

# Deer/Elk – HD 445/455



## **Draft Changes for 2022-2023 Hunting Regulations:**

Move the HD 445/455 boundary to the boundary fence line around the Whitetail Prairie Addition of the Beartooth WMA. Include the Whitetail Prairie Addition of the Beartooth WMA in Deer/Elk HD 455.

Maintain all other Deer/Elk HD 455 boundary descriptions.

## **Biological Implications:**

Elk and deer in Deer/Elk HD's 445 and 455 are considered one herd unit.

Hunter success with existing antlerless elk license opportunities on the Beartooth WMA and surrounding landownership may improve with limited entry across the entire Beartooth WMA.

## **Social Implications:**

This change would reduce confusion around the fact that a hunting district boundary lies within the boundary of a Wildlife Management Area.

This change would reduce negative crowding implications amongst hunters on the Beartooth WMA. Presently, the Whitetail Prairie Addition (HD 445) is only publically accessible through the Beartooth WMA (HD 455).

This change would reduce hunter concern over law enforcement efforts along the Deer/Elk HD 445 and 455 boundaries.

This change will reduce deer and elk hunting opportunities using the general license in Deer/Elk HD 445.

This change will expand upon deer and elk hunting opportunities using available permits in Deer/Elk HD 455.

Hunter success with existing antlerless elk opportunities, on the Beartooth WMA and surrounding landownerships, may improve with limited entry across the entire Beartooth WMA.