be able to see the Tetons or go on the Snake or eat at Dornan's or go into the parks and spend their money cause Wyoming has no respect or uses science for the wildlife. Sorry to say the money lost is more then in hunting . And I also have looked up how u peeps get your jobs, time may be up , the 7 yrs may be up and hopefully we here in Wyoming get new people that understand science and the wildlife , not just outfitters and ranchers. See cause I saw that at the Jackson meeting for the Griz hunt in April, I saw how u guys went right over to the cowboys and said thank u for coming and talking up a storm ! Never once went over to the other peeps at the meeting. Sorry we need new peeps at G&F.

**Final Comment**                      **Rehill, Dawn**                      **Jackson, WY**                      4/24/2018 8:56:00 PM

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**34** Dear Wyoming Fish and Game, As an avid outdoors man and supporter of wildlife I fully support managing the wolf population. As a hunter, I prefer to have more elk and deer compared to wolves. The reality is that both humans and wolves are vying for the same resource, which is deer and elk. The only way to keep high numbers of deer and elk is to limit the numbers predators take, so that hunters may continue to have quality opportunities to actually see and hunt game. I fully support continuing to limit the growth of the wolf population to minimize their impact on game numbers. Thank you for supporting hunters and keeping deer and elk around for both hunters and others to view and enjoy, even if they do not hunt. Respectfully, Orion Hutchin

**Final Comment**                      **Hutchin, Orion**                      **Kalispell, MT**                      4/25/2018 11:18:00 AM

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**35** NO to proposed trophy wolf hunt increase. NO to all trophy hunting.

**Final Comment**                      **Pearson, Kimberly**                      **Medford, OR**                      4/25/2018 11:37:00 AM

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**36** Just remember what happened to Yellowstone when the wolf was exterminated; the ecosystem was almost destroyed! The Government then had to spend millions of \$ to reintroduce the wolf! The results were so amazing, even National Geographic did a cover story on the reintroduction. Wolves are apex predators that self regulate their numbers. They're a interval part of the ecosystem! I'm apposed to any increases hunting based on special intersst\$\$\$\$

**Final Comment**                      **Silver, Cathy**                      **Park City, UT**                      4/25/2018 1:29:00 PM

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**37** I grew up in Montana and spent a lot of time in Wyoming, not just at Yellowstone. I am in event producer for a living and I have produced many events in Jackson Hole Wyoming. I find that it sickens me that you have Grey Wolf hunts. I was raised in a hunting family and have taken my fair share of elk and deer and some birds. My grandfather always tried to get me to shoot wolves and we would see them but even as a boy I had already begun educating myself about wolves and knew them to be a vital part of an ecosystem. The world has way too many cows and domestic livestock and not near enough predators. It's time to

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

change how you operate. I will not be spending any more dollars in Wyoming, nor will I be promoting any more events in Wyoming. This means I will not go to Yellowstone as well. And I will do whatever I can to legislate against any advancements for Wyoming.

**Final Comment**                      **Balduchi, Patrick**                      **West Linn, OR**                      4/25/2018 2:46:00 PM

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**38** Apex predators should not be hunted. This is just plain wrong. It is time to stop catering to ranchers. Killing breeding pairs is devastating to wolf packs. The ecosystem requires diversity and wolves are part of the much bigger system. The majority of people do not support hunting wolves simply for keeping the numbers so called managed.

**Final Comment**                      **Warren, Mary**                      **Hamilton, MT**                      4/26/2018 5:47:00 AM

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**39** hunting is murder - please stop

**Final Comment**                      **valentine, jennifer**                      **massa pk, NY**                      4/26/2018 1:01:00 PM

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**40** Get rid of the trophy hunts on wolves close to Yellowstone National Park. Park wolves are NOT "fair chase". These trophy hunts of wolves are an anathema to wildlife management. They destroy wolves social organization and make state hunters and state wildlife agencies seem like Neanderthals. It is professionally embarrassing, so stop it! Make a special economic zone adjacent to the park where outfitters are encouraged to take people on adventuresome horse-back or trekking experiences to see wildlife without shooting them and wreaking havoc on animals habituated to millions of park visitors. Show some pride and ethics. Thank you. Dr. Dusti Becker, PhD, Zoology

**Final Comment**                      **Becker, Dusti**                      **Bozeman, MT**                      4/26/2018 1:31:00 PM

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**41** I am writing to ask that you please do not raise the quota for the murder of wolves for the upcoming hunt. These wolves need our protections not killing them. Please consider lowering the quota. Keep our wolves safe. Thank you

**Final Comment**                      **Shipley, Doraine**                      **Jonesborough, TN**                      4/26/2018 1:55:00 PM

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**42** My famoly and I visit Yellowstone and spend hard earned money to make these twice a year trips Stay 2 sometimes 4 wks to see the grey wolves and all the wonderful wildlife there. Do you realise how lycky you are to live in such a place. Each visit we see less wolves as we also tour other atates. My concern is , is how much hinting is going on kolling the wolves of Wyoming and other states. We hvsve aa strong interest for wolves and all wildlife and as a repeat tourist we waant ourr voice to be heard.!! I have friends who I meet over tere too and they are having the same concern. You are pushing the wolves to the edge if extinction again!! Can you not see this!! We will tour elsewhere if you kerp on killing ioff the wolves and I will let it k own world wide what you are doing! Please stop this slaughter now. Each year its more!! Not happy.

**Final Comment**                      **Norman, Denise**                      **Wales,**                      4/26/2018 4:43:00 PM

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**43** I oppose this proposal of increasing the number of endangered wolves to be murdered. This is an outrage. It is far past time to stop taking care of trophy hunters and take care of your wildlife.

**Final Comment**                      **Shabbott, Mary**                      **Punta gorda, FL**                      4/26/2018 5:24:00 PM

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**44** Wolves are a natural part of the eco-system, not vermin. Please be kind and a good caretaker of the planet.

**Final Comment**                      **redfield, kari**                      **sedona, AZ**                      4/26/2018 5:25:00 PM

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**45** first off include the indian affairs in your decision. There seems to be such lack of involvement is going to get this ... By 1900, there were not many wolves left in the western United States. The few remaining animals were still being pursued by wolfers rancher, and herders eager to eradicate the species completely



## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

from existence in America, In 1919, the government joined the antiwolf campaign, passing a law that called for the extermination of wolves on federally owned lands. By 1942, when the law was abolished 25,000 more wolves had been killed by the government plan. anyway NO to raising the limit... but you wont listen to me. Kill them off. waste your wolves. Peace

**Final Comment**                      **harrington, roxy**                      **lacrosse, WI**                      4/27/2018 6:55:00 AM

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**46** I am strongly opposed to any hunting or trapping of wolves. Over and e, whenever there is a conflict between animals and man, the animals are killed. This has led to the extinction of many species. Wolves deserve to be protected.

**Final Comment**                      **Bartlett , Heather**                      **Bonnors Ferry , ID**                      4/27/2018 7:28:00 AM

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**47** Gray Wolves should never be hunted. The Gray Wolves need to be left alone. I am totally against This, stop basing your decisions on what a few ranchers want. Listen to the Majority! November is coming up and things are going to change

**Final Comment**                      **Smith, John**                      **Ten Sleep, WY**                      4/27/2018 11:11:00 AM

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**48** The National Wolfwatcher Coalition is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting positive attitudes about wolves through education. Nationwide, we have over 800,000 followers, representing not only Wyoming residents but thousands of others who contribute to the state's tourism economy, specifically travelling to Wyoming in the hope of catching a glimpse of a wild wolf. The National Wolfwatcher Coalition does not support the quota of 58 wolves within the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area (TGMA). While some will consider this quota "conservative", we believe the increase of 14 wolves is unreasonable for the following reasons: • Wolves can be hunted and trapped any time as a predatory animal in most of the state. • Within the TGMA any wolf in the act of damaging livestock can be killed by the owner or any other person charged by the owner with the care of the livestock or dog. • Aerial gunning of wolves inside the TGMA is allowed to control livestock depredations, to achieve ungulate management objectives if wolves are determined to be a significant cause for not meeting those objectives, or to address human safety issues. • Yellowstone Park interpreters annually talk to anywhere from 30,000 to 50,000 people a year about wolves and in a recent Park survey, the number one animal visitors hope to see is the wolf. When a Park wolf is killed legally or illegally, it creates world-wide outrage and reflects poorly on the state. • We are especially concerned that the quota in Unit 2 was increased to 8. We believe all zones adjacent to our National Parks be closed to wolf hunting, not just the portion in John D. Rockefeller Parkway. At a minimum, the zones should be redrawn as to create large buffer zones, closed to wolf hunting, around our National Parks. • We further recommend that the quota be reduced for every illegally wolf killed during the year within the trophy zone. This would send a strong message that poaching will not be tolerated. • Our National Parks provide an economic benefit to local gateway communities (defined as 60-mile radius around each park boundary). In 2016, the economic output for Yellowstone National Park was \$680 million (Tetons it was \$779 million). • Wildlife viewing is also an important economic driver for Wyoming. An analysis from the University of Wyoming found that in 2016, wildlife viewers spent \$335 million on travel and \$30 million on equipment compared to hunters who spent about \$126 million on travel and \$80 million on equipment. Wyoming already has extremely liberal wolf management regulations. There is no scientific reason to hunt wolves within the TGMA. We do not support the hunting of wolves in wilderness areas. These areas are where wolves are least likely to cause conflicts and places where wolves should be allowed to live and raise families without being hunted The North American Wildlife Conservation Model states that wildlife is held in the public trust to be managed for all and does not support the casual killing of wildlife. Hatred is not a valid reason. Washington State University researchers have found that it is counter-productive to kill wolves to keep them from preying on livestock. Research also suggests that hunting wolves does not increase tolerance or reduce poaching. In one study, it was found that poaching increased, suggesting that liberalizing wolf culling may have sent a negative message about the value of wolves or that poaching prohibitions would not be enforced. Another study showed that hunters of wolves showed little inclination to conserve wolves. We believe Wyoming Fish & Game should do more to educate the public, including hunters, about the positive aspects of wolves. For example, there is strong evidence that wolf predation could markedly decrease prevalence of CWD. Wolves facilitate the recovery of browse-sensitive understory herbs and forest regeneration. Long-term trophic linkages have been identified in the Northern Range of Yellowstone National Park between wolves, elk, and deciduous tree species — aspen and cottonwood. Just because we can kill wolves; doesn't mean we should. Politically based management does little to protect the ecological benefits of wolves and does not increase

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

tolerance. In summary, we ask for buffer zones adjacent to the National Parks, where there is no wolf hunting and greatly reduce the quotas elsewhere within the TGMA. Any wolf killed illegally should be deducted from the quota for that unit, thus sending the message that Wyoming truly cares about wildlife. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

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**Final Comment**                      **Warren, Nancy**                      **Ewen, MI**    4/27/2018 1:54:00 PM

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**49** I am opposed to any wolf hunt in Wyoming. In 2017, there were no pups born that lived in many of the packs in the Yellowstone area. There were wolves hunted in 2017 and with a very low birth rate there shouldn't be "too" many wolves in Wyoming. My family and I come out every year and stay in Gardiner and the town of Jackson for several weeks to see wildlife. We especially want to see wolves and grizzlies. Wolves have a hard enough time making it to adulthood with diseases and wolf-on-wolf fighting to have to watch out for hunters too! If you kill them, it makes one hunter happy, if you let them live out their lives it make thousands of people happy!

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**Final Comment**                      **Peterson, Carrie**                      **Lakeland, FL**    4/27/2018 4:02:00 PM

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**50** Commissioners, Thank you for accepting my comments and taking the time to read them. I would prefer the department open the wolf season September 1 in every area rather than October 1. We should open the season at same time all hunters are in the field so everybody has hunting opportunity. Last year in the Greys area an archery elk hunter killed a wolf during the september bow season. The wolf came into a calf call. This is a predator area so he could lawfully hunt the wolf in September. Please reconsider your opening date and move it to September 1 in all areas. I support your proposed quotas. Respectfully submitted. Sy Gilliland

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**Final Comment**                      **Gilliland, Sy**                      **Casper, WY**    4/28/2018 9:34:00 AM

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**51** Although I don't live in Wyoming, I care for all wildlife around the world. Why must we essentially eradicate all of this countries natural predators? They have such little space to call their own and less and less everyday as the population rises! Why not educate people and help ranchers keep their livestock safe instead of wiping out animal populations?

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**Final Comment**                      **Morehouse, Michelle**                      **Pasadena, TX**    4/28/2018 10:53:00 AM

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**52** I do not understand why your department does not see the natural solution to the chronic wasting disease in ungulates in your state. Instead of killing wolves, you should be letting them do their job and culling the sick ungulates from the herds. That will stop the spread of chronic wasting disease and leave the rest of the herds healthy for hunting and for enjoyment to watch. Killing wolves will only increase the spread of chronic wasting disease because you are not allowing them to live to do their job, which is to keep the herds healthy

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**Final Comment**                      **Helwig, Susan**                      **Aurora, IL**    4/28/2018 5:20:00 PM

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**53** Please stop the hunt on wolves. These animals are an important part of the ecosystem. They keep herds on check. Help to keep the planet healthy by. Aiding herds to move. This stops over grazing. Predators ate important to the cycle of life. Please protect the Grey Wolf

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**Final Comment**                      **Waybrant, Lorene**                      **Westland, MI**    4/28/2018 8:17:00 PM

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**54** Please do not move forward with a mandate to kill more wolves. Your decisions need to be based on science, and compassion - wolves are necessary members of the ecosystem, they do not deserve to be hunted to extinction. Thank you.

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**Final Comment**                      **Fitch, Lynn**                      **Portland, OR**    4/28/2018 8:39:00 PM

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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**55** Why do you people have to kill everything around? These are beautiful animals that don't deserve to die. Another thing is you're are ruining the eco-system. Then you'll have to learn to deal with all the critters that the Wolves keep in check. Enjoy your new life!!!! Grrrr ;-(!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Final Comment**                      **Daniel, Marie**                      **Wonder Lake, IL**                      4/28/2018 9:43:00 PM

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**56** Wolves are essentiak to the environment, our eco-system would be out of balance without them. It is ethically wrong and immoral to kill them , especially only because greedy hunters want the wolves natural prey for their own killing, so they want to eliminate wolves so there are more prey for them. It is despicable. Wolves have a right to live and thrive in peace . They have a strong family bond and are beautiful beings, capable of every emotion that we have, even love. Please do not support the hunting of them, please protect them.

**Final Comment**                      **Smith, Rhonda**                      **Holly Hill, FL**                      4/28/2018 10:34:00 PM

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**57** Allow the hunt. If they are out of the National park they should be fair game and if attacking livestock or humans extermination is the correct action.

**Final Comment**                      **Pieper, Jim**                      **Casper, WY**                      4/29/2018 8:05:00 AM

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**58** I live close to Wyoming & enjoying spending time in the state, particularly Yellowstone. However, with the permitting to shoot Grey Wolves, I have a strong disagreement with. Predators are crucial to ecosystems & open hunting on them is, let's face it, for people who need to kill something to make themselves feel more powerful. I will not bring my money to Wyoming as long as this hunt is ongoing.

**Final Comment**                      **Malpas, Janae**                      **Livermore , CO**                      4/29/2018 8:40:00 AM

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**59** Its about time we applied logic to this issue and added the hunting of wolves as a control. Its time we stopped using emotional arguments and integrate wolves into a comprehensive wildlife management program for the health of our ungulate species and for public safety. "Managing wolves" ...a lot more difficult than the F&G initially thought..... politically and in actual practice. The reintro of these apex predator has created some very serious unintended consequences for the F&G. "Managing wolves" it can literally break your budget. The original settlers understood the difficulty living with wolves...but of course arrogant wildlife theorists think they know better....well how is that working out for you?

**Final Comment**                      **Lance, Bruce**                      **Alamo, CA**                      4/29/2018 10:31:00 AM

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**60** I disapprove of hunting wolves.

**Final Comment**                      **Caldwell, Camille**                      **Lutz, FL**                      4/29/2018 10:47:00 AM

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**61** I know this is the comments for hunting wolf's, but I can't find the one about hunting grizzly bear, so I hope some one will pass this on to someone taking those comments.---- I'm 74 years old, started hunting when I was about 10 with a Paul Bunnan fiberglass bow, for rabbits, got a shotgun when I was 13. and started hunting pheasants. I was living in Illinois till 1976 when I moved to Wyoming, and have been here ever since, hunting as much as I could until the last few years. I am definitely not against hunting, BUT I am against hunting Grizzly. I don't think their population is high enough yet to allow even limited hunting. I think it's been about 42 years (?) since hunting them has been stopped. and I'm just against killing them in order to have "bragging rights" and a rug made from this magnificent creature. Thank You, Mike DeLuca

**Final Comment**                      **DeLuca, Michael**                      **Casper, WY**                      4/29/2018 4:00:00 PM

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**62** Stop this wreckless killing of Wyoming's wolves it appears you are trying to eradicate wolves for ranchers and giving hunters more opportunity to help in the eradication! Your wreckless unjust proposal released Friday increases the limit in the state's managed hunt area to 58 animals, a 32 percent increase over last year's quota of 44 it is wreckless and cutting wolf numbers to 160 these wolves will not be able to survive Wolves are NOT VERMIN and Im ashamed and highly disgusted that you cannot live with your wildlife I will not step one foot in your state until you start treating your wildlife as they should be! I will Boycott your state

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

and any products from your State! Wolves should not be hunted at this time to many have already been killed!

**Final Comment**                      **Burris , Connie**                      **Springfield , IL**                      4/29/2018 4:40:00 PM

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**63** I am dismayed at Wyoming's trophy hunting of wolves. The best available science illustrates the sociality and sentience of wolves as well as their contributions to a resilient and healthy ecosystem. Your treatment fo wolves is unconscionable and when people are aware of trophy hunting and slaughtering wolves, they are appalled.

**Final Comment**                      **Kane, Louise**                      **Eastham, MA**                      4/29/2018 5:04:00 PM

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**64** Hunting for any purpose other than providing sustenance for survival is repulsive to the majority. Therefore, your premise of promoting trophy hunting of wolves is vile and disgusting. Promoting the hunting of wolves in the drainages that exit from Yellowstone National Park is insulting to those of us who are familiar with and fond of those individual animals. Evidently you've forgotten the uproar when Yellowstone wolves have been slaughtered by Wyoming hunters and trappers, or perhaps you welcome the notoriety and the public backlash. Thank you for one thing, though. Your expansion of wolf hunting reassures me that I've made the right choices in the past of avoiding enriching any Wyoming businesses with my tourist dollars. Thank you for making the decision easy for me going forward.

**Final Comment**                      **Williams, Pamela**                      **Boise, FL**                      4/29/2018 5:06:00 PM

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**65** Stop killing wolves, we CANNOT SURVIVE without them. Why do humans thrive killing animals that aren't hurting them.

**Final Comment**                      **Glennie, Peggy**                      **Mulvane , KS**                      4/29/2018 8:18:00 PM

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**66** I am writing express my strong opposition to the planned wolf hunt in Wyoming. I urge you to consider the following: - The economic impact of those who visit the Greater Yellowstone Area to view this iconic species. - The tremendous positive impact Gray Wolves have had on the Greater Yellowstone ecosystem. - The overwhelming public opinion in opposition to the trophy hunting of this species - The best available science which calls into serious question the sustainability of the species in light of the planned hunt. I know that personally any plans I have to visit Wyoming hinge on continuing existence and viability of iconic species such as the Gray Wolf, the Grizzly Bear, and the American Bison. Please do everything in your power to preserve these national treasures now and for future generations. Thank you for your consideration.

**Final Comment**                      **Kallenbach, Kevin**                      **Milwaukee, WI**                      4/30/2018 2:22:00 AM

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**67** The cost of this hunt far out weighed the benefits. I vacationed and spent dollars in the staye until the first wolf fell from this hunt that is really a dirty slaughter. We have all seen the photographs and heard the stories of this horror show. Stop this insanity.

**Final Comment**                      **Keeney, Denise**                      **Coon Rapids, MN**                      4/30/2018 3:51:00 AM

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**68** Stop predator hunting. It's absolutely wrong and an abomination. Predators keep the populations of things like deer down, which you complain about, and wolves literally shape ecosystems. Leave them alone. Is it not enough you people have hunted them to near extictniion.

**Final Comment**                      **Logan , Shane**                      **Quincy, MA**                      4/30/2018 6:11:00 AM

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**69** The fact that this is even a consideration is disgraceful. The majority of Americans do not want people to be allowed to shoot and kill innocent, beautiful wolves, which keep the ecosystem healthy and in check. Do the right thing.

**Final Comment**                      **Jacobs, Pamela**                      **Charleston , SC**                      4/30/2018 7:01:00 AM

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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**70** I feel like the Wyoming Game and Fish Department needs to listen to Biologists and Wildlife specialists over special interest groups - ie trophy hunters. Trophy Hunters are a small radical group that only enjoy killing and put the balance of wildlife at risk. Please look at what the majority of citizens and taxpayers want - no hunting or trapping of animals on the brink such as wolves and grizzly bears - not this very small group of psycho killers!!!

**Final Comment**                      **Bolyard, Molly**                      **Gunnison, CO**                      4/30/2018 7:06:00 AM

**71** under the public trust law, those animals belong to all of us, all 326 million of us since they cross state lines. it is time that the ugly, violent, capitulation to the nra to keep killing innocent animals, who are only trying to stay alive, be stopped. the actions of this division of this state are violent, depraved, ugly and make people into nothing but human scum murdering animals. it is time to have a compassionate respectful attitude toward all animals. they are part of the ecological scheme and not just there to be targets for depraved insane human scum with rifles and shotguns. this comment is for the public record. please receipt.

**Final Comment**                      **publeee, jean**                      **fleminton, NJ**                      4/30/2018 7:13:00 AM

**72** IT is sad that just because these animals exist, they have to be a "sport". We need to keep all our predators to balance nature as it is intended. Fred and Suze Peace

**Final Comment**                      **Peace, Suze and Fred**                      **DeLand, FL**                      4/30/2018 7:20:00 AM

**73** Please stop this hunting of wolves. I remember traveling to Wyoming as a child, and it was my favorite state. I cannot support Your state if hunting wolves and grizzlies are policies

**Final Comment**                      **Corvington, Madeline**                      **Massillon, OH**                      4/30/2018 7:29:00 AM

**74** Please do not do this. We have took so much of the land they lived on . They have a right to be here.

**Final Comment**                      **MAYFIELD, DEBRA**                      **Hartselle, AL**                      4/30/2018 7:34:00 AM

**75** No need for hunting. Period. Leave nature to nature!

**Final Comment**                      **Worth, Marti**                      **New Albany, OH**                      4/30/2018 7:36:00 AM

**76** I strongly urge you to reconsider the proposed hunt of grey wolves. These beautiful wild animals deserve our protection, not to be slaughtered for "sport".

**Final Comment**                      **Liuzzo, Joann**                      **Union, NJ**                      4/30/2018 7:37:00 AM

**77** End this awful practice. Please protect the wolves there is little evidence of attacks on framers or people. DO THE RIGHT THING!!

**Final Comment**                      **graham, lee**                      **madison heights, MI**                      4/30/2018 7:43:00 AM

**78** The wolf is such a majestic creature. Killing them would be a terrible thing for our environment & for future generations to enjoy & learn about. Wolves are like people (in a way)...they have their "pack", we have our "family"...they raise their young as a "pack", we raise our young as a "family". Wolves are carnivores, people are carnivores. The wolf doesn't go out and "kill for the thrill" like people do. I am an avid wolf lover and truly believe that these creatures need to be protected, not murdered.

**Final Comment**                      **Kimmel, Toni**                      **Franklin, OH**                      4/30/2018 7:48:00 AM

**79** Stop the slaughter! We're the only species on the planet that kills for the sake of killing. For what? To put a head on your wall? A skin? These creatures have the right to live too!

**Final Comment**                      **Iuro, Margaret**                      **Port Townsend, WA**                      4/30/2018 7:54:00 AM

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**80** Please do not hunt these wolves they should be protected as an essential part of your tourism why not market your diverse as a sightseeing opportunity and a sanctuary to demonstrate that Wyoming values its wildlife to ensure animal welfare blood sport is archaic and barbaric and there is evidence that cruelty to animals can be repeated towards people .

**Final Comment**                      **rawlinson, andy**                      **southport,**                      4/30/2018 8:00:00 AM

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**81** I am against hunting or killing of wolves in any manner. I see them as a necessary, rightful part of our environment and the ecological system and balance. Thank you. Patrick Murphy

**Final Comment**                      **Murphy, Patrick**                      **Mosca, CO**                      4/30/2018 8:12:00 AM

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**82** Unless there is a fire need for population control or for intimately helping the wildlife surrounding and near the grey wolves habitats, there is no need to hunt them. Refrain from killing animals unless it is absolutely necessary to balance the scales in their homelands.

**Final Comment**                      **Savage, Liz**                      **Weymouth, MA**                      4/30/2018 8:13:00 AM

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**83** I feel there should be no Gray wolf hunting seasons.

**Final Comment**                      **Cardon, Lisa**                      **Bridgewater, NJ**                      4/30/2018 8:15:00 AM

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**84** Please stop all these trophy hunts on gray wolves or grizzly bears. They are still close to extinction. Hunting for food is one thing, hunting for trophies until complete extinctions does not make any sense. And you definitely will lose tourism. So it does not make any sense economically either. This is a lose lose proposition for a few gainers in the short term.

**Final Comment**                      **delvoie, christian**                      **mclean, VA**                      4/30/2018 8:17:00 AM

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**85** As a wildlife biologist I condemn you for even considering the grey wolf hunt. There are just and unjust regulations and laws, and we the American people get to choose based on our moral compass what those laws are. It is hard for a decent human being tonunderstand why anyone would be so eager to kill a animal especially a wolf animal. Conservation? No. As a biologist I can vouch that this is not how conservation is preserved. This is how the interests of hunters are preserved. And most of us aren't hunters. Every day you are faced with choices that shape the lives of others. Don't make yours make you go down in history as the definition of an immoral being.

**Final Comment**                      **Melnichuk , Oliya**                      **Wesley chapel , FL**                      4/30/2018 8:19:00 AM

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**86** My family has planned a trip to Wyoming just to be able to witness wolves in their natural habitat. The thought of them being hunted & killed is enough to make us change our travel plans. We think apex predators should be left alone in the wilderness.

**Final Comment**                      **Marten, Beth**                      **Pompano Beach, FI, FL**                      4/30/2018 8:35:00 AM

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**87** I just have to wonder who comes up with these laws allowing animals to be hunted and killed, especially during hibernation/or when there are young puppies or cubs involved. If you were going to hunt you should hunt for food – not for a slaughter. Such a shame... A real shame.

**Final Comment**                      **Buskill, Nona**                      **Opelika, AL**                      4/30/2018 8:49:00 AM

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**88** Please do not allow the slaughter of these beautiful animals struggling to survive in a hostile environment. We travel to your beautiful state yearly to view your wildlife and we will not return if you allow through with this mean atrocious act. Be aware of the monies LIVE wildlife brings to your state. Thank You

**Final Comment**                      **roy, kathleen**                      **fort lauderdale, FL**                      4/30/2018 8:51:00 AM

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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**89** Please no more hunting of the Gray Wolf. You are killing them off to extinction and that is so wrong. They deserve to live and can cohabit alongside humans if we just all try. Thank you so much .

**Final Comment**                      **Flanegan, Suzanne**                      **Bishop's Stortford,**                      4/30/2018 8:51:00 AM

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**90** NO to a Grey Wolf hunting season! This is sick and inhumane. No one ever gave "people" the right to hurt, maim or murder these beautiful Animals!

**Final Comment**                      **Fenske, Tammy**                      **Regina, Sa**                      4/30/2018 8:54:00 AM

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**91** NO no no to the wolf hunt. The entire ecology has become balanced with their introduction. We will NOT vacation this summer in the state of Wyoming if this hunt continues.

**Final Comment**                      **oschmann, chris**                      **carlsbad, CA**                      4/30/2018 8:55:00 AM

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**92** I am against this hunting act to exterminate gray wolves. I live in the Northwest. You know the value of wolves. Why would you exterminate wolves who are the coyotes only natural predator? Coyotes are killing cattle, not wolves. Why are you exterminating wolves that control and strengthen the elk and deer population, and keep rivers flowing by controlling the beaver population? In Wa State , beavers were the cause of a stream overflowing and flooding a major freeway. Wolves are part of Wyoming and the West in general. Your job is to oversee our forests and it's management, not to be taking money from the cattle industry.

**Final Comment**                      **Hiser , Linda**                      **Fox Island , WA**                      4/30/2018 8:57:00 AM

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**93** Stop hunting gray wolfs.

**Final Comment**                      **Vanhove, Gerrit**                      **Diepenbeek,**                      4/30/2018 8:58:00 AM

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**94** Please don't allow wolf hunts!

**Final Comment**                      **Jovanovich, Amanda**                      **Erie, PA**                      4/30/2018 9:14:00 AM

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**95** Please do not allow any hunting of Gray Wolves. The ecosystem was originally established by God to work together in a synergistic, beautiful and harmonious way to maintain balance. This ecosystem includes all living species on the planet. If we keep killing certain species it shows our ignorance to the grand design and continues to throw off the balance. Please be humane and keep our world the way it was designed. More and more coyotes will continue to thrive without the wolf. Also, weak ones from other species, such as deer, will not be culled by the wolves as intended. Their populations will surge and they suffer from starvation,..... as an examples. The wolf is critical to our ecosystem and such beautiful creatures. Please take my comments into consideration. Kindly, Cheryl A. Boyce

**Final Comment**                      **Boyce, Cheryl**                      **Dallas, TX**                      4/30/2018 9:18:00 AM

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**96** Dear Sir, Please do not start hunting the gray wolves. They are integral the the environment. It would help the situation if instead of hunting the wolves, you kept cattle off of public lands. I stand for the wolves!!!

**Final Comment**                      **DeCarlo, Kandi**                      **Riverside, AL**                      4/30/2018 9:26:00 AM

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**97** Stop the killing. Have some humanity if any is left after this administration. Try some humility and compassion for those unlike you.

**Final Comment**                      **Lang, Abigail**                      **Ridgway, CO**                      4/30/2018 9:33:00 AM

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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**98** Rather than hunting these animals to the brink of extinction, I would like to suggest that more humane containment be done - fencing or chemical deterrent. They don't do as much damage as ranchers claim they do. I would think meth heads are the greater danger to WY.

**Final Comment**                      **Turman, Donna**                      **Dallas, TX**                      4/30/2018 9:35:00 AM

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**99** I am asking as one person to another, please do not do this.

**Final Comment**                      **Baccus , Tonya**                      **Hyattsville, MD**                      4/30/2018 10:17:00 AM

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**100** Oppose Gray Wolf hunting

**Final Comment**                      **Noguerol, Ramiro**                      **Haiku, HI**                      4/30/2018 10:19:00 AM

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**101** There should be a stop to the hunting of gray wolves. Indiscriminate hunting has already decimated the population and the state has taken no action to protect their numbers. They are unfortunately seen as pests that kill livestock and threaten species that are hunted like deer. They are non lethal methods available in helping to protect livestock. The idea that wolves decimate deer and elk is ludicrous. Humans, disease and climate change do that. Wolves areNOT trophy animals. They are integral to a healthy and balanced ecosystem. There is no reason for any further slaughter.

**Final Comment**                      **Moissant, Helena**                      **Central Point, OR**                      4/30/2018 10:27:00 AM

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**102** I am writing to oppose the unrestricted hunting of gray wolves in Wyoming. I would like to visit as a tourist to see live wildlife. Gray wolves are vital to any healthy ecosystem and should not be decimated for the sick pleasure of trophy hunters, or for the profit of greedy ranchers using public land as if it is their private property. Please end unrestricted wolf hunting immediately- it is cruel, unethical and ultimately hurts your bottom line in terms of tourist dollars.

**Final Comment**                      **Long, Laura**                      **Chicago, IL**                      4/30/2018 10:49:00 AM

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**103** I am incensed that in this day and age you will still allow the senseless killing of wolves. It has been proven that wolves only hunt to eat and that their reintroduction into Yellowstone has rebalanced the ecosystem. I hope in my lifetime I am privileged to see wolves alive in the wild where they belong. Please reconsider open season on wolves!

**Final Comment**                      **Waltman, Shelley**                      **Santa Rosa, CA**                      4/30/2018 10:50:00 AM

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**104** Why are you such a bloodthirsty state? Don't you realize how important wolves and grizzlies are to a healthy ecosystem? Do not allow special interest and trophy hunting groups dictate policy for their own self-gratification. Absolutely disgusting.

**Final Comment**                      **Boros, Barbara**                      **Santa Barbara, CA**                      4/30/2018 11:03:00 AM

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**105** Having humans play a part in the predator-prey population is not healthy for the ecosystem. Without humans, these relationships would be balanced and no longer in need of killing these wolves. Leave the Wolves to live in their natural habitat and act as both predator and prey in the circumstances that come across. Do not have humans interfere with this process.

**Final Comment**                      **Lemke, Hannah**                      **Sarasota, FL**                      4/30/2018 11:03:00 AM

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**106** There is no reason beyond sucking up the agricultural lobby for hunting wolves. If you remove the alpha male and or female the pack falls apart. It should be obvious from the results of reintroduction of the wolf in Yellowstone that the presence of an apex predator is to be desired for control of the ungulates in the area... and that would extend to domestic cattle and sheep as well.

**Final Comment**                      **Long, Patricia**                      **Shelton, WA**                      4/30/2018 11:16:00 AM

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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**107** Please stop hunting these beautiful wolves!

**Final Comment**                      **R, H**                                      **Highland, CA**                                      4/30/2018 11:26:00 AM

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**108** STOP! Savages!

**Final Comment**                      **pascus, natalie**                                      **Parksville, Br**                                      4/30/2018 12:10:00 PM

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**109** Cancel the season. Let the wolf population expand and grow.

**Final Comment**                      **Emami, Rita**                                      **Corte Madera, CA**                                      4/30/2018 12:15:00 PM

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**110** Close all wolf hunting! Let them be part of the health ecosystem, that is a benefit to all of us. Thank you

**Final Comment**                      **Edson, Charlene**                                      **Jackson, WY**                                      4/30/2018 12:29:00 PM

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**111** stop changing the natural eco diversity by killing these beautiful animals.

**Final Comment**                      **vez, j**                                      **ottawa, On**                                      4/30/2018 12:38:00 PM

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**112** Wolves need to be protected not hunted. Ranchers need to protect their livestock themselves not rely on the government to allow them to kill predators at will. I am on the side of the wild animals not wealthy landholders.

**Final Comment**                      **Jasper, Jan**                                      **Duvall, WA**                                      4/30/2018 12:48:00 PM

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**113** It is outrageous that government agency allows hunting of animals! You have an obligation to protect the animals, not allow hunting! Please ban the hunt altogether!

**Final Comment**                      **Megre, Nina**                                      **Torrance, CA**                                      4/30/2018 12:56:00 PM

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**114** Stop killing gray wolfs!!!

**Final Comment**                      **Riccardi, Stacey**                                      **Harrison, NY**                                      4/30/2018 1:21:00 PM

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**115** WE ARE WRITING TO OPPOSE ANY PLAN TO ALLOW THE HUNTING OF OUR NATIVE ICONIC GRAY WOLVES. THESE MAGNIFICENT ANIMALS HAVE BEEN PERSECUTED TO THE EXTENT OF ALMOST BEING DECIMATED. BIOLOGISTS AND CONSERVATIONISTS HAVE BEEN WORKING VERY HARD FOR DECADES NOW TRYING TO LET THIS SPECIES RECOVER FROM SUCH UNNECESSARY AND INEXCUSABLE MASSACRES OF THEM. WOLVES ARE BEAUTIFUL ANIMALS THAT NEED OUR PROTECTING. THE HOWL OF THE WOLF IS MYSTERIOUS AND WONDERFUL AND AWE-INSPIRING. THEY ARE NECESSARY PREDATORS THAT ARE VITALLY IMPORTANT TO OUR ENVIRONMENTS AND OUR ECO-SYSTEMS. THEY HAVE RESTORED THE BALANCE OF NATURE WHEN THEY WRE RE-INTRODUCED INTO YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, AND IT HAS BEEN PROVEN. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THE UNNECESSARY AND UNACCEPTABLE KILLING OF OUR WOLVES. THEY WANT AND DESERVE TO LIVE AND THRIVE TOO - JUST LIKE WE DO.

**Final Comment**                      **Guarnieri, Tony and Cindy**                                      **Stamford, CT**                                      4/30/2018 1:39:00 PM

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**116** It is time that you all learn our ecosystem and stop killing our animals! You are destroying our Country and these animals are more intelligent than many humans and definitely have their place in our world....otherwise they would not be here. Go back to school and learn about the ecosystem and why each individual animal is important!

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

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**Final Comment**                      **Mix, Leslie**                      **Kirkland, WA**                      4/30/2018 1:42:00 PM

**117** Please let these wolves live in peace and harmony. Don't hurt them in any way...protect them always and let them live! Thank you. Barbara Adkins

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**Final Comment**                      **Adkins, Barbara**                      **Philadlphia, PA**                      4/30/2018 2:26:00 PM

**118** The presence of Wolf packs has an extremely positive effect on the environment around them. God knew what He was doing when he put them there. Humans are not smarter than God.

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**Final Comment**                      **Hazen, Pamela**                      **Cardiff by the Sea, CA**                      4/30/2018 2:43:00 PM

**119** I question the wisdom of having a grizzly bear hunt so soon after the (possibly premature, given the anti-science bent of the current presidential administration) delisting of this animal from the Endangered Species List. If a hunt is to be permitted, it must be very carefully regulated and controlled. Also, any proceeds obtained from such a hunt MUST go to the preservation and maintenance of State and National Parks. Thank you for taking my view on this important matter into account.

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**Final Comment**                      **Ricci, Elaine**                      **Lawrenceville, GA**                      4/30/2018 2:59:00 PM

**120** Hunting gray wolves appeals only to a select few individuals in this beautiful state and is opposed by the majority. Hunting even 1 or 2 wolves destroys the entire pack dynamics which further has effects on the prey species and landscape and disrupting the natural balance. Wyoming is such a beautiful state and tourists visit from all over to view our wildlife. This hunt would dramatically taint our state's reputation. I will not ever vote for any state representatives that allow this to take place and I there are many many others that feel the same way (the majority opposes this hunt! It's just that the trophy hunters in the minority are much more vocal)

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**Final Comment**                      **Kay, Marsha**                      **Shoshoni, WY**                      4/30/2018 3:24:00 PM

**121** After exterminating wolves in the early 20th century, it would seem that humans are intent on repeating the extermination. By opening a hunting season on them, most will be be shot whether it is legal or not just because they are wolves. They hold a major part in keeping an ecosystem healthy as witnessed with their reintroduction into Yellowstone National Park. Wolves have been blamed for taking down livestock and game animals when that may not be the case. There are many other predators in the wild which attack livestock and game animals. Hunters want wolves out of the competition for trophy animals when wolves do not care about trophies. Wolves will manage the herds by taking the old, crippled or sick animals. Hunters on the other hand are mainly after trophy game animals. Please don't repeat the past just because of the historical prejudice against wolves. Humans, in this day and age, should be able to process the benefits of having wolves in the environment . Don't allow their extermination AGAIN!

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**Final Comment**                      **Gardner, Pamela**                      **Fort Collins, CO**                      4/30/2018 3:49:00 PM

**122** I believe raising the limit to 58 wolves is too high. If the end goal is to preserve ungulate populations, I don't think this is the solution. We still have record numbers of Elk especially in the Jackson region and I don't see that the wolves have hurt numbers much. Sure they have made the animals move around more but this only helps the habitat and with threats like CWD on the horizon, we will have to rethink how we manage elk and the feed ground issue altogether, wolves might be a valuable resource. Our wildlife is the envy of much of the rest of the US and world we need to manage this for all users not just hunters.

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**Final Comment**                      **Faris, Will**                      **Pinedale , WY**                      4/30/2018 4:40:00 PM

**123** Wolves are sentient beings and deserve to live out their full natural lives in their natural wild habitats without risking being shot, slaughtered, or massacred by hunters, trophy hunters, or the government. If the wolves migrate, unknowingly, outside the boundaries of the National Parks where the wolves and other animals are supposed to be protected. Also, wolf cubs orphaned by the illegal trophy hunting of wolves and grizzly bears, should be rescued, rehabilitated, and returned to the wild if possible, or

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

relocated to an accredited sanctuary (i.e. The Wolf Conservation Center) Live and Let Live applies to wolves, grizzly bears and all living creatures.

**Final Comment**                      **Brent, Debbie**                      **Columbia, MD**                      4/30/2018 4:47:00 PM

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**124**    Opposed

**Final Comment**                      **Scofield, Mark**                      **Colorado Springs, CO**                      4/30/2018 5:56:00 PM

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**125**    Stop the wolf & grizzly bear hunts. These animals are NOT trophies!

**Final Comment**                      **Idema, John**                      **Idaho Falls, ID**                      4/30/2018 6:13:00 PM

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**126**    The wolf was hunted almost to extinction. We should not allow that to happen again. Wolves keep the wildlife population healthy by culling the weak and sick. Please stop killing wolves and damaging the natural environment.

**Final Comment**                      **Goldfinger, Jerilynn**                      **Saint James, NY**                      4/30/2018 6:42:00 PM

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**127**    I do not approve of the killing of these animals.

**Final Comment**                      **Yadanza, Maria**                      **Punta Gorda , FL**                      4/30/2018 7:04:00 PM

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**128**    Based on the researchers findings of the improvements within the Greater Yellowstone's ecosystem with the return of wolves, I am against the killing/hunting of this wonderful natural resource. Their ability to roam is natural and if no harming of livestock is occurring, no hunting should be allowed in or outside of the park.

**Final Comment**                      **Hatlestad, Doug**                      **Lakewood, CO**                      4/30/2018 7:20:00 PM

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**129**    I support the regulations as proposed, but the mortality limits seem too conservative given how high the current wolf numbers are in Wyoming outside Yellowstone and the WRIR.

**Final Comment**                      **Crooks, Robert**                      **Cody, WY**                      4/30/2018 7:21:00 PM

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**130**    I am asking for hunting of wolves to be stopped. I am also asking you to refrain from increasing the number of wolves allowed to be legally hunted.

**Final Comment**                      **Martin , Joanna**                      **Mission viejo , CA**                      4/30/2018 8:10:00 PM

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**131**    I visited Yellowstone 2 years ago. I did not have an opportunity to see the wolves. I oppose the hunting of wolves. I plan to go back to Yellowstone specifically to see wolves and grizzly bears. If the wolves and grizzlies of Yellowstone and the greater Yellowstone area are not protected from all forms of hunting, including poisoning, there will be no point in going back to Yellowstone. Protecting wolves and grizzlies means sustainable tourism. Protecting them is good for the economy.

**Final Comment**                      **MacKnight, Natalie**                      **Bolton, MA**                      4/30/2018 9:01:00 PM

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**132**    Trophy hunting of Grey Wolves (and Bears and all other charismatic mega fauna) should be banned at all times in Wyoming and all US States. The goal of WGFD should be to build healthy self-regulating intact and complete ecosystems alongside ranching and other human land uses, regardless of the lazy, ignorant, greedy or outright abusive ecosystem-depleting practices that tempt many for-profit ranching and mineral extraction operations. It's time government stands for the land, nature and all the people (not just a small group of special interests). In the long run, Wyoming can derive vast untapped revenue that far exceeds ranching and mineral revenue, by becoming and promoting itself as an exemplar of smart ecological restoration and majestic natural beauty.

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**Final Comment**                      **Bove, Stephen**                      **Mill Valley, CA**                      4/30/2018 9:33:00 PM

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**133** Wolves SHOULD NOT BE HUNTED!!

**Final Comment**                      **Schlabach , Marie**                      **Holladay, TN**                      5/1/2018 12:07:00 AM

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**134** Hunting should be completely banned there us no need for this barbaric practice Leave wildlife alone

**Final Comment**                      **Dougall, Denise**                      **Falkirk,**                      5/1/2018 12:49:00 AM

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**135** We must do away with the murdering of our animals & find a better way to share this planet as the animals have the same right as we do to be here. For those who choose to be the murderers just remember one thing called the universal law of Karma, which means you get back what you put out. You never know when it will show up or how nasty it can be.

**Final Comment**                      **Desrochers, Denise**                      **Hamilton, On**                      5/1/2018 5:24:00 AM

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**136** ALL HUNTING SHOULD BE BANNED, WOLVES, BEARS, DEER, FOXES, BIRDS EVERYTHING, THIS SHOULD STOP NOW!!!!!!!

**Final Comment**                      **snell, linda**                      **redruth,**                      5/1/2018 6:04:00 AM

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**137** Stop killing!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Final Comment**                      **Oliver, Abbie**                      **LaFollette , TN**                      5/1/2018 7:15:00 AM

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**138** Dear Wyoming Game and Fish Department, There are other ways to deflect wolves from eating your herds. Shaun Ellis has some remarkable findings that will take care of this issue without you resorting to your baser instincts. Also, The Wolf Education and Research Center in Idaho would be very glad to help you in this. I look forward to hearing that slaughter is no longer considered a sustainable management style in your state. Sincerest Regards,

**Final Comment**                      **ganMoryn, Croitiene**                      **Ocala, FL**                      5/1/2018 7:20:00 PM

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**139** Dear Wyoming Game and Fish Department. There are better ways to handle your "wolf problem" than slaughter. Shaun Ellis has made some remarkable findings that would help keep the rancher lobby happy without you resorting to your baser instincts. Also, The Wolf Education and Research Center in Idaho would be very happy to lend some guidance if you would allow. I'm looking forward to hearing the good news that your state has determined that slaughter is not a sustainable wildlife management style. Sincerest Regards,

**Final Comment**                      **ganMoryn, Croitiene**                      **Ocala, FL**                      5/1/2018 7:28:00 PM

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**140** Hi, I am saddened by the gray wolf hunt near the Yellowstone National Park. These are beautiful animals and we go to Yellowstone every year in October to watch them in the park. They do not know the park boundaries and inevitably wander outside the park only to be hunted and shot. I believe they play a vital role in the park and nearby area by keeping a balance in the circle of life and ecosystem. They keep the wild herds strong by taking the weak and old. I realize the ranchers lose some stock but that is just a cost of doing business near our wild lands and forests. I do not think a hunt of the wolves and grizzlies is a good idea. We love these wild and beautiful creatures! Thank-you. Sincerely, Sandra McLaughlin

**Final Comment**                      **McLaughlin, Sandra**                      **Colorado Springs, CO**                      5/1/2018 7:47:00 PM

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**141** Enough killing predators. If you want to help your beloved rancher friends so much, get them CASH when a cow, goat, horse is eaten by a wolf. We need predators. Hunting them for CASH is an unsustainable way for US FWS to operate....Wyoming has so much cash, especially in Jackson. Do a bake sale....figure

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

out another way to create funds other than through hunting endangered and vital predators. Wolves play a very important role in the ecosystems in which they live. ... The presence of wolves influences the population and behavior of their prey, changing the browsing and foraging patterns of prey animals and how they move about the land.

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**Final Comment**                      **stuart, phyllis**                      **Jackson, WY**                      5/2/2018 9:25:00 PM

**142** Gentlemen, I would like to go on record that the wolf allotment for the Wind River area is proposed to lowered from 6 to 3 is too low. I realize another area (Whiskey Mountain) has been added but most of that is access limited. Six wolves is only one litter from ONE female wolf. According to the numbers (347 total) we are not putting a dent in an already over populated species. Wasn't the agreement for about a third less wolves? Meanwhile, the elk, moose and deer populations are litterly paying for your inaction with their very lives. Lets quit the foot dragging and actually issue some quota numbers to lower the wolf numbers while we still have a VERY few elk and deer to hunt! Sincerely, Ron Collins

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**Final Comment**                      **Collins, Ron**                      **Riverton, WY**                      5/3/2018 10:58:00 AM

**143** Stop killing the wolves!

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**Final Comment**                      **Rosson, Linda**                      **Mimbres, NM**                      5/3/2018 12:53:00 PM

**144** No, no, no, no, No. I respectfully urge you to stop this misguided action immediately. I will never support the so-called hunting of wolves because Wyoming does not base its management decisions on science. I will never support killing the alpha male or females as science has shown that this is where livestock predation occurs because the babies have not been taught to hunt the right prey. I am a tax-paying, wealthy citizen and wolves are part of the ecosystem that I pay for with my taxes. I fully support non-lethal methods of control and I also support reimbursing people for their livestock losses. I will never support hunting wolves. I want to see scientists sitting on the board of directors for the organizations making wildlife decisions. When we deny animals their God-given right to move, deny their right to eat, or deny their right to be alive in the world, it is morally wrong. In addition, the Idaho and Wyoming plans are not based upon science. They pander to the tiny special interest groups of hunters, ranchers, farmers, and guides who are often are biased and do not value science based management. This results in cruelty and hostility. The far majority of tax-paying citizens like my family, want their wild places and all the species in them to be viable and healthy and managed with science-based decisions not prejudice and unlimited hunting or trophy hunting---the most ridiculous and egocentric piece of the "hunting" world. America First is to understand that our economic well-being rests upon our environmental well-being. Outdoor recreation, and those who want to see wildlife (rather than hunt and kill or frack and exploit the environment), generates \$646 billion dollars in annual spending and it creates 6.1 million jobs each year. Only a tiny slice of this comes from hunting. Outdoor recreation provides \$39.9 billion in federal tax revenue. In addition to those significant monetary benefits, the right thing to do---is to protect our precious environment and finite natural resources. This is America First.

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**Final Comment**                      **Weber, Robyn**                      **Denver, CO**                      5/3/2018 2:04:00 PM

**145** I am respectfully asking that you do not allow the killing of wolves.....I travel to JAC every May for the Antler auction and to see the wolves around the Lamar Valley..we want to see live wolves NOT dead bodies on cars

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**Final Comment**                      **Squibb, Marsha**                      **Wilmthrop, ME**                      5/4/2018 7:34:00 PM

**146** There should be NO hunting of Gray Wolfe's. These are essential creatures to our healthy planet. Humans are dependent on these creatures for optimal health and living. Humans are suppose to be the smartest at the top of the food chain. This isn't smart on our part.

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**Final Comment**                      **Erwin, Christy**                      **Bethany, MO**                      5/5/2018 9:24:00 AM

**147** NO hunting season!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

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**Final Comment**                      **gennoy, laura**                      **clifton park, NY**                      5/5/2018 1:16:00 PM

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**148** Stop hunting gray wolves! Immediately! No more hunting season!

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**Final Comment**                      **Gurevich, M**                      **Winter Park, FL**                      5/5/2018 2:14:00 PM

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**149** Wildlife should be held in the public trust to be managed for all, not just those who want trophies. comments. You just need to be someone who cares about wolves. • I do not support the quota of 58 wolves within the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area (TGMA) • Wolves should not be hunted in wilderness areas. These areas are where wolves are least likely to cause conflicts and places where wolves should be allowed to live and raise families without being hunted • All zones adjacent to our National Parks be closed to wolf hunting, not just the portion in John D. Rockefeller Parkway. At a minimum, the zones should be redrawn as to create large buffer zones, closed to wolf hunting, around our National Parks. • Our National Parks provide an economic benefit to local gateway communities (defined as 60-mile radius around each park boundary). In 2016, the economic output for Yellowstone National Park was \$680 million (Tetons it was \$779 million). • An analysis from the University of Wyoming found that in 2016, wildlife viewers spent \$335 million on travel and \$30 million on equipment compared to hunters who spent about \$126 million on travel and \$80 million on equipment. • Wyoming already has extremely liberal wolf management regulations. There is no scientific reason to hunt wolves within the TGMA or reduce the population to 160 animals. • Wyoming Fish & Game should do more to educate the public, including hunters, about the positive aspects of wolves. For example, there is strong evidence that wolf predation could markedly decrease prevalence of CWD. Wolves facilitate the recovery of browse-sensitive understory herbs and forest regeneration. Long-term trophic linkages have been identified in the Northern Range of Yellowstone National Park between wolves, elk, and deciduous tree species - aspen Thanks for your consideration of these comments.

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**Final Comment**                      **Paradise, Brian**                      **Ponte Vedra Beach, FL**                      5/6/2018 2:27:00 PM

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**150** Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Aldo Leopold's 1933 classic book, Game Management, was still required reading when I was a graduate student in Forest Recreation and Wildlife Management at Colorado State University. I was also assigned to read Leopold's A Sand County Almanac. In that book, the father of game management in America, Aldo Leopold, wrote, "Harmony with the land is like harmony with a friend; you cannot cherish his right hand and chop off his left. That is to say, you cannot love game and hate predators. ...The land is one organism." He also wrote, "A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise." To restore the integrity - the wholeness - of Yellowstone is why I was such an enthusiastic member from 1980 to 1997 of the National Park Service team that restored wolves to Yellowstone. It's also what motivated me to lead courses on wolves for the Yellowstone Institute for 7 years after I retired. It pains me to see Wyoming increasing limits on killing wolves in Areas 1, 2, and 3. Those areas have seen the taking of numerous park wolves whose home ranges straddle the park boundary. Killing of collared wolves is not only a costly setback of park research, but an affront to the tens of thousands of wolf watcher who come to Yellowstone, contributing \$35 million to the economy of the twenty counties adjacent to the park. In view of the two studies mentioned in WGF's April 30 Wildlife Update that suggest CWD may cause "significant decreases in population" of deer, it seems irresponsible and incongruous for the state to continue to blow away the one natural tool it has for reducing or even eliminating CWD.

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**Final Comment**                      **Bishop, Norman**                      **Bozeman, MT**                      5/6/2018 5:34:00 PM

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**151** I am a frequent visitor to Wyoming as a vacationer and I oppose hunting of wolves and grizzlies. I travel to Wyoming to see its incredible diversity of wildlife that is missing in Kansas from the bison and elk, to the pronghorn Antelope. Particularly, I travel to Wyoming for the opportunity to see wolves. Last year, I spent nearly a week at Colter Bay and a day at Hidden River State Park. The State Park was an empty landscape though with the interesting feature of a river becoming an acquirer before returning to the surface. The park was otherwise devoid of wildlife. I do not perceive wolves as a threat to people and it is my understanding they generally seek to avoid people. I hope Wyoming can learn to live with its wildlife as a draw to tourism to areas of the State other than just Yellowstone. It is disheartening to my desire to spend time in Wyoming to always be reading how Wyoming considers the wolf vermin to be shot on site. Such policies make me want to skip the State in favor of states like Washington, Oregon and Montana that have learned to live with wolves with greater tolerance.

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Dinkel, Mark</b>	<b>Salina, KS</b>	5/6/2018 5:41:00 PM
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**152** There is NEVER a good REASON to KILL our WOLVES! They belong to ALL of us! Wildlife is held in the public trust to be managed for all, not just those who want a "wall hanger". You do not need to be a resident of Wyoming to submit comments. You just need to be someone who cares about wolves. You do not support the quota of 58 wolves within the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area (TGMA) Wolves should not be hunted in wilderness areas. These areas are where wolves are least likely to cause conflicts and places where wolves should be allowed to live and raise families without being hunted All zones adjacent to our National Parks be closed to wolf hunting, not just the portion in John D. Rockefeller Parkway. At a minimum, the zones should be redrawn as to create large buffer zones, closed to wolf hunting, around our National Parks. Our National Parks provide an economic benefit to local gateway communities (defined as 60-mile radius around each park boundary). In 2016, the economic output for Yellowstone National Park was \$680 million (Tetons it was \$779 million). An analysis from the University of Wyoming found that in 2016, wildlife viewers spent \$335 million on travel and \$30 million on equipment compared to hunters who spent about \$126 million on travel and \$80 million on equipment. Wyoming already has extremely liberal wolf management regulations. There is no scientific reason to hunt wolves within the TGMA or reduce the population to 160 animals. Wyoming Fish & Game should do more to educate the public, including hunters, about the positive aspects of wolves. For example, there is strong evidence that wolf predation could markedly decrease prevalence of CWD. Wolves facilitate the recovery of browse-sensitive understory herbs and forest regeneration. Long-term trophic linkages have been identified in the Northern Range of Yellowstone National Park between wolves, elk, and deciduous tree species - aspen and cottonwood.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>WARRENS, DEBRA</b>	<b>WATERLOO, IA</b>	5/6/2018 6:14:00 PM
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**153** I travel to Wyoming to view wildlife, especially wolves. Wolves are important to healthy ecosystems and are a beautiful part of our nations wild heritage. I do not support the quota of 58 wolves within the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area (TGMA) Wolves should not be hunted in wilderness areas. These areas are where wolves are least likely to cause conflicts and places where wolves should be allowed to live and raise families without being hunted All zones adjacent to our National Parks be closed to wolf hunting, not just the portion in John D. Rockefeller Parkway. At a minimum, the zones should be redrawn as to create large buffer zones, closed to wolf hunting, around our National Parks. Our National Parks provide an economic benefit to local gateway communities (defined as 60-mile radius around each park boundary). In 2016, the economic output for Yellowstone National Park was \$680 million (Tetons it was \$779 million). An analysis from the University of Wyoming found that in 2016, wildlife viewers spent \$335 million on travel and \$30 million on equipment compared to hunters who spent about \$126 million on travel and \$80 million on equipment. Wyoming already has extremely liberal wolf management regulations. There is no scientific reason to hunt wolves within the TGMA or reduce the population to 160 animals. Wyoming Fish & Game should do more to educate the public, including hunters, about the positive aspects of wolves. For example, there is strong evidence that wolf predation could markedly decrease prevalence of CWD. Wolves facilitate the recovery of browse-sensitive understory herbs and forest regeneration. Long-term trophic linkages have been identified in the Northern Range of Yellowstone National Park between wolves, elk, and deciduous tree species - aspen and cottonwood

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Bickel, Bettina</b>	<b>Glendale, AZ</b>	5/6/2018 6:15:00 PM
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**154** Wildlife is held in the public trust to be managed for all, not just those who want a "wall hanger". I am someone who cares about wolves. I am also a hunter who has enjoyed hunting in WY many times over the years. This proposal runs against everything I know and care about wildlife, including game and non-game animals. I do not support the quota of 58 wolves within the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area (TGMA) Wolves should not be hunted in wilderness areas. These areas are where wolves are least likely to cause conflicts and places where wolves should be allowed to live and raise families without being hunted All zones adjacent to our National Parks should be closed to wolf hunting, not just the portion in John D. Rockefeller Parkway. At a minimum, the zones should be redrawn as to create large buffer zones, closed to wolf hunting, around our National Parks. Our National Parks provide an economic benefit to local gateway communities (defined as 60-mile radius around each park boundary). In 2016, the economic output for Yellowstone National Park was \$680 million (Tetons it was \$779 million). An analysis from the University of Wyoming found that in 2016, wildlife viewers spent \$335 million on travel and \$30 million on equipment compared to hunters who spent about \$126 million on travel and \$80 million on

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

equipment. Wyoming already has extremely liberal wolf management regulations. There is no scientific reason to hunt wolves within the TGMA or reduce the population to 160 animals. Wyoming Fish & Game should do more to educate the public, including hunters, about the positive aspects of wolves. For example, there is strong evidence that wolf predation could markedly decrease the prevalence of CWD. Wolves facilitate the recovery of browse-sensitive understory herbs and forest regeneration. Long-term trophic linkages have been identified in the Northern Range of Yellowstone National Park between wolves, elk, and deciduous tree species - aspen and cottonwood. Please do the right thing. Do not implement this proposal for the sake of all wildlife who are part of the web of life in the woods!

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**Final Comment**                      **Castle, William**                      **Loomis, CA**                      5/6/2018 7:16:00 PM

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**155** Wildlife is held in the public trust to be managed for all, not just those who want a "wall hanger". I do not support the quota of 58 wolves within the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area (TGMA) Wolves should not be hunted in wilderness areas. These areas are where wolves are least likely to cause conflicts and places where wolves should be allowed to live and raise families without being hunted. All zones adjacent to our National Parks be closed to wolf hunting, not just the portion in John D. Rockefeller Parkway. At a minimum, the zones should be redrawn as to create large buffer zones, closed to wolf hunting, around our National Parks. Our National Parks provide an economic benefit to local gateway communities (defined as 60-mile radius around each park boundary). In 2016, the economic output for Yellowstone National Park was \$680 million (Tetons it was \$779 million). An analysis from the University of Wyoming found that in 2016, wildlife viewers spent \$335 million on travel and \$30 million on equipment compared to hunters who spent about \$126 million on travel and \$80 million on equipment. Wyoming already has extremely liberal wolf management regulations. There is no scientific reason to hunt wolves within the TGMA or reduce the population to 160 animals. Wyoming Fish & Game should do more to educate the public, including hunters, about the positive aspects of wolves. For example, there is strong evidence that wolf predation could markedly decrease prevalence of CWD. Wolves facilitate the recovery of browse-sensitive understory herbs and forest regeneration. Long-term trophic linkages have been identified in the Northern Range of Yellowstone National Park between wolves, elk, and deciduous tree species - aspen and cottonwood. Stop the indiscriminate killing. Thank you.

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**Final Comment**                      **Calvo, Jeannette**                      **Parker, CO**                      5/6/2018 7:27:00 PM

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**156** I absolutely DO NOT support the new quota of 58 wolves being taken this hunting season! Wolves have a rightful place on this planet, and in your ecosystem. They have a right to breed and raise families, and pose no threat in wilderness areas. There should be buffer zones around the entire Yellowstone Park. They have not recovered, as all the science based studies point out. This is a witch hunt based on politics and ignorance. I personally have been going to Yellowstone to see the wolves since 2005 an have added my dollars to your economy. I implore you to open your reasoning and see the dangerous direction you are heading into, not to mention the black eye Wyoming has given the rest of the country and world.

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**Final Comment**                      **SWANSON, DOUGLASS**                      **Beaufort, NC**                      5/6/2018 9:34:00 PM

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**157** I am an animal advocate in Washington state. I have been to Wyoming and it has beautiful country. I love all of the wildlife. I'm not sure why a branch of the government feels the need to kill wolves. They are an important part of the food chain. And the way that you kill them with automatic weapons is totally disgusting and makes me sick. Leave the animals all alone.

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**Final Comment**                      **Bailey, Dori**                      **Port Townsend, WA**                      5/6/2018 9:41:00 PM

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**158** I am writing as a resident from the state of Washington. I feel that Wyoming has allowed mass shooting of wildlife for too long. You should stop Gray wolf hunting season period. It's sick! Gray wolves are an important part of our ecosystem and hunting them is harmful to the environment and should not be allowed.

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**Final Comment**                      **Perez, Jessica**                      **Redmond, WA**                      5/6/2018 10:31:00 PM

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**159** 1. I do not support the quota of 58 wolves within the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area (TGMA) 2. Wolves should not be hunted in wilderness areas. These areas are where wolves are least likely to cause



## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

conflicts and places where wolves should be allowed to live and raise families without being hunted 3. All zones adjacent to our National Parks be closed to wolf hunting, not just the portion in John D. Rockefeller Parkway. At a minimum, the zones should be redrawn as to create large buffer zones, closed to wolf hunting, around our National Parks. 4. Our National Parks provide an economic benefit to local gateway communities (defined as 60-mile radius around each park boundary). In 2016, the economic output for Yellowstone National Park was \$680 million (Tetons it was \$779 million). An analysis from the University of Wyoming found that in 2016, wildlife viewers spent \$335 million on travel and \$30 million on equipment compared to hunters who spent about \$126 million on travel and \$80 million on equipment. 5. Wyoming already has extremely liberal wolf management regulations. There is no scientific reason to hunt wolves within the TGMA or reduce the population to 160 animals. 6. Wyoming Fish & Game should do more to educate the public, including hunters, about the positive aspects of wolves. For example, there is strong evidence that wolf predation could markedly decrease prevalence of CWD. Wolves facilitate the recovery of browse-sensitive understory herbs and forest regeneration. Long-term trophic linkages have been identified in the Northern Range of Yellowstone National Park between wolves, elk, and deciduous tree species - aspen and cottonwood. Don't be on the wrong side of history. You do not want to be remembered in our history books as the State that completely mismanaged an iconic American species, and missed an opportunity to do the right thing. Remember, "A FIERCE GREEN FIRE" - Aldous Leopold

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**Final Comment**                      **Knapp, Tyler**                      **Los Gatos, CA**                      5/7/2018 12:36:00 AM

**160** Please look at the scientific studies done in Yosemite after the introduction of wolves in the park. Many things changed for the better even the environment of the park. Wolves can change the course of rivers. Please stop this hunt before they are all gone.

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**Final Comment**                      **Green, Larry**                      **Bellingham, WA**                      5/7/2018 1:05:00 PM

**161** Hunting wolves is a horrible thing to do. And being part of the fish and game department you should be protecting the wild animals wolves Elks deer not finding ways to have people kill them with automatic weapons leave all of the animals alone

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**Final Comment**                      **Bailey, Dori**                      **Port Townsend, WA**                      5/7/2018 2:03:00 PM

**162** I strongly oppose your proposal regarding our gray wolves. These wolves are endangered and need increased protections. Not an increase in the number of them to be murdered.

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**Final Comment**                      **Shabbott, Mary**                      **Punta Gorda , FL**                      5/9/2018 4:44:00 PM

**163** Its is our constitutional right to also enjoy wilderness and and wild life on public lands , by allowing this slaughter and war on wolves to continue you are violating my rights and your duty to perserve the wilderness and its wildlife for generations to come. This is a shameful way to treat such a valuable species. Wolves are needed to keep a balanced ecosystem and by using weapons and modern technology to slaughter and torture our wolves they will become a species endangered or nonexistent once again. .When your forest lands are empty of the wild life you so much enjoy today and the wilderness begins to dissappear and become a barren waste land of forest fires and deseased wildlife you will have no one to blame but yourselves. No one will hunt in Wyoming much less want to visit there or live there. Research the repercussions happening in Alaska due to this kind of free for all hunting and ravaging and see how this behavior is impacting that once beautiful boutiful state .

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**Final Comment**                      **Gilson, Stacy**                      **Weston, WI**                      5/10/2018 12:05:00 PM

**164** I am not in favor of any increase in the hunting of wolves. They should not be hunted, trapped or killed, except for very rare circumstances. As a visitor to Wyoming, I see this as a major step backward.

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**Final Comment**                      **Bodin, Michael**                      **Hedgesville, WV**                      5/10/2018 12:48:00 PM

**165** The wolf cannot be eaten, is not enough of a pest to require culling of numbers and trophy hunting in itself is nothing more than a waste of resources for bragging rights of an out dated pastime. The wolf STILL requires protection! It is a vital part of a healthy ecosystem as had been proven many times over.

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

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**Final Comment**                      **Ramer, John**                      **Sheridan, WY**                      5/10/2018 2:50:00 PM

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**166** Dear Sir/Madam, Please do not increase mortality limits for Gray Wolf! As a conservationist and a US citizen I am very concerned and disappointed by this proposal. American wildlife belongs to all US citizens, and urge you to respect the interests of all of us, not only those of the local hunting and ranching minority. We are closely watching your decisions and finding every time that your agency is notoriously failing conservation efforts. Wolves are an essential component of the ecosystem, not cattle. Proposed increase in hunting numbers are again in contrary to the scientific studies and absolutely unacceptable. Sincerely, Sergey Prokushkin, PhD

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**Final Comment**                      **Prokushkin, Sergey**                      **Campbell, CA**                      5/10/2018 4:47:00 PM

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**167** please educate yourselves on the affects that wolves have on our environment before you allow such a sick sport to take place. Wolves being removed from ecosystems has caused great problems with other species. Please do not allow trophy hunting or trapping of wolves.

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**Final Comment**                      **Mantzouranis, Marta**                      **Tuolumne , CA**                      5/10/2018 5:01:00 PM

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**168** Please reconsider increasing the allotted amount from 44 up to 58! Wolves seem to be increasingly seen as the problem. It's as if there is a misguided hatred towards these unique animals! Wolves are necessary to keep the natural balance in nature. Please consider other avenues of population control before resorting to slsugjtering these wolves. I have always wanted to visit Wyoming, but in light of this agenda, i cannot, in good conscience, bring myself to visit this State.

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**Final Comment**                      **Macchia, Kathy**                      **Leonardo, NJ**                      5/10/2018 5:44:00 PM

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**169** Please do not allow hunting of any wolves now or in the future. Why do you have to kill wolves out in the wild? If you open a hunting season then any wolf can and will be killed. Even the ones that leave livestock alone. In the past, many wolves from Yellowstone National Park have been shot both legally and illegally. This has devastated the packs in Yellowstone. We have visited Yellowstone in October, helping the Wyoming economy, many years in the recent past. If there are few wolves to see, I and my family will no longer visit Wyoming.

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**Final Comment**                      **McLaughlin, Kevin**                      **colorado springs, CO**                      5/10/2018 10:04:00 PM

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**170** I got an error message after submitting my comment! So shorter version of my comment is: I think it is a mistake to allow a hunting season for wolves in Wyoming. We visit Yellowstone almost every year in the Fall to see the wolves. If their numbers diminish then we will no longer visit Wyoming. NO WOLF HUNT!

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**Final Comment**                      **McLaughlin, Kevin**                      **colorado springs, CO**                      5/10/2018 10:13:00 PM

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**171** Please cancel any plans to have a 2018 hunting season for grey wolves. We visit your state to see these great animals that belong to us all. If you kill the Yellowstone wolves that may wander out of the park for short periods of time, you are killing animals that belong to every American citizen. This species has not yet recovered to the point of being "Trophy hunted" for the benefit of only a few people. For God's sake, are the people of Wyoming so lacking in morals and afraid of wolves that they have forgotten what it's like to experience truly wild lands, with truly "wild" animals? That should be exhilarating enough! You don't have to murder them on sight. Unless you're just cowards. Last year may have been my last time in Wyoming. A great place to visit, but I could never live amongst all the psychopaths that apparently live there.

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**Final Comment**                      **McLaughlin, Emily**                      **colorado springs, CO**                      5/10/2018 10:56:00 PM

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**172** At this time, what Wyoming is suggesting to do is an abomination against nature. Not only do you pander to the hunters and ranchers, it's a slap in the face to all non hunters. We are the majority in this group and

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

our voices should be heard. How I. The world do you expect respect when you act lower than pond scum. Wolves are necessary for a balanced ecosystem and tourism pays a lot of your bills. You slaughtered 44 last season and are endangering the wolves lineage. But I think that's exactly what you want to do. Instead of trying nonlethal methods you act like a bunch of spoiled brats except in your case you kill instead of throwing tantrums.

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**Final Comment**                      **Stock, Patricia**                      **Olmsted Falls , OH**                      5/11/2018 5:36:00 PM

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**173** Hunting wolves causes more problems than it solves. It breaks up families and eliminates the knowledge of how to hunt wild ungulates from the pack, thus creating a greater likelihood of depredation on domestic livestock. Trophy hunting is nothing more than a desire to overpower and dominate and should not be a part of any management plan. I am a tourist and will not be visiting Wyoming and spending my dollars in your state until wolves and other predators are protected and I will encourage friends and family to do likewise.

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**Final Comment**                      **Vineski, Patricia**                      **So Colton, NY**                      5/12/2018 7:59:00 AM

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**174** Please don't support this. Wolves can not be eaten therefore it isn't sport. They are vital to our ecosystem and deserve our protection. Many of us have worked years to get there numbers up. It does not make you a man if you kill a wolf. It makes you a coward. Genocide is never ok.

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**Final Comment**                      **Griffiths, Miranda**                      **Conyers, GA**                      5/12/2018 11:30:00 AM

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**175** Wyoming's war on wolves is a horrendous assault on the environment. I personally will never set foot in the state of Wyoming or spend any of my money on a state so short sighted. .

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**Final Comment**                      **Sisson, Valerie**                      **Kentwood, MI**                      5/12/2018 1:32:00 PM

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**176** I dis approve of the eradication of wolves in America, and I dis approve of any hunts on this amazing sentient being, and keystone species. Wolves are responsible for balancing out the eco system,they keep ungulate herds healthy and prevent the spreading of diseases such as Chronic Wasting Disease ,and also prevent other diseases from being spread to humans through rodents,which carry over 30 known communicable diseases to humans. It is not only un acceptable to hunt wolves and kill them for sport , but absolutely disgusting that you could take it upon yourself to extend the hunting season, and allow shoot on site policies, no bag limits and no quota limits to your hunts. I will continue ti fight against the eradication of wolves in America, and raise the awareness that states like yours support killing puppies, shooting dogs in the gut and allowing them to bleed out, and hanging these beautiful creatures in trees as well as strapping them to vehicles. I will not visit your state, and I will not buy items from your state. I also encourage every wolf advocate to avoid the yellow stone park area, and to not spend any tourist money in these states. Wolf hunting is absolutely disgusting and I am appalled by the fact that you could even consider allowing this. Sincerely, Wolf Grey Buchanan

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**Final Comment**                      **Buchanan, Wolf**                      **Abilene, TX**                      5/12/2018 11:49:00 PM

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**177** I'm disgusted with the fact that you can murder puppies and dogs. Smoking puppies out of their dens and stomping them to death is wrong. I will let everyone know not to spend their hard working dollars in Yellowstone National Park. I will never spend any money at your expense on anything that has your States name on it or in Yellowstone. This is MURDER of a very kind and loving species that just wants to be left alone to live their lives with their families. I oppose this crap and will let tons of people know how horrible, miserable and what MURDERERS you are. I will always stand strong with an iron fist for wolves and wolf dogs.

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**Final Comment**                      **Duval, Jenn**                      **Abilene, TX**                      5/13/2018 12:24:00 AM

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**178** Please take into consideration that Yellowstone has visitors from all over the world that spend enormous amounts of money for travel specifically to see wildlife, including wolves and grizzly bears. In an area where chronic wasting disease is at an epidemic level, please keep in mind that wolves can improve the health of a herd of deer or elk by reducing the numbers of sick animals.

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Carroll, Gail</b>	<b>Algona, IA</b>	<b>5/13/2018 1:24:00 AM</b>
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**179** I fear increasing the numbers of wolves legally allowed to be killed sends the wrong message. Wolves seemingly are killed regardless of legalities. There has been no clear conviction by fish & Wildlife to make a strong stand regarding illegal killing. Increasing the number will not help conservation efforts but harm efforts...there is no place any longer for this killing, I believe the the overall opinion of Americans stands with the animals and we are growing tired of the senseless killing.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Michele, Murphy</b>	<b>Fort Lauderdale, FL</b>	<b>5/13/2018 3:42:00 AM</b>
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**180** Wolves are essentially necessary for a vital ecosystem. They are Apex predator that are needed to maintain balance in nature. I am against any wolf hunts or killing them for trophies or money. Let them take care of their own and live.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Wolf, Golda</b>	<b>Abilene, TX</b>	<b>5/13/2018 7:06:00 AM</b>
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**181** When we frequently come to Wyoming, from neighboring Colorado and spend money to do so, it is to enjoy observing wildlife especially wolves and Grizzly. It is not to hunt them. Wyoming errors in shooting itself in the economic foot by catering to the narrower interests who do not appreciate this reality and ideologically cannot appreciate appropriate scientific wildlife protection.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Harden, Ronald</b>	<b>Loveland, CO</b>	<b>5/13/2018 8:30:00 AM</b>
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**182** I believe the wolf is the most important animal in our wildlife. They keep diseases down by killing sick and weak prey. Without them OUR wildlife will become extinct. WOLVES keep wildlife in harmony. Why are the wolves being the blame? If you kill wildlife it should be for food not for self ego, this is a sin to put Gods spiritual animals in agony and suffering. PLEASE stop wasting our wildlife. SAVE OUR WOLVES.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Smith, Susan</b>	<b>Brewton, AL</b>	<b>5/13/2018 12:25:00 PM</b>
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**183** Just wish people would resort to non violent actions to avoid whatever issue they feel they face with their own creators creations.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Oakes, Randy</b>	<b>Austjn, TX</b>	<b>5/13/2018 1:53:00 PM</b>
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**184** We need to stop the killing please, the wolves as a keystone are vital to our ecosystems, and now they need protection more than ever, tourists are very important to all economies, what you are going to say to future generations, is a good example? Please stop the killing.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Baker, Mary</b>	<b>México city,</b>	<b>5/13/2018 2:02:00 PM</b>
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**185** I believe that there is no science-based foundation for "sport" or "trophy" hunting or managing a population to minimum numbers

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Ringgaard, Line</b>	<b>Herning,</b>	<b>5/13/2018 3:51:00 PM</b>
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**186** Please don't kill any animal. They have just the same right to live just like us. If it weren't for the Mountains with beautiful creatures our planet would look more overpopulated. My grandparents lived in Wyoming and had a cabin towards Cooke city. I loved it there. I dream of the time where I can build a cabin and live there the only noise is the wild and river. So much better than city noise. There's got to be a different way to deal with this. Not kill !!!

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Gilmore, Jane</b>	<b>Holladay, UT</b>	<b>5/14/2018 7:52:00 AM</b>
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**187** We have got to stop killing our wolves. It has been proven over and over what a major player they are in balancing our environment. Wolves are NOT the problem and this is nothing more than killing an innocent

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

animal for sport! There is nothing sporting about killing an animal. Especially one of great value to the environment! The people do NOT want this!

**Final Comment**                      **Goggin, Lewisa**                      **Sausalito, CA**                      5/14/2018 3:49:00 PM

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**188** The majority of the people in Wyoming, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Montana and the rest of the US do not want the killing of these animals. This is only desired by a few very angry and dysfunctional human beings that shouldn't have guns anyway. Please don't fold under their pressure or dollars! Please do what we hired you for and to protect these amazing and sentient beings!

**Final Comment**                      **Browne, Johanna**                      **Asheville , NC**                      5/14/2018 3:53:00 PM

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**189** I love Wyoming for the immense and gorgeous land and the animals. Wolves are a huge draw. Without them you will lose both the reason I and hundreds of thousands of people come to Wyoming on vacation to see. These are our wolves, not "yours" to kill for sport or any other reason.

**Final Comment**                      **Trager, Lolli**                      **Mill Valley, CA**                      5/14/2018 3:56:00 PM

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**190** Stop murdering these animals. Start looking at the facts of what they do to help our lands and how the cattle destroy our lands. We cannot decimate the few wolves we have. The environment is already in trouble and you are pushing it over the edge. Stop persecuting these animals!

**Final Comment**                      **McVay, Skye**                      **Weaverville, NC**                      5/14/2018 3:58:00 PM

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**191** The current proposal to increase the number of wolves killed in the Jackson Hole and Tetons area as well as extend these boundaries has no basis in scientific study. The change in the wintering ranges of the Gros Ventre elk and the Whiskey Mountain bighorn sheep is unrelated to the wolf population. This is a spurious argument scapegoating wolves and an excuse for the further destruction of the wolf population.

**Final Comment**                      **Phass, Alice**                      **Bridgeport, CT**                      5/14/2018 5:21:00 PM

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**192** Dear Sirs, please do not expand anymore hunting areas for our wolves. Also 2 wolves in a season is way to many in fact their should be a moratorium on hunting these animals as populations are on the downward spiral . They are so important to our eco- system . We want to have these animals for for future generations. Thank you Pleade save our wolves

**Final Comment**                      **Schaefer, Lorna**                      **Laveen, AZ**                      5/14/2018 5:40:00 PM

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**193** When will we stop? After all the animals are gone? This is so sad. Please do not kill these wolves. They deserve a right to live like all of us do. Our God created them also and he did not do it for hunting sport. It breads my heart. Thank you for reading this.

**Final Comment**                      **Qkalokqua, Shiakoda**                      **Middletown, CT**                      5/14/2018 5:58:00 PM

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**194** The wooves are our brothers and to kill them is to disrespect our own family. I know most ranchers and those that seek the thrill of a hunt don't bekieve that but it is truth. We are all connectedand humans do not own the earth or the animals Creator put here. We need to coexist,not exploit and destroy. Please thinkmabout what you are doing. The wolves belong to the land.

**Final Comment**                      **Botkin, Dana**                      **Brownsville, OR**                      5/14/2018 6:12:00 PM

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**195** Please reduce--not increase--the number of wolves to be killed in the trophy zone. Wolves are not vermin and should not be able to be killed on site for any reason in 85% of your state. Please require a hunting license for wolves throughout the state. I request that you create a sustainable plan that focuses on coexisting with rather than eradicating wolves.

**Final Comment**                      **Lamplugh, Rick**                      **Gardiner, MT**                      5/15/2018 6:11:00 AM

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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**196** I travel 2-3 times a year to GTNP and YNP to view and photograph the wolves and bears in this ecosystem. Besides being apex predators (needed for balance of the whole ecosystem) a live wolf or bear is worth far more than a dead one. Millions of dollars are spent on food and lodging in the area. If I can't find these top predators when I visit, I will no longer support the area. I don't want the only place to see wolves and bears to be in a zoo. Please preserve the wild ecosystem. Anita Wooldridge. Ph.D.

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**Final Comment**                      **Wooldridge, Anita**                      **Longmont , CO**                      5/15/2018 6:59:00 AM

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**197** LESS wolves should be killed. They are a natural resource that keeps the environment in balance. One of the top reasons I visit Wyoming is the off chance I can see or hear a wolf. Wyoming should be working towards coexisting with Wolves and from what I have read there are many ways to do so.

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**Final Comment**                      **Weeks, Melissa**                      **Bondville, VT**                      5/15/2018 7:16:00 AM

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**198** I'm in disagreement that Wyoming fish and game is allowing the top ecosystem predators to be hunted for trophy's . This is all about money . Wolves are important to the ecosystems and killing them upsets the balance. It's time we all Learn to coexist with them . I hope You reconsider and do the right thing and not allow wolf tribes to be killed for sport for trophy's !

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**Final Comment**                      **Ahern , Deborah**                      **Norton , MA**                      5/15/2018 7:37:00 AM

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**199** We need to learn to coexist with the wolves. If we continue to kill more and more each year, they will once again be endangered. Please do not allow this to happen. these animals need to be protected!

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**Final Comment**                      **Snyder, Michael**                      **Wilmington, NC**                      5/15/2018 8:55:00 AM

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**200** Wyoming's proposal to allow the killing of even more gray wolves is both scientifically misguided and morally wrong. Wolves are an important native species who contribute to the balance of nature and have a beneficial effect on ecosystems. There is now evidence that they may even help to control the spread of CWD in ungulate populations. In addition, having sadistically eradicated wolves from our landscapes for so many decades, humans owe wolves a comeback. Killing wolves splinters their complex social structures and inflicts disruption and suffering on their entire pack. Finally, wildlife watching is becoming increasingly important, while hunting is growing less popular. No one's "way of life" is guaranteed forever, especially if it inflicts needless harm on other species. Wyoming should focus on plans to decrease wolf killing, not increase it.

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**Final Comment**                      **Ericson, Mary Anne**                      **Portland, OR**                      5/15/2018 9:37:00 AM

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**201** I would like to plead with the state of Wyoming and the Game and Fish Department to please work on coexisting with wolves instead of killing them. I have trouble understanding how the state is so willing to see them as vermin and trophies when these incredible animals bring millions of tourist dollars to the state and the local economy around the Tetons and Yellowstone. There are numerous studies on how economically viable it is to keep wolves alive. We have traveled to Yellowstone and/or the Tetons almost every year for the last 18 years. Our love for this area is due to grizzly and wolves. We live in the Colorado Rockies and don't have that much incentive to come for the mountains because we have incredible mountains and wilderness opportunities here. It is the wildlife and the hope of viewing wolves and grizzlies that we come each year. We now travel almost every winter to Yellowstone just to see wolves. Also, these are beautiful, family oriented animals and pose no threat to humans. There are so many opportunities to learn to coexist with them and use a variety of methods to protect livestock. Please consider the tourism dollars you will lose if this continues. We already decided to stay in Montana instead of Wyoming on our last 2 trips and next trip because we don't want our money going to support the state of Wyoming and the decisions you are making. Please reconsider so we support your beautiful wildlife and state. Until then, we will keep our dollars elsewhere. Thank you for listening.

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**Final Comment**                      **Schmidt, Brynn**                      **Longmont, CO**                      5/15/2018 9:38:00 AM

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**202** When alphas get taken from a pack/family, the remaining pack members become leaderless. When hungry and with neither guidance or pack support, leaderless wolves will take what is edible and easy to

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

bring down. Best ways to protect livestock include stock dogs, shepherding, and leaving the wolf pack intact.

**Final Comment**                      **ellis, mk**                      **yreka, CA**                      5/15/2018 9:51:00 AM

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**203** I am not a biologist. I am a tax paying citizen of WY and I am a tourist who contributes to the 1/2 billion dollar tourism industry your state takes in mostly from Yellowstone and mostly for wolf and grizzly viewing. Wolf tourism alone contributes approx. 35 million to your state. I am disgusted with your KILL all predator stance! The entire country knows that WY HATES wolves and grizzlies are not too far behind. You bend over backwards for hunters and livestock growers and you ignore ME, the wildlife viewer that is the second largest contributor to your economy next to Government and I am fed up with your attitude. WY has a HORRIBLE reputation when it comes to Wildlife Management. Last year you had over 250 pages of comments with 98% of the comments asking you to protect YS wolves. You ignored the public completely. It was as though you stuck your middle finger up at thousands of people. This year, it will be the same. Will you listen this year? Will you leave the Trophy quota at 44 and will you protect YS wolves by adding a protection zone around YS and GT? I will tell you, that at some point the public will get sick of your arrogance and they will stop coming to WY. Remember, they are not coming to see your Oil and Gas wells or your cattle. They are coming mostly to see wolves and grizzly bears. It's time you stand up to special interests and listen to your tourists!

**Final Comment**                      **Markus, Vicki**                      **Centennial, WY**                      5/15/2018 10:47:00 AM

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**204** It is my utmost hope that Wyoming will stop trying to eradicate and start trying to coexist with wolves. Keystone predators such as wolves are a vital part of a healthy ecosystem and fewer—not more—wolves should die in Wyoming. A sustainable management plan is one that emphasizes coexistence.

**Final Comment**                      **Haskell, Tracy**                      **Hulls Cove, ME**                      5/15/2018 12:01:00 PM

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**205** We here in Nashville hate to see what is happening to wolves and other endangered species in WY. It's hurting all hunters and really bad for hunters' PR. It's also damaging to an already fragile ecosystem. I'm contacting some of my friends in country music to see if we can do something to make a difference there.

**Final Comment**                      **Hand , David**                      **Nashville , TN**                      5/15/2018 12:38:00 PM

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**206** Wyoming, please treasure the wild and free wolves who live among you. I would be so honored to view a wolf in the wild here in Iowa. They are such family oriented beings. Have a heart to defend them not end them. ?

**Final Comment**                      **houser, sharon**                      **fort dodge, IA**                      5/15/2018 1:48:00 PM

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**207** I beg of you to please stop the senseless killing of Grey Wolves in Wyoming. The more I read up on these beautiful animals the more I understand how necessary they are to help keep nature in check. It will be a very sad day when the Wolf is no longer here. You know that destroying a family of Wolves by killing the Alpha male only makes it harder for them to survive, to hunt as unit, a family. I pray for them, for understanding of the need for them on this Earth.

**Final Comment**                      **Isaacson, Kim**                      **Republic, MI**                      5/15/2018 2:20:00 PM

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**208** Wolves are the main reason I travel to your part of the country. I come to see wildlife in general in their natural setting. The main focus of our trips are to see wolves in the wild. There are responsible ways for ranchers, hunters and the human population in the area to coexist with wolves if the effort is made. Killing more wolves is not the answer. Being a responsible steward of all wildlife and creating a proper balance among them is paramount. Please decrease the wolf killing quota and work toward natural balance. It will also increase the eco-tourism dollars coming into your state.

**Final Comment**                      **Gates, Greg**                      **Santee, CA**                      5/15/2018 2:57:00 PM

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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**209** Why are you trying to destroy the wolves completely? They help the wildlife in Yellowstone by keeping the deer population down. Also the bears eat better because they steal the meat from the wolves. They are beautiful animals. They should be protected not killed. Shame on all who kill these beautiful animals.

**Final Comment**                      **Clouser, Lynn**                      **Orange, CA**                      5/15/2018 3:33:00 PM

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**210** Please consider a conservative management of the wolves, by decreasing your total take by 14 wolves, rather than increasing the proposed take by an additional 14. At least that would be a start in the right direction. Let Nature balance things out the way God intended His ecosystem to work in the first place!

**Final Comment**                      **Feiereisen, Wendy**                      **Manitowish Waters, WI**                      5/15/2018 4:35:00 PM

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**211** I don't understand most human's thinking. They need to learn from wolves, not be sheep of lie's that been told, they are very crucial to our circke if life, they are the most family oriented of any species that live. If only people would learn from them, stop the evil that kills them out of hate and greed or fun, we dont stand up and band together for our wildlife, we to will vanish.

**Final Comment**                      **Russell, Jennifer**                      **Loganville, GA**                      5/15/2018 5:43:00 PM

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**212** We are better than this. Killing wolves is not the answer.

**Final Comment**                      **Flaherty, Patricia**                      **SAN DIEGO, CA**                      5/15/2018 9:16:00 PM

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**213** Please rethink this planning to raise the number of wolves that can be killed for no reason other than they can. They are being used as living target practice. Do they think by doing this that will, what, have more deer, elk? They'll have more that are diseased and sick. Wolves don't kill for the joy if it, like humans do, they kill to feed themselves and their families. This is just what these people want, to kill as many as possible. No amount of scientific research will change that. They will not want to listen, not want to be educated about the eco-system and the wolves! All this looks like to other people is that this state has no respect for wildlife and conservation of species, all they want to do is shoot something. Tourists came to Yellowstone to see wildlife, including wolves. I will never visit there again.

**Final Comment**                      **Maki, Bonnie**                      **Lafayette, LA**                      5/16/2018 8:15:00 AM

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**214** I am writing to leave some comments about Wyoming's proposed wolf hunting season. First of all I do not support the quota of 58 wolves within the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area (TGMA). As an avid hiker I don't believe wolves should be hunted in wilderness areas. These areas are where wolves are least likely to cause conflicts and places where wolves should be allowed to live and raise families without being hunted In addition I think all zones adjacent to our National Parks should be closed to wolf hunting, not just the portion in John D. Rockefeller Parkway. At a minimum, the zones should be redrawn as to create large buffer zones, closed to wolf hunting, around our National Parks. Our National Parks provide an economic benefit to local gateway communities (defined as 60-mile radius around each park boundary). In 2016, the economic output for Yellowstone National Park was \$680 million (Tetons it was \$779 million). I would be coming to hike in these areas with the hope of seeing a wolf. Wildlife viewers such as myself spent \$335 million on travel and \$30 million on equipment in 2016 compared to hunters who spent about \$126 million on travel and \$80 million on equipment. I would like to know if there is any scientific reason to hunt wolves within the TGMA or reduce the population to 160 animals. Lastly Wyoming Fish & Game should do more to educate the public, including hunters, about the positive aspects of wolves. For example, there is strong evidence that wolf predation could markedly decrease prevalence of CWD. Wolves facilitate the recovery of browse-sensitive understory herbs and forest regeneration. Long-term trophic linkages have been identified in the Northern Range of Yellowstone National Park between wolves, elk, and deciduous tree species - aspen and cottonwood. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

**Final Comment**                      **Shafransky, Paula**                      **Sedro Woolley, WA**                      5/16/2018 11:34:00 AM

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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**215** Please stop trapping and killing wolves. They deserve a place on this earth as all living creatures do. Thank you.

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**Final Comment**                      **Gambill, Kathy**                      **Greenwood, IN**                      5/16/2018 11:47:00 PM

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**216** Please do not increase the quota to kill more wolves! You already kill an unlimited number of wolves in the rest of the state, isn't that enough? Why raise the quota near our national parks to allow more killing of the wolves tourists watch? Less wolves mean less wolves for us to watch, plus making them afraid of humans because of hunting will also make it harder to see wolves. We come to Wyoming to watch wolves and have no other reason to visit. If we can't see wolves we won't come back. Also, we cancelled our trip this year because we just don't feel right about spending our money in a state that is killing the animals we love and is about to kill grizzly bears as well. Enough killing. Please Debra Beaver

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**Final Comment**                      **Beaver, Debra**                      **Matthews, NC**                      5/17/2018 10:31:00 AM

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**217** I'd like to comment about the proposed wolf hunt. I lived in WY for almost 10 years; I loved the state and the people. However, this proposed hunt has shocked and disappointed me to the point that I had to say something. I have a B.S. in Animal Sciences and Natural Resources so I know the importance of predators in the ecosystem and the vital role they play in keeping herbivores and the environment in balance. What boggles my mind is that a government agency-- a Wildlife agency - doesn't seem to grasp that very basic knowledge but does quite the opposite of what every environmentalist strives for. After much reading on this subject, I'd have to agree with others who believe that your plan to "conserve" wildlife is, in fact, a plan to eradicate the wolf species from the entire state. Eliminating the wolf - the Apex Predator - from the ecosystem will only cause an unbalance of herbivores; at which, the solution will be an increase in hunting deer etc. creating a bloody, vicious cycle that never has a viable end. The ecosystem has meaning and purpose to every living creature- every living being having an important part to play. You interrupt that system, the domino effect is not only tragic but irreparable and dire. It doesn't have to be that way. Wyoming CAN live and coincide peacefully with the wolf and ranchers. Don't allow those who are bloodthirsty to take away a beautiful animal from the environment that so many millions of people come to your state to enjoy. Please, find a better solution than killing. Guess what, with study and research you will find that coexisting IS, in fact, very possible!! Thank You, LaDene Mayville

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**Final Comment**                      **Mayville, LaDene**                      **Blacklick, OH**                      5/17/2018 12:21:00 PM

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**218** I may no longer live in Wyoming, but I am a Wyoming native. And I have to say that I am ashamed of my birth state. These anti-predator policies would be better suited for the 19th century. It's amazing how in this day and age people still think eliminating predators from the wild is the answer to everything. There are ways for ranchers to coexist with wolves, but it takes a willingness and effort to do so. Entirely too many ranchers aren't willing to even contemplate any resolution that doesn't involve killing. The scientific proof of the importance of predators to an ecosystem are plentiful - the enormous positive impact of the wolves on Yellowstone's ecosystem is well-documented. But unfortunately, age-old superstitions and fears rule the day, along with political dollars and cronyism. Our so-called wildlife agencies are not run by scientists, who actually look to real accumulated data and research, but by political appointees who care more about pleasing a certain constituency and their donors. It's a sad state of affairs. So many of you current Wyoming residents are saying that those of us who don't live there have no right to comment. Well, folks, I beg to differ. Because tourism dollars are important to your local economy. And there are plenty of people who have traveled to Wyoming simply to see wolves out in the wild. It's something so rare (unfortunately) that it draws people from far and wide. The more attention this war on wolves gets in the media, the more you are going to see the tourism dollars dry up. What's the point of visiting if the odds of actually being able to spot a wolf in the wild is slim to none? The more you people kill off these wolves, which drastically impacts the functioning of the wolf packs, the more the remaining wolves are going to do what they can to stay out of sight. And I sincerely hope this impacts you people where it hurts. I hope the stream of revenue from tourism dries to a drip. Then maybe you'll start to think again about these backward, fear-induced, greed-induced policies. After all, money talks.

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**Final Comment**                      **Pippin, Amber**                      **Newbury, NH**                      5/17/2018 1:23:00 PM

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**219** Wyoming does not need fewer wolves. These endangered animals need to be protected.

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Shabbott, Mary</b>	<b>Punta Gorda , FL</b>	5/17/2018 6:14:00 PM
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**220** Please leave the wolves alone and protect them instead of killing them they are precious animals

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Hirbawi , Shourouk</b>	<b>Cypress, CA</b>	5/19/2018 11:29:00 PM
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**221** STOP TEMPORADA DE CAÇA AO LOBO CINZENTO

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Henriques, Heloisa</b>	<b>New York, NY</b>	5/20/2018 5:46:00 PM
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**222** Wolves are an integral piece in the animal environmental chain, and are necessary to keeping a healthy ecosystem. Look at the data in the improvements in animal health since wolves have been reintroduced to Yellowstone. Do not support wolf slaughter. Thank you.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Wagner, Linda</b>	<b>Whitewater, WI</b>	5/20/2018 5:47:00 PM
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**223** Re: Increase of wolf quota in trophy zone. Dear Commissioners, It is already disappointing that in Wyoming wolf hunting is permitted 365 days a year across 85 percent of the state. It is also appalling that in this area wolves are classified as "shoot-on-sight vermin." This species, once essentially extirpated from Wyoming, can be slaughtered, often violently, by practically any means — guns, snares, explosives, trucks, and even via snowmobiles. It is also shocking that anyone (in most of Wyoming) can kill wolves without a hunting license, putting at great risk a wildlife species whose populations in the contiguous United States remain at a tiny fraction of what they once were. The other 15 percent of the state, concentrated around the Jackson Hole area and the Tetons, the tiny area where wolves and other predators are allowed to struggle to survive, the animals are also persecuted for nearly 3 months of the year. During the 2017 hunting season, licensed hunters killed 44 wolves in the so-called trophy area — 12 alone within the first 40 hours of the open season. Another 32 were killed across the rest of the state last year. Add to that, at least 48 are estimated to die annually from human impacts outside of hunting (1). This number, of course does not necessarily include wolves killed by poachers. I strongly oppose the proposal to increase the kill quota in the "trophy zone" to 58 animals (an increase of 32 percent over last year's quota of 44; a record high since wolf reintroduction 23 years ago). I am also dismayed that the state is not only considering an increase in license numbers from one to two, per individual, for a calendar year, but that wolf hunt area boundaries are being redrawn, and quotas boosted because "the Gros Ventre area's elk, and the Whiskey Mountain's bighorn sheep are shifting their winter ranges." In both cases there is little evidence that wolf predation is driving populations down. Rather than relying on science-based data, Wyoming seems to be using wolves as a scapegoat for a more complex problem. Should the justification for this proposal be livestock losses — as according to USFWS "wolves killed a record number of livestock in 2016" (154 cattle, 88 sheep and one horse). This "record number" is just 20 more depredations than the previous year. The price: Wildlife "Services" killed 113 wolves, up from 54 "removed" the previous year. Shocking. Losses to depredations are negligible when compared to losses from disease or weather. 37,550 sheep died that same year from causes which did not involve predators. Non-predator cause of death in adult cattle accounted for almost 98 percent, due to primarily respiratory diseases; calves 89 percent. From the miniscule percentage of cattle/calves killed by predators wolves were to blame for just 4.9 percent...domestic dogs were responsible for over twice as many losses than wolves, 11.3 percent (3). The occasional threat to livestock and small percentage of financial losses due to wolf depredations should not create such antipathy toward the wolf, an animal desperately needed to balance elk populations, which, in turn will curtail damage to important biotic factors. Since the majority of lands in the "trophy zone" are federal lands, and as the majority of Americans are opposed to the "take" of wolves on their public lands, an increase in the wolf quota in the "trophy zone" area to 58 animals simply is unacceptable, as is an increase in license numbers from one to two, per hunter/trapper, for a calendar year. I ask that you reconsider this proposal. In my mind the quota for this area should be reduced to zero, allowing the animals to live in peace; isn't it bad enough (for me, unacceptable) that wolves are sacrificed to appease ranchers grazing livestock on our public lands, which include nearly half of all lands in Wyoming. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter, E. A. Allen Executive Director, In the Shadow of the Wolf Representing a community of 30,000 members 1. [https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/Wildlife/Large%20Carnivore/2017-Wyoming-Wolf-Annual-Report\\_FINAL\\_2018-04-10.pdf](https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/Wildlife/Large%20Carnivore/2017-Wyoming-Wolf-Annual-Report_FINAL_2018-04-10.pdf) 2. [http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/gros-ventre-wolves-targeted/article\\_8916d217-5d70-59d2-823c-99a8b2122201.html](http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/gros-ventre-wolves-targeted/article_8916d217-5d70-59d2-823c-99a8b2122201.html) 3. [https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/nahms/general/downloads/cattle\\_calves\\_deathloss\\_2015.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/nahms/general/downloads/cattle_calves_deathloss_2015.pdf)

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

Final Comment

Allen, E. August

Bridgeport, CT

5/21/2018 8:56:00 AM

**224** Re: Increase of wolf quota in trophy zone. Dear Commissioners, It is already disappointing that in Wyoming wolf hunting is permitted 365 days a year across 85 percent of the state. It is also appalling that in this area wolves are classified as "shoot-on-sight vermin." This species, once essentially extirpated from Wyoming, can be slaughtered, often violently, by practically any means — guns, snares, explosives, trucks, and even via snowmobiles. It is also shocking that anyone (in most of Wyoming) can kill wolves without a hunting license, putting at great risk a wildlife species whose populations in the contiguous United States remain at a tiny fraction of what they once were. The other 15 percent of the state, concentrated around the Jackson Hole area and the Tetons, the tiny area where wolves and other predators are allowed to struggle to survive, the animals are also persecuted for nearly 3 months of the year. During the 2017 hunting season, licensed hunters killed 44 wolves in the so-called trophy area — 12 alone within the first 40 hours of the open season. Another 32 were killed across the rest of the state last year. Add to that, at least 48 are estimated to die annually from human impacts outside of hunting (1). This number, of course does not necessarily include wolves killed by poachers. I strongly oppose the proposal to increase the kill quota in the "trophy zone" to 58 animals (an increase of 32 percent over last year's quota of 44; a record high since wolf reintroduction 23 years ago). I am also dismayed that the state is not only considering an increase in license numbers from one to two, per individual, for a calendar year, but that wolf hunt area boundaries are being redrawn, and quotas boosted because "the Gros Ventre area's elk, and the Whiskey Mountain's bighorn sheep are shifting their winter ranges." In both cases there is little evidence that wolf predation is driving populations down. Rather than relying on science-based data, Wyoming seems to be using wolves as a scapegoat for a more complex problem. Should the justification for this proposal be livestock losses — as according to USFWS "wolves killed a record number of livestock in 2016" (154 cattle, 88 sheep and one horse). This "record number" is just 20 more depredations than the previous year. The price: Wildlife "Services" killed 113 wolves, up from 54 "removed" the previous year. Shocking. Losses to depredations are negligible when compared to losses from disease or weather. 37,550 sheep died that same year from causes which did not involve predators. Non-predator cause of death in adult cattle accounted for almost 98 percent, due to primarily respiratory diseases; calves 89 percent. From the miniscule percentage of cattle/calves killed by predators wolves were to blame for just 4.9 percent...domestic dogs were responsible for over twice as many losses than wolves, 11.3 percent (3). The occasional threat to livestock and small percentage of financial losses due to wolf depredations should not create such antipathy toward the wolf, an animal desperately needed to balance elk populations, which, in turn will curtail damage to important biotic factors. Since the majority of lands in the "trophy zone" are federal lands, and as the majority of Americans are opposed to the "take" of wolves on their public lands, an increase in the wolf quota in the "trophy zone" area to 58 animals simply is unacceptable, as is an increase in license numbers from one to two, per hunter/trapper, for a calendar year. I ask that you reconsider this proposal. In my mind the quota for this area should be reduced to zero, allowing the animals to live in peace; isn't it bad enough (for me, unacceptable) that wolves are sacrificed to appease ranchers grazing livestock on our public lands, which include nearly half of all lands in Wyoming. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter, E. A. Allen, Executive Director In the Shadow of the Wolf Representing a community of 30,000 members 1. [https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/Wildlife/Large%20Carnivore/2017-Wyoming-Wolf-Annual-Report\\_FINAL\\_2018-04-10.pdf](https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/Wildlife/Large%20Carnivore/2017-Wyoming-Wolf-Annual-Report_FINAL_2018-04-10.pdf) 2. [http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/gros-ventre-wolves-targeted/article\\_8916d217-5d70-59d2-823c-99a8b2122201.html](http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/gros-ventre-wolves-targeted/article_8916d217-5d70-59d2-823c-99a8b2122201.html) 3. [https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/nahms/general/downloads/cattle\\_calves\\_deathloss\\_2015.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/nahms/general/downloads/cattle_calves_deathloss_2015.pdf)

Final Comment

Allen, E. August

Bridgeport, CT

5/21/2018 9:02:00 AM

**225** Your Letter: Re: Proposal to increase wolf quota in trophy zone. Dear Commissioners, It is already disconcerting that in Wyoming wolf hunting is permitted 365 days a year across 85 percent of the state. It is also appalling that in this area wolves are looked upon as "shoot on sight vermin." Once essentially extirpated from Wyoming, this species can be slaughtered, often violently, by practically any means: guns, snares, explosives, trucks, and even via snowmobiles. It is also shocking that anyone (in most of Wyoming) can kill wolves without a hunting license, putting at great risk a wildlife species whose populations in the contiguous United States remain at a tiny fraction of what they once were. The other 15 percent of the state, concentrated around the Jackson Hole area and the Tetons, the tiny area where wolves and other predators are allowed to struggle to survive, the animals are also persecuted for nearly 3 months of the year. During the 2017 hunting season licensed hunters killed 44 wolves in the so-called trophy zone; 12 alone within the first 40 hours of the season. Add to that, at least 48 wolves are estimated to be killed annually from non-hunting human impacts (1). This calculation, of course, does not include unreported kills. I strongly oppose the proposal to increase the kill quota in the "trophy zone to 58 animals

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

(an increase of 32 percent over last year's quota of 44; a record high since wolf reintroduction 23 years ago). I am also dismayed that the state is not only considering an increase in license numbers from one to two, per individual, for a calendar year, but that wolf hunt area boundaries are being redrawn, and quotas boosted because "the Gros Ventre area's elk, and the Whiskey Mountain's bighorn sheep are shifting their winter ranges." In both cases there is little evidence that wolf predation is driving populations down. Rather than relying on science-based data, Wyoming seems to be using wolves as a scapegoat for a more complex problem (2). Should the justification for this proposal be livestock losses — as according to USFWS "wolves killed a record number of livestock in 2016" (154 cattle, 88 sheep and one horse). This "record number" is just 20 more depredations than the previous year. The price: Wildlife "Services" killed 113 wolves, up from 54 "removed" the previous year. Shocking. Losses to depredations are negligible when compared to losses from disease or weather. 37,550 sheep died that same year from causes which did not involve predators. Non-predator cause of death in adult cattle accounted for almost 98 percent, due to primarily respiratory diseases; calves 89 percent. From the miniscule percentage of cattle/calves killed by predators wolves were to blame for just 4.9 percent...domestic dogs were responsible for over twice as many losses than wolves, 11.3 percent (3). The occasional threat to livestock and small percentage of financial losses due to wolf depredations should not create such antipathy toward the wolf, an animal desperately needed to balance elk populations, which, in turn will curtail damage to important biotic factors. Since the majority of lands in the "trophy zone" are federal lands, and as the majority of Americans are opposed to the "take" of wolves on their public lands, an increase in the wolf quota in the "trophy zone" area to 58 animals is simply unacceptable, as is an increase in license numbers from one to two, per hunter/trapper, for a calendar year. I ask that you reconsider this proposal. In my mind the quota for this area should be reduced to zero, allowing the animals to live in peace; isn't it bad enough (for me, unacceptable) that wolves are sacrificed to appease ranchers grazing livestock on our public lands, which include nearly half of all lands in Wyoming.

Final Comment

Shabbott, Mary

Punta Gorda, FL

5/21/2018 2:08:00 PM

**226**

Re: Proposal to increase wolf quota in trophy zone. Dear Commissioners, It is already disconcerting that in Wyoming wolf hunting is permitted 365 days a year across 85 percent of the state. It is also appalling that in this area wolves are looked upon as "shoot on sight vermin." Once essentially extirpated from Wyoming, this species can be slaughtered, often violently, by practically any means: guns, snares, explosives, trucks, and even via snowmobiles. It is also shocking that anyone (in most of Wyoming) can kill wolves without a hunting license, putting at great risk a wildlife species whose populations in the contiguous United States remain at a tiny fraction of what they once were. The other 15 percent of the state, concentrated around the Jackson Hole area and the Tetons, the tiny area where wolves and other predators are allowed to struggle to survive, the animals are also persecuted for nearly 3 months of the year. During the 2017 hunting season licensed hunters killed 44 wolves in the so-called trophy zone; 12 alone within the first 40 hours of the season. Add to that, at least 48 wolves are estimated to be killed annually from non-hunting human impacts (1). This calculation, of course, does not include unreported kills. I strongly oppose the proposal to increase the kill quota in the "trophy zone to 58 animals (an increase of 32 percent over last year's quota of 44; a record high since wolf reintroduction 23 years ago). I am also dismayed that the state is not only considering an increase in license numbers from one to two, per individual, for a calendar year, but that wolf hunt area boundaries are being redrawn, and quotas boosted because "the Gros Ventre area's elk, and the Whiskey Mountain's bighorn sheep are shifting their winter ranges." In both cases there is little evidence that wolf predation is driving populations down. Rather than relying on science-based data, Wyoming seems to be using wolves as a scapegoat for a more complex problem (2). Should the justification for this proposal be livestock losses — as according to USFWS "wolves killed a record number of livestock in 2016" (154 cattle, 88 sheep and one horse). This "record number" is just 20 more depredations than the previous year. The price: Wildlife "Services" killed 113 wolves, up from 54 "removed" the previous year. Shocking. Losses to depredations are negligible when compared to losses from disease or weather. 37,550 sheep died that same year from causes which did not involve predators. Non-predator cause of death in adult cattle accounted for almost 98 percent, due to primarily respiratory diseases; calves 89 percent. From the miniscule percentage of cattle/calves killed by predators wolves were to blame for just 4.9 percent...domestic dogs were responsible for over twice as many losses than wolves, 11.3 percent (3). The occasional threat to livestock and small percentage of financial losses due to wolf depredations should not create such antipathy toward the wolf, an animal desperately needed to balance elk populations, which, in turn will curtail damage to important biotic factors. Since the majority of lands in the "trophy zone" are federal lands, and as the majority of Americans are opposed to the "take" of wolves on their public lands, an increase in the wolf quota in the "trophy zone" area to 58 animals is simply unacceptable, as is an increase in license numbers from one to two, per hunter/trapper, for a calendar year. I ask that you reconsider this proposal. In my mind the quota

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

for this area should be reduced to zero, allowing the animals to live in peace; isn't it bad enough (for me, unacceptable) that wolves are sacrificed to appease ranchers grazing livestock on our public lands, which include nearly half of all lands in Wyoming. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter, Signed, Mrs Zias

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Zias , Monica</b>	<b>Flushing , NY</b>	<b>5/21/2018 2:14:00 PM</b>
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**227** Wolves are a critical component of the ecosystem and are far more important than the financial interests of cattle ranchers or hunting advocates. By allowing wolves to be hunted for trophy (or for any reason, for that matter), you are advocating for both animal cruelty and a weakened ecosystem. Instead of punishing wolves by murdering them in cruel and unconscionable manners (guns, explosives, snares, and other disgusting forms of death that would easily qualify as animal cruelty if it were inflicted upon a domesticated animal) for the pitifully small percentage of cattle loss that can be attributed to being killed by wild animals. Perhaps instead address neglect, cruelty, and irresponsibility amongst the cattle and sheep ranchers themselves. If ranchers so worried about their precious livestock, perhaps they should protect them from the weather and treat them when they are ill, as that is the cause of ~98% of livestock death. Stop leading an obviously biased and hateful vendetta against wolves. Cease valuing human currency over the balance of nature and the welfare of the wild animals unfortunate enough to be under your jurisdiction.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Kelly, Leah</b>	<b>Lake Panasoffkee, FL</b>	<b>5/21/2018 2:16:00 PM</b>
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**228** Dear Commissioners, Wolf hunting is permitted in Wyoming 365 days a year across 85 percent of the state; wolves are regarded as "shoot on sight vermin." They can be killed in most areas without a license and by any means, no matter how violently and cruelly. The other 15% of the state allows wolf persecution for three months of the year. During the 2017 hunting season licensed hunters killed 44 wolves in the so-called trophy zone; 12 alone within the first 40 hours of the season. In addition, at least 48 wolves are estimated to be killed annually from non-hunting human impacts (1). This only includes reported kills. I strongly oppose the proposal to increase the kill quota in the "trophy zone" to 58 animals (an increase of 32 percent over last year's quota of 44; a record high since wolf reintroduction 23 years ago). I am dismayed that the state is not only considering an increase in license numbers from one to two, per individual, for a calendar year, but that wolf hunt area boundaries are being redrawn, and quotas boosted because "the Gros Ventre area's elk, and the Whiskey Mountain's bighorn sheep are shifting their winter ranges." In both cases there is little evidence that wolf predation is driving populations down. Rather than relying on science-based data, Wyoming seems to be using wolves as a scapegoat for a more complex problem (2). According to USFWS "wolves killed a record number of livestock in 2016" (154 cattle, 88 sheep and one horse); but this "record number" is just 20 more depredations than the previous year. The terrible price: Wildlife "Services" killed 113 wolves, up from 54 "removed" the previous year. Losses to depredations are negligible when compared to losses from disease or weather. 37,550 sheep died that same year from causes which did not involve predators. Non-predator cause of death in adult cattle accounted for almost 98 percent, due to primarily respiratory diseases; calves 89 percent. From the miniscule percentage of cattle/calves killed by predators wolves were to blame for just 4.9 percent, and in fact domestic dogs were responsible for over twice as many losses than wolves, 11.3 percent (3). The occasional threat to livestock and small percentage of financial losses due to wolf depredations should not create such antipathy toward the wolf, an animal desperately needed to balance elk populations, which, in turn will curtail damage to important biotic factors. Since the majority of lands in the "trophy zone" are federal lands, and as the majority of Americans are opposed to the "take" of wolves on their public lands, an increase in the wolf quota in the "trophy zone" area to 58 animals is simply unacceptable, as is an increase in license numbers from one to two, per hunter/trapper, for a calendar year. I ask that you reconsider this proposal. In my mind the quota for this area should be reduced to zero, allowing the animals to live in peace; isn't it bad enough (for me, unacceptable) that wolves are sacrificed to appease ranchers grazing livestock on public lands, which include nearly half of all lands in Wyoming. Thank you for your attention. Susan Fairweather.  
1. [https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/Wildlife/Large%20Carnivore/2017-Wyoming-Wolf-Annual-Report\\_FINAL\\_2018-04-10.pdf](https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/Wildlife/Large%20Carnivore/2017-Wyoming-Wolf-Annual-Report_FINAL_2018-04-10.pdf) 2. [http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/gros-ventre-wolves-targeted/article\\_8916d217-5d70-59d2-823c-99a8b2122201.html](http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/gros-ventre-wolves-targeted/article_8916d217-5d70-59d2-823c-99a8b2122201.html)  
3. [https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/nahms/general/downloads/cattle\\_calves\\_deathloss\\_2015.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/nahms/general/downloads/cattle_calves_deathloss_2015.pdf)

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Fairweather, Susan</b>	<b>ST AUSTELL,</b>	<b>5/21/2018 3:10:00 PM</b>
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**229** Stop Murdering Wolves and other wildlife, they are NOT your property leave them alone



## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**234** Dear Commissioners, It is already disconcerting that in Wyoming wolf hunting is permitted 365 days a year across 85 percent of the state. It is also appalling that in this area wolves are looked upon as “shoot on sight vermin.” Once essentially extirpated from Wyoming, this species can be slaughtered, often violently, by practically any means: guns, snares, explosives, trucks, and even via snowmobiles. It is also shocking that anyone (in most of Wyoming) can kill wolves without a hunting license, putting at great risk a wildlife species whose populations in the contiguous United States remain at a tiny fraction of what they once were. The other 15 percent of the state, concentrated around the Jackson Hole area and the Tetons, the tiny area where wolves and other predators are allowed to struggle to survive, the animals are also persecuted for nearly 3 months of the year. During the 2017 hunting season licensed hunters killed 44 wolves in the so-called trophy zone; 12 alone within the first 40 hours of the season. Add to that, at least 48 wolves are estimated to be killed annually from non-hunting human impacts (1). This calculation, of course, does not include unreported kills. I strongly oppose the proposal to increase the kill quota in the “trophy zone to 58 animals (an increase of 32 percent over last year’s quota of 44; a record high since wolf reintroduction 23 years ago). I am also dismayed that the state is not only considering an increase in license numbers from one to two, per individual, for a calendar year, but that wolf hunt area boundaries are being redrawn, and quotas boosted because “the Gros Ventre area’s elk, and the Whiskey Mountain’s bighorn sheep are shifting their winter ranges.” In both cases there is little evidence that wolf predation is driving populations down. Rather than relying on science-based data, Wyoming seems to be using wolves as a scapegoat for a more complex problem (2). Should the justification for this proposal be livestock losses — as according to USFWS “wolves killed a record number of livestock in 2016” (154 cattle, 88 sheep and one horse). This “record number” is just 20 more depredations than the previous year. The price: Wildlife “Services” killed 113 wolves, up from 54 “removed” the previous year. Shocking. Losses to depredations are negligible when compared to losses from disease or weather. 37,550 sheep died that same year from causes which did not involve predators. Non-predator cause of death in adult cattle accounted for almost 98 percent, primarily due to respiratory diseases; calves 89 percent. From the miniscule percentage of cattle/calves killed by predators wolves were to blame for just 4.9 percent; domestic dogs were responsible for over twice as many losses than wolves, 11.3 percent (3). The occasional threat to livestock and small percentage of financial losses due to wolf depredations should not create such antipathy toward the wolf, an animal desperately needed to balance elk populations, which, in turn will curtail damage to important biotic factors. Since the majority of lands in the “trophy zone” are federal lands, and as the majority of Americans are opposed to the “take” of wolves on their public lands, an increase in the wolf quota in the “trophy zone” area to 58 animals is simply unacceptable, as is an increase in license numbers from one to two, per hunter/trapper, for a calendar year. I ask that you reconsider this proposal. In my mind the quota for this area should be reduced to zero, allowing the animals to live in peace; isn’t it bad enough (for me, unacceptable) that wolves are sacrificed to appease ranchers grazing livestock our public lands, which include nearly half of all lands in Wyoming. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter, Ms Connie Burris

Final Comment

Burris, Connie

Springfield , IL

5/24/2018 1:54:00 PM

**235** Dear Commissioners, It is already disconcerting that in Wyoming wolf hunting is permitted 365 days a year across 85 percent of the state. It is also appalling that in this area wolves are looked upon as “shoot on sight vermin.” Once essentially extirpated from Wyoming, this species can be slaughtered, often violently, by practically any means: guns, snares, explosives, trucks, and even via snowmobiles. It is also shocking that anyone (in most of Wyoming) can kill wolves without a hunting license, putting at great risk a wildlife species whose populations in the contiguous United States remain at a tiny fraction of what they once were. The other 15 percent of the state, concentrated around the Jackson Hole area and the Tetons, the tiny area where wolves and other predators are allowed to struggle to survive, the animals are also persecuted for nearly 3 months of the year. During the 2017 hunting season licensed hunters killed 44 wolves in the so-called trophy zone; 12 alone within the first 40 hours of the season. Add to that, at least 48 wolves are estimated to be killed annually from non-hunting human impacts (1). This calculation, of course, does not include unreported kills. I strongly oppose the proposal to increase the kill quota in the “trophy zone to 58 animals (an increase of 32 percent over last year’s quota of 44; a record high since wolf reintroduction 23 years ago). I am also dismayed that the state is not only considering an increase in license numbers from one to two, per individual, for a calendar year, but that wolf hunt area boundaries are being redrawn, and quotas boosted because “the Gros Ventre area’s elk, and the Whiskey Mountain’s bighorn sheep are shifting their winter ranges.” In both cases there is little evidence that wolf predation is driving populations down. Rather than relying on science-based data, Wyoming seems to be using wolves as a scapegoat for a more complex problem (2). Should the justification for this proposal be livestock losses — as according to USFWS “wolves killed a record number of livestock in 2016” (154 cattle, 88 sheep and one horse). This “record number” is just 20 more depredations than the previous year. The

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

price: Wildlife "Services" killed 113 wolves, up from 54 "removed" the previous year. Shocking. Losses to depredations are negligible when compared to losses from disease or weather. 37,550 sheep died that same year from causes which did not involve predators. Non-predator cause of death in adult cattle accounted for almost 98 percent, primarily due to respiratory diseases; calves 89 percent. From the miniscule percentage of cattle/calves killed by predators wolves were to blame for just 4.9 percent; domestic dogs were responsible for over twice as many losses than wolves, 11.3 percent (3). The occasional threat to livestock and small percentage of financial losses due to wolf depredations should not create such antipathy toward the wolf, an animal desperately needed to balance elk populations, which, in turn will curtail damage to important biotic factors. Since the majority of lands in the "trophy zone" are federal lands, and as the majority of Americans are opposed to the "take" of wolves on their public lands, an increase in the wolf quota in the "trophy zone" area to 58 animals is simply unacceptable, as is an increase in license numbers from one to two, per hunter/trapper, for a calendar year. I ask that you reconsider this proposal. In my mind the quota for this area should be reduced to zero, allowing the animals to live in peace; isn't it bad enough (for me, unacceptable) that wolves are sacrificed to appease ranchers grazing livestock on our public lands, which include nearly half of all lands in Wyoming. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter, Mr Dave Daniels

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Daniels , Dave</b>	<b>Springfield , IL</b>	<b>5/24/2018 1:56:00 PM</b>
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**236** Re: Proposal to increase wolf quota in trophy zone. Dear Commissioners, It is already disconcerting that in Wyoming wolf hunting is permitted 365 days a year across 85 percent of the state. It is also appalling that in this area wolves are looked upon as "shoot on sight vermin." Once essentially extirpated from Wyoming, this species can be slaughtered, often violently, by practically any means: guns, snares, explosives, trucks, and even via snowmobiles. It is also shocking that anyone (in most of Wyoming) can kill wolves without a hunting license, putting at great risk a wildlife species whose populations in the contiguous United States remain at a tiny fraction of what they once were. The other 15 percent of the state, concentrated around the Jackson Hole area and the Tetons, the tiny area where wolves and other predators are allowed to struggle to survive, the animals are also persecuted for nearly 3 months of the year. During the 2017 hunting season licensed hunters killed 44 wolves in the so-called trophy zone; 12 alone within the first 40 hours of the season. Add to that, at least 48 wolves are estimated to be killed annually from non-hunting human impacts (1). This calculation, of course, does not include unreported kills. I strongly oppose the proposal to increase the kill quota in the "trophy zone to 58 animals (an increase of 32 percent over last year's quota of 44; a record high since wolf reintroduction 23 years ago). I am also dismayed that the state is not only considering an increase in license numbers from one to two, per individual, for a calendar year, but that wolf hunt area boundaries are being redrawn, and quotas boosted because "the Gros Ventre area's elk, and the Whiskey Mountain's bighorn sheep are shifting their winter ranges." In both cases there is little evidence that wolf predation is driving populations down. Rather than relying on science-based data, Wyoming seems to be using wolves as a scapegoat for a more complex problem (2). Should the justification for this proposal be livestock losses — as according to USFWS "wolves killed a record number of livestock in 2016" (154 cattle, 88 sheep and one horse). This "record number" is just 20 more depredations than the previous year. The price: Wildlife "Services" killed 113 wolves, up from 54 "removed" the previous year. Helen Zant

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Zant, Helen</b>	<b>Jennings , LA</b>	<b>5/24/2018 11:51:00 PM</b>
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**237** Wyoming wolves are designated in Wyoming's proposed hunting regulation as either "predatory" or "trophy game" animals. Is there no other way to look at the gray wolf? What about icon of Western life? What about joy to the heart of those who encounter them face-to-face? What about animal whose presence balances ecosystems and promotes the health of their prey by taking the old and sick? Wyoming's introduction states that: [a]s part of the management of wolves Wyoming uses hunting as it does with many other species. I suggest that is not so. With other species, the long-term health of the animal is a primary consideration. Wyoming's hunting regulations do not permit wolves to move and migrate safely between protected national parks, as they must to find food and ensure the genetic viability of the species. Wyoming wolf managers are living a land version of Moby Dick. All that is evil in the world — and not subject to human control — resides not in the white whale, but instead in the gray wolf. You stalk him with implacable rage that has no place in the hunter's arsenal. It's a new world. Ranchers can and are learning to live in peace with the wolf. So can you, Wyoming's wolf managers. Lead — don't follow. Let go of your hate, educate, and move into the twenty-first century. Thank you, Monica Glickman Denver, CO visiting in Wyoming in June and August, 2018

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Glickman, Monica</b>	<b>Denver, CO</b>	<b>5/26/2018 6:52:00 PM</b>
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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**238** Wyoming's introduction states that: [a]s part of the management of wolves Wyoming uses hunting as it does with many other species. I suggest that is not so. With other species, the long-term health of the animal is a primary consideration. Wyoming's hunting regulations do not permit wolves to move and migrate safely between protected national parks, as they must to find food and ensure the genetic viability of the species. Are hunters in Wyoming encouraged or required to hunt with honor? That is, to hunt with respect for the life of the animal killed; to use methods which incorporate standards of decency and fair play? I applaud your prohibition against the use of radio tracking equipment. Do you permit the use of airplanes and/or drones to locate, chase, or kill wolves? Do you permit the placing of carcasses to encourage wolves to come into the open? Do you permit the use of recordings of young in distress to attract wolves? Do you permit trapping before shooting? If so, your hunting regulations do not meet minimum standards of fair play. Wyoming wolves are designated in Wyoming's proposed hunting regulation as either "predatory" or "trophy game" animals. "Gray wolves located in Hunt Area 12 are designated as predatory animals from March 1 through October 14 and during this time period may be taken without a license." Section 4 (j) Does this also mean wolves deemed predatory may be taken free of Wyoming's restrictions on hunting numbers, methods and techniques? Is there no way to look at the gray wolf other than as a predator or trophy game animal? What about icon of Western life? What about joy to the heart of those who encounter them face-to-face? What about animal whose presence balances ecosystems and promotes the health of their prey by taking the old and sick? Wyoming wolf managers are living a land version of MOBY DICK. All that is evil in the world – and not subject to human control – resides not in the white whale, but instead in the gray wolf. You stalk him with implacable rage that has no place in the hunter's arsenal. It's a new world. Ranchers can and are learning to live in peace with the wolf. So can you, Wyoming's wolf managers. Lead – don't follow. Step to the forefront, educate, and move into the twenty-first century. Wolves and people can and already do co-exist. Thank you, Monica Glickman Denver, CO visiting in Wyoming in June and August, 2018 Please excuse possible multiple online submissions. After clicking "submit", my comment was followed by error messages.

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**Final Comment**                      **Glickman, Monica**                      **Denver, CO**    5/27/2018 12:26:00 PM

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**239** Do not allow the trophy hunting of wolves. The only reason to shoot them is to satisfy human blood lust. There is no scientific support for hunting wolves in order to increase game or to protect livestock. Wolves will increase litters and litter sizes when adults are killed. They are important stewards of their territories and should be left alone.

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**Final Comment**                      **Arnold, JoEllen**                      **Sacramento , CA**    5/28/2018 11:04:00 AM

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**240** Wyoming hunting regulations evidence a 19th Century mentality, not one fit for the 21st Century. Far more people want to see and photograph wolves than shoot them. Yet Wyoming caters to the tiny minority who find killing fun. No science backs up Wyoming's predator policies. Wolves need protection, not killing.

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**Final Comment**                      **Derevan, Rick**                      **Atascadero , CA**    5/28/2018 1:32:00 PM

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**241** Why? Why would you expand the hunting season to include wolves in their dens with pups and denning grizzlies? It boggles the mind to think that people are so willing to destroy our natural predators. You are suppose to be watching out for their welfare and instead you sell them out. This will put a blackmail on the State of Wyoming. People who come to observe and enjoy wildlife will boycott your state. You will have the reputation of cruelty, greed and short-sightedness. It seems so unfair that people like you get to make these decisions. Leave the wolves, grizzlies and buffalo alone!

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**Final Comment**                      **Goldman, Meryll**                      **Alexandria, NH**    5/28/2018 7:02:00 PM

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**242** there is no science-based foundation for "sport" or "trophy" hunting or managing a population to minimum numbers.I am a WY native and this type of management practice shames me...cant we find better ways to do this? We look like barbarians to the outside public and the thought of hunting wolves, bears or trophy hunting makes me sick to my stomach...

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**Final Comment**                      **Mack, Tammy**                      **Laramie, WY**    5/29/2018 6:21:00 AM

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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**243** I am against the increase in the number of wolves allowed to be hunted. I am against trophy hunting. It is disrespect for life and not necessary. There is no benefit from killing of a wolf, it is just pleasure for the trophy hunter. RESPECT WILDLIFE!

**Final Comment**                      **LUCERO, DANIELA**                      **CHEYENNE, WY**                      5/30/2018 9:33:00 AM

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**244** I strongly oppose the proposal for increasing the number of wolves to be murdered. Wolves are an essential keystone species. Killing these animals to benefit trophy hunters is wrong, to say the least. The majority of people love wildlife and prefer to see it alive. There is no decent reason for this proposal.

**Final Comment**                      **Shabbott, Mary**                      **Punta gorda, FL**                      5/30/2018 9:53:00 AM

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**245** I have a hard time understanding. Did you just bring the wolf back to be hunted an killed an you make money with an trophy licence. Can't you just let the wolf balance nature out without killing them. Let the wolf work on CWD. It took time to get the wolf to where they at at now an man can wipe they out in no time. it a darn shame to kill them off in anyway you want. Your a sorry batch of humans

**Final Comment**                      **Todd, Glenn**                      **Newton, NC**                      5/30/2018 10:50:00 AM

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**246** This is really sorry cause i can't make it to you with my comment. Your SORRY people

**Final Comment**                      **Todd, Glenn**                      **Newton, NC**                      5/30/2018 10:53:00 AM

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**247** Leave the wolves alone! They were here before us and they deserve to live.

**Final Comment**                      **Martin, Deborah**                      **Mobile, AL**                      5/30/2018 2:20:00 PM

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**248** We must stop the Wyoming pricks!!!

**Final Comment**                      **Yoon , Jay**                      **Waterloo , On**                      5/30/2018 2:41:00 PM

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**249** Dear Sirs, This is important subject and personal I enjoy the outdoors and seeing wildlife. The increase of killing our wolves is very distressing. They are important to the balance of nature and have been proven to bring back natural areas that we all enjoy such as Yellowstone park. Instead of increasing the killing of our wolves we need to protect them. Their numbers and genetics are at risk. They help keep elk, deer healthy populations and help return parks woodlands , meadows, waterways back to flourishing. So many benefits to our wolf populations. If the killing of wildlife continues what's the use of visiting these areas, No one will have any reason visit parks. Please save our wolves and wildlife.

**Final Comment**                      **Schaefer, Lorna**                      **Laveen, AZ**                      5/30/2018 2:58:00 PM

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**250** Please stop the senseless killing on wolves!!

**Final Comment**                      **Varela, Anthony**                      **Santa ana, CA**                      5/30/2018 5:46:00 PM

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**251** We like to visit and recreate in the area, a big part of this is the chance to see or hear wolves. Wolves are a vital part of a healthy ecosystem, their numbers are so few, they really need protection. Last time we were in the area, we didn't hear or see any. Please put an end to the hunting of wolves, they are not edible meat and it's wrong.

**Final Comment**                      **Alton, Robert**                      **Fredericksburg, VA**                      5/30/2018 8:21:00 PM

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**252** STOP THE KILLING. NO MORE EVIL TRAPS, CYANIDE GAS BOMBS, ETC. ETC. These living, breathing beings have families, some mate for life, all have a purpose in nature, like keeping the balance of populations in the wild. Man does not need the "food". Man does not need to control the balance in

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

nature by organizing the HUNT. Leave nature alone. Man has only a caveman mentality for killing. Try using a long range scope on a camera, it may cleanse the soul.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Costello, Carol</b>	<b>Glendale, AZ</b>	5/30/2018 11:55:00 PM
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**253** I am opposed to any wolf hunt. Wyoming have only a couple hundred wolves, and the wolves are only there because of the millions of dollar of our taxpayer's money spent over 4 decades for their "Recovery". Since Hunters have been "Managing" the Elk and Moose population, killing the strongest male, the genetic disposition of the species have been compromised , I understand there is massive outbreak of Chronic Wasting Disease in elk, moose, and deer. population. This is due to human manipulation!!!, like Man always thinks he better and smarter than God or Nature. So, NO WOLF HUNT, the wolves may be the predator that will save your beloved elk and moose.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Song, Georgie</b>	<b>pepeekeo, HI</b>	5/31/2018 12:57:00 AM
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**254** Killing wolves is not a means to helping neither rangers or hunters or the public. Hunting should be left for animals we can eat not just for fun. Wolves are important for our ecosystem. Please, stop the senseless killings.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Carmona, Jose</b>	<b>Haines City, FL</b>	5/31/2018 12:15:00 PM
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**255** Re. the proposed increase in the number of wolves to be taken to 58 vice 44: For whatever good it will do (I don't think WDG&F listens to its residents and the Game Commission organization strongly anti-wolf biased). I am opposed to increasing the take on wolves. The Game Department should not try to make up for budget shortfall by targeting bears and wolves to sell more licenses. The WDG&F is a puppet that does not scientifically manage our wildlife, but rather knee-jerks to the demands of politicians. Sorry but killing more wolves is a bad idea.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Layser, Earle</b>	<b>Alta, WY</b>	5/31/2018 12:19:00 PM
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**256** I absolutely oppose increasing the quota for the 2018-19 Gray Wolf hunting season. The quota is already too high, and demonstrates a desire on Wyoming's part to drive wolves down to the absolute legal minimum. In a state that already allows most regions to have a year-round "shoot on sight" policy for gray wolves, and allows numerous means of implementing such slaughter, culling more gray wolves is irresponsible. Fish and Wildlife is supposed to use the best available science to manage populations, and I would like to see evidence that driving down wolf populations by increasing the hunting quota, with accounting for disease, inter-wolf aggression, etc, truly allows for a sustainable wolf population. Additionally, the ecotourism industry is booming, most people spending millions of dollars in local economies adjacent to the park to see these very animals that Wyoming is so bent on culling. With Wyoming's economy at a major low with severe debt, it's importan to take this major economically-boosting demographic into effect, instead of artificially driving up ungulate populations for hunters to then slaughter for trophies. Finally, with CWD on the rise and spreading to Greater Yellowstone, now more than ever do you need predators to help cull the sick, weak animals to help sustain healthy ungulate populations.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Stuart, Amanda</b>	<b>Grass Valley, CA</b>	5/31/2018 5:28:00 PM
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**257** This proposed change, or increase, should not be approved. Wolves are a keystone species, which means their role is absolutely vital for a healthy and thriving ecosystem. With that being said, they should not be trophy hunted at all to begin with and many people, including myself, know that increasing this already high number of deaths is cruel and unnecessary; it is merely an excuse to be able to mass murder an EXTREMELY beautiful, important, and endangered animal. If this proposal is passed, I can assure you that many people will decide not to visit Wyoming and instead, give their money to another state who actually cares for their predators by leaving them be. Having this gray wolf hunting season to begin with is disgusting. There is no need for it seeing as how the number of wild wolves left is already so little...why not try to conserve the natural environment that visitors love so much about your state? Just a thought. I hope you actually respect and consider others' thoughts and opinions about this matter besides the people who have always control over this topic. Thank you.

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

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**Final Comment**                      **Keller, Katie**                      **Scottsdale, AZ**                      5/31/2018 6:12:00 PM

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**258** There is a circle of life and these animals are becoming extinct. I was horrified that grizzled are now trophy hunted legalized by law. Let's be realistic. We are taking over their territories and allowing unnecessary killing to animals. My words won't make a difference unfortunately but whomever makes this legal is cruel. Doesn't the humane society have an issue with your decisions? Just because we don't own wild animals they deserve to live unharmed. I am speechless. My children and I met wolves last year who have been rescued...they are wild dogs and so full of spirit....leave nature alone

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**Final Comment**                      **Leslie, Deanna**                      **St charles, IL**                      5/31/2018 6:41:00 PM

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**259** I speak for the wolves. The wolves are the most important animals in our wildlife. They keep diseases down by killing sick and weak prey. Without wolves there will be no wildlife. Our wildlife needs WOLVES to keep everything in harmony. Please consider letting Gods spiritual animals live and enjoy their habitat. SAVE OUR WOLVES!!

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**Final Comment**                      **Smith, Susan**                      **Brewton, AL**                      5/31/2018 7:22:00 PM

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**260** I will avoid spending my money in a state that allows wanton disregard for the necessary balance of an ecosystem. You will be overrun by elk and rodents if you continue to persecute alpha predators (this is not opinion, by the way – simply information that can be found in any middle school Earth Science book). If you care at all for the future of your state, allow ALL species to play their role. Only then will you we all thrive.

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**Final Comment**                      **Buslot, Chantal**                      **Hasselt,**                      6/1/2018 9:11:00 AM

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**261** I am strongly against expanding the Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons that you are wanting to do.,The Wolf is over hunted as it is and if anything Hunting should be reduced to only Wolves that are a problem with Livestock. We Vacation in your State for a week every fall and Hope to do so again,But if Hunting is expanded We Will Not be spending a dime in WY.

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**Final Comment**                      **Haugen, Randy**                      **Decorah, IA**                      6/1/2018 10:05:00 AM

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**262** June 1, 2018 Re: Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, Chapter 47 Gray Wolf Hunting Season 2018-19 Submitted electronically at: [https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD\\_WebSurvey/CommentOnly.aspx](https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD_WebSurvey/CommentOnly.aspx) Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Wyoming Game and Fish Department's (WGFD) proposal for the 2018-2019 gray wolf hunting season, Wyoming Game and Fish Commission regulations, Chapter 47. Defenders of Wildlife (Defenders) is a national non-profit conservation organization with more than 1.8 million members and supporters nationwide, of which more than 3,400 are residents of Wyoming. Over the last three decades, Defenders has played an important role in the recovery of wolves in the Northern Rockies. Defenders led a Wolf Compensation Trust from 1987 through 2011, reimbursing more than \$1.4 million to ranchers in the region for livestock losses due to wolves. Today, Defenders assists ranchers across the West with nonlethal tools to minimize livestock losses to wolves. We operate these projects in partnership with county, state, tribal and federal agencies. Overall Population Goal Wolves are an important component of Wyoming's natural heritage and should be managed toward achieving healthy and abundant populations. Defenders is opposed to WGFD's continued focus on reducing the wolf population to the lowest number that the agency feels it can reach and remain above the bare minimum recovery levels established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Wolves should be managed to maintain healthy and abundant populations across large landscapes so that they may perform their important ecological role. WGFD appears to have an ongoing goal of reducing the wolf population to 160 wolves, largely to address livestock conflict and perceived pressure on ungulates (Koshmrl, April 24, 2018 and Koshmrl, May 9, 2018). However, the science has increasingly shown that lethal removal of wolves can disrupt pack structure, is ineffective in the long term at reducing livestock conflicts, can prove more costly than nonlethal prevention measures and fails to increase tolerance for the species (Wielgus and Peebles, 2014; McNay, 2002; Harper et al. 2008; Hogberg et al. 2013; McManus et al. 2014; Santiago et al. 2018). Rather than allow for natural predator-prey dynamics, WGFD is proposing to kill additional wolves to boost ungulate populations without strong evidence to suggest that ungulate populations are declining due to wolves. Defenders acknowledges the importance of social tolerance for a species, evident in our earlier wolf compensation program and our ongoing

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

conflict prevention work (Stone, et. al. 2017). We also recognize that losses to individual producers can be significant; however, livestock producers and hunters should not be the drivers for WGFD's management of wolves. These decisions should be based in science. We ask WGFD to not increase allowable take of wolves in Wyoming and to not increase the number of wolves one hunter can kill. Proposed Hunt Area Quotas Around National Parks Some wolf packs in Wyoming have territories that straddle Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park or the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. National Parkway and areas outside the parks. In 2017, national park visitors to Wyoming spent approximately \$882 million in local gateway regions, and supported 12.3 thousand jobs and \$1.1 billion in economic output to the Wyoming economy (Cullinane, et. al. 2018). For these reasons, packs whose territories extend outside the national parks' borders should be recognized for their benefits to the integrity of the parks' ecosystems, their contribution and importance to science and their economic benefit to local communities. We request WGFD set quotas of 0 in Wolf Hunt Areas (WHA) that include packs that straddle national park boundaries. Another option would be to redraw the WHAs recognizing locations where current and future packs are likely to straddle park boundaries, and assign quotas of 0 to new WHAs. John D. Rockefeller Parkway We support the Department's decision to continue to keep the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway closed to wolf hunting. This decision contributes to the ecological integrity of this important corridor between Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks. Conclusion As it stands, the current proposal disregards the ecological, scientific and intrinsic role that wolves play in Wyoming. Wolves are already allowed to be killed without the need for a permit in nearly 84 percent of the state. Defenders is strongly opposed to this predator zone. Rather than increase the number of wolves to be killed, Wyoming should improve outreach on the ecological role of wolves in the state and promote the use of techniques that prevent conflicts. We ask you to refrain from increasing the number of wolves to be killed, do not increase the number of wolves one hunter can take and protect wolf packs that straddle national park boundaries. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this plan. Erin Edge, Rockies and Plains Representative Defenders of Wildlife eedge@defenders.org 406-728-9436 P.O. Box 1858 Missoula, MT 59806 Citations Cullinane Thomas, C., and L. Koontz. 2018. 2017 national park visitor spending effects: Economic contributions to local communities, states, and the nation. Natural Resource Report NPS/NRSS/EQD/NRR—2018/1616. 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Project 14.17. Santiago-Avila FJ, Cornman AM, Treves, A. 2018. Killing wolves to prevent predation on livestock may protect one farm but harm neighbors. *PLoS ONE* 13(1): e0189729. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0189729> Spina, John. "Wyoming sets wolf population goal of 160." *Jackson Hole News and Guide*. May 24, 2017. Web. [http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/wyoming-sets-wolf-population-goal-of/article\\_6ef7478e-7a4a-5eac-abc0-5f9f199e6d89.html](http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/wyoming-sets-wolf-population-goal-of/article_6ef7478e-7a4a-5eac-abc0-5f9f199e6d89.html). Accessed on May 26, 2017. Stone, S. A., S. W. Breck, J. Timberlake, P. M. Haswell, F. Najera, B. S. Bean, D. J. Thornhill. 2017. Adaptive use of non-lethal strategies for minimizing wolf-sheep conflict in Idaho. *Journal of Mammalogy*. 98(1): 33-44. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jmammal/gyw188> Wielgus RB, Peebles KA (2014) Effects of Wolf Mortality on Livestock Depredations. *PLoS ONE* 9(12): e113505. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0113505> Koshmrl, M. Wyoming Game and Fish targets a record 58 wolves to hunt. *Jackson Hole News and Guide*. April 24, 2018. Accessed on May 24, 2018. [http://trib.com/news/state-and-regional/wyoming-game-and-fish-targets-a-record-wolves-in-hunt/article\\_d6c6444f-5388-5d76-ab16-d4504523e2f9.html](http://trib.com/news/state-and-regional/wyoming-game-and-fish-targets-a-record-wolves-in-hunt/article_d6c6444f-5388-5d76-ab16-d4504523e2f9.html) Koshmrl, M. Wyoming changes hunt areas, increases pressure on Gros Ventre and Dubois-Area wolves. May 9, 2018. Accessed on May 24, 2018. [http://trib.com/lifestyles/recreation/wyoming-changes-hunt-areas-increases-pressure-on-gros-ventre-and/article\\_50449988-f684-5e51-91e2-1960557792b8.html](http://trib.com/lifestyles/recreation/wyoming-changes-hunt-areas-increases-pressure-on-gros-ventre-and/article_50449988-f684-5e51-91e2-1960557792b8.html)

Final Comment

Edge, Erin

Missoula, MT

6/1/2018 12:04:00 PM

**263** To whom it may concern I would like to see area 11 needs to open no later than sept 1st keep quota of 15 and stay open until the quota is filled even if we wind up with a year round season. This area is an area with a lot of livestock depredation and I feel that if a hunter has the chance to take a wolf it's a better deal than the department having to take them out. Thank you for your time. Todd Stevie Cora Wyoming

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Stevie, Todd</b>	<b>Pinedale , WY</b>	6/1/2018 12:15:00 PM
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**264** Area 11 needs to open no later than Sept 1st. Keep the Quota of 15 and stay open until the quota is filled even if this results in a year-round season.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Stevie, Todd</b>	<b>Pinedale, WY</b>	6/1/2018 1:10:00 PM
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**265** To whom this may concern,

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>La Bomme, Antoinette</b>	<b>Woodland Hills, CA</b>	6/1/2018 3:22:00 PM
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**266** Part 3 The Proposed Regulation Does Not Adequately Protect Wolves in Connectivity Corridors. The proposed regulation also does not properly protect genetic connectivity between Wyoming wolves and wolves in eastern and central Idaho. While the D.C. Circuit ruled that the Service's "non-binding commitment to genetic connectivity" was sufficient for the purposes of approving the WGFD Management Plan (*Defenders of Wildlife v. Zinke*, 849 F.3d at 1087), the proposed regulation does not uphold this commitment. To allow for connectivity and dispersal of wolves to packs in Idaho, WGFD proposes designating a Seasonal WTGMA (Hunt Area 12) to the southwest of the overall WTGMA. However, the regulation still permit hunting in this vital connectivity corridor area until December 31 or until the mortality quota is filled. Moreover, this gesture towards connectivity and genetic health is outweighed by the designation of wolves as predatory animals in the same area for most of the year. As described in Section 4(j) of the Regulations: Gray wolves located in Hunt Area 12 are designated as trophy game animals from October 15 through the last day of February in the subsequent year, but the hunting season shall end on December 31 or when the mortality quota is filled, whichever occurs first, as set forth in Section 4(h). Gray wolves located in Hunt Area 12 are designated as predatory animals from March 1 through October 14 and during this time period may be taken without a license. The quota that is currently set for the described trophy hunting season is 2 wolves. If the second wolf is not reported killed until late in December, this would leave the wolves with only a minimum of two months to safely pass through the area without the risk of being shot. Even assuming that the risk of hunting mortality is lower overall during the trophy hunting season, this only provides a maximum of four and a half months with lower risk of mortality during dispersal. Given their status as predatory animals for the remaining seven and a half months, they cannot be ensured safe passage during the majority of the year while attempting to establish genetic connectivity between the Idaho and Wyoming populations. This is especially true when considering the fact that the average dispersal of a wolf moving between packs takes five and a half months, guaranteeing that a wolf attempting to pass through the area will be present through the open-season predatory zone for at least some length of time (*Defenders of Wildlife v. Zinke*, 849 F.3d at 1090). To truly meet their commitment to protecting genetic connectivity among wolves in the northern Rocky Mountains, WGFD should adjust their Regulations to ensure year-round protections of wolves in this key region along the Wyoming border close to Idaho. At a minimum, this area should be made a permanent part of the WTGMA to protect wolves throughout the year, and during hunting season the quota should be as close to zero as possible. For the same reasons, we oppose hunting in Hunt Area 7, which also borders Idaho and constitutes an important connectivity corridor for wolves. While we are happy to see that WGFD did not propose a quota increase in Hunt Area 7, we request that Wyoming reconsider the idea of prohibiting hunting in this area. The Proposed Regulation Does Not Adequately Protect Wolves in Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. Wolves are one of the main draws for people to visit Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks, as the opportunity to view wildlife is one of the reasons that the number of visitations to the Parks is steadily increasing (Richardson et al. 2014, p. 103). Wolves, along with grizzly bears, are often the species of animal that visitors most want to see, with 44% of visitors in a 2005 study listing wolves as the primary species they hope to see, and 41% saying that they personally benefit simply from hearing and seeing wolves in the Parks (Duffield et al. 2006). This public interest in wolves provides a clear economic benefit to the area, increasing local spending through the number of visitors who come to see the wolves, as well as serving as a public symbol of the Parks. Despite this, and despite the protections that they are supposedly afforded by living in the Parks, wolves that spend most of their time within park boundaries are regularly hunted and killed by humans, seriously threatening this valuable resource. A study that looked at wolf mortality data from 2012, the first year that trophy hunting was allowed in all three states neighboring YNP, found that levels of mortality that were disturbingly high (Povilitis 2015, pp. 26-27). Based on data obtained from YNP and Yellowstone Wolf Project annual reports, the authors found that 14 Yellowstone wolves were legally hunted that year, 8 of



## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

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**Final Comment**                      **Povilitis, A.**                      **Bozeman, MT**                      6/2/2018 1:55:00 PM

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**271** I've visited your lovely state. It has the grandest beauty of all the USA and the world. Wolves are part of the ecology and that beauty. I've read articles of how the reintroduction of the wolf has helped save many parts of Yellowstone. I do not believe that trophy hunting has any part in protecting the beauty of your state. The wolf is a part of our history, our environment and must be protected. The protection of the diversity of our planet must be more valued than the protection of the economic interest of the few.

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**Final Comment**                      **Thoma, Anna**                      **Oviedo, FL**                      6/2/2018 5:38:00 PM

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**272** Predators play a fundamental role in maintaining ecosystem health. Research strongly supports the contributions of wolves in particular to the functioning and stability of the overall landscape (Ripple and Beschta 2012). Wolves prey primarily on large ungulates, hoofed mammals such as deer, elk and moose. Wolves are considered a keystone species as they exert both direct and indirect effects on their ecosystem; influencing their prey, their prey influencing the plant and animal species beneath them, and so forth down the chain. Wolves help maintain a balanced ecosystem. Their diet consists of ungulates such as elk, deer, moose, and caribou, as well as smaller mammals like beavers and rabbits. As keystone predators wolves increase the biodiversity of communities by preventing a single species from becoming dominant. They have a profound influence on the balance of organisms in a particular ecosystem. The removal of wolves, or changes in its population density, can have drastic cascading effects on the equilibrium of many other populations in the ecosystem. Wolves prevent herbivores from over grazing and damaging the environment. The elimination of the gray wolf from Yellowstone National Park had profound impacts on the trophic pyramid. Without predation, herbivores began to over-graze many woody browse species, affecting the area's plant populations. In addition, wolves often kept animals from grazing in riparian areas, which protected beavers from having their food sources encroached upon. The removal of wolves had a direct effect on beaver populations, as their habitat became territory for grazing. Increased browsing on willows and conifers along Blacktail Creek due to a lack of predation caused channel incision because the beavers helped slow the water down, allowing soil to stay in place. Furthermore, predation keeps hydrological features such as creeks and streams in normal working order. When wolves were reintroduced, the beaver population and the whole riparian ecosystem recovered dramatically within a few years. The above is a compilation of articles I have found on the internet. I feel so strongly that we should protect wolves for our great, great grandchildren, for the richness in diversity of both animals and plant in an ecosystem, and for the health of our wild places!

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**Final Comment**                      **Baines, Sharon**                      **Naples, FL**                      6/2/2018 10:28:00 PM

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**273** It is disappointing to see Wyoming increase the hunting limits on gray wolves. Wolves, and other predators, have proven to be vital in a healthy ecosystem. Wolves are also an important draw for tourism dollars in Wyoming. (Wyoming's new "That's WY" campaign certainly proves the state's reliance on those dollars.) Although I realize the hunt is outside of the borders of tourism areas like Yellowstone, the wolves do not know boundaries and unethical methods to draw wolves out affects the populations within these regions. Please consider keeping or reducing the hunt limit on gray wolves rather than increasing.

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**Final Comment**                      **Wilson, Dawn**                      **Fort Collins , CO**                      6/3/2018 7:13:00 AM

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**274** Wyoming wolves are the most hunted and trapped species in the State. The benefit these animals contribute to the ecosystem should be respected and honored. Science shows these sentient beings are an umbrella species and other animals benefit as well as the ecosystem as a whole. Too many wolves are illegally poached and killed for suspected livestock depredation and those numbers are not considered in the quotas. Not to mention death from vehicles, pack conflict, illness etc. Wolves contribute to the overall economy in the area due to ecotourism and those dollars are significantly more than what is collected for trophy hunting and trapping. There is no science-based foundation for "sport" or "trophy" hunting or managing a population to minimum numbers.

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**Final Comment**                      **Burdick, Marianne**                      **Patterson, NY**                      6/3/2018 8:23:00 AM

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**275** To whom it may concern, These practices are barbaric and out dated. It is ridiculous that in this day and age, we continue to put profit before people and animals. Please stop the practices and adopt better and human policies.



## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**Final Comment**                      **Barta, Darien**                      **Indianapolis, IN**                      6/3/2018 9:08:00 AM

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**276** Please leave the wolves alone. They are very important in the ecosystem.

**Final Comment**                      **Verguizas, Ileana**                      **Citra, FL**                      6/3/2018 9:35:00 AM

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**277** Stop those Wyoming pigs!!!

**Final Comment**                      **Yoon , Jay**                      **Waterloo , On**                      6/3/2018 9:44:00 AM

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**278** It is my educated opinion that by increasing the number of wolf kills in your state in order to facilitate more trophy hunting (wolves are not trophies) and increase deer and elk populations, you are doing the exact opposite of what you hope to accomplish. Wolf management does not mean wolf extinction, or bringing their numbers down to almost nothing. If left to nature, wolves would actually encourage a much healthier and numerous deer and elk population. If that were your goal, I would praise your efforts. Unfortunately, it seems that it is more important to you that your state takes in more money thru licenses and "sport" killing than it is to encourage healthier ecosystems that ALL of your citizens could enjoy, not just hunters. A pity.

**Final Comment**                      **Nickerson, Noni**                      **Newville, PA**                      6/3/2018 9:59:00 AM

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**279** Killing wolves destroys the ecosystem. Your people will start dying from tickborne illnesses. It would make more sense to not allow wolves to be killed at all. You must show that you are not this stupid.

**Final Comment**                      **Mason , Walt**                      **Monroe , GA**                      6/3/2018 10:12:00 AM

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**280** Stop using traps!!!

**Final Comment**                      **Varela , Anthony**                      **Santa ana, CA**                      6/3/2018 10:24:00 AM

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**281** Wolves are an iconic part of America. There are other ways to control the population other than killing. I have been to your Love it state many times. But I can't support a tourist state that kills what I want to see. Not just elk an cattle. But our icon is wolves.

**Final Comment**                      **Sanders, Theresa**                      **Flintstone, GA**                      6/3/2018 10:29:00 AM

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**282** Please reconsider killing our icon is wolves. There are other ways to handle situations other than killing. I have visited your state many times an spent money there just to be able to see a wolf. I will spend no more there due to the many killings of our beautiful wolf. Please reconsider this

**Final Comment**                      **Sanders, Theresa**                      **Flintstone, GA**                      6/3/2018 10:46:00 AM

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**283** Re: Proposal to increase wolf quota in trophy zone. Dear Commissioners, It is already disconcerting that in Wyoming wolf hunting is permitted 365 days a year across 85 percent of the state. It is also appalling that in this area wolves are looked upon as "shoot on sight vermin." Once essentially extirpated from Wyoming, this species can be slaughtered, often violently, by practically any means: guns, snares, explosives, trucks, and even via snowmobiles. It is also shocking that anyone (in most of Wyoming) can kill wolves without a hunting license, putting at great risk a wildlife species whose populations in the contiguous United States remain at a tiny fraction of what they once were. The other 15 percent of the state, concentrated around the Jackson Hole area and the Tetons, the tiny area where wolves and other predators are allowed to struggle to survive, the animals are also persecuted for nearly 3 months of the year. During the 2017 hunting season licensed hunters killed 44 wolves in the so-called trophy zone; 12 alone within the first 40 hours of the season. Add to that, at least 48 wolves are estimated to be killed annually from non-hunting human impacts (1). This calculation, of course, does not include unreported kills. I strongly oppose the proposal to increase the kill quota in the "trophy zone to 58 animals (an increase of 32 percent over last year's quota of 44; a record high since wolf reintroduction 23 years ago). I am also dismayed that the state is not only considering an increase in license numbers from one to two, per individual, for a calendar year, but that wolf hunt area boundaries

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

are being redrawn, and quotas boosted because “the Gros Ventre area's elk, and the Whiskey Mountain's bighorn sheep are shifting their winter ranges.” In both cases there is little evidence that wolf predation is driving populations down. Rather than relying on science-based data, Wyoming seems to be using wolves as a scapegoat for a more complex problem (2). Should the justification for this proposal be livestock losses — as according to USFWS “wolves killed a record number of livestock in 2016” (154 cattle, 88 sheep and one horse). This “record number” is just 20 more depredations than the previous year. The price: Wildlife “Services” killed 113 wolves, up from 54 “removed” the previous year. Shocking. Losses to depredations are negligible when compared to losses from disease or weather. 37,550 sheep died that same year from causes which did not involve predators. Non-predator cause of death in adult cattle accounted for almost 98 percent, primarily due to respiratory diseases; calves 89 percent. From the miniscule percentage of cattle/calves killed by predators wolves were to blame for just 4.9 percent; domestic dogs were responsible for over twice as many losses than wolves, 11.3 percent (3). The occasional threat to livestock and small percentage of financial losses due to wolf depredations should not create such antipathy toward the wolf, an animal desperately needed to balance elk populations, which, in turn will curtail damage to important biotic factors. Since the majority of lands in the “trophy zone” are federal lands, and as the majority of Americans are opposed to the “take” of wolves on their public lands, an increase in the wolf quota in the “trophy zone” area to 58 animals is simply unacceptable, as is an increase in license numbers from one to two, per hunter/trapper, for a calendar year. I ask that you reconsider this proposal. In my mind the quota for this area should be reduced to zero, allowing the animals to live in peace; isn't it bad enough (for me, unacceptable) that wolves are sacrificed to appease ranchers grazing livestock on our public lands, which include nearly half of all lands in Wyoming. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter, E. August Allen Executive Director In the Shadow of the Wolf

1. [https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/Wildlife/Large%20Carnivore/2017-Wyoming-Wolf-Annual-Report\\_FINAL\\_2018-04-10.pdf](https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/Wildlife/Large%20Carnivore/2017-Wyoming-Wolf-Annual-Report_FINAL_2018-04-10.pdf) 2. [http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/gros-ventre-wolves-targeted/article\\_8916d217-5d70-59d2-823c-99a8b2122201.html](http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/gros-ventre-wolves-targeted/article_8916d217-5d70-59d2-823c-99a8b2122201.html)  
 3. [https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/nahms/general/downloads/cattle\\_calves\\_deathloss\\_2015.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/nahms/general/downloads/cattle_calves_deathloss_2015.pdf)

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**Final Comment**                      **Allen, E. August**                      **Bridgeport , CT**                      6/3/2018 11:07:00 AM

**284** I'm here writing you to voice my opinion on the wolf hunts! I do not support the hunting in anyway! Our wolves help our world go around! They ate amazing family oriented animals! People need to be better educated on wolves and what they bring to our environment! Why you want to destroy that??? This practice is sick and disgusting!! Extremely torturous!! I know my opinion is nothing to you, but I will keep fighting for their rights!!! I will never stop!!

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**Final Comment**                      **Harms, Juliane**                      **Manteno, IL**                      6/3/2018 11:13:00 AM

**285** The hunting of these wolves needs to stop. Please consider these comments and make a difference!! Thank you.

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**Final Comment**                      **Novack, Juli**                      **Rayville, LA**                      6/3/2018 1:52:00 PM

**286** Many of my acquaintances, family & myself visit your state regularly to see the wilderness & wildlife (wolves, bears). Due to the increasing numbers of killing, we won't be spending any money in your state anymore. We refuse to spend our money there. Fact is they are essential to the environment & eco system. Killing IS NOT THE ANSWER. God put them here to balance it out & they need our protection, NOT DEATH. Protect a valuable resource & think about your state losing a lot of money! This is not progress. Our wildlife ie essential to our health also. No tree, no wildlife, no humans! Killing is not the answer. Stop killing the wolves, bears, wildlife please! This is not the answer or progress. Educate people with facts that prove they are essential to us! We do not want any more killing. Once they're extinct, they are gone for good!!! PLEASE SAVE THEM!

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**Final Comment**                      **Elliott, Shirley**                      **Van Buren, AR**                      6/3/2018 2:01:00 PM

**287** With the devastation I have personally witnessed on the Fall Creek elk herd over the last few years in the south Jackson area from large packs of wolves I am glad to see the quotas on wolves raised this season. I do feel that the harvest quotas for wolves in the Gross Ventre and Jackson area does still need to be higher if there is going to relief on the elk herds from the wolf decimation that is taking place. As an outfitter I run only 2 weeks of elk hunts from our camps in the Jackson area and take less than half the

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

number of elk clients as I did 6 years ago. There's not the elk that there was in our areas in the past and we see wolves almost on a daily basis throughout the fall. Thank you for your time Dustin Child

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**Final Comment**                      **Child, Dustin**                      **Afton , WY**                      **6/3/2018 2:04:00 PM**

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**288** You are already allowing wolves to be killed in 85% of the state. To add more wolves to be killed in the trophy hunting zone is very irresponsible in your management of wolves. Please keep in mind that wolves are sometimes illegally poached too. Chronic Wasting Disease is a real threat now in your state..you need wolves now more than ever to help it not spread and keep it under control. Wolves are needed on the landscape to keep it healthy. These are iconic animals that bring millions of dollars to your local towns...wolf watching brings more money than hunting. Wolves are the number one animal people want to see while visiting both Yellowstone National Park and Grand Teton. How lucky we are that we are able to view them in the lower 48. They are a world wide treasure that need to be protected not killed. Please do not allow anymore wolves to be killed.

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**Final Comment**                      **Chittenden, Anita**                      **amador city, CA**                      **6/3/2018 2:47:00 PM**

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**289** To Whom it may concern..... My name is Josh Buker, I am a wolf advocate and I am proud of what I do to be an Advocate for wolves because they're such lovely, Beautiful and Intelligent animals and the thing that is really bothering me the most is all of these Needless, Sick, Evil, and Twisted killings on these Beautiful creatures. Wolves were here before us humans as well as any other wildlife animal. They deserve to live, to breathe and to CoExist with us as they would want us to learn to CoExist with them. How do people sleep at night knowing that they took the life of a precious animal and their young as they're trying to sleep or even just trying to hunt to feed and provide for their young ? Ask yourself one question..... Shouldn't they have the right to live and CoExist with us humans ? Well, the answer is and Should Be YES, They do have the right to live and breathe and COEXIST.... So I'm going to make things very clear..... LEAVE THE WOLVES ALONE !!!!! STOP killing them.... Please, take time and read my comments. Thank you very much for your time. Sincerely, Joshua Lee Buker.

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**Final Comment**                      **Buker, Joshua**                      **Mechanic Falls, ME**                      **6/3/2018 2:52:00 PM**

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**290** You are a vile disgusting worthless group of paid off bastards. Go back to hell murderers. You bend over and take it in the ass for those welfare ranchers. One wonders who is more vile, you or them. Wolves matter. Ranchers are lazy pathetic nothings who live off of another living beings life. You make yourselves look stupid. Jealousy never looks good

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**Final Comment**                      **Hastings, E**                      **Mobile, AL**                      **6/3/2018 3:15:00 PM**

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**291** I'm writing this in reference to the changes of hunting of gray wolves. There is no moral or ethical reason to have this hunt and to increase it to 58 kills would deplete any chance of a comeback by these wolves. Is that what's behind this? Take out the wolves and than the bears and you'll have the land to do with what you want. Sport/trophy hunters are getting a reputation of being a sick group. The majority of Americans want the wolves to be left alone. You're vile hatred is not a good enough reason to have this hunt. I predict, if you go ahead with this plan Wyoming will come under the gun of the 90% of people in this country. Groups will make sure your tourism and products from this state will steadily decline. I absolutely disagree with this decision.

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**Final Comment**                      **Stock, Patricia**                      **Olmsted Falls , OH**                      **6/3/2018 4:27:00 PM**

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**292** I use to live in Utah and we have been to Wyoming many times specifically to see the wildlife. I would no longer support a state that chooses to purposely hunt and destroy large predators for their human enjoyment. These animals have just as much right to survive and raise families just as much as humans. People need to be educated on the usefulness of wolves and the good that they impact on the ecosystem. They help control elk herds getting to large and chronic wasting Disease in the elk and deer populations. Wolves need to be protected and as humans it is our job to do so.

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**Final Comment**                      **Ritzinger , Michele**                      **Waitsfield , VT**                      **6/3/2018 4:44:00 PM**

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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**293** Harvest quota in area 5 should remain at or above 6 wolves. Population estimates are too low. Wolf packs frequently move back and forth from the wind river Indian reservation. Wolves reproduce at a high rate on the reservation because there is no hunting and the area is very remote.

**Final Comment**                      **Engum, Taylor**                      **Shoshoni, WY**                      6/3/2018 5:44:00 PM

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**294** Harvest quota in area 5 should remain at least 6 wolves. More harvest is needed in area 5 because the Indian reservation is a safe haven for wolves. Department action should be taken to harvest wolves on whiskey mountain to protect bighorn sheep and elk.

**Final Comment**                      **Engum, Hilary**                      **Shoshoni, WY**                      6/3/2018 5:48:00 PM

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**295** As a frequent visitor to your state, I strongly oppose hunting wolves (and grizzlies) near Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. The income that tourism generates for your state very may well suffer if these animals are allowed to be hunted.

**Final Comment**                      **McMullen, Judy**                      **Winchester, VA**                      6/3/2018 6:38:00 PM

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**296** Let's lower the number by subtracting 14 kills from the previous quota of 44, not increase the number by 14 to a total 58 as proposed. As a keystone species they are incredible important to keep ungulate populations in check and disease free. Regarding livestock there are many strategies to protect these animal while also protecting the valuable wolf - do the research and think outside to box.

**Final Comment**                      **Goodman, Sue**                      **Albany, OR**                      6/3/2018 7:40:00 PM

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**297** There is absolutely no need to increase the amount of wolves to be hunted in WY. There is already a huge issue with wolves being poached, and to allow even more wolves to be killed could be detrimental to their future recovery. Wolves have very complex social structures, and studies have shown that killing wolves actually increases livestock depredations. Keep wolves protected!

**Final Comment**                      **DiLorenzo, Brianna**                      **Bloomington, IL**                      6/3/2018 7:53:00 PM

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**298** Re: Proposal to increase wolf quota in trophy zone. Dear Commissioners, It is already disconcerting that in Wyoming wolf hunting is permitted 365 days a year across 85 percent of the state. It is also appalling that in this area wolves are looked upon as "shoot on sight vermin." Once essentially extirpated from Wyoming, this species can be slaughtered, often violently, by practically any means: guns, snares, explosives, trucks, and even via snowmobiles. It is also shocking that anyone (in most of Wyoming) can kill wolves without a hunting license, putting at great risk a wildlife species whose populations in the contiguous United States remain at a tiny fraction of what they once were. The other 15 percent of the state, concentrated around the Jackson Hole area and the Tetons, the tiny area where wolves and other predators are allowed to struggle to survive, the animals are also persecuted for nearly 3 months of the year. During the 2017 hunting season licensed hunters killed 44 wolves in the so-called trophy zone; 12 alone within the first 40 hours of the season. Add to that, at least 48 wolves are estimated to be killed annually from non-hunting human impacts (1). This calculation, of course, does not include unreported kills. I strongly oppose the proposal to increase the kill quota in the "trophy zone to 58 animals (an increase of 32 percent over last year's quota of 44; a record high since wolf reintroduction 23 years ago). I am also dismayed that the state is not only considering an increase in license numbers from one to two, per individual, for a calendar year, but that wolf hunt area boundaries are being redrawn, and quotas boosted because "the Gros Ventre area's elk, and the Whiskey Mountain's bighorn sheep are shifting their winter ranges." In both cases there is little evidence that wolf predation is driving populations down. Rather than relying on science-based data, Wyoming seems to be using wolves as a scapegoat for a more complex problem (2). Should the justification for this proposal be livestock losses — as according to USFWS "wolves killed a record number of livestock in 2016" (154 cattle, 88 sheep and one horse). This "record number" is just 20 more depredations than the previous year. The price: Wildlife "Services" killed 113 wolves, up from 54 "removed" the previous year. Shocking. Losses to depredations are negligible when compared to losses from disease or weather. 37,550 sheep died that same year from causes which did not involve predators. Non-predator cause of death in adult cattle accounted for almost 98 percent, primarily due to respiratory diseases; calves 89 percent. From the miniscule percentage of cattle/calves killed by predators wolves were to blame for just 4.9 percent; domestic dogs were responsible for over

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

twice as many losses than wolves, 11.3 percent (3). The occasional threat to livestock and small percentage of financial losses due to wolf depredations should not create such antipathy toward the wolf, an animal desperately needed to balance elk populations, which, in turn will curtail damage to important biotic factors. Since the majority of lands in the "trophy zone" are federal lands, and as the majority of Americans are opposed to the "take" of wolves on their public lands, an increase in the wolf quota in the "trophy zone" area to 58 animals is simply unacceptable, as is an increase in license numbers from one to two, per hunter/trapper, for a calendar year. I ask that you reconsider this proposal. In my mind the quota for this area should be reduced to zero, allowing the animals to live in peace; isn't it bad enough (for me, unacceptable) that wolves are sacrificed to appease ranchers grazing livestock on our public lands, which include nearly half of all lands in Wyoming. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter, Eileen Sutz President, Blue Heron Productions

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Sutz, Eileen</b>	<b>Chicago, IL</b>	6/3/2018 7:53:00 PM
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**299** Please zero quotas near Yellowstone and Tetons National Parks. Any wolf trophy hunting on public lands within 20 miles of the parks risks killing iconic park wolves greatly valued by a much bigger constituency than your tiny group of trophy hunters. Fine to control wolves when they set up near homes and ranches, near private lands but stop these trophy hunts near our national parks and protected areas! It is unethical to hunt semi-habituated park wolves conditioned by long time experience with thousands of people who only take their photos, or perhaps sedate them to put on a radio collar. It's time for Wyoming Game and Fish to mature beyond the petty red-neck hatred for predators left over from the pioneer days and to enter the 21st century joining a vast majority of citizens who respect and prefer to conserve the dwindling amounts of wild nature in the west. National park wolves are not just numbers, they are a special heritage species, a symbol of freedom and our humility, and we should assure that core park packs are allowed to roam freely on public lands near the park, free from the harassment of "management" for a tiny stakeholder group that is truly an anathema of wildlife conservation in our nation. Thank you for taking comments, but I am somewhat beyond comments on this, so expect more - ACTION!

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Becker, Dr. Constance Dusti</b>	<b>Bozeman, MT</b>	6/3/2018 7:59:00 PM
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**300** Re: Proposal to increase wolf quota in trophy zone. Dear Commissioners, It is already disconcerting that in Wyoming wolf hunting is permitted 365 days a year across 85 percent of the state. It is also appalling that in this area wolves are looked upon as "shoot on sight vermin." Once essentially extirpated from Wyoming, this species can be slaughtered, often violently, by practically any means: guns, snares, explosives, trucks, and even via snowmobiles. It is also shocking that anyone (in most of Wyoming) can kill wolves without a hunting license, putting at great risk a wildlife species whose populations in the contiguous United States remain at a tiny fraction of what they once were. The other 15 percent of the state, concentrated around the Jackson Hole area and the Tetons, the tiny area where wolves and other predators are allowed to struggle to survive, the animals are also persecuted for nearly 3 months of the year. During the 2017 hunting season licensed hunters killed 44 wolves in the so-called trophy zone; 12 alone within the first 40 hours of the season. Add to that, at least 48 wolves are estimated to be killed annually from non-hunting human impacts (1). This calculation, of course, does not include unreported kills. I strongly oppose the proposal to increase the kill quota in the "trophy zone to 58 animals (an increase of 32 percent over last year's quota of 44; a record high since wolf reintroduction 23 years ago). I am also dismayed that the state is not only considering an increase in license numbers from one to two, per individual, for a calendar year, but that wolf hunt area boundaries are being redrawn, and quotas boosted because "the Gros Ventre area's elk, and the Whiskey Mountain's bighorn sheep are shifting their winter ranges." In both cases there is little evidence that wolf predation is driving populations down. Rather than relying on science-based data, Wyoming seems to be using wolves as a scapegoat for a more complex problem (2). Should the justification for this proposal be livestock losses — as according to USFWS "wolves killed a record number of livestock in 2016" (154 cattle, 88 sheep and one horse). This "record number" is just 20 more depredations than the previous year. The price: Wildlife "Services" killed 113 wolves, up from 54 "removed" the previous year. Shocking. Losses to depredations are negligible when compared to losses from disease or weather. 37,550 sheep died that same year from causes which did not involve predators. Non-predator cause of death in adult cattle accounted for almost 98 percent, primarily due to respiratory diseases; calves 89 percent. From the miniscule percentage of cattle/calves killed by predators wolves were to blame for just 4.9 percent; domestic dogs were responsible for over twice as many losses than wolves, 11.3 percent (3). The occasional threat to livestock and small percentage of financial losses due to wolf depredations should not create such antipathy toward the wolf, an animal desperately needed to balance elk populations, which, in turn will curtail damage to important biotic

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

factors. Since the majority of lands in the “trophy zone” are federal lands, and as the majority of Americans are opposed to the “take” of wolves on their public lands, an increase in the wolf quota in the “trophy zone” area to 58 animals is simply unacceptable, as is an increase in license numbers from one to two, per hunter/trapper, for a calendar year. I ask that you reconsider this proposal. In my mind the quota for this area should be reduced to zero, allowing the animals to live in peace; isn't it bad enough (for me, unacceptable) that wolves are sacrificed to appease ranchers grazing livestock on our public lands, which include nearly half of all lands in Wyoming. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter, Eileen Sutz  
 References 1.[https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/Wildlife/Large%20Carnivore/2017-Wyoming-Wolf-Annual-Report\\_FINAL\\_2018-04-10.pdf](https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/Wildlife/Large%20Carnivore/2017-Wyoming-Wolf-Annual-Report_FINAL_2018-04-10.pdf) 2.[http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/gros-ventre-wolves-targeted/article\\_8916d217-5d70-59d2-823c-99a8b2122201.html](http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/gros-ventre-wolves-targeted/article_8916d217-5d70-59d2-823c-99a8b2122201.html) 3.[https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/nahms/general/downloads/cattle\\_calves\\_deathloss\\_2015.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/nahms/general/downloads/cattle_calves_deathloss_2015.pdf)

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**Final Comment**                      **Sutz, E.**                                      **Chicago , IL**                                      6/3/2018 8:01:00 PM

**301** Wolves are worth far more alive to many than dead for a few. Wolves alive bring far more economic revenue to the state of Wyoming than facing a potential boycott from people upset at what appears a war on your wildlife. Disrupting packs by killing wolves risks increasing depredation on livestock. Wolves help keep prey that hunters desire strong. Do the right thing, honor the public trust doctrine, make science based decisions and award the wolves their rightful role in the ecosystem rather than being someone's trophy.

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**Final Comment**                      **York, KC**                                      **Hamilton, MT**                                      6/3/2018 8:07:00 PM

**302** I have loved Wyoming ever since I first visited in 1995. My visits have continued annually since that time to enjoy the beauty and the wildlife of your state. However, I do think you are being too aggressive with your wolf hunting guidelines. From all I have read, science does not support your actions and based upon what I have seen first hand watching wolves for over 20 years, their numbers are self-regulated. I applaud those Wyoming ranchers who seek to live with predators and employ progressive techniques in their ranching practices. Perhaps your department should be progressive as well. Thank you.

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**Final Comment**                      **Jeffcoat, Connie**                                      **Wagener, SC**                                      6/3/2018 8:43:00 PM

**303** I would prefer wolves remain a protected species and not subject to trophy hunting. I realize that the attitude in the western US is that the only good wolf is a dead wolf, but wildlife belongs to all of us. If you must hunt, please do it humanely and not include the Yellowstone wolves. Also, please do not increase the number of wolves that can be killed and consider that wolf packs are families and grieve the loss of a pack member the same as people grieve the loss of friends and family.. People travel from all over the world to see the wolves in Yellowstone which adds significant revenue to the park. Thank you for your consideration.

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**Final Comment**                      **Carroll, Gail**                                      **Algona, IA**                                      6/3/2018 11:26:00 PM

**304** It's certainly sad at how much injustice is inflicted upon other living beings. And most of all, encouraging any excuse to display violence, apathy & total disrespect in sadistic ways. How-why-uh? Never could understand those who fancy themselves within the hall of Shame! Can't turn back time. Not the Stone Age, caveman era. A special kind, still left among the evolution of the rest of human species. Tradition...please!!

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**Final Comment**                      **Oakes, Randal**                                      **Austin, TX**                                      6/4/2018 12:22:00 AM

**305** I vehemently oppose Wyoming's change to the Gray Wolf hunt and open season on wolves. The Commission should protect the last amazing wild animals we have instead of offering them to trophy hunters. Wyoming is one of the few places we can still point to for wilderness attributes that are not available elsewhere in the lower 48 states: wolverine, wolves, and wild watersheds are at the top of the list. In addition, allowing baiting and trapping of wolves using inhumane measures should be removed from policy and practice. I plead with you to discontinue the slaughter of wolves. Your grandchildren's children will be impressed and thank you for it.

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**Final Comment**                      **Wellman, J**                                      **Lander, WY**                                      6/4/2018 6:22:00 AM

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**306** I would like to see a quota of 8 wolves for the hunt area 10 - Rim area. The wolf numbers have devastated the elk numbers in the Horse Creek area to the point we can no longer hunt elk out of our upper Spike Camp.

**Final Comment**                      **Barnes, James**                      **Smoot, WY**                      6/4/2018 6:43:00 AM

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**307** I am deeply concerned about this pending decision for our iconic American wolves to be shot dead for purposes of trophy hunting. Trophy hunting benefits only a few people while the rest of Americans, who strongly object to using our public lands for such "sport" and wolves, who depend on their strong family relationships to survive, suffer greatly.

**Final Comment**                      **Fasano, Grace**                      **133 Putnam St, CA**                      6/4/2018 7:43:00 AM

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**308** Test

**Final Comment**                      **Robertson, Lisa**                      **Jackson, WY**                      6/4/2018 7:52:00 AM

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**309** Part 1 June 4, 2018 Wyoming Game and Fish Department Wildlife Division 3030 Energy Land Casper WY 82604 Attn: Regulations → Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Season Submitted electronically at WGFD site Dear Commissioners, Thank you for the opportunity to submit the following comments regarding the Draft Chapter 47, Wyoming Gray Wolf Hunting Season (Plan) on behalf of the 20,000-plus regional and national followers of Wyoming Untrapped (WU). Wyoming Untrapped is a 501(c)3, not-for-profit organization based in Jackson, Wyoming whose mission it is to "create an environment safe for people, pets and wildlife through education, trapping reform and advocacy." Living and working in Wyoming for decades, we greatly appreciate the state's unparalleled wildlife diversity and abundance. We also recognize and respect that what we have is in many ways the result of the good work of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department's (Department) dedicated biologists and the agency's leadership. We thank you for that. STATEMENT: Wyoming Untrapped would like to thank the Department for prohibiting wolf trapping and the use of dogs for wolf hunting within the Trophy Game Area. WU would also clearly state that we oppose any sport hunting of wolves, whether as trophy game or as predators. NEED FOR A WOLF HUNT: Wyoming Untrapped takes exception to the premises put forth by Department staff for continuing Wyoming's wolf hunt and specifically for increasing the kill quota. At a recent meeting in Jackson, Department personnel attempted to make the case for both the hunt and the quota increase based on the premise that wolves had "moved elk off historical winter grounds" (specifically Department operated feed grounds in the Upper Gros Ventre Valley). Department personnel added that this was upsetting to the Department feeding crew, and without proof, implied that this movement was also detrimental to the elk (Koshmrl 2018). Regarding elk abandoning their traditional feed grounds, this may very well turn out to be beneficial for the habitat surrounding the feed grounds. Without hundreds of elk concentrated on that small area for 5 to 6 months each year, the habitat may now have a chance to rebound a bit. And, there was no evidence provided that the elk suffered higher than usual winter mortality on their new winter habitat. WU sees this concern as being more about having decades of tradition suddenly change and the Department not being willing to accept change. We submit that change might be beneficial for the elk and the habitat. For the Department to imply that wolves had "done bad" and thus deserve more hunting pressure is unfounded, unprofessional and unfortunate. A second reason put forth for a wolf hunt is the assertion that wolves need to be "controlled" i.e. killed, to protect domestic livestock. Recent studies have shown that when anthropogenic removal of wolves occurred over a broad landscape (such as Wyoming's wolf Trophy Game Area) "the odds of livestock depredations increased 4% for sheep and 5% for cattle with increased wolf control-up until wolf mortality exceeded the mean intrinsic growth rate for wolves at 25%." "Depredations began to decline after mortality exceeded 25%." (Wiegulus, R. 2014). Professional opinion has it that an annual wolf mortality rate greater than 25% is not sustainable over the long period if federal relisting of wolves is to be avoided. The assumption is that mortality rates greater than 25% will likely result in breeder loss, smaller pack size, pack instability and possible dissolution followed by compensatory increases in breeding pairs, numbers of wolves and hence, increases in depredations. WU understands the rights and needs of livestock owners to protect their property, but this may be better accomplished with focused removal of depredating wolves carried out by professional personnel instead of the broad-scale and un-focused approach of a hunting season.

**Final Comment**                      **Robertson, Lisa**                      **Jackson, WY**                      6/4/2018 7:57:00 AM

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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**310** I'm highly opposed to the wolf hunt. I'm making my first trip to Yellowstone in August to see the wolves. Yes, that IS the only reason I'm going. I can go see Bison elsewhere. I have the beauty of Yosemite just hours away. My money will be coming to the Yellowstone area. I'll be spending much more than any hunter paying for his tags. The tourists, like me, who appreciate nature will spend FAR more money than all the hunting tags ever purchased. Wolves are a keystone species. The ecosystem NEEDS them to help it thrive. They're here to stay and we need to adapt to them; not the other way around. They should've never been taken off the landscape as I believe people would've learned to adapt through the generations. I'm a bit tired of wolves being the scapegoat for everything. People are so horribly educated about them and no crazy idea is beyond their thinking. Listen to the science and stop the killing of these magnificent animals!

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**Final Comment**                      **Yehling, Karin**                      **Sylmar, CA**                      6/4/2018 8:18:00 AM

**311** Grey wolves are essential to the eco system. I do not support killing them.

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**Final Comment**                      **Visciglio, Mary**                      **Laramie, WY**                      6/4/2018 8:22:00 AM

**312** Wolves in Wyoming are trapped and killed in almost any manner in over 85% of the state. But that is not enough for Wyoming Game and Fish Department. They are proposing to increase the mortality limit in the trophy hunting zones to 58 from the 44 last season, targeting more animals than in any other modern season to date. The proposal includes the allocation of higher hunt area quotas in areas where wolves are impacting big game populations. It also allows the purchase of up to two gray wolf hunting licenses instead of only one during any calendar year. Wyoming seems to certainly care about one thing. Taking care of the trophy hunters. I object to these proposals.

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**Final Comment**                      **Shabbott, Mary**                      **Punta gorda, FL**                      6/4/2018 8:23:00 AM

**313** Nature left alone can create a healthy balance of creatures. Killing off or severely limiting in species creates problems with other species that had been kept in check. Nit is a short sighted policy that favors sport hunters and ranchers and creates more problems. Wyoming is a magnificent beautiful state and is a wonderful place for tourists to boost the economy. Please consider listening to the scientists also when making policy.

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**Final Comment**                      **Oseroff, Mary**                      **Camano Island, WA**                      6/4/2018 8:29:00 AM

**314** Test

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**Final Comment**                      **Weinhandl, Terri**                      **Casper, WY**                      6/4/2018 8:53:00 AM

**315** June 4, 2018 Scott Talbott, Director Wyoming Game and Fish Department Wildlife Division, Attn: Regulations 3030 Energy Lane Casper, Wyoming 82604 RE: Gray Wolf Hunting Season Regulations Dear Director Talbott: The Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts (WACD) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments regarding the above referenced regulations pertaining to gray wolf hunting seasons. The WACD represents Wyoming's 34 local conservation districts, which are political subdivisions of the states government. The conservation districts are significantly impacted by management of the gray wolf as it directly and indirectly impacts natural resource conservation, including water, soil, range and wildlife habitat. Further, the districts have the responsibility to work with private land owners to conserve their natural resources for economic stability and sustainability. §§ 11-16-101 et. seq. WACD supports the proposed changes by the Game and Fish Department to modify their regulations regarding the establishment of annual hunting seasons, licensing limitations, gray wolf harvest registration procedures and bag limits for the 2018 hunting season. Again, the opportunity to provide input and participate in the process is critical. This is an issue that continues to be of great importance to our districts and landowners. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require additional information. Sincerely, Bobbie K. Frank Executive Director CC: WACD Board of Directors Conservation Districts

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**Final Comment**                      **Frank, Bobbie**                      **Cheyenne, WY**                      6/4/2018 9:20:00 AM



## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**316** Test

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<b>Final Comment</b>	Weinhandl, Terri	Casper, WY	6/4/2018 9:24:00 AM
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**317** Test - I submitted comments but did not receive confirmation that they were received.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	Weeks, Kristine	North Las Vegas, NV	6/4/2018 9:33:00 AM
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**318** Hello. I am resubmitting comments as I did not receive confirmation of my first submittal. I am advocating ecotourism over increasing the number of hunting permits for gray wolves, especially within the area surrounding Yellowstone National Park boundaries. I am also questioning the validity of current and projected wolf population numbers. Who conducts wolf counts? I ask that a detailed explanation of how the data was collected for these population numbers be provided to the Commission as these numbers are being used to argue for an increase in permits. I work within a National Conservation Area that experiences visitation from a very high number of tourists from around the world. These visitors use many different travel companies to explore the conservation area. And this is within the Mojave Desert where the chance of seeing a large predator is practically zero. It would benefit Wyoming to encourage ecotourism and protection of wolves that wander outside of national park boundaries. I would gladly pay a tourist company to photograph a wolf in the wild, inside or outside of park boundaries. Shoot photos, not wolves. Thank you.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	Weeks, Kristine	North Las Vegas, NV	6/4/2018 9:46:00 AM
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**319** It is a scientific fact that Wolves are a keystone animal...they have the ability to change an entire ecosystem, as you well know, since Yellowstone changed after their reintroduction. Further, it has become increasingly clear the vast majority of Americans are against trophy hunting and the hunting of Wolves in particular. The only reason you want to hunt them is to eradicate them from their habitat on behalf of ranchers, miners, and trophy hunters. Be prepared to loss millions of tourism dollars, as the Wolves along with Buffalo and Grizzly Bears (also important species that aid in healthy ecosystems and suffering under the same threat as Wolves), are the reason that most tourists come to Yellowstone. I am fed up with constantly having to email officials, sign petitions, make phone calls, etc., in order to protect America's wildlife and wild spaces from people like you. Thanks you for your consideration.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	Storm, Laurie	Buffalo, NY	6/4/2018 9:55:00 AM
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**320** Dear Wyoming Game Commissioners, Whatever you do, don't increase trophy hunting of Yellowstone wolves. Allowing it at all near Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks is absolutely foolish. Please pull that activity well away from the parks. It's for your own good. Times have changed: Outside a few dwindling places, like parts of Wyoming, this isn't the Old West anymore. What is acceptable to the public is changing faster than you apparently think. In fact, at this point in time, one probably couldn't come up with anything more damaging to Wyoming's image and to the image of wildlife management in the state than pugnacious trophy killing of park wolves and grizzly bears. Consider the 8,000 tourists who have already pledged to cut back or end their spending in Wyoming. Tens of thousands more have protected these hunts. I'm not sure how aware you are about how this could lead to a tourist boycott of places like Cody. Ruining Wyoming's reputation by ignoring the greater public will not be easily reversed – that could take decades even after the hunts are stopped. And at considerable economic damage to the state! I doubt this letter or others like it will matter much to you. But you should be keenly aware of the likely consequences of your policy decisions. Thank you for reviewing my comments. A. Povilitis, PhD Wildlife Biologist

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<b>Final Comment</b>	Povilitis, A	Bozeman, MT	6/4/2018 9:56:00 AM
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**321** I oppose the presently proposed wolf hunt regulations and the premises put forth by Department staff for continuing Wyoming's wolf hunt and specifically for increasing the kill quota. I oppose the increased quota. At a recent department meeting, department personnel attempted to make the case for both the hunt and the quota increase based on the premise that wolves had "moved elk off historical winter grounds" (specifically Department operated feed grounds in the Upper Gros Ventre Valley). Department personnel added that this was upsetting to the Department feeding crew. (Koshmrl 2018). At the WGFD meeting in Jackson on May 17, the meeting intended to explain and promote these new wolf hunting

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

regulations, I specifically asked: If all the wolves are killed will the elk return to winter in the Gros Ventre? The response from Ken Mills was who knows? I asked where did the elk winter? While Ken Mills should know where the elk who left the Gros Ventre ,allegedly due to wolves, did winter, as this his area of expertisw, he said I will refer to Aly Courtemanch to answer the question. She responded that all elk wintered on the refuge. Why did Ken Mills not respond in kind? Because the proof, the technical data of where the elk wintered and if in fact there really were 10,200 elk on the refuge is very slim and cannot be advocated or even repeated publicly by Ken Mills. He defers to Ms.Courtemanch, intact allows her to mislead the public. I met with her for two hours on April 2, 2018. I asked for solid proof as to the winter elk count conducted in March and solid proof that there was a count of 10,200 elk on the NER winter 2017/2018. I had two witnesses with me, A long time resident and avid hunter and trapper John Baranca and Lorna Miller, long time wildlife advocate for wildlife crossings and migrations. At the end of the meeting and in the presence of Lorna Miller, I told Aly Courtemanch you have not convinced me of your count. I do not believe over 5,000 elk were not seen yet still wintering on the refuge. She responded, "That is my story and I am sticking to it." Hence at the meeting to promote these regulations to kill the wolves in mass numbers due to elk movement and alleged reduction the expert on Wolves deferred to Aly Courtemanch to tell her "Story". In the end Ken Mills admitted there are a lot of unknowns about the elk and their movement. This increased wolf quota is once again, "Cry Wolf". I asked how the WGFD could not be certain that the elk that left the Gros Ventre were not being killed in the now illegal as in violation of the Bison Elk Management Plan/2007 ROD continued ERP, elk reduction program, which kills elk late in the season as they enter the NER and as they migrate to the river bottom safety of area 78 where I have a video of 200-300 elk migrating west through the controversial and well established by science Queens Lane elk migration corridor on December 29, 2017 as the elk slaughter on private land promoted by the WGFD continues in this are of 78 until the end of January. What elk are you killing in the wrong places now? Gros Ventre? Certainly a collared cow from the Eastern Park Summering Herd was here area 78 on January 2, 2018. See NER data? That is not a southern park elk destined for decimation at the management of WGFD and GTNP. Rather than review your own management policy, procedures and failings in regard to where, when and how the elk are reduced, you once, "Cry Wolf". The fact that elk have abandoned their feed ground for whatever reasons, has a huge impact on other predators. Did the elk leave the Gros Ventre because the feed was old and lacking in nutrients? Certainly the hay at the Horse Creek Feed lot, which I examined on May 2, 2018, is old, dried straw not fit for a horse. I urge all Commissioners to examine the hay left on the feed lots before you "Cry Wolf". You would not feed that hay to your stock. In the meantime, the cougar up the Gros Ventre also lost a valuable winter food source and habitat. And WGFD states to the press, that they don't know why the cougar are wintering closer to town. Kashmiri. What about the Grizzly Bear that depend on carrion in the spring? No food up the Gros Ventre. This is a huge indication of a monumental imbalance in the ecosystem, no elk wintering in the Gros Ventre, to cry wolf without all the date and increase wolf quotas is a failing in wildlife management and not wildlife management in the public trust. In addition at the WGFD meeting of May 17 I asked if a private property owner can stake out dead cattle to lure wolves to trophy or predator hunts the answer is "yes". I oppose the policy of WGFD which allow any private property owner to stake out inappropriate bait/food rewards for predators and particularly because it not only attracts wolves but other predators including grizzly bear and cougar to improper food rewards and to potential conflict with and death from humans. This is a particular problem in the congested by subdivisions of elk hunt area 78 and trophy wolf hunt areas 7 & 8. This type of baiting cannot be allowed in neighborhoods and until the Wolf Hunting Regulations can be amended to actually manage the wolf species for continued recovery as required by the ESA and to protect other allegedly recovered species and per their management requirements these regulations are mismanagement and not wildlife management in the Public Trust. Manage our wildlife for a balanced ecosystem there are too many questions and there is too much data not collected for you to continue down this road to further destruction of the wolf and other wildlife populations in Wyoming. Regardless of what the current wolf population might be, increasing the hunt quota to 58 will insure that the overall mortality rate for 2018 will remain far above sustainable levels. This is not acceptable public trust management. Wyoming's wolf management plan should focus on reducing human-caused mortalities and accepting that natural mortalities and depredation removals will occur, the logical place to lower the mortality figure is by closing the hunt season, or at least reducing the hunt quota, not increasing it. Together, the NAMWC and the PTD, clearly state that wildlife should be managed with best science, for the benefit of the American public and in coordination with other existing laws. The National Park Service Organic Act of 1916 (Organic Act, 1916) proclaims the purpose of National Parks to be: "...to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations[.]" (emphasis added). Our National Parks, often called "America's best idea," and referred to by President G.W. Bush as "America's gift to the world" (as cited by: U.S. Dept. Int. 2005), are a model for parks around the world. And Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks form the conservation core of

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Although many may say that wolves are doing well in the region, it is WU's conclusion that the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, with its proposed, aggressive 2018 hunting season- a plan structured to maintain just the minimum population necessary to prevent re-listing under the Endangered Act, is not doing enough to insure the wolf's long-term survival. We feel that the Department is not living up to the obligations of responsible wildlife stewardship as prescribed in the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation and the Doctrine of Public Trust. And that it appears the Department is putting politics over best science. The Department is simply not living up to the public's expectations to manage all wildlife, including wolves for the benefit of all citizens. Department's Plan is likely jeopardizing the wolves residing within our two premier National Parks.

Final Comment

Bainbridge, Deidre

Jackson, WY

6/4/2018 9:59:00 AM

**322** I oppose the presently proposed wolf hunt regulations and the premises put forth by Department staff for continuing Wyoming's wolf hunt and specifically for increasing the kill quota. I oppose the increased quota. At a recent department meeting, department personnel attempted to make the case for both the hunt and the quota increase based on the premise that wolves had "moved elk off historical winter grounds" (specifically Department operated feed grounds in the Upper Gros Ventre Valley). Department personnel added that this was upsetting to the Department feeding crew. (Koshmrl 2018). At the WGFD meeting in Jackson on May 17, the meeting intended to explain and promote these new wolf hunting regulations, I specifically asked: If all the wolves are killed will the elk return to winter in the Gros Ventre? The response from Ken Mills was who knows? I asked where did the elk winter? 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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

hunt areas 7 & 8. This type of baiting cannot be allowed in neighborhoods and until the Wolf Hunting Regulations can be amended to actually manage the wolf species for continued recovery as required by the ESA and to protect other allegedly recovered species and per their management requirements these regulations are mismanagement and not wildlife management in the Public Trust. Manage our wildlife for a balanced ecosystem there are too many questions and there is too much data not collected for you to continue down this road to further destruction of the wolf and other wildlife populations in Wyoming. Regardless of what the current wolf population might be, increasing the hunt quota to 58 will insure that the overall mortality rate for 2018 will remain far above sustainable levels. This is not acceptable public trust management. Wyoming's wolf management plan should focus on reducing human-caused mortalities and accepting that natural mortalities and depredation removals will occur, the logical place to lower the mortality figure is by closing the hunt season, or at least reducing the hunt quota, not increasing it. Together, the NAMWC and the PTD, clearly state that wildlife should be managed with best science, for the benefit of the American public and in coordination with other existing laws. The National Park Service Organic Act of 1916 (Organic Act, 1916) proclaims the purpose of National Parks to be: "...to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations[.]" (emphasis added). Our National Parks, often called "America's best idea," and referred to by President G.W. Bush as "America's gift to the world" (as cited by: U.S. Dept. Int. 2005), are a model for parks around the world. And Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks form the conservation core of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Although many may say that wolves are doing well in the region, it is WU's conclusion that the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, with its proposed, aggressive 2018 hunting season- a plan structured to maintain just the minimum population necessary to prevent re-listing under the Endangered Act, is not doing enough to insure the wolf's long-term survival. We feel that the Department is not living up to the obligations of responsible wildlife stewardship as prescribed in the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation and the Doctrine of Public Trust. And that it appears the Department is putting politics over best science. The Department is simply not living up to the public's expectations to manage all wildlife, including wolves for the benefit of all citizens. Department's Plan is likely jeopardizing the wolves residing within our two premier National Parks.

Final Comment

bainbridge, deidre

Jackson, WY

6/4/2018 10:02:00 AM

**323** Wyoming Game and Fish Department 5400 Bishop Blvd Cheyenne, WY 82006 RE: Chapter 47 Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons To Whom It May Concern: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Wyoming Game and Fish Department's proposed Chapter 47 Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons. Wyoming Wildlife Advocates is a 501 (c) (3) corporation with thousands of supporters regionally and nationally. They are strongly opposed to trophy hunting of wolves or other carnivores. Our mission is to promote rational science-based wildlife management that fosters ecosystem health and dynamic equilibrium among species. The Sierra Club is a national non-profit conservation organization founded in 1892 with more than 3,000 members and supporters in Wyoming and 3 million members and supporters nationwide. Its mission is to explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the Earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives. We are disappointed that, in 2018, the WGFD continues to make communications with the department and submitting public comments so unreasonably cumbersome and difficult. The department should allow public comments by email, which is commonly used by government agencies, businesses, organizations and citizens on a daily basis. Instead, you accept only snail mail or limit comments through your comment submission portal to only 8,000 characters. This is an antiquated and unacceptable system that seems designed to discourage public engagement. We are further disappointed that it appears you have consulted only with ranchers and hunters to formulate these regulations. That is reflected in the increase in the number of wolves allowed to be hunted from 44 in 2017 to 58 for 2018 and in combining hunt areas to make it easier to kill more wolves. In the proposed 2018 regulations, we oppose combining hunt areas 8, 9 and 11, which seems to be an attempt to appease a minority anti-wolf constituency in those areas. We oppose all quota increases, specifically in combined Hunt Area 8, 9, and 11, and hunt areas 1, 2 and 10. Self-regulating population The proposal to hunt 58 wolves, and thereby remove approximately 29 percent of the population of approximately 200 wolves in the trophy hunt area is not based on science. Ken Mills of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department was quoted in the Jackson Hole News and Guide saying the habitat in question was "saturated." Therefore, the population has stabilized and should not be hunted. Reducing this population serves no ecological or biological purpose. Analyzing 14 years of data, Smith et al (2012), noted that, "At the population level, litter size and survival decreased with increasing wolf population size and canine distemper outbreaks." Smith et al found that the leading

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

cause of wolf deaths was by other wolves. In other words, wolves kill each other when competing for resources and space. They don't continue to expand unchecked.

Final Comment

Hayden, Roger

Wilson, WY

6/4/2018 10:06:00 AM

**324** Part 2 Cariappa et al (2011) analyzed data collected at 32 sites across North America and found that wolf populations regulated themselves by density-dependence more than by availability of prey species. They found that wolf populations self regulated by killing each other and were limited less by prey availability by a 3:1 margin. Hunting is ineffective The WGFD is proposing to reduce the wolf population in the trophy hunt area by approximately 29 percent, with the expectation that doing so will result in a reduction of as much as 85 percent of conflicts with livestock. This is based on the belief that reducing numbers to 2009-2013 levels, the last time the state had control, will result in the lower conflict levels from that time. This approach does not account for changes in population dynamics between then and 2018. It assumes nothing has changed, and that simply reducing the population will achieve the intended result. Regardless, studies have found that reducing wolf populations to reduce conflicts is ineffective. Wielgus and Peebles (2014) studied the effects of wolf mortality on reducing livestock depredations in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming from 1987–2012. They found that for each wolf killed in a given year, chances of predation the following year increased by 4 percent. They also wrote in their study that depredation would begin to decrease only if a wolf population was reduced by 25 percent. With such an annual reduction, however, the population would quickly disappear, the authors noted. The WGFD proposal to reduce the trophy hunt area population is not based on sound science. Other lethal removals also were ineffective. In a 2017 study in Michigan, researchers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison found that lethal intervention, such as trapping, had little effect on reducing predation. “Our results do not support the hypothesis that Michigan’s use of lethal intervention after wolf depredations was effective for reducing the future risk of recurrence in the vicinities of trapping sites,” their study stated. Mortalities Why would the WGFD omit from its definition of mortality “gray wolves taken by the Department, gray wolves taken under the authority of W.S. § 23-3-115 (c), gray wolves taken under Lethal Take Permits and known natural and accidental gray wolf deaths” as stated in Section 2 (a) of the proposed regulations? Last year, according to the WGFD, almost half of Wyoming’s wolf population of 347 was killed by various means, including hunting. That is an aggressive and deliberate plan to manage wolves to the legally minimum numbers defined under federal law. Large predators such as grizzlies and gray wolves are the only Wyoming wildlife species managed down to a minimum, which does not account for the more important potential value of these renowned and popular animals to the larger public, to the ecosystems, and to the economies of our state. Pack Dynamics Randomly killing wolves through hunting would not benefit the population you’re proposing to manage. Removing key family members disrupts pack dynamics and is not a responsible way to manage these animals. Further, Wielgus and Peebles suggest that randomly killing pack members disrupts pack discipline, and usually leads to younger wolves breeding and creating new packs. These new packs then need to compete for territory, and often turn to livestock to survive. Plenty of evidence exists to support this. Cassidy et al (2015) concluded: “With the recent findings that density-dependent intraspecific aggression regulates the survival of northern Yellowstone wolves (Cubaynes et al. 2014), our study demonstrates a socially mediated mechanism by which this vital rate is influenced in this population. Our findings also have management implications for social carnivores where human exploitation may alter group composition through the removal of specific individuals. Such anthropogenic influence could indirectly affect competitive abilities of groups, altering natural social dynamics with fitness and population-level consequences.”

Final Comment

Hayden, Roger

Wilson, WY

6/4/2018 10:16:00 AM

**325** PART 3 Conflict prevention The state of Wyoming should require ranchers, through statute or regulation, to use reasonable, non-lethal measures to prevent livestock depredation. These measures have proven to be more effective than lethal measures (Hadidian, 2007; Pratt-Bergstrom, 2016; Fascione, Delach & Smith, 2004; Treves et al, 2016). It would behoove the state to require these measures, rather than pay damage claims to ranchers who refuse to implement the most basic measures. Loss of livestock through disease, weather or depredation is the cost of doing business in this region. Like any other business, agriculture should accept those risks and protect against them. We believe “social tolerance” for large predators on the landscape should be determined not just by ranchers and hunters, but by all citizens of Wyoming. Wolf watching Wildlife watching is growing in popularity in this region, and it is a major contributor to the economy. A recent report (Thomas & Koontz, 2016) found that visitors to Grand Teton National Park alone spent \$597 million in surrounding communities. Visitors to Yellowstone spent another \$680 million, according to a report by the US Department of Interior (2016 NPS Visitor Spending Effects).

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

In numerous surveys, most of these visitors reported that they want to see wildlife, especially our iconic large predators. A recent study (Borg et al, 2016) has found that wolf sightings in Yellowstone and Denali national parks decreased 45% when hunting was allowed at the borders. We therefore request that no hunting be allowed in the trophy hunt areas surround the parks. We need to protect park wolves as valuable park resources but also as a valuable and integral part of our economy and community. Flex zone We further request that no hunting be allowed in the so-called "flex zone," located south of Jackson and along the Idaho state boundary. This area is important for connecting the Wyoming and Idaho wolf populations to foster genetic interchange. Allowing it to be a free-fire predator zone for half the year is not necessary and is counter to its purpose of connecting the two populations. Chronic Wasting Disease As the always fatal Chronic Wasting Disease invades cervid populations of Western Wyoming, with it's iconic elk herds and densely concentrated winter feed grounds, an increasing number of scientists are encouraging an abundance of wolves and other predators on the landscape throughout the region. Wolves in particular have a unique ability to detect disease in an animal like a deer or elk long before humans notice. Predators like wolves are one of the least expensive and most sensible tools we have to mitigate the spread of CWD throughout Wyoming and beyond. "We suggest that as CWD distribution and wolf range overlap in the future, wolf predation may suppress disease emergence or limit prevalence," said Tom Hobbs in a column in the Jackson Hole News and Guide April 2, 2014. Hobbs found through his study of the Rocky Mountain National Park elk herd that wolves could slow or limit the spread of disease by spreading the herds out, and by the removal of carcasses as sources of infection. (Hobbs 2006, Wild et al 2011). His study also found that wolves could limit the lifespan of elk, and therefore limit the amount of time an infected animal has to spread disease. Hobbs concludes that predation by wolves could have potent effects on disease prevalence. We believe it would be foolish to reduce the population of wolves when they provide important ecosystem services in the ecosystem by keeping herds as healthy as possible. The Wyoming Game and Fish Department should incorporate an interdisciplinary team of wildlife health scientists, ecologists, and wildlife managers to manage Wyoming's wildlife in a healthier and more sustainable manner for the future. Conclusion In conclusion, there is no biological or ecological rationale for reducing

Final Comment

Hayden, Roger

Wilson, WY

6/4/2018 10:18:00 AM

**326** PART 4 . In 2016, wolf mortalities reached 23 percent of the population of wolves outside the national parks without any permitted hunting. This level is pushing the sustainability of this population, and adding hunting to the mix most certainly would push mortalities higher and put this population at risk. We urge the WGFD to abandon plans to allow hunting in the trophy zone. The latest science indicates reducing wolf populations has little effect on reducing conflicts. In fact, it has the opposite effect. Please focus your efforts on conflict prevention through better livestock management. Wolves are far more valuable to our economy and ecosystems alive than dead. We appreciate the information provided by Norm Bishop that we included in these comments. Sincerely, Roger Hayden Conservation Director Wyoming Wildlife Advocates PO Box 1772 Wilson, WY 83014 307-739-2000 roger@wyomingwildlifeadvocates.org www.wyomingwildlifeadvocates.org And on behalf of: Lloyd Dorsey Conservation Program Manager Sierra Club Wyoming Chapter Box 12047 Jackson, WY 83002 307-690-1967 lloyd.dorsey@sierraclub.org www.sierraclub.org/wyoming References Smith, Douglas, Daniel Stahler, Erin Stahler, Matthew Metz, Richard McIntyre, Joshua Irving, Rebecca Raymond, Colby Anton, Ryan Kindermann, and Nate Bowersock. 2011. Yellowstone Wolf Project Annual Report. National Park Service Yellowstone Center for Resources Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming YCR-2012-01. Cariappa, C. A., John K. Oakleaf, Warren B. Ballard, and Stewart W. Breck. 2011. A Reappraisal of the Evidence for Regulation of Wolf Populations. *The Journal of Wildlife Management* 75(3):726–730; DOI: 10.1002/jwmg.74 Wielgus, Robert B., and Kaylie A. Peebles. 2014. Effects of Wolf Mortality on Livestock Depredations DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0113505. Cassidy, Kira A., Daniel R. McNulty, Daniel R. Stahler, Douglas W. Smith, and L. David Mech. Group composition effects on aggressive interpack interactions of gray wolves in Yellowstone National Park. *Behav Ecol* (2015) 26 (5): 1352-1360. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/beheco/arv081 Cubaynes S. MacNulty DR, Stahler DR, Quimby KA, Smith DW, Coulson T . 2014. Density-dependent intraspecific aggression regulates survival in northern Yellowstone wolves (*Canis lupus*). *J Anim Ecol* . 83:1344–1356. Hobbs, N. Thompson. 2006. A Model Analysis of Effects of Wolf Predation on Prevalence of Chronic Wasting Disease in Elk Populations of Rocky Mountain National Park. Fascione, N., Delach, A. & Smith, M.E. (2004). *People and predators*. Washington, D.C.: Island Press Hadidian, J. (2007). *Wild neighbors: The humane approach to living with wildlife*. Washington, D.C.: The Humane Society Press. Pratt-Bergstrom, B. (2016). *When mountain lions are neighbors: People and wildlife working it out in California*. Berkeley, CA: Heyday Books. Thomas C.C. & Koontz, L. (2017). *National park visitor spending effects: Economic contributions to local communities, states, and the nation*. (Natural Resource Report NPS/NRSS/EQD/NRR—2017/1421). Washington, D.C.:

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

U.S. Department of the Interior. <http://Go.nps.gov/vse> Santiago-Avila FJ, Cornman AM, Treves A (2018), University of Wisconsin-Madison. Killing wolves to prevent predation on livestock may protect one farm but harm neighbors.

**Final Comment**                      **Hayden, Roger**                      **Wilson, WY**                      6/4/2018 10:20:00 AM

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**327** Please reconsider the totals for the upcoming wolf hunting season. Wolves are such a vital member of our earth and they help keep the ecosystem in check and healthy. Many people come to Wyoming to see the wildlife, especially the wolves. I, for one, would avoid the state if they continue to decimate the wolf population. Without the revenue for tourism, I'm sure the state of Wyoming would suffer. Soundly, this is a decision that will affect the economy, tourism, and the ecosystem for Wyoming. Again, I ask that you reconsider the total trophy numbers for wolves this season.

**Final Comment**                      **Smith, Cathy**                      **Rockwall, TX**                      6/4/2018 10:27:00 AM

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**328** Please reconsider this wolf hunt. Their really aren't that many of them. Whatever problems you have with these beautiful animals can be solved without killing them. i probably will not see a wolf in the wild, but I definitely won't if you keep killing them off!

**Final Comment**                      **Waltman, Shelley**                      **Santa Rosa, CA**                      6/4/2018 10:39:00 AM

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**329** Please stop the wolf hunting. There is no need for it. Many hunters from Nashville, also in the country music industry, don't like what they see and may avoid WY in the future. It makes the rest of us meat hunters look bad

**Final Comment**                      **Hand , David**                      **Whites creek , TN**                      6/4/2018 10:42:00 AM

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**330** I support keeping the wolf quota at 44 and not increasing it to 58. Research shows that killing more wolves will not decrease the killing of large game. In fact it increases it. Wyoming's last two winters have been hard on the elk. Many ranchers were complaining that the elk were eating their cattle's hay and asking to have the elk removed near their ranches. Stop the elk hunting in some areas and let the elk numbers increase on their own. Wolves are not the problem. I vote not wolf quota increase.

**Final Comment**                      **Golba, Carolyn**                      **West Yellowstone, MT**                      6/4/2018 12:10:00 PM

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**331** Members of the Commission, I am commenting on the wolf hunting regulations proposed for Fall 2018. While i agree that adding 2 wolves to the quota of Area 10 is a step in the right direction, it will by no means change the behavior of these wolves and the damage they are causing in and around the Camp Creek and Horse Creek Wildlife Management areas. I feel a higher quota as well as management of these wolves during the winter on these WMA's will be the only remedy. I would like to see the western hunt area boundary for area 10 moved from Highway 189/191 to the Gros Ventre Wilderness line so that there will be opportunity in the spring to harvest these wolves as they frequent the management area. I would also like to see the easing of some of these winter closures to predator/wolf hunting. I would support the opening of the wolf season to coincide with the date of the earliest opening rifle big game season in that area. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this regulation. Carlton Loewer Jackson, WY

**Final Comment**                      **Loewer, Carlton**                      **Jackson, WY**                      6/4/2018 12:42:00 PM

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**332** I am writing to urge you NOT to increase the wolf trophy quota from 44 to 58. I strongly oppose this action both from a professional and a tourist aspect. There is absolutely not one reason to increase the quota other than just simply to kill more wolves. I also strongly oppose increasing the numbers of licences available to each hunter from 1 to 2. The wolf count is down in your state, and while in the rest of the state wolves can be shot and trapped 24/7. Wyoming's policy wolf and wildlife policy includes reckless harvest for false reasoning and without scientific background. Ungulate numbers in the state are at a high point, all well above target numbers. Wolves are not affecting your elk and deer counts. While the major factor in any decline is disease, climate and overhunting, none of these are resulting in a decline in numbers in your state. Wyoming has shown a clear picture of how they treat wildlife in the state, with the appearance of the agenda to eradicate them from your state, especially predators. To grown them to kill them. This is

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

not acceptable. The very wildlife that tourists come to see from across the U.S. and around the globe, the very wildlife you seek to kill as many as possible. Park wolves are the primary targets in these areas, your overkill policies target state wolves, but the increase in the trophy areas target the park wolves over any others. In addition to your wildlife hunting policies, this act alone will start a massive decline in tourism to your state. Your wolf numbers are down and your ungulate numbers are up. Increasing the wolf kill is simply showing what Wyoming is all about. From a scientific standpoint, your policies are not sustainable for wolves in the long term and goes against the best scientific judgement; from the tourism standpoint your policies are not at all acceptable. Again, I strongly OPPOSE the proposal to increase the wolf hunting quotas and the increase in licences. I ask that you do as well. It's better for Wyoming the more wolves are allowed to stick around. Thank you for your time

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**Final Comment**                      **Chriss, Robin**                      **Evergreen, CO**                      6/4/2018 12:48:00 PM

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**333** Wolves are TREASURES, Wolves are NOT trophies. I am disgusted to hear the shameful news from Wyoming wanting to hunt Wolves. WHO ARE THE MONSTERS? Not the Wolves, that is obvious! Because NO REAL ETHICAL HUNTER does this. Do not let this happen. Let alone a proposed increase to a record 58 animals, up from 44 in 2017. THIS IS UTTER MADNESS. As the Wyoming Game and Fish department, if you pander to such individuals demanding you allow this kind of reckless violence in the name of what? SPORT? you make yourselves and all forms of wildlife conservation, an absolute disgrace. I expect more decency from you than this, and I expect that you put an absolute stop to this blood lusting savagery, as I speak as every other tourist who comes to visit the places where wild Wolves wander, and grace us with the sheer privilege to witness Wolves, as the essential predators they are in the wild, who BALANCE life in the wild, all of which need to be free and protected in the wild. I cannot nor will I ever understand the joy IN KILLING LIFE FOR FUN. NO ONE EATS WOLF, AND NO ONE SHOULD EVER HUNT WOLVES. Please do NOT let this outrageous atrocity happen. Find your conscience and do what is right. WOLVES BELONG HERE. PROTECT THEM. Thank you.

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**Final Comment**                      **Wyndham, Shelley**                      **Chambersburg, PA**                      6/4/2018 12:55:00 PM

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**334** Stop interfering with nature and her ways. There's no good reason to kill these awesome creatures.

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**Final Comment**                      **Chittenden, wayne**                      **Amador City, CA**                      6/4/2018 1:17:00 PM

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**335** Leave the wolves alone! They are not put on earth for us to murder

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**Final Comment**                      **Chittenden, wayne**                      **Amador City, CA**                      6/4/2018 1:20:00 PM

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**336** I am against wolf hunting especially near Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. Wolves keep the ecosystem healthy. Let them do their job. Look at Wisconsin, in the southern part of the state where there are no wolves CWD is becoming more widespread. In the northern part of the state wolves can help rid the herd of diseased animals. When a wolf is shot by a trophy hunter only one person benefits. When a wolf is allowed to live thousands of park visitors can enjoy watching it. Many people come to these parks for the sole reason of seeing wolves and grizzlies. Please don't reduce their chances of seeing them so one person can have a trophy. People develop a connection with the packs and when you destroy that by letting wolves be hunted you have taken away the enjoyment of viewing wolves. The parks are supposed to be an escape for people from the stress of life. When we are trying to have a true wilderness experience we don't want to think that what we are viewing wild and free today will be gunned down tomorrow because it crossed an invisible boundary.

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**Final Comment**                      **Kreimann , Kim**                      **Neosho, WI**                      6/4/2018 1:34:00 PM

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**337** The quota for hunting wolves should not be increased. Wolves are pack animals and all members depend on a functioning pack to survive. The killing of any wolf thus has a magnifier effect on survival of the entire pack and the species. This is undoubtedly well known to WYGF. I do not expect the Commission to consider this fact, as they have never shown any consideration for the views of people who value wildlife for any purpose other than killing it The policy is to kill as many wolves as they can get away with. But I believe that someday they will come to regret the cruelty and suffering they cause these intelligent animals, and the shame they have brought to the State of Wyoming.



## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

Final Comment

Weston, Julia

Jackson, WY

6/4/2018 2:20:00 PM

**338** June 4, 2018 Via <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/Get-Involved/Public-Meetings> Wyoming Game and Fish Department Wildlife Division ATTN: Regulations 3030 Energy Lane Casper, WY 82604 Re: Safari Club International Comments on Wyoming's Proposed Regulations Opening a Gray Wolf Hunting Season - 2018 (Chapter 47) Dear Sir or Madam, Safari Club International (Safari Club) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on Wyoming's proposed regulations regarding a wolf hunt in 2018. Safari Club strongly supports the proposed regulations. The 2017 season demonstrated that hunting helps manage the species in a safe and sustainable manner. The season will also generate public support and social tolerance of this predator species. Although Safari Club lacks sufficient information to comment specifically, Wyoming appears to have made reasonable and informed adjustments to the regulations from last year, including changing the mortality limits in some hunt areas. Safari Club International Safari Club International, a nonprofit IRC § 501(c)(4) corporation, has approximately 48,000 members worldwide, many of whom hunt in Wyoming and desire an opportunity to hunt wolves. Safari Club's missions include the conservation of wildlife, protection of the hunter, and education of the public concerning hunting and its use as a conservation tool. Safari Club has long been an active supporter of hunting opportunities in Wyoming and is experienced in state-regulated hunting following the federal delisting of a species (e.g., gray wolves in the Northern Rocky Mountain region, grizzly bears in the Yellowstone area). Safari Club has been involved in many aspects of the delisting of Wyoming wolves, including providing comments to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and participating in litigation to defend the delisting. Recent Experiences with Wolves in 2017 Support the Proposed Regulations Wyoming's successful 2017 wolf hunt helps demonstrate that hunting of large predators such as wolves plays a beneficial role in management of populations in a sustainable and safe manner. According to the Wyoming Gray Wolf Monitoring and Management 2017 Annual Report (page 12), "[t]he Wyoming Game and Fish Department implemented regulated wolf hunting as a population management tool in WYO following removal of Endangered Species Act protections for wolves in April 2017." The hunt proceeded under carefully managed parameters. See *id.* at 12-15. As expected, "[a]ll hunters who legally harvested a wolf complied with reporting and registration requirements, including submission of a genetics sample" and the harvest did not exceed the quota. *Id.* at 14. The hunt has helped Wyoming move closer to desired population levels, while also providing a valued recreational opportunity. As Wyoming's predator populations now include two recovered and delisted species, Safari Club also supports Wyoming's proposed 2018 grizzly bear season. It will serve the same purposes as the wolf harvest. A Well-Regulated Hunt Will Support Social Tolerance of this Predator Species As the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission recognized in its management plan for grizzly bears, hunting generates public support and social tolerance of large predator species, such as wolves. Wyoming Grizzly Bear Management Plan (May 5, 2016), page 15. The FWS has also acknowledged that state regulated hunts promote social tolerance of predator species. For example, the FWS recognized the positive impact social tolerance can have for the conservation of a wolf population when it delisted Wyoming's wolves in 2012. 77 Fed. Reg. 55530 (Sept. 10, 2012). In considering the delisting of the Yellowstone grizzly bear population, the FWS properly discussed the importance of managing grizzly bears to improve the public's acceptance of the species. 81 Fed. Reg. 13174, 13206-07 (Mar. 11, 2016) ("Without the support of the people that live, work, and recreate in grizzly bear country, conservation will not be successful."). Numerous studies and articles discuss the importance of social tolerance for the conservation of species, especially predator species such as wolves. Here are a few we recommend for your review: 1) Robyn S. Wilson and Jeremy Bruskotter, Assessing the Impact of Decision Frame and Existing Attitudes on Support for Wolf Restoration in the United States, 14 HUMAN DIMENSIONS OF WILDLIFE 353 (2009). 2) Astrid V. Stronen et al., Farmer Attitudes Toward Wolves: Implications for the Role of Predators in Managing Disease, 135 BIOLOGICAL CONSERVATION 1 (2007). 3) Steven Fritts and Ludwig Carbyn, Population Viability, Nature Reserves, and the Outlook for Gray Wolf Conservation in North America, 3 RESTORATION ECOLOGY 26 (Mar. 1995). 4) David L. Mech, The Challenge and Opportunity of Recovering Wolf Populations, 9 CONSERVATION BIOLOGY 270 (Apr. 1995). These four references are not an exhaustive list. Wyoming is doing an excellent job of managing the wolf population within the state. Wyoming's Game and Fish Department has developed an expertise in the management of delisted predator species. Sound science and Wyoming's past experience in predator management supports the decision to hold another wolf season in 2018. Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this important planning decision. If you have any questions or need anything further, please contact Doug Burdin, Litigation Counsel at [dburdin@safariclub.org](mailto:dburdin@safariclub.org). Sincerely, Paul Babaz /s/ Paul Babaz President, Safari Club International

Final Comment

Babaz, Paul

Washington, DC

6/4/2018 2:37:00 PM

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

**339** Comment 1 of 4. A courtesy PDF copy of these comments has been sent to Director Talbott and Game Commissioners via email. The PDF is also available at a Dropbox (<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/rkoo21t0lt9lup7/AADgReYBaXWBRHUBQ1syNwpfa?dl=0>), along with courtesy PDF copies of all sources cited. Dear Director Talbot and Game Commissioners: On behalf of the Humane Society of the United States and our members and our Wyoming supporters, we submit the following comments relative to Wyoming Game and Fish Department's (WGFD's) proposed changes to the 2018 wolf hunting season. The proposed changes—increasing the number of licenses that a person may purchase each year and increasing mortality limits—exacerbate fundamental problems within the wolf-hunting season and the Wolf Management Plan. We ask that the Game Commission reject the WGFD's proposed wolf hunting changes because they are not based on the best available science, are not in keeping with the public's trust in wildlife management, and will result in harm to the state's considerable wolf-watching tourism—a more than \$1 billion annual asset. 1. There is no scientific justification for the proposal's radical increase in quotas, particularly in Zones 1 and 2, rendering the proposal contrary to law. The proposed quotas represent a substantial increase over an already excessive level of mortality via trophy hunting. WGFD proposes to increase 2017's total statewide quota within the "Wolf Trophy Game Management Area" from 39 to 58 – a nearly 50 percent increase. Neither the Statement of Reasons nor any reliable scientific evidence demonstrates that this sudden and dramatic increase is justified. If such evidence does exist, the interested public has a right pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act, W. S. § 16-3-103 et seq., to review and comment on such evidence as it constitutes the "basis" for the adoption of the proposal. Id., § 16-3-103(i)(J). Information as fundamental as the population estimates and methodologies, conflict locations, and incident reports that WGFD purportedly relied on in the development of this rule is entirely absent from the notice provided by WGFD (<https://wgfd.wyo.gov/News/Public-invited-to-comment-on-proposed-wolf-hunting>) and the Commission website linked therein (<https://wgfd.wyo.gov/Get-Involved/Public-Meetings>). The allocation of this excessive quota within hunt zones further compounds this problem. In general, the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area constitutes the 15 percent of the state bordering two national parks, which should be a hunt-free buffer zone to protect wolves residing in those parks. Within that Area, Zones 1 and 2 represent the majority of the shared border with the parks—and thus the zones where the most "trans-boundary" wolves will be affected. The proposal would nearly quadruple the Zone 1 quota, and would double the Zone 2 quota. The overly liberal allocation of quotas in these zones will undoubtedly have the effect of drawing down the wolf populations within Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks to the detriment of wildlife watchers, the population and to ecosystems. For these reasons, the proposal violates Wyoming law because it is "arbitrary and capricious," an "abuse of discretion," and "unsupported by substantial evidence." W.S. § 16-3-114; Wyo. Rule App. Proc. 12; see also *Corman v. State*, 909 P.2d 966 (Wyo. 1996). 2. Section 9 should not be removed. Section 9 is a crucial component of the Chapter 47 hunting regulations, specifying that violation of the season rules constitutes a violation of Wyoming statute and is punishable accordingly. Striking it from the regulation for the mere purpose of reducing the word count of the document, as the proposal would do, is ill-advised. Without the unambiguous enforcement provision provided by Section 9, confusion may exist about the degree of penalty applicable for illegally killing wolves, or even whether such killing is illegal at all. Even if other legal authorities provide overarching enforcement authority for violation of Commission regulations, it remains valuable to reiterate in this regulation the illegality and severity of punishment should a hunter violate the law, because this regulation is the only legal document that an individual hunter (who does not happen to also be an attorney) will likely consult. 3. Because of their biology, wolves cannot withstand WGFD's proposed levels of hunting and trapping. The best available science notes that the effect of human persecution on carnivores such as wolves is often "super additive," meaning that hunter kills that lead to breeder loss, pack disruption and other indirect effects including increased infanticide and decreased pup recruitment can multiply the total mortality over what would occur in nature. Wolves are particularly susceptible to social disruption from high mortality because their complex social structure affects many aspects of wolf population dynamics. Wolves can suffer physical, psychological, and emotional trauma. Social disruption can cause packs to disband and elimination of the breeding pair can lead to the loss of pups from starvation. Bryan et al. (2014) write: "Hunting can decrease pack size, which results in altered predation patterns, increased time spent defending kill sites from scavengers, and may lead to increased conflict with humans and livestock (Hayes et al. 2000; Wydeven et al. 2004; Zimmerman 2014)." Hunting wolves has a detrimental effect on the fitness of individuals, changes packs' evolutionary potential and increases the risk for local population extinction. In short, a host of scientific studies show that trophy hunting harms wildlife and is anathema to the values of most Americans. Added to this, in more than 80 percent of Wyoming, designated as the "predator zone," trophy hunters and trappers are permitted to kill wolves year-round, using aggressive and violent methods—even on pups. Just last year, 5 pups were killed under the predatory animal designation. By failing to regulate wolf hunting in the vast majority of the state, brutal and vicious behaviors by wolf hunters and trappers—behaviors that Americans are

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

appalled to witness—will undoubtedly continue. After wolves were removed from federal protection, Wyoming's draconian hunting and trapping policies targeted Yellowstone's wolves, even radio-collared research animals. This reduces both wolf-watching opportunities and scientific study, wasting taxpayer funds and unnecessarily creating international enmity for Wyoming wildlife officials. Also under Wyoming's Wolf Management Plan, the state relies upon the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's outdated 1987 criterion to maintain only 100 individual wolves and 10 breeding wolf pairs outside of its national parks and the Wind River Reservation. Because it relies on and implements the plan, the hunting regulation is arbitrary and capricious, W.S. § 16-3-114(c)(ii)(A). Based upon the foregoing, it appears that WGFD's aim is to reduce the population of Wyoming wolves based on an arbitrary political agenda, and not upon the best available science or even facts.

Final Comment

Wight, Amanda

Washington, DC

6/4/2018 2:56:00 PM

**340** Comment 2 of 4. 4. WGFD's proposed regulation changes disregard the enormous economic benefit derived from wolf-watching tourism. The WGFD's proposed changes will harm the state's economy because wildlife-watching tourism—which draws millions of visitors annually—is an enormous, dependable asset to Wyoming's economy, especially for wolf and grizzly bear watching. According to a 2017 economic report commissioned by the Wyoming Office of Tourism, travel spending in Wyoming amounted to \$8.9 million dollars per day amounting to \$3.2 billion in 2016. That report suggests that tourism dollars has increased annually by 4.3 percent since 2000 and visitors support 32,000 Wyoming jobs by generating \$894 million in salaries for the travel industry. In, 2016, tourists contributed \$171 million in state and local taxes. A newly-published study conducted by the University of Wyoming shows that wildlife watchers spent nearly twice (\$364,965,105) that of big game hunters (\$206,337,652) in Wyoming. A 2017 report from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service shows that hunting numbers across the country have plummeted by 21 percent, with big game hunters declining by 2.4 million since 2011. In the same period, wildlife watchers increased by 28 percent (Fig. 1). According to a 2017 study, Wyoming's economy has fallen to 43 out of 51, lagging behind almost all other U.S. states. Therefore, Wyoming must be able to continue to count on wildlife-watching tourism as a reliable revenue generator. WGFD's proposals make Wyoming an outlier when measured against the aesthetic, scientific and cultural values of most Americans towards wolves, values that translate into over \$1 billion in revenues in Wyoming each year (Fig. 2). 5. Non-lethal methods to protect livestock are more effective, economical, and humane. In rare circumstances, individuals in Wyoming suffer from wolves killing their domestic animals. Figs. 3 and 4. Assisting those livestock owners is both appropriate and readily accomplished through implementing a variety of non-lethal methods such as those widely used in the State of Washington (including range riders, electric fencing, fladry and sanitary carcasses removal). Washington has set the vanguard on protecting cattle from wolves while facilitating human-on-human conflicts through its revolutionary wolf advisory group process. Wolves killed only 581, or 0.03 percent, of Wyoming's 1.9 million cattle and calves in 2015. Non-predator-related sources of mortality to Wyoming cattle and calves amounted to 35,600 or 1.9 percent of the total inventory, while predation by native carnivores, predatory birds and domestic dogs came to 0.10 percent of the total Wyoming cattle and calf inventory. Fig. 3. (Despite the millions of dollars spent to kill coyotes in Wyoming each year, that strategy does not work as coyotes change breeding and immigration strategy to make up for their losses.) In Wyoming in 2014, the USDA-APHIS reported that of Wyoming's 345,000 inventory of sheep and lambs, roughly half of the unwanted sheep mortalities came from non-predator-related causes (8,600 or 2.5 percent of the total inventory) compared to predator-related causes (7,400 or 1.6 percent of the total inventory). Wolves were responsible for killing only 61 sheep and lambs, or 0.01 percent of the state's total sheep and lamb inventory. Fig. 4. 6. Wolves kill sick and weak ungulates, which helps to mitigate the spread of chronic wasting disease and other prey herd maladies. Wyoming's elk and other ungulates are affected by chronic wasting disease (CWD), which is spreading alarmingly across Wyoming. Studies show that wolves are actually beneficial to herds of native ungulates such as deer and elk as they remove the least viable members, leaving forage for the strongest; they rarely prey upon the prime-age breeding animals favored by hunters. A myriad of factors including habitat loss or fragmentation, changes in forage quality, competition with other ungulates, predation, disease, increased hunting, poaching, stochastic weather events, fire suppression, noxious weeds, overgrazing by livestock, energy development, and changes in hydrology affect ungulate populations. Simply killing wolves and other native carnivores will not bring back the ungulate herds, but not persecuting wolves will help Wyoming rid its herds of infectious disease, which is spreading to nearby states. Wolves are valued by most people—even most Wyoming residents. Individuals and family groups of wolves should be allowed to thrive, and it is essential that humans learn to co-exist and adapt to shared common landscapes, or we risk losing one of Wyoming's and certainly America's most rare and iconic wild animals. Sincerely, Amanda Wight Wildlife Protection Manager Humane Society of the United States awight@humanesociety.org 301-258-1414 Sources Cited Atkins.

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

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Final Comment

Wight, Amanda

Washington, DC

6/4/2018 2:56:00 PM

341

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Wight, Amanda</b>	<b>Washington, DC</b>	6/4/2018 3:13:00 PM
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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

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Final Comment

Wight, Amanda

Washington, DC

6/4/2018 3:15:00 PM

343

June 1, 2018 Wyoming Game and Fish Department Wildlife Division Attn: Regulations 3030 Energy Lane Casper, WY 82604 Re: 2018 Proposed Revision of Chapter 47 Gray Wolf Hunting Season Dear Members of the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, On behalf of the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA), we appreciate the opportunity to submit the following comments on the 2018 revision of Chapter 47 regulation for the gray wolf hunting season that has been proposed by the Wyoming Department of Game and Fish Department (WGFD). We are concerned about the significant increases proposed for the 2018 gray wolf hunting season and the impact the hunt could have on the Wyoming gray wolf population – especially those wolves that spend a portion of their time within Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks. NPCA's mission is to protect and enhance America's national park system for present and future generations. NPCA and our more than 1.3 million members and supporters have a long history of advocating for the conservation and recovery of the gray wolf as valued wildlife in both Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks and across the broader ecosystem. NPCA believes it is imperative that the State of Wyoming work closely with the National Park Service to ensure the long-term maintenance of the Yellowstone and Grand Teton's wolf populations. On average, 4.5 million visitors travel to view national park wildlife every year. Wolves serve as one of the major wildlife viewing attractions. These visitors are a significant economic driver for adjacent communities. Wolf viewing is particularly important to gateway communities such as Jackson and Cody in the 'shoulder seasons' and winter— when most other tourism dramatically declines, but wolf viewing remains very active. Beyond the financial benefit of wolf viewing to local communities, the species is an important contributor to the wildness that makes Wyoming's national parks the heart of the most unique natural system in the world. It is the job of the National Park Service (NPS) to ensure the species is maintained within NPS borders. It is a shared responsibility to ensure park-based wolf packs are sustained over time throughout their home ranges, and this should be a critical factor for WGFD as it considers wolf hunt rules and regulations. We believe responsible regulations—including adjustments to the current proposal—will result in continued compliance with the standards, and overall intent, of the Wyoming Gray Wolf Management Plan. Failure by the State to set standards that result in sustainable Yellowstone and Grand Teton wolf packs will only result in more unwanted, and unneeded, acrimony surrounding this issue. NPCA hopes that the State will work with NPS to ensure they can achieve this goal and maintain the parks' wolf populations for Wyomingites and all Americans. Aspects of the proposed wolf hunt regulations are of significant concern to NPCA and we request the commission make changes to the proposed regulations to maintain Wyoming's wolf packs, which range frequently, on lands outside the national parks. We are specifically concerned about the proposed regulations which:

- Increases the total hunt quota to target 58 wolves and does not appropriately consider the long-term recovery and viability of a population that until recently was protected under the Endangered Species Act. This aggressive hunt, combined with additional mortality due to the predator status outside of the trophy game area is excessive, and if this trend continues, could jeopardize the future of Wyoming's wolf population by managing for minimum numbers of wolves.
- Significantly increases the number of wolves that could be potentially killed in the combined units, 8 and 9, in the Gros Ventre drainage, allowing up to 15 wolves to be killed in that hunt area.
- Creates a new hunt area around Whiskey Mountain that increases the wolf take from 6 to 8 wolves under the unsupported premise that wolves are adversely affecting the Whiskey Mountain Bighorn Sheep Herd.
- Does not consider limited take in hunt areas adjacent to Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks to preserve park wolf packs that frequently travel beyond park boundaries in search of prey. WGFD should take into consideration the benefits of wildlife watching (particularly to view iconic species such as wolves and bears), which generates millions of dollars of revenue for the State of Wyoming each year.
- Codify in state regulations that no wolf hunting be permitted on the 2,300 acres of privately-owned inholdings within Grand Teton National Park. BACKGROUND In 1995, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) reintroduced 41 gray wolves (wolves) into Yellowstone National Park as a nonessential experimental population under the Endangered Species Act to restore the gray wolf populations in the northern Rocky Mountain region. The reintroduction of wolves was a great success and wolves spread beyond Yellowstone and expanded their population across the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE). By 2002, the wolf population in the region

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

reached the numbers necessary for delisting from the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Recovering a species must consist of ensuring the species is restored to healthy and sustaining population levels, as well as ensuring that adequate and enforceable management agreements and plans are in place to ensure the long-term success of the species. On October 4th, 2011, the USFWS announced a proposed rule to remove the gray wolf in Wyoming from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife, and wolves were first delisted in September 2012. This action was dependent upon Wyoming developing a Gray Wolf Management Plan that was acceptable to the USFWS. The USFWS accepted the plan, and Wyoming assumed management authority over wolves, but the decision was challenged in federal court who found the Wyoming plan to be inadequate, returning management of wolves back to the USFWS. A subsequent appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals resulted in a favorable ruling towards the state and on April 25, 2017 and ultimately wolves were delisted and WGFD assumed management of the species, with the condition that they manage for no fewer than 100 wolves and ten breeding pairs.

Final Comment

Mader, Sharon

Jackson, WY

6/4/2018 4:21:00 PM

**344** Part II (continued) COMMENTS ON WOLF HUNTING REGULATIONS Hunting of gray wolves on privately-held inholdings within Grand Teton National Park should be prohibited: When the State of Wyoming assumed management of wolves, NPCA expressed grave concern over the state's assertion that it possessed the authority to hunt wolves in Grand Teton National Park (exclusionary language in the Wyoming Management Plan protected Yellowstone National Park, but not Grand Teton). Aside from the annual Elk Reduction Program, which is written into the enabling legislation at the time that the park was created, no other wildlife hunting is allowed in Grand Teton National Park. However, in 2014, when a wolf was illegally killed on a private ranch within Grand Teton National Park, the incident precipitated an investigation by the NPS, and a separate investigation by WGFD, as to whether to prosecute the illegal shooting. This dual action by the federal and state agencies led to an opinion by a Department of Interior solicitor that favored the management authority of WGFD on privately-held lands within the park. On November 11, 2014, the NPS sent a letter informing the WGFD that 36 C.F.R. § 2.2, NPS's wildlife-protection regulation, did not apply to private inholdings within Grand Teton, turning over the park's wildlife management authority to the WGFD. Subsequently, NPCA and the Greater Yellowstone Coalition filed a lawsuit challenging that decision and are moving forward with legal action against the National Park Service and the Department of the Interior to reverse the NPS's decision to relinquish authority over non-federal inholdings. Our extensive legal review of this issue confirms that wildlife authority rests only with the park service on all lands within the boundary of Grand Teton National Park. The assertions made by the State of Wyoming and the WGFD claiming state authority are not supported by overarching federal legislation. Although the State has not yet pursued a wolf hunt in the park, WGFD actions that expanded elk hunting on the Pinto Ranch inholding (hunt area 79) and allowed bison hunting on all park inholdings are cause for concern about the hunting of other species, including wolves, in the future. These isolated parcels of non-federal land are an integral part of the park, and wildlife moving across the park landscape have no awareness of the boundaries of federal versus private lands. The inholdings cover approximately 2,300 acres, which are divided among a patchwork of large and small isolated parcels, and in most cases, surrounded by public land. In many case, these parcels are visible from roads and trails, and many of these parcels are occupied by wolves at varying times of the year. Any possible future hunt of wolves on these inholdings would diminish the visitor experience and could lead to a scenario where wolves avoid these areas within the park, thus depriving the public of a once-in-a-lifetime experience of viewing wolves in the wild. The local gateway community of Jackson would be greatly impacted by such state action, as the economy relies heavily on tourism dollars. Wolves are an important park wildlife species and the NPCA believes that their management is under the sole authority of the NPS. Any future wolf hunt should be prohibited in Grand Teton National Park. The currently ambiguity over state versus federal management on the inholdings within the park has led to confusion among hunters as to what areas in the park are open for hunting and what species are permitted to be hunted. It also opens the door for trophy hunting within the park on these non-federal lands, where private landowners could profit handsomely. This attempt to diminish the park's wildlife management authority has had serious consequences. The federal statute establishing Grand Teton as a national park clearly does not allow hunting. The state should not pursue a hunt of wolves on any non-federal lands within the park. Mortality of gray wolves will be jeopardized by hunt quotas: Gros Ventre River drainage (hunt areas 8 and 9): The Department has proposed draft regulations for a fall 2018 gray wolf hunt, that if approved would increase the wolf kill quota in the Gros Ventre River area from nine to fifteen wolves. This number is excessive and unfairly targets wolf packs reliant on this important habitat area and adjacent to park service lands. This represents a significant increase in potential mortality and impact to the packs that utilize the Gros Ventre drainage and could affect that their viability and familial structure of those packs that play a crucial role in reducing over-

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

target elk herd numbers. NPCA would like the state to reconsider the proposed increase and maintain or reduce the hunt quota in this area at 2017 levels.

**Final Comment**                      **Mader, Sharon**                      **Jackson, WY**                      6/4/2018 4:23:00 PM

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**345** Part III (continued) Wyoming's decision to continue artificial feeding of elk unnaturally congregates large numbers of elk in this area. As a result, the elk presence attracts packs of wolves to the Gros Ventre drainage. This increase in the wolf hunt quota in the Gros Ventre drainage appears to be an effort to eliminate wolves in this important habitat area. As wolves recover, there is bound to be dispersal of elk away from certain areas where predation levels are higher - but given the total number of elk counted this past year, the herd size continues to exceed desired management levels and this dispersal has not affected the overall health of the herd. In fact, recent information released to the Jackson Hole News and Guide from Jackson regional wildlife biologist Aly Courtemanch indicated that there has not been a significant elk population decline in the Gros Ventre – only that elk are migrating to different wintering areas and 96% have returned to their traditional summer and fall ranges. Given this, WGFD has insufficient justification for substantially increasing the wolf take in this new combined hunt area. Similarly, the reduction of bighorn sheep numbers in the Whiskey Mountain Hunt area is being used as a justification to increase the wolf quota in this area and open new hunting opportunities. This claim has been unsubstantiated by the WFGD, and in fact, according to Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation Executive Director Steve Kilpatrick, wolves in that area are primarily depredating on the abundant elk and deer population – not on wild sheep (Jackson Hole News and Guide 5/9/18). The proposed quota for the 2018 wolf hunt has also allowed an increased take in changed hunt areas in the northeast area of the Wind River Range from six to eight animals. NPCA asks that the wolf hunt quotas in all hunt areas remain consistent with past years. The proposed increase in the take of wolves could significantly impact the recovery and stability of wolves in Wyoming. Landowner Take Mortality Due to State-wide Predator Status: A landowner or their agent is permitted to take a wolf at will in predator areas around the state. The potential for substantial unreported mortality could have a significant impact on overall population numbers in the state. Wolves taken by landowners should count towards the total harvest quota and the season should be closed if the total quota is reached. Hunt Quotas Adjacent to National Parks: NPCA encourages the State to consider decreasing the take limit in hunt areas adjacent to Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. With an expanded harvest near the park, coupled with other potential factors such as disease, wolf populations numbers could quickly drop to unsustainable levels. We request that overall harvest levels adjacent to parks be limited to protect park wolves and enhance wildlife viewing opportunities. Park-adjacent hunting generates negative perceptions about the State of Wyoming and could affect and impact important tourism revenue to the state. In the future, NPCA urges the State to consider creating 'no hunt' zones around the Yellowstone and Grand Teton borders. These zones would assure the long-term maintenance of the Wyoming wolf population and serve as a feeder for the hunt beyond the zone borders. We suggest these zones be adjusted every year and at least partially be based on known home ranges of Yellowstone and Grand Teton wolf packs. This will allow for a sustainable wolf population in the parks and will have minimal impact on the geographic area within the state open to hunting. CONCLUSION NPCA hopes the State will continue to develop creative solutions to address the concerns of many so that the State of Wyoming's wolf hunt is balanced with the long-term maintenance of the Yellowstone and Grand Teton's wolf populations. Yellowstone is America's first National Park and Grand Teton is certainly one of the crown jewels of the National Park Service. It is imperative that on the heels of the Centennial of the National Park Service celebration in 2016, that we all work together to ensure the wildlife populations that make Wyoming's national parks so unique are maintained for the next 100 years. The State of Wyoming has a long history of working with the USFWS on sound, science-based wolf management to recover wolves. It would be disappointing to see the State receive unwanted and unneeded public scrutiny for approving a hunt that fails to adequately protect wolves by managing them at the minimal numbers required by the Endangered Species Act (ESA), rather than pursuing the continued robust recovery of the species. We encourage the WGFD to instead work steadfastly to continue a successful trajectory for the wolf recovery to ensure a viable future for gray wolves in Wyoming. We appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the draft 2018 wolf hunting regulations. Best Regards, Sharon Mader Senior Program Manager Grand Teton Field Office

**Final Comment**                      **Mader, Sharon**                      **Jackson, WY**                      6/4/2018 4:24:00 PM

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**346** Part III (continued) Wyoming's decision to continue artificial feeding of elk unnaturally congregates large numbers of elk in this area. As a result, the elk presence attracts packs of wolves to the Gros Ventre drainage. This increase in the wolf hunt quota in the Gros Ventre drainage appears to be an effort to



## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

eliminate wolves in this important habitat area. As wolves recover, there is bound to be dispersal of elk away from certain areas where predation levels are higher - but given the total number of elk counted this past year, the herd size continues to exceed desired management levels and this dispersal has not affected the overall health of the herd. In fact, recent information released to the Jackson Hole News and Guide from Jackson regional wildlife biologist Aly Courtemanch indicated that there has not been a significant elk population decline in the Gros Ventre – only that elk are migrating to different wintering areas and 96% have returned to their traditional summer and fall ranges. Given this, WGFD has insufficient justification for substantially increasing the wolf take in this new combined hunt area. Similarly, the reduction of bighorn sheep numbers in the Whiskey Mountain Hunt area is being used as a justification to increase the wolf quota in this area and open new hunting opportunities. This claim has been unsubstantiated by the WGFD, and in fact, according to Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation Executive Director Steve Kilpatrick, wolves in that area are primarily depredating on the abundant elk and deer population – not on wild sheep (Jackson Hole News and Guide 5/9/18). The proposed quota for the 2018 wolf hunt has also allowed an increased take in changed hunt areas in the northeast area of the Wind River Range from six to eight animals. NPCA asks that the wolf hunt quotas in all hunt areas remain consistent with past years. The proposed increase in the take of wolves could significantly impact the recovery and stability of wolves in Wyoming. Landowner Take Mortality Due to State-wide Predator Status: A landowner or their agent is permitted to take a wolf at will in predator areas around the state. The potential for substantial unreported mortality could have a significant impact on overall population numbers in the state. Wolves taken by landowners should count towards the total harvest quota and the season should be closed if the total quota is reached. Hunt Quotas Adjacent to National Parks: NPCA encourages the State to consider decreasing the take limit in hunt areas adjacent to Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. With an expanded harvest near the park, coupled with other potential factors such as disease, wolf populations numbers could quickly drop to unsustainable levels. We request that overall harvest levels adjacent to parks be limited to protect park wolves and enhance wildlife viewing opportunities. Park-adjacent hunting generates negative perceptions about the State of Wyoming and could affect and impact important tourism revenue to the state. In the future, NPCA urges the State to consider creating 'no hunt' zones around the Yellowstone and Grand Teton borders. These zones would assure the long-term maintenance of the Wyoming wolf population and serve as a feeder for the hunt beyond the zone borders. We suggest these zones be adjusted every year and at least partially be based on known home ranges of Yellowstone and Grand Teton wolf packs. This will allow for a sustainable wolf population in the parks and will have minimal impact on the geographic area within the state open to hunting. CONCLUSION NPCA hopes the State will continue to develop creative solutions to address the concerns of many so that the State of Wyoming's wolf hunt is balanced with the long-term maintenance of the Yellowstone and Grand Teton's wolf populations. Yellowstone is America's first National Park and Grand Teton is certainly one of the crown jewels of the National Park Service. It is imperative that on the heels of the Centennial of the National Park Service celebration in 2016, that we all work together to ensure the wildlife populations that make Wyoming's national parks so unique are maintained for the next 100 years. The State of Wyoming has a long history of working with the USFWS on sound, science-based wolf management to recover wolves. It would be disappointing to see the State receive unwanted and unneeded public scrutiny for approving a hunt that fails to adequately protect wolves by managing them at the minimal numbers required by the Endangered Species Act (ESA), rather than pursuing the continued robust recovery of the species. We encourage the WGFD to instead work steadfastly to continue a successful trajectory for the wolf recovery to ensure a viable future for gray wolves in Wyoming. We appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the draft 2018 wolf hunting regulations. Best Regards, Sharon Mader Senior Program Manager Grand Teton Field Office

Final Comment

Mader, Sharon

Jackson, WY

6/4/2018 4:24:00 PM

- 347** In reading your management plan, I am saddened to see that you don't appear to be invested in supporting gray wolves in their return to Wyoming and their role in the Wyoming ecosystem. I see only references to maintaining the minimum number you need to retain control of state management. In fact, your stated objective is to maintain a minimum population of 150 wolves (and not much more) throughout the state of Wyoming. A state that supported thousands of wolves before Wyoming put a bounty on their heads and slaughtered over 20,000 wolves between 1897 – 1907. There is no shortage of suitable habitat. Just the area of Yellowstone National Park is 3472 sq miles and the area surrounding it that is strongly suitable for wolf habitat is at least 3 – 4 times that size. That is a very large area with more than enough good habitat to sustain a much larger population. I am asking you to not approve any increase in the quota of wolves slaughtered by trophy hunters and indeed to instead eliminate trophy hunting entirely. It is beyond disturbing to promote the killing of innocent animals purely for the thrill of it. I find no justifiable reason for the continued killing of wolves in Wyoming nor is it justified by your own reports. So why is the

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

state of Wyoming so set on decreasing its wolf population which currently stands at just 347 wolves? I see arguments that wolves are devastating the elk herds. Yet your own website states that the Wyoming elk herd which numbered 21,000 in the early 1990s was unsustainable due to the damage to the forage and was reduced primarily through hunting to the current number of about 11,000. Wyoming Fish and Game biologist Aly Courtenmand has stated that while wolves prey on elk the primary reason for reduction of elk numbers has been driven by intentional reduction through the hunting seasons. As to the moose, their numbers are reportedly down equally in areas where there are no wolves (in Wyoming and elsewhere) for reasons unknown. Wyoming Wildlife Federation also reports that moose are not native to Wyoming and there is no record of them in Wyoming prior to 1850. Overpopulation in Wyoming led to decreased forage resulting in decreased nutrition and therefore decreased reproduction. On the positive side, wolves strengthen elk and moose herds by removing the weak and diseased. They appear to be able to detect which animal are weakened by CWD before it is obvious to humans and single out these animals thus preventing further spread of the disease. Hunters generally kill elk and moose in their prime years whereas wolves take down primarily older, weakened and some of the young. They also keep ungulates on the move more and thus contribute to healthier forage. Wolves are not a threat to humans as they avoid contact with humans. There are no more than 2 documented deaths from wolves in all of North America over the last century. I have spent many months backpacking and camping in wolf territory and never seen a wolf. Isle Royal in Lake Superior was once home to 50 wolves on just a 206.7 sq. mile area and with all of the visitors to hike and camp on the island there was never any conflict. Which brings us to livestock deprivation. As stated in your own publications and others nationally livestock losses to wolves are minimal industry wide. As of 3/18 Wyoming has 1,270,000 head of cattle and about 360,000 sheep. In 2017, wolves killed 113 cattle and 81 sheep. This accounts for well below 1% of all deaths for cattle and sheep which die primarily from weather, gut and respiratory issues. Livestock owners were compensated for their losses. My concern is that even without trophy hunting the wolf population in Wyoming has overall basically been stagnant since 2006 at which time there were 390 wolves in the GYA and by your reports 395 at the end of 2016. On your web page your 4/11/18 post states that there were 347 wolves in Wyoming at the end of 2017, of which 238 were outside of Yellowstone National Park (YNP) and the Wind River Reservation (WRR). According to your "Wyoming Gray Wolf Monitoring and Management 2017 Annual Report" there were 168 wolf mortalities statewide (162 of which occurred outside of YNP and WRR). Of those, 44 were slaughtered by trophy hunters, 33 were slaughtered in the area where they are designated as predatory animals and 61 were killed by Wildlife Services or ranchers. This total mortality of 168 animals means that 59% of all wolves outside of YNP and WRR were either killed by humans (89% of the mortalities) or died during 2017. According to the information on the National Elk Refuge website a 30 – 40% mortality rate may suppress wolf population growth. As is evident the mortality rates in Wyoming are almost twice this number. This is not sustainable for a healthy wolf population. The vast majority of the animals killed for "control" purposes were taken from the trophy hunting zones (at least 51 of the 61) which means that at least 105 wolves in the trophy hunting zones or at least 50% were killed or the course of last year. The kill rate of 50% is enormously disruptive to the wolf packs which are very family orientated and rely upon each other for their hunting success. While wolves prefer elk as their primary food, it will become more difficult for them to hunt successfully when their pack numbers are so decimated. This has been shown to lead to more rather than less livestock depredation. Your charts certainly show no consistent correlation between killing off members of a wolf pack and a decrease in deprivation. Why not consider a strong program of non-lethal deterrents instead? I see only a few short sentences that even mention non-lethal methods of co-existence. There appears to be no importance attached to it. I guess it is most obvious in how you reference how they are to be treated in the rest of your state "predatory animals" which can be killed on site by any method for no reason whatsoever. In other words like unwanted trash. That is not living up to the spirit of how the Endangered Species Act is supposed to work in re-establishing animals to their native eco-systems. In conclusion, I would ask that you honor the findings of your wildlife biologists and the strong desires of the millions of people in the USA, Wyoming and around the world that treasure all of the wildlife and the beauty of Yellowstone National Park by allowing the wolves to thrive and not sacrificing them to the less than 6% of people that prefer to see them dead. Wolves deserve to live in their own right but they are also a vital part of a healthy Wyoming ecosystem. If democracy and freedom have any meaning to you then you will make the right choice and stop this insanity of slaughtering the wolves. Thank you.

Final Comment

Mahuna, Karin

Colorado Springs, CO

6/4/2018 4:29:00 PM

348

Thank you for considering the comments of The Cougar Fund as you deliberate the confirmation of the wolf regulations for 2018. We are always grateful for your willingness to engage with us. We recognize that you are at the forefront of the broadening diversity among stakeholders that express interest in wildlife issues. It is our experience that you have always been respectful and attentive to our perspective.

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

May we also add that your staff consistently responds to inquiries with openness, civility and willingness to share information that both educates and explains. The members of the large carnivore division who we primarily deal with, are skilled at tackling the 'hard questions' from their non-traditional constituents. Their patience, courtesy, and obvious commitment to the sustainability of the animals in their jurisdiction speaks well of the department. While our core values and beliefs may differ, our interactions have been nothing but positive. Our comments embrace a number of factors as follows: Social and Philosophical It is no surprise that the presence of wolves on the landscape over the past two decades has resulted in a passionate response from multiple stakeholders. Those who are negatively impacted by losses, as in livestock depredation, or reduced ungulate hunting satisfaction, juxtapose with those who celebrate the wolf as an iconic species that makes ecological contributions, and that can be observed and enjoyed as a symbol of wildness and resilience. This often leads to entrenchment of values and attitudes and creates a challenge for decision makers. We acknowledge that livestock growers have had to face, not only the financial impact of losses but also the emotional toll of seeing the harshness of nature brought into the domestic arena. Currently, the effort of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) employees and the willingness of the growers to try conflict prevention techniques, is expanding and is showing signs of reduced depredation during the all important calving window. The traditional ungulate hunting culture also feels negatively impacted because the wolf was reintroduced as an experimental population by the federal government. This coincided with the recovery and expansion of the grizzly bear, which resulted in a multi predator environment not previously experienced. It is certainly true that ungulate hunting is a profitable commodity, especially when herds are not subject to natural predation. Tradition is something that is viewed with great pride in Wyoming, as it should be. As we learn from and celebrate our traditions, perhaps we may also consider not letting ourselves be limited by them and be willing to seek creative and progressive solutions. Just as the livestock grower and the hunter are impacted by these regulations, so too are the non-hunters, the enthusiasts who enjoy witnessing wolves and other wildlife. As yet, the opportunity to contribute financially to WGFD as a non-hunter has not yet been explored in a pragmatic way, but these avid viewers of Wyoming wildlife do have financial value to those Wyomingites who provide services such as lodging, guided tours, petrol stations and food establishments. Political We acknowledge that Wyoming Fish and Game Commission (WGFC) is statutorily responsible for promulgation of regulations and the provision of recreational opportunity. The harvest mortality limit (HML) for the 2018 trophy game season on wolves seems to have been increased in direct response to specific stakeholder interest. Depredation of domestic stock, and relocation/reduction of ungulates were emphasized in testimony presented to WGFC in Cody. Much of the evidence was anecdotal, and infused with passion by those who self-identified as 'wolf-haters'. The cycle of delisting, relisting, and delisting again, appears to have increased and emboldened negative attitudes towards wolves. The emergence of such emotion may have put pressure on WGFD and WGFC to respond with an increase in the HML and the aggregation of some hunting areas in apparent 'high priority' locations. Stakeholders emphasized their frustrations, especially with regard to changes in the elk population in the Gros Ventre. It was suggested commercial outfitting revenue had been reduced by wolf predation on thousands of elk. Data to support this was not presented to the WGFC and further inquiries indicate that redistribution not predation has occurred. This is an expected consequence of the rehabilitation of a symbiotic predator/prey system. Biological The most recent WGFD annual report on wolves indicates that there have been NO successful breeding pairs (BP's) among the packs that range within Grand Teton National Park (GTNP) The proposed wolf regulations increase the HML in the region that abuts GTNP and the National Elk Refuge (NER) as a 'treatment' for problems presented to WGFC. We are concerned that collateral damage to GTNP packs that may interlink temporarily with the 'treatment' area, will exacerbate the biological challenges these packs are facing already. While some of these packs may, indeed, cross boundaries, there is no evidence that they are part of the 'problem' in the Gros Ventre, and have not been accessories to the redistribution of elk. Therefore by aggregating the hunt areas that border GTNP and NER the result may unintentionally adversely impact the productivity and persistence of the park packs. These packs were once considered the source population for the trophy game hunting area. The potential for increasing the loss of BPs becomes more apparent if one or both animals in a pack of 2 is taken. Therefore we respectfully ask the Department and the Commission to consider adding sub-quotas to the individual hunt areas in the aggregated region to prevent the entire HML occurring in one place. We also respectfully request that a mechanism be identified and entered into the record that would monitor and limit the collateral damage to wolf packs from GTNP and NER. Respectfully submitted, Penny Penelope Maldonado Executive Director The Cougar Fund

**Final Comment**

**Maldonado, Penelope JACKSON, WY**

6/4/2018 4:37:00 PM

**349** In reading your management plan, I am saddened to see that you don't appear to be invested in supporting gray wolves in their return to Wyoming and their role in the Wyoming ecosystem. I see only

## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

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## WGFD Web Comment Report

### Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Mahuna, Karin</b>	<b>Colorado Springs, CO</b>	<b>6/4/2018 4:38:00 PM</b>
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**350** Re: Proposal to increase wolf quota in trophy zone. Dear Commissioners, As a frequent visitor, avid outdoors person, of your state I urge you to not go forward with this slaughter of wolves. It is already disconcerting that in Wyoming wolf hunting is permitted 365 days a year across 85 percent of the state. It is also appalling that in this area wolves are looked upon as "shoot on sight vermin." Once essentially extirpated from Wyoming, this species can be slaughtered, often violently, by practically any means: guns, snares, explosives, trucks, and even via snowmobiles. It is also shocking that anyone (in most of Wyoming) can kill wolves without a hunting license, putting at great risk a wildlife species whose populations in the contiguous United States remain at a tiny fraction of what they once were. The other 15 percent of the state, concentrated around the Jackson Hole area and the Tetons, the tiny area where wolves and other predators are allowed to struggle to survive, the animals are also persecuted for nearly 3 months of the year. During the 2017 hunting season licensed hunters killed 44 wolves in the so-called trophy zone; 12 alone within the first 40 hours of the season. Add to that, at least 48 wolves are estimated to be killed annually from non-hunting human impacts (1). This calculation, of course, does not include unreported kills. I strongly oppose the proposal to increase the kill quota in the "trophy zone to 58 animals (an increase of 32 percent over last year's quota of 44; a record high since wolf reintroduction 23 years ago). I am also dismayed that the state is not only considering an increase in license numbers from one to two, per individual, for a calendar year, but that wolf hunt area boundaries are being redrawn, and quotas boosted because "the Gros Ventre area's elk, and the Whiskey Mountain's bighorn sheep are shifting their winter ranges." In both cases there is little evidence that wolf predation is driving populations down. Rather than relying on science-based data, Wyoming seems to be using wolves as a scapegoat for a more complex problem (2). Should the justification for this proposal be livestock losses — as according to USFWS "wolves killed a record number of livestock in 2016" (154 cattle, 88 sheep and one horse). This "record number" is just 20 more depredations than the previous year. The price: Wildlife "Services" killed 113 wolves, up from 54 "removed" the previous year. Shocking. Losses to depredations are negligible when compared to losses from disease or weather. 37,550 sheep died that same year from causes which did not involve predators. Non-predator cause of death in adult cattle accounted for almost 98 percent, primarily due to respiratory diseases; calves 89 percent. From the miniscule percentage of cattle/calves killed by predators wolves were to blame for just 4.9 percent; domestic dogs were responsible for over twice as many losses than wolves, 11.3 percent (3). The occasional threat to livestock and small percentage of financial losses due to wolf depredations should not create such antipathy toward the wolf, an animal desperately needed to balance elk populations, which, in turn will curtail damage to important biotic factors. Since the majority of lands in the "trophy zone" are federal lands, and as the majority of Americans are opposed to the "take" of wolves on their public lands, an increase in the wolf quota in the "trophy zone" area to 58 animals is simply unacceptable, as is an increase in license numbers from one to two, per hunter/trapper, for a calendar year. I ask that you reconsider this proposal. In my mind the quota for this area should be reduced to zero, allowing the animals to live in peace; isn't it bad enough (for me, unacceptable) that wolves are sacrificed to appease ranchers grazing livestock on our public lands, which include nearly half of all lands in Wyoming. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter, Your name here  
1.[https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/Wildlife/Large%20Carnivore/2017-Wyoming-Wolf-Annual-Report\\_FINAL\\_2018-04-10.pdf](https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/Wildlife/Large%20Carnivore/2017-Wyoming-Wolf-Annual-Report_FINAL_2018-04-10.pdf) 2.[http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/gros-ventre-wolves-targeted/article\\_8916d217-5d70-59d2-823c-99a8b2122201.html](http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/gros-ventre-wolves-targeted/article_8916d217-5d70-59d2-823c-99a8b2122201.html)  
3.[https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/nahms/general/downloads/cattle\\_calves\\_deathloss\\_2015.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/nahms/general/downloads/cattle_calves_deathloss_2015.pdf)

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Carter, Ashli</b>	<b>Franklin, KY</b>	<b>6/4/2018 4:39:00 PM</b>
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**351** To whom it may concern I disagree with the proposed increase in quota for the Area surrounding Yellowstone National Park and grand Teton and for that matter anywhere in Wyoming. As a frequent visitor to the parks and intentionally don't spend money in your state. As a frequent visitor to the parks and intentionally don't spend money in your state and I frankly miss staying in Jackson. But my conscious will not allow this, as an advocate for wildlife and our parks. I do not understand the need to kill animals that people travel all over the world to see. I think it's high time Wyoming evolved and of the mentality is shifted to be stewards of our wildlife. Not a state that allows something as archaic as trophy hunting.

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<b>Final Comment</b>	<b>Meyer, Heather</b>	<b>Nampa , ID</b>	<b>6/4/2018 4:58:00 PM</b>
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**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons**

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Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons

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## CHAPTER 47

### GRAY WOLF HUNTING SEASONS

**Section 1. Authority.** This regulation is promulgated by the authority of Wyoming Statutes § 23-1-101, § 23-1-102, § 23-1-108, § 23-1-302, § 23-1-304, § 23-2-104, § 23-2-303, § 23-3-111, § 23-3-115 and § 23-3-304.

**Section 2. Definitions.** For the purpose of this regulation, definitions shall be as set forth in Title 23, Wyoming Statutes and the Commission also adopts the following definitions:

(a) “Mortality” means any legal or illegal human-caused gray wolf death that occurs during an open gray wolf hunting season, excluding gray wolves taken by the Department, gray wolves taken under the authority of W.S. § 23-3-115 (c), gray wolves taken under Lethal Take Permits and known natural and accidental gray wolf deaths.

**Section 3. Hunting Seasons Established.** There shall be open seasons during 2018 for the hunting of gray wolves as set forth in this regulation. This regulation shall go into effect from and after the date gray wolves are removed from the federal list of experimental nonessential populations, endangered species or threatened species in Wyoming. This regulation shall remain in effect until modified or repealed by the Commission.

#### **Section 4. Hunting Regulations for Gray Wolves Designated as Trophy Game Animals.**

(a) All gray wolves within the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area and Seasonal Wolf Trophy Game Management Area as described in W.S. §23-1-101(a) (xii) (B) (I) and (II) are designated as trophy game animals. These regulations, and any allowance for hunting, do not apply to lands administered by the National Park Service within Grand Teton National Park or the National Elk Refuge. Gray wolves in Wyoming are designated as predatory animals as defined in W.S. §23-1-101(a) (viii) (B) except for:

- and,
- (i) Those areas where gray wolves are designated as trophy game animals;
  - (ii) Yellowstone National Park; and,
  - (iii) The Wind River Reservation, except on non-Indian owned fee titled lands.

(b) Gray wolves designated as trophy game animals shall only be taken during open gray wolf hunting seasons with legal firearms and archery equipment as set forth in Commission regulation, except as otherwise provided by Wyoming statutes.

(c) Open hours for the taking of gray wolves. Gray wolves may only be taken from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one-half (1/2) hour after sunset.

(d) No person, except as authorized by the Department, shall take a gray wolf with the use of or by the aid of radio tracking equipment.

(e) Bag and possession limit. The bag and possession limits for any person with a proper license shall be one (1) gray wolf per license during any one (1) calendar year (January 1 – December 31). A person may purchase up to two (2) gray wolf hunting licenses during any one (1) calendar year. Licensed hunters may take any gray wolf.

(f) Reporting and registering kills. Hunters taking a gray wolf in the hunt areas described in Section 6 shall retain the pelt and skull from each gray wolf for registration purposes. Even if the skull is damaged, it shall accompany the pelt for registration purposes. Visible external evidence of sex shall remain naturally attached to the pelt. The pelt and skull shall be presented in an unfrozen condition to allow collection of biological samples and to determine the age and sex of the gray wolf.

(i) Within twenty-four (24) hours after taking a gray wolf, the licensee shall report the taking of a gray wolf by calling toll free 1-800-264-1280. The report shall include the name and phone number of the person making the report, hunter's name and license number, date of the kill and location of the site of kill to include hunt area.

(ii) Within three (3) days after taking a gray wolf, the licensee taking the gray wolf shall present the pelt and skull to a district game warden, district wildlife biologist or Department personnel at a Game and Fish Department Regional Office during business hours for registration. The licensee shall provide his license number, date of kill and location of the site of kill to include hunt area, section, township and range or UTM coordinates.

(A) A hunter taking a gray wolf in a designated wilderness area shall present the pelt and skull to a district game warden, district wildlife biologist or Department personnel at a Department Regional Office during business hours for registration within three (3) days after returning from the wilderness or within ten (10) days from the date of harvest, whichever occurs first.

(iii) At the time of registration, the licensee shall provide their license number, date of kill and location of the site of kill to include hunt area, section, township and range or UTM coordinates.

(iv) Any person who makes a false statement on the registration form shall be in violation of this regulation and, such violation shall be punishable as provided by Title 23, Wyoming Statutes for violation of Commission regulations.

(g) Surrender of electronic radio tracking devices. Any person taking a gray wolf wearing an electronic radio tracking device within the hunt areas described in Section 6 shall surrender the device to the Department in accordance with registration dates in Section 4(f) (ii).



(h) Hunt Areas, Season Dates, Mortality Limit and Limitations.

Hunt Area	Season Dates		Mortality Limit
	Opens	Closes	
1	Sep. 1	Dec. 31	7
2	Sep. 1	Dec. 31	8
3	Sep. 1	Dec. 31	5
4	Sep. 1	Dec. 31	4
5	Sep. 1	Dec. 31	3
6, 7	Sep. 1	Dec. 31	3; SEE SECTION 4 (i)
8, 9, 11	Sep. 1	Dec. 31	15
10	Sep. 1	Dec. 31	5
12	Oct. 15	Dec. 31	2; SEE SECTION 4 (j)
13	Sep. 1	Dec. 31	5
14	Sep. 1	Dec. 31	1

(i) Gray wolf hunting shall be closed in that portion of Hunt Area 6 in the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway.

(j) Gray wolves located in Hunt Area 12 are designated as trophy game animals from October 15 through the last day of February in the subsequent year, but the hunting season shall end on December 31 or when the mortality limit has been reached, whichever occurs first, as set forth in Section 4(h). Gray wolves located in Hunt Area 12 are designated as predatory animals from March 1 through October 14 and during this time period may be taken without a license.

(k) Hunt area mortality limitation. The gray wolf hunting season shall close in each gray wolf hunt area when the mortality limit for that area has been reached. If the mortality limit is not reached, the season shall close upon the date specified in Section 4(h). Prior to hunting, it is the hunter's responsibility to confirm the hunt area the person intends to hunt is open. The status of hunt area closures shall be available twenty-four (24) hours a day by calling toll free **1-800-264-1280**.

**Section 5. Archery.** Gray wolves may be taken with legal archery equipment in all hunt areas as set forth in Section 4 of this Chapter.

**Section 6. Hunt Area Descriptions.**

Area and Number.

**Area 1. Clarks Fork.** All of drainage of the Clark's Fork Yellowstone River west of Wyoming Highway 120 and all of the drainage of Soda Butte Creek outside of Yellowstone National Park.

**Area 2. North Fork.** All of the drainage of the North Fork Shoshone River; all of the north drainage of the Shoshone River west of Wyoming Highway 120; all of the drainage of Mountain Creek outside Yellowstone National Park; all of the drainage of Escarpment Creek outside of Yellowstone National Park.

**Area 3. South Fork.** All of the drainage of the South Fork Shoshone River; all of the south drainage of the Shoshone River west of Wyoming Highway 120; all of the drainage of Thorofare Creek outside Yellowstone National Park; all of the drainage of the Yellowstone River outside Yellowstone National Park; all of the drainage of the Yellowstone River outside Yellowstone National Park and upstream from the confluence with Thorofare Creek.

**Area 4. Greybull.** Beginning where Wyoming Highway 120 crosses the Greybull River in the town of Meeteetse; southwesterly up said river to the Wood River; southwesterly up said river to the Shoshone National Forest boundary; southerly along said boundary to the Wind River Reservation boundary; northerly along said boundary to the divide between South Fork Owl Creek and the Wind River; northerly along said divide to the Hot Springs County-Fremont County line; northwesterly along said county line to the Park County-Fremont County line; northwesterly along said county line to the divide between the Greybull River and South Fork Shoshone River; northwesterly along said divide to Wyoming Highway 120; southerly along said highway to the Greybull River.

**Area 5. Wind River.** Beginning where the Union Pass Road (Shoshone National Forest Road 263) crosses the Continental Divide; westerly and northerly along said divide to U.S. Highway 26/287; all of the drainage of the Wind River north of U.S. Highway 26/287 to the west boundary of the Wind River Reservation (WRR); southerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 26/287; northwesterly along said highway to Soda Spring Drive (Fremont County Road 283A); westerly along said road to the Wildcat Loop Road (Shoshone National Forest Road 554); westerly along said road to the Union Pass Road (Shoshone National Forest Road 263); southerly along said road to the Continental Divide.

**Area 6. Pacific Creek.** Beginning where the Continental Divide crosses the south boundary of Yellowstone National Park; southeasterly then southwesterly along said divide to U.S. Highway 26-287 at Togwotee Pass; westerly along said highway to the east boundary of Grand Teton National Park; northwesterly along said boundary to the Targhee National Forest boundary; northerly along said boundary to the southern boundary of Yellowstone National Park; easterly along said boundary to the Continental Divide.

**Area 7. Targhee.** Beginning where Wyoming Highway 22 crosses the Wyoming-Idaho state line; northerly along said line to the southern boundary of Yellowstone National Park; easterly along said boundary to the Caribou-Targhee National Forest boundary with the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway boundary; southerly along said boundary to the Grand Teton National Park boundary; southerly along said boundary to the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary; southerly along said boundary to Teton Pass and Wyoming Highway 22; westerly along said highway to the Wyoming-Idaho state line.

**Area 8. Fish Creek.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 26-287 crosses the east boundary of Grand Teton National Park; easterly along said highway to the Continental Divide at Togwotee Pass; southerly along said divide to the Union Pass Road (Bridger-Teton National Forest Road 600); westerly then southerly along said road to the Darwin Ranch Road (U.S.F.S. Road 620); westerly along said road to Kinky Creek; northwesterly down said creek to the Gros Ventre River; northwesterly down said river to the east boundary of Grand Teton National Park east of the town of Kelly; northerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 26-287. In addition, a noncontiguous area shall be included in the hunt area described as beginning where the Caribou-Targhee National Forest boundary crosses Wyoming Highway 22 at Teton Pass; northerly along said boundary to the Grand Teton National Park boundary; northeasterly then southerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 26-89-191; southerly along said highway to its junction with Wyoming Highway 22; westerly along said highway to Teton Pass.

**Area 9. Crystal Creek.** Beginning where the Gros Ventre River crosses the National Elk Refuge boundary near the town of Kelly; southeasterly up said river to Kinky Creek; southeasterly up said creek to the Darwin Ranch Road (U.S.F.S. Road 620); southerly along said road to the divide between the Green River and Gros Ventre River; southwestly along said divide to the divide between the Gros Ventre River and Hoback River north of Hodges Peak; northwesterly along said divide to the divide between Granite Creek and Flat Creek northwest of Pyramid Peak; southwestly along said divide to the divide between Flat Creek and Cache Creek at Cache Peak; northwesterly along said divide to the divide between Twin Creeks and Cache Creek; northwesterly along said divide to the National Elk Refuge boundary; northeasterly along said boundary to the Gros Ventre River.

**Area 10. Rim.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 26-89-191 crosses Flat Creek at the north edge of the town of Jackson; due east to the National Elk Refuge boundary; easterly along said boundary to the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary and the ridge between Twin Creeks and Cache Creek; southeasterly along said ridge and the divide between Flat Creek and Cache Creek to Cache Peak; easterly along the divide between Flat Creek and Granite Creek to Pyramid Peak; southeasterly along the divide between the Gros Ventre River and the Hoback River to Steamboat Peak; southeasterly along said divide to the divide between the Green River and the Hoback River at Hodges Peak; southerly along said divide to U.S. Highway 189-191 at Hoback Rim; northwesterly along said highway to the intersection with U.S. Highway 26-89-191; northerly along said highway to where it crosses Flat Creek at the north edge of the town of Jackson.

**Area 11. Green River.** Beginning where the Union Pass Road (Bridger-Teton National Forest Road 600) intersects the Continental Divide; southerly along said divide to Mt. Helen; westerly to Summit Lake and the divide between the Green River and Pine Creek; northwesterly along said divide to the divide between the Green River and the New Fork River; northerly along said divide to the head of Jim Creek; westerly down said creek to the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary; northwesterly along said boundary to its intersection with U.S. Highway 189-191 at the divide between the Hoback River and the Green River (Hoback Rim); northerly along said divide to the divide between the Green River and the Gros Ventre River at Hodges Peak; northeasterly along said divide to the Darwin Ranch Road (U.S.F.S. Road 620);

easterly along said road to the Union Pass Road (Bridger-Teton National Forest Road 600); northerly then easterly along said road to the Continental Divide.

**Area 12. Alpine.** Beginning where the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary intersects U.S. Highway 189-191 at the divide between the Hoback River and the Green River (Hoback Rim); westerly and then southerly along said forest boundary to its intersection with McDougal Gap Road (U.S.F.S. Road 10125); westerly along said road to Grey's River Road (U.S.F.S. Road 10138); southerly along said road to Sheep Creek; westerly down said creek to Grey's River; southwesterly up said river to Bear Creek; southwesterly up said creek to the hydrographic divide between Bear Creek and Willow Creek; west from said divide to Willow Creek Road (U.S.F.S. Road 10080); northwesterly along said road to Lincoln County Road 123; southerly along said road to Grover Park Road (U.S.F.S. Road 10081); southerly then westerly along said road to Lincoln County Road 172; westerly along said road to the junction with Wyoming Highway 237; westerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 238; southerly along said highway to Lincoln County Road 134; westerly along said road to the Wyoming-Idaho state line; north along said state line to Wyoming Highway 22; easterly along said highway to the intersection with U.S. Highway 26-89-191 in the town of Jackson; southerly along said highway to the intersection with U.S. Highway 189-191; southeasterly along said highway to the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary at the divide between the Hoback River and the Green River (Hoback Rim).

**Area 13. Whiskey Mountain.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 26 crosses the Western Boundary of the Wind River Reservation (WRR); south along said boundary to the Continental Divide; northwesterly along said divide to the Union Pass Road (Shoshone National Forest Road 263); northerly along said road to the Wildcat Loop Road (Shoshone National Forest Road 554); easterly along said road to Soda Springs Drive (Fremont County Road 283A); northeasterly along said road to U.S. Highway 26; southeasterly along said highway to the WRR boundary.

**Area 14. Fremont Lake.** Beginning at Mt. Helen; westerly to Summit Lake and the Divide between the Green River and Pine Creek; northwesterly along said divide to the divide between the Green River and New Fork River; northerly along said divide to the head of Jim Creek; westerly down said creek to the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary; southerly along said boundary to Boulder Creek; easterly up said creek to the Middle Fork Boulder Creek; easterly up said creek to the Continental Divide; northerly up said divide to Mt. Helen.

**Section 7. Area Closures.** Areas administered by the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management or the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission in which human presence is prohibited to protect wintering wildlife shall be closed to gray wolf hunting during the time period for which the areas have been closed to human presence.

### **Section 8. Take of Wolves Designated as Predatory Animals.**

(a) Any person who takes a gray wolf designated as a predatory animal as set forth in Section 4(a) shall be required to report the kill to a district game warden, district wildlife biologist or Department personnel at a Game and Fish Department Regional Office within ten

(10) days after the date the gray wolf was killed. The person shall be required to provide his or her name and address, the date the gray wolf was killed, the sex of the gray wolf and the location of the site of kill (identified by the section, range and township, or UTM coordinates). In addition, the Department may request the person to voluntarily provide a genetics sample from the gray wolf for testing to assess genetic connectivity.

(b) Surrender of electronic radio tracking devices. Any person taking a gray wolf designated as a predatory animal as set forth in Section 4(a) wearing an electronic radio tracking device shall surrender the device to the Department when registering a gray wolf in accordance with registration dates in Section 8(a).

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

David Rael, Vice President

Dated: July 11, 2018

## CHAPTER 47

### GRAY WOLF HUNTING SEASONS

**Section 1. Authority.** This regulation is promulgated by the authority of Wyoming Statutes § 23-1-101, § 23-1-102, § 23-1-108, § 23-1-302, § 23-1-304, § 23-2-104, § 23-2-303, § 23-3-111, § 23-3-115 and § 23-3-304.

**Section 2. Definitions.** For the purpose of this regulation, definitions shall be as set forth in Title 23, Wyoming Statutes and the Commission also adopts the following definitions:

(a) “Mortality” means any legal or illegal human-caused gray wolf death that occurs during an open gray wolf hunting season, excluding gray wolves taken by the Department, gray wolves taken under the authority of W.S. § 23-3-115 (c), gray wolves taken under Lethal Take Permits and known natural and accidental gray wolf deaths.

**Section 3. Hunting Seasons Established.** There shall be open seasons during ~~2017~~2018 for the hunting of gray wolves as set forth in this regulation. This regulation shall go into effect from and after the date gray wolves are removed from the federal list of experimental nonessential populations, endangered species or threatened species in Wyoming. This regulation shall remain in effect until modified or repealed by the Commission.

#### **Section 4. Hunting Regulations for Gray Wolves Designated as Trophy Game Animals.**

(a) All gray wolves within the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area and Seasonal Wolf Trophy Game Management Area as described in W.S. § 23-1-101(a) (xii) (B) (I) and (II) are designated as trophy game animals. These regulations, and any allowance for hunting, do not apply to lands administered by the National Park Service within Grand Teton National Park or the National Elk Refuge. Gray wolves in Wyoming are designated as predatory animals as defined in W.S. § 23-1-101(a) (viii) (B) except for:

- and,
- (i) Those areas where gray wolves are designated as trophy game animals;
  - (ii) Yellowstone National Park; and,
  - (iii) The Wind River Reservation, except on non-Indian owned fee titled lands.

(b) Gray wolves designated as trophy game animals shall only be taken during open gray wolf hunting seasons with legal firearms and archery equipment as set forth in Commission regulation, except as otherwise provided by Wyoming statutes.

(c) Open hours for the taking of gray wolves. Gray wolves may only be taken from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one-half (1/2) hour after sunset.

(d) No person, except as authorized by the Department, shall take a gray wolf with the use of or by the aid of radio tracking equipment.

(e) Bag and possession limit. The bag and possession limits for any person with a proper license shall be one (1) gray wolf per license during any one (1) calendar year (January 1 – December 31). A person may purchase up to two (2) gray wolf hunting licenses during any one (1) calendar year. Licensed hunters may take any gray wolf.

(f) Reporting and registering kills. Hunters taking a gray wolf in the hunt areas described in Section 6 shall retain the pelt and skull from each gray wolf for registration purposes. Even if the skull is damaged, it shall accompany the pelt for registration purposes. Visible external evidence of sex shall remain naturally attached to the pelt. The pelt and skull shall be presented in an unfrozen condition to allow collection of biological samples and to determine the age and sex of the gray wolf.

(i) Within twenty-four (24) hours after taking a gray wolf, the licensee shall report the taking of a gray wolf by calling toll free 1-800-264-1280. The report shall include the name and phone number of the person making the report, hunter's name and license number, date of the kill and location of the site of kill to include hunt area.

(ii) Within ~~five (5)~~ three (3) days after taking a gray wolf, the licensee taking the gray wolf shall present the pelt and skull to a district game warden, district wildlife biologist or Department personnel at a Game and Fish Department Regional Office during business hours for registration. The licensee shall provide his license number, date of kill and location of the site of kill to include hunt area, section, township and range or UTM coordinates.

(A) A hunter taking a gray wolf in a designated wilderness area shall present the pelt and skull to a district game warden, district wildlife biologist or Department personnel at a Department Regional Office during business hours for registration within three (3) days after returning from the wilderness or within ten (10) days from the date of harvest, whichever occurs first.

(iii) At the time of registration, ~~The~~the licensee shall provide ~~his~~their license number, date of kill and location of the site of kill to include hunt area, section, township and range or UTM coordinates.

(~~iii~~iv) Any person who makes a false statement on the registration form shall be in violation of this regulation and, such violation shall be punishable as provided by Title 23, Wyoming Statutes for violation of Commission regulations.

(g) Surrender of electronic radio tracking devices. Any person taking a gray wolf wearing an electronic radio tracking device within the hunt areas described in Section 6 shall surrender the device to the Department in accordance with registration dates in Section 4(f) (ii).

(h) Hunt Areas, Season Dates, Mortality ~~Quota~~Limit and Limitations.



Hunt Area	Season Dates		Mortality Quota <u>Limit</u>
	Opens	Closes	
1	<del>Oct. 1</del> <u>Sep. 1</u>	Dec. 31	<u>27</u>
2	<del>Oct. 1</del> <u>Sep. 1</u>	Dec. 31	<u>48</u>
3	<del>Oct. 1</del> <u>Sep. 1</u>	Dec. 31	<u>65</u>
4	<del>Oct. 1</del> <u>Sep. 1</u>	Dec. 31	<u>54</u>
5	<del>Oct. 1</del> <u>Sep. 1</u>	Dec. 31	<u>63</u>
<u>6, 7</u>	<del>Oct. 1</del> <u>Sep. 1</u>	Dec. 31	3; SEE SECTION 4 (i)
<del>7</del>	<del>Oct. 1</del>	<del>Dec. 31</del>	<del>4</del>
<u>8, 9, 11</u>	<del>Oct. 1</del> <u>Sep. 1</u>	Dec. 31	<del>7</del> <u>15</u>
<del>9</del>	<del>Oct. 1</del>	<del>Dec. 31</del>	<del>2</del>
10	<del>Oct. 1</del> <u>Sep. 1</u>	Dec. 31	<u>35</u>
<del>11</del>	<del>Oct. 1</del>	<del>Dec. 31</del>	<del>3</del>
12	Oct. 15	Dec. 31	2; SEE SECTION 4 (j)
<u>13</u>	<u>Sep. 1</u>	<u>Dec. 31</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>14</u>	<u>Sep. 1</u>	<u>Dec. 31</u>	<u>1</u>

(i) Gray wolf hunting shall be closed in that portion of Hunt Area 6 in the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway.

(j) Gray wolves located in Hunt Area 12 are designated as trophy game animals from October 15 through the last day of February in the subsequent year, but the hunting season shall end on December 31 or when the mortality ~~quota is filled~~limit has been reached, whichever occurs first, as set forth in Section 4(h). Gray wolves located in Hunt Area 12 are designated as predatory animals from March 1 through October 14 and during this time period may be taken without a license.

(k) Hunt area mortality ~~quota~~ limitation. The gray wolf hunting season shall close in each gray wolf hunt area when the mortality ~~quota~~limit for that area has been reached. If the mortality ~~quota~~limit is not reached, the season shall close upon the date specified in Section 4(h). Prior to hunting, it is the hunter's responsibility to confirm the hunt area the person intends to hunt is open. The status of hunt area closures shall be available twenty-four (24) hours a day by calling toll free **1-800-264-1280**.

**Section 5. Archery.** Gray wolves may be taken with legal archery equipment in all hunt areas as set forth in Section 4 of this Chapter.

**Section 6. Hunt Area Descriptions.**

(a) Area and Number.

**Area 1. Clarks Fork.** ~~All of the area north of the Clark's Fork River and west of Wyoming Highway 120; all of the drainage of Pat O'Hara Creek, Paint Creek, Newmeyer Creek and Dead Indian Gulch west of Wyoming Highway 120; all of the drainage of Jim Creek, Trout~~

Creek and Rattlesnake Creek north of the North Fork of the Shoshone River; all of the drainage of Cottonwood Creek, Dry Creek and Trail Creek west of Wyoming Highway 120; drainage of the Clark's Fork Yellowstone River west of Wyoming Highway 120 and all of the drainage of Soda Butte Creek outside of Yellowstone National Park.

**Area 2. SunlightNorth Fork.** ~~All of the drainage of Soda Butte Creek outside of Yellowstone National Park; all of the south drainage of the Clark's Fork River down to and including the drainage of Dead Indian Creek.~~ All of the drainage of the North Fork Shoshone River; all of the north drainage of the Shoshone River west of Wyoming Highway 120; all of the drainage of Mountain Creek outside Yellowstone National Park; all of the drainage of Escarpment Creek outside of Yellowstone National Park.

**Area 3. AbsarokaSouth Fork.** ~~All of the north and west drainage of the North Fork of the Shoshone River down to but excluding the drainage of Jim Creek; all of the south drainage of the North Fork of the Shoshone River outside of Yellowstone National Park; all of the north and west drainage of the South Fork of the Shoshone River below and including the drainage of Ishawooa Creek; all of the drainage of the Yellowstone River upstream from Yellowstone Lake outside of Yellowstone National Park.~~ All of the drainage of the South Fork Shoshone River; all of the south drainage of the Shoshone River west of Wyoming Highway 120; all of the drainage of Thorofare Creek outside Yellowstone National Park; all of the drainage of the Yellowstone River outside Yellowstone National Park; all of the drainage of the Yellowstone River outside Yellowstone National Park and upstream from the confluence with Thorofare Creek.

**Area 4. Greybull.** ~~Beginning where Wyoming Highway 120 crosses the Shoshone River in the town of Cody; southerly along said highway to the Greybull River in the town of Meeteetse; southwesterly up said river to the Wood River; southwesterly up said river to the Shoshone National Forest boundary; southerly along said boundary to the Wind River Reservation boundary; northerly along said boundary to the divide between South Fork Owl Creek and the Wind River; northerly along said divide to the Hot Springs County-Fremont County line; northwesterly along said county line to the Park County-Fremont County line; northwesterly then southwesterly along said county line to the Continental Divide at Crescent Mountain; northerly along said divide to the divide between the Yellowstone River drainage and the South Fork of the Shoshone River drainage; northerly along said divide to the divide between Ishawooa Creek and the South Fork of the Shoshone River; northeasterly along said divide to the South Fork of the Shoshone River; northeasterly down said river to the Shoshone River at Buffalo Bill Reservoir; easterly down said river to Wyoming Highway 120; divide between the Greybull River and South Fork Shoshone River; northwesterly along said divide to Wyoming Highway 120; southerly along said highway to the Greybull River.~~

**Area 5. Wind River.** ~~All of the drainage of the Wind River west of the west boundary of the Wind River Reservation.~~ Beginning where the Union Pass Road (Shoshone National Forest Road 263) crosses the Continental Divide; westerly and northerly along said divide to U.S. Highway 26/287; all of the drainage of the Wind River north of U.S. Highway 26/287 to the west boundary of the Wind River Reservation (WRR); southerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 26/287; northwesterly along said highway to Soda Spring Drive

(Fremont County Road 283A); westerly along said road to the Wildcat Loop Road (Shoshone National Forest Road 554); westerly along said road to the Union Pass Road (Shoshone National Forest Road 263); southerly along said road to the Continental Divide.

**Area 6. Pacific Creek.** Beginning where the Continental Divide crosses the south boundary of Yellowstone National Park; southeasterly then southwestly along said divide to U.S. Highway 26-287 at Togwotee Pass; westerly along said highway to the east boundary of Grand Teton National Park; northwestly along said boundary to the Targhee National Forest boundary; northerly along said boundary to the southern boundary of Yellowstone National Park; easterly along said boundary to the Continental Divide.

**Area 7. Targhee.** Beginning where Wyoming Highway 22 crosses the Wyoming-Idaho state line; northerly along said line to the southern boundary of Yellowstone National Park; easterly along said boundary to the Caribou-Targhee National Forest boundary with the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway boundary; southerly along said boundary to the Grand Teton National Park boundary; southerly along said boundary to the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary; southerly along said boundary to Teton Pass and Wyoming Highway 22; westerly along said highway to the Wyoming-Idaho state line.

**Area 8. Fish Creek.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 26-287 crosses the east boundary of Grand Teton National Park; easterly along said highway to the Continental Divide at Togwotee Pass; southerly along said divide to the Union Pass Road (U.S.F.S. Bridger-Teton National Forest Road 600); westerly then southerly along said road to the Darwin Ranch Road (U.S.F.S. Road 620); westerly along said road to Kinky Creek; northwestly down said creek to the Gros Ventre River; northwestly down said river to the east boundary of Grand Teton National Park east of the town of Kelly; northerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 26-287. In addition, a noncontiguous area shall be included in the hunt area described as beginning where the Caribou-Targhee National Forest boundary crosses Wyoming Highway 22 at Teton Pass; northerly along said boundary to the Grand Teton National Park boundary; northeasterly then southerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 26-89-191; southerly along said highway to its junction with Wyoming Highway 22; westerly along said highway to Teton Pass.

**Area 9. Crystal Creek.** Beginning where the Gros Ventre River crosses the National Elk Refuge boundary near the town of Kelly; southeasterly up said river to Kinky Creek; southeasterly up said creek to the Darwin Ranch Road (U.S.F.S. Road 620); southerly along said road to the divide between the Green River and Gros Ventre River; southwestly along said divide to the divide between the Gros Ventre River and Hoback River north of Hodges Peak; northwestly along said divide to the divide between Granite Creek and Flat Creek northwest of Pyramid Peak; southwestly along said divide to the divide between Flat Creek and Cache Creek at Cache Peak; northwestly along said divide to the divide between Twin Creeks and Cache Creek; northwestly along said divide to the National Elk Refuge boundary; northeasterly along said boundary to the Gros Ventre River.

**Area 10. Rim.** Beginning where U.S. Highway 26-89-191 crosses Flat Creek at the north edge of the town of Jackson; due east to the National Elk Refuge boundary; easterly along said boundary to the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary and the ridge between Twin

Creeks and Cache Creek; southeasterly along said ridge and the divide between Flat Creek and Cache Creek to Cache Peak; easterly along the divide between Flat Creek and Granite Creek to Pyramid Peak; southeasterly along the divide between the Gros Ventre River and the Hoback River to Steamboat Peak; southeasterly along said divide to the divide between the Green River and the Hoback River at Hodges Peak; southerly along said divide to U.S. Highway 189-191 at Hoback Rim; northwesterly along said highway to the intersection with U.S. Highway 26-89-191; northerly along said highway to where it crosses Flat Creek at the north edge of the town of Jackson.

**Area 11. Green River.** Beginning where the Union Pass Road (U.S.F.S. Bridger-Teton National Forest Road 600) intersects the Continental Divide; southerly along said divide to ~~the Middle Fork of Boulder Creek; westerly down said creek to Boulder Creek~~ Mt. Helen; westerly to Summit Lake and the divide between the Green River and Pine Creek; northwesterly along said divide to the divide between the Green River and the New Fork River; northerly along said divide to the head of Jim Creek; westerly down said creek to the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary; northwesterly along said boundary to its intersection with U.S. Highway 189-191 at the divide between the Hoback River and the Green River (Hoback Rim); northerly along said divide to the divide between the Green River and the Gros Ventre River at Hodges Peak; northeasterly along said divide to the Darwin Ranch Road (U.S.F.S. Road 620); easterly along said road to the Union Pass Road (U.S.F.S. Bridger-Teton National Forest Road 600); northerly then easterly along said road to the Continental Divide.

**Area 12. Alpine.** Beginning where the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary intersects U.S. Highway 189-191 at the divide between the Hoback River and the Green River (Hoback Rim); westerly and then southerly along said forest boundary to its intersection with McDougal Gap Road (U.S.F.S. Road 10125); westerly along said road to Grey's River Road (U.S.F.S. Road 10138); southerly along said road to Sheep Creek; westerly down said creek to Grey's River; southwestly up said river to Bear Creek; southwestly up said creek to the hydrographic divide between Bear Creek and Willow Creek; west from said divide to Willow Creek Road (U.S.F.S. Road 10080); northwesterly along said road to Lincoln County Road 123; southerly along said road to Grover Park Road (U.S.F.S. Road 10081); southerly then westerly along said road to Lincoln County Road 172; westerly along said road to the junction with Wyoming Highway 237; westerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 238; southerly along said highway to Lincoln County Road 134; westerly along said road to the Wyoming-Idaho state line; north along said state line to Wyoming Highway 22; easterly along said highway to the intersection with U.S. Highway 26-89-191 in the town of Jackson; southerly along said highway to the intersection with U.S. Highway 189-191; southeasterly along said highway to the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary at the divide between the Hoback River and the Green River (Hoback Rim).

**Area 13. Whiskey Mountain.** Beginning where U.S. Highway crosses the Western Boundary of the Wind River Reservation (WRR); south along said boundary to the Continental Divide; northwesterly along said divide to the Union Pass Road (Shoshone National Forest Road 263); northerly along said road to the Wildcat Loop Road (Shoshone National Forest Road 554); easterly along said road to Soda Springs Drive (Fremont County Road 283A);

northeasterly along said road to U.S. Highway 26; southeasterly along said highway to the WRR boundary.

**Area 14. Fremont Lake.** Beginning at Mt. Helen; westerly to Summit Lake and the Divide between the Green River and Pine Creek; northwesterly along said divide to the divide between the Green River and New Fork River; northerly along said divide to the head of Jim Creek; westerly down said creek to the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary; southerly along said boundary to Boulder Creek; easterly up said creek to the Middle Fork Boulder Creek; easterly up said creek to the Continental Divide; northerly up said divide to Mt. Helen.

**Section 7. Area Closures.** Areas administered by the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management or the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission in which human presence is prohibited to protect wintering wildlife shall be closed to gray wolf hunting during the time period for which the areas have been closed to human presence.

**Section 8. Take of Wolves Designated as Predatory Animals.**

(a) Any person who takes a gray wolf designated as a predatory animal as set forth in Section 4(a) shall be required to report the kill to a district game warden, district wildlife biologist or Department personnel at a Game and Fish Department Regional Office within ten (10) days after the date the gray wolf was killed. The person shall be required to provide his or her name and address, the date the gray wolf was killed, the sex of the gray wolf and the location of the site of kill (identified by the section, range and township, or UTM coordinates). In addition, the Department may request the person to voluntarily provide a genetics sample from the gray wolf for testing to assess genetic connectivity.

(b) Surrender of electronic radio tracking devices. Any person taking a gray wolf designated as a predatory animal as set forth in Section 4(a) wearing an electronic radio tracking device shall surrender the device to the Department when registering a gray wolf in accordance with registration dates in Section 8(a).

~~**Section 9. Violation of Commission Regulations.** Failure to abide by the provisions of this regulation shall be punishable as provided by Wyoming statutes for violation of Commission regulations.~~

~~**Section 10. Savings Clause.** If any provision of this regulation shall be held to be illegal or unconstitutional, such a ruling shall not affect other provisions of this regulation which can be given effect without the illegal or unconstitutional provision; and, to this end, the provisions of this regulation shall be severable.~~

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

~~Keith Culver~~ David Rael, Vice President

Dated: ~~July 19, 2017~~ July 11, 2018

## STATEMENT OF REASONS

### CHAPTER 62

#### REGULATION FOR AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

W.S. § 23-4-203 and W.S. § 23-4-204 empower the Commission to promulgate rules and regulations to prevent, control, contain, monitor and whenever possible eradicate aquatic invasive species from the waters of the state; and to establish, operate and maintain aquatic invasive species check stations in order to inspect conveyances.

A change to the regulation for aquatic invasive species (AIS) is proposed to conform to United States Coast Guard Regulations that includes paddleboards in the definition of non-motorized watercraft. Paddleboards have become increasingly popular, but do not harbor water and are extremely unlikely to transport AIS. The proposed edits to language in Section 7 (Aquatic Invasive Species Program Decal) would exempt all paddleboards from the AIS decal requirement and clarify that devices defined as water sport toys are also exempt from the decal requirement.

Minor grammatical and formatting edits have been incorporated into this regulation that does not change the intent of the regulation.



## WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006

Phone: (307) 777-4600 Fax: (307) 777-4699

wgfd.wyo.gov

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KEITH CULVER  
PETER J. DUBE  
MIKE SCHMID

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July 16, 2018

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** David Dewald, Senior Assistant Attorney General

**FROM:** David Zafft, Fisheries Management Coordinator

**COPY TO:** Alan Osterland, Mike Choma and Terri Weinhandl

**SUBJECT:** Regulation Changes Subsequent to Public Comment, Chapter 62,  
Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department (Department) conducted thirteen (13) public meetings across the state (70 members of the public attended) to address draft regulation proposals for Chapter 62. Draft proposals were also available for viewing and public comment through the Department website from April 20 to June 4, 2018. The Department received six (6) written comments (2 mailed and 4 online) for Chapter 62.

None of the comments received related to any of the proposed changes to this regulation. The Commission made no changes the draft regulation proposal subsequent to the public comment period.



**WGFD Web Comment Report**  
**Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species**

**1** While Wyoming's environmental blessings are majestic, so are the wildlife blessings that are being squandered and pilfered without thought as to the value and beautify of wildlife itself. While Wyoming's deference to hunters is elevated over a wolf's right to exist, I will never visit Wyoming. It's the 21st century --- is this horrific attack on Wyoming's wolves Wyoming's idea of thoughtful wildlife management? You have missed the mark, Wyoming, by miles and miles. Allow Wyoming's wildlife to live in peace as equal residents of the state -- and tell hunters to go find another hobby that doesn't take another living being's life.

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**Final Comment**                      **Rugens, Anne**                      **Windsor, CT**                      4/21/2018 4:21:00 PM

**2** Wyoming is an awful place for wildlife. Hunting wolves is on 365 days a year across 85% of the state, where wolves are classified as shoot-on-sight vermin. Guns, snares, explosives, trucks, and snowmobiles - almost any form of violence is allowed to kill these animals. These are Barbaric methods of cruelty in killing innocent wildlife. It's the 21st century. Is this what wildlife "management" should look like in our time?" please reconsider changing your methods. thank you in advance

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**Final Comment**                      **Gallager, jill**                      **Franklin Lakes , NJ**                      4/24/2018 6:08:00 AM

**3** Please don't allow to hunt Grizzly bears ??

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**Final Comment**                      **Modi, Niralee**                      **San Bruno , CA**                      4/30/2018 3:11:00 PM

**4** I am writing to strongly and passionately oppose the hunting and despicable trophy hunting in Wyoming and it's National Parks, and/or in areas just outside the Parks' boundaries, which grizzly bears and wolves can obviously not discern the location of boundaries. Also, orphaned grizzly bear cubs, victimized by the abhorrent hunting and trophy hunting of their parents, must be rescued, rehabilitated, and reintroduced to the wild if possible, and if not, they must be transferred to appropriate sanctuaries. Live and Let Live applies to all living creatures, and grizzly bears and wolves are sentient beings. "A nation and it's moral may be judged by the way it's animals are treated " - M. Gandhi

---

**Final Comment**                      **Brent, Debbie**                      **Columbia, MD**                      4/30/2018 4:55:00 PM

## CHAPTER 62

### REGULATION FOR AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

**Section 1. Authority.** These regulations are promulgated by authority of Wyoming Statutes § 23-1-102, §§ 23-4-201 through 23-4-205.

**Section 2. Definitions.** Definitions shall be as set forth in Title 23, Wyoming Statutes, Commission regulations, and the Commission also adopts the following definitions:

(a) “Aquatic invasive species” is defined in W.S. § 23-4-201(a) (i). Aquatic invasive species include some species known to be present in Wyoming and species with a high potential to invade, survive and reproduce in Wyoming.

(i) Aquatic invasive species include:

(A) All members of the genus *Dreissena*, including, but not limited to, zebra mussel *D. polymorpha* and quagga mussel *D. rostriformis*;

(B) New Zealand mudsnail - *Potamopyrgus antipodarum*;

(C) Asian clam - *Corbicula fluminea*;

(D) Rusty crayfish - *Orconectes rusticus*;

(E) Brook stickleback - *Culaea inconstans*;

(F) All members of the genus *Hypophthalmichthys*, including, but not limited to, bighead carp *H. nobilis*, silver carp *H. molitrix*, and largescale silver carp *H. harmandi*;

(G) Black carp - *Mylopharyngodon piceus*;

(H) All members of the genera *Channa* and *Parachanna* in the family Channidae (snakeheads);

(I) Hydrilla - *Hydrilla verticillata*;

(J) Eurasian watermilfoil - *Myriophyllum spicatum*; and,

(K) Curly pondweed – *Potamogeton crispus*.

(b) “Authorized inspector” means an authorized aquatic invasive species inspector who has a valid certification from an aquatic invasive species inspection training course that meets the requirements established by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (Department) to certify inspectors for aquatic invasive species inspections.

(c) “Certified inspection location” means a location or an address where a Department authorized inspector may be available to conduct an inspection.

(d) “Infested water” means a water designated by the Department as having an established population of Dreissenid mussels.

(e) “Mandatory aquatic invasive species check station” means a location established by the Department at Wyoming ports of entry, other Wyoming Department of Transportation facilities that meet established state and national safety and commerce requirements for the traveling public or other appropriate facilities where stopping is mandatory and an authorized inspector may conduct an inspection.

(f) “Positive water” means a water where the presence of any life stage of Dreissenid mussels has been detected in multiple Department sampling events.

(g) “Seal” means a locking device affixed to a conveyance that has been inspected or decontaminated by an authorized inspector.

(h) “Suspect water” means a water where any life stage of Dreissenid mussels has been detected in a single Department sampling event, but not verified by subsequent sampling.

(i) “Seal receipt” means a valid written or electronic document issued by an authorized inspector following an inspection that contains information regarding the conveyance, any action taken by an authorized inspector, and information correlating to an applied seal, if issued.

(j) “Waters of this state” means any waters within the jurisdiction of Wyoming.

### **Section 3. Draining and Cleaning Watercraft and Conveyances.**

(a) Immediately upon removing a watercraft from any waters of this state, the operator shall remove all visible vegetation from the watercraft and trailer and drain all water from the watercraft including, but not limited to, water in the hull, ballast tanks, bilges, live wells and motors.

(i) Containers may be used to transport legally obtained live baitfish or other wildlife by land, but shall not be a part of a watercraft and shall be free of aquatic vegetation.

(b) No live baitfish, mollusks or crustaceans shall be collected from or transported in water taken from any suspect water, positive water or infested water.

(c) All bilge and ballast plugs and other barriers that prevent water drainage from a watercraft shall be removed or remain open while a watercraft is transported by land within the state.

(d) The operator shall drain all water from all conveyances, including construction and commercial equipment, upon leaving any suspect water, positive water or infested water.

#### **Section 4. Inspection and Decontamination.**

(a) Compliance with aquatic invasive species inspection requirements is an express condition of allowing a conveyance to contact any waters of this state.

(i) Any person who refuses to permit inspection of their conveyance or refuses to complete any required removal and disposal of aquatic invasive species shall be prohibited from allowing the conveyance to contact any waters of this state.

(ii) If a person refuses to allow inspection of a conveyance or to complete any required removal and disposal of aquatic invasive species prior to departure from any waters of this state known to contain an aquatic invasive species, the conveyance is subject to impoundment until an aquatic invasive species inspection and decontamination is completed.

(b) All conveyances are subject to inspection upon encountering a mandatory aquatic invasive species check station.

(c) Authorized inspectors may inspect any conveyance. Authorized inspectors shall perform decontaminations at the direction of a peace officer or with the voluntary consent of the person transporting the conveyance.

(d) Inspections shall be conducted by:

(i) any peace officer; or,

(ii) any authorized inspector.

(e) Once a conveyance is inspected or decontaminated, a seal may be affixed to the conveyance by a peace officer or authorized inspector. A copy of the completed seal receipt shall accompany all seals. The person transporting a conveyance sealed by an authorized inspector may remove the seal at their discretion. The Department may recognize a properly affixed seal applied by an authorized inspector from a state or province with a Department approved aquatic invasive species inspection and decontamination program if the seal is accompanied by a valid seal receipt. It shall be a violation of this regulation for any person to attempt to reattach any seal once it is removed from a conveyance.

(f) A seal receipt indicating the type of decontamination procedure performed shall serve as proof of decontamination.

(g) Any person transporting a conveyance into the state by land, shall have the conveyance inspected by an authorized inspector prior to contacting any waters of this state, unless exempted by (i) or (ii) below.

(i) Any person transporting a conveyance from March 1 through November 30 that has not been in contact with a suspect water, positive water or infested water within the past thirty (30) days and who did not encounter a mandatory aquatic invasive species check

station prior to reaching any of the waters of this state may launch without inspection if in possession of a seal receipt. The seal receipt shall be retained while on the water.

(ii) Any person transporting a conveyance from December 1 through the last day of February that has not been in contact with a suspect water, positive water or infested water within the past thirty (30) days and who did not encounter a mandatory aquatic invasive species check station prior to reaching any of the waters of this state may launch without inspection.

(h) As part of all inspections, all compartments, equipment, and containers that may hold water, including, but not limited to, live wells, ballast and bilge areas shall be completely drained as directed by authorized inspectors.

(i) A conveyance suspected to contain an aquatic invasive species shall be decontaminated before said conveyance shall be allowed to contact any waters of this state.

(j) Decontaminations shall be conducted only by those authorized inspectors that have received additional Department training to conduct decontaminations and are specifically authorized to do so.

(k) Any person operating a conveyance may be ordered to remove the conveyance from any of the waters of this state or any conveyance staging area by any peace officer if there is reason to believe the conveyance may contain aquatic invasive species or was not properly inspected prior to contacting the water. Once removed from the water, the conveyance shall be subject to inspection and decontamination for the removal and disposal of aquatic invasive species.

#### **Section 5. Impoundment and Quarantine.**

(a) A peace officer may impound and quarantine a conveyance as provided in W.S. § 23-4-203.

(b) If the person in charge of the conveyance is not the registered owner, the registered owner shall be notified by mail, return receipt requested, within ten (10) days of the location of the impounded conveyance. Such notification shall also include contact information for the peace officer ordering the impoundment. If the registered owner is present when the conveyance is ordered impounded, then the same information shall be provided to the registered owner at the time the impound order is issued.

(c) All impounded conveyances shall be held at the risk and expense of the owner. A conveyance held under impound for non-compliance with this regulation shall only be released after a peace officer is satisfied by inspection or quarantine that the conveyance is no longer a threat to the aquatic resources, water supplies, and water infrastructure of the state.

(d) Duration of conveyance quarantine shall be determined by the Department, shall be sufficient to allow decontamination, and shall not exceed thirty (30) days.

(e) An impounded conveyance shall not be released until a Department impound release form is signed and executed by a peace officer. It is the responsibility of the owner to coordinate with the Department for the release of the conveyance.

### **Section 6. Mandatory Reporting of Aquatic Invasive Species.**

(a) Any person who knows that an unreported aquatic invasive species is present at a specific location in Wyoming shall report the aquatic invasive species presence within forty-eight (48) hours to the Commission, the Department, or any peace officer and shall provide the date and time of the detection of the aquatic invasive species, the exact location of sighting (water body and specific location on the water body), the suspected species, and the name and contact information of the reporter.

### **Section 7. Aquatic Invasive Species Program Decal.**

(a) An aquatic invasive species program fee may be assessed as part of the Department's motorized watercraft registration fee. A current, properly affixed combination motorized watercraft registration and Aquatic Invasive Species Program Decal shall be proof of payment of this fee. Proof of combination decal purchase may be used in lieu of a properly affixed decal for up to fifteen (15) days from date of purchase.

(b) All owners or operators of motorized watercraft registered outside of Wyoming, any owners or operators of Wyoming registered watercraft that have not paid the aquatic invasive species program fee as part of their watercraft registration fee and all owners or operators of non-motorized watercraft shall purchase an Aquatic Invasive Species Program Decal valid for the current calendar year prior to contacting any waters of this state. Purchase of this decal shall be evidenced by an Aquatic Invasive Species Program Decal properly affixed to the watercraft. Proof of decal purchase may be used in lieu of a properly affixed decal for up to fifteen (15) days from date of purchase. For the purpose of this Section, all non-motorized inflatable watercraft ten (10) feet in length or less, all solid and inflatable paddleboards regardless of length and all devices defined as water sport toys are exempt from this decal provision.

(c) The price of the decal shall be ten dollars (\$10) for motorized watercraft registered in Wyoming and thirty dollars (\$30) for motorized watercraft registered outside of Wyoming. The price of the decal shall be five dollars (\$5) for non-motorized watercraft owned by a Wyoming resident and fifteen dollars (\$15) for non-motorized watercraft owned by a nonresident.

(i) An Aquatic Invasive Species Program Decal affixed to a motorized watercraft shall be displayed on the starboard (right) side of the bow six (6) inches left of and directly in line with the watercraft registration decal. Decals affixed to non-motorized watercraft shall be displayed on the bow in a manner such that the decal is visible when the watercraft is underway. Only the Aquatic Invasive Species Program Decal which is currently valid shall be displayed.

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(d) Owners of multiple non-motorized watercraft may transfer valid decals between their own non-motorized watercraft, however, each non-motorized watercraft shall display a valid decal while contacting any of the waters of this state.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

David Rael, Vice President

Dated: July 11, 2018



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WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

~~Keith Culver~~ David Rael, Vice President

Dated: July ~~20, 2017~~ 11, 2018

# Wyoming Game and Fish Department Comment Form



The Department welcomes comment regarding proposed changes to regulations. Questions about these proposed regulation changes should be directed to Department Regional Offices for clarification. No individual Department response will be generated from questions submitted through this comment form. Written comments shall be accepted at all Department sponsored meetings, by standard mail at the address below, or on the WGFD website at <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/Get-Involved/Public-Meetings>. Comments will not be submitted via email, fax or telephone. All written comments must be received at the below address no later than 5:00 p.m., June 4, 2018.

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wildlife Division  
ATTN: Regulations  
3030 Energy Lane  
Casper WY 82604



Please use a separate form for each of the regulations below

- Chapter 22, Watercraft Regulation
- Chapter 44, Regulation for Issuance of Licenses, Permits, Stamps, Tags, Preference Points and Competitive Raffle Chances
- Chapter 46, Fishing Regulations
- Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons
- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

Keep up the great works. Thanks for all you do!!  
we get to enjoy the outdoors because of your effort &  
commitment.

mail

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

Jim Lyon, Jr  
Printed Name

4-30-18  
Date

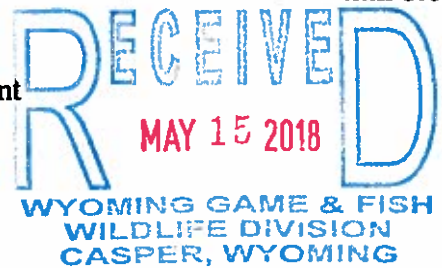


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- Chapter 62, Regulation for Aquatic Invasive Species

Comments:

*Keep regs. within the <sup>drainage</sup> drainage as they have been since 2004.*

*Perhaps make catch & release of cutthroat mandatory throughout the state of Wyoming. This will really simplify things quite easily.*

(Please use reverse for additional comments.)

*Jackson*

Boots Allen  
Printed Name

5/14/2018  
Date