



## **Draft Changes for 2022-2023 Hunting Regulations** (boundary types, LPT changes, species, etc.):

- Eliminate the defined south and north portions with the B-licenses (380-01, 380-02) for those individual portions being combined into a single new B-license (380-01) that would be valid everywhere in the HD except on National Forest (USFS) land. This would reduce the number of elk B-licenses in the HD from three to two, as the current district wide B-license (380-00) would also be retained.
- Southeast portion of HD (between U.S. Hwy 287 & Missouri River) would be included in the new HD 312.
- Current general antlerless elk (spike bull or antlerless) opportunity would go from the first three weeks of the rifle season (only valid off National Forest land in the defined South and North Portions of the HD) to the full five weeks of the rifle season (valid only on private land).

## **Biological Implications:**

- The new 380-01 elk B-license (not valid on USFS land) and the new five-week general license antlerless elk (spike bull or antlerless elk) season (only valid on private land) are being recommended as a continuing effort to reduce elk numbers on private lands in the HD to reduce private landowner conflicts with elk, while also simplifying the regulations. The southeast portion of the HD is expected to fit better management-wise into proposed new HD 312.

## **Social Implications:**

- Draft changes are being recommended as part of the statewide regulation simplification effort. Recommended changes are expected to be acceptable to most individuals, or that most folks can at least live with the changes; but there may be some pushback from some individuals on some of the proposed changes.

## **District biologist:**

Adam Grove

406-266-3367 • [adgrove@mt.gov](mailto:adgrove@mt.gov)