



Draft Changes for 2022-2023 Hunting Regulations:

- Boundary change to eliminate HD 412
 - The Judith Mountains portion of HD 412 would become part of HD 417
 - The Moccasin Mountains portion of HD 412 would become part of HD 426
 - The portion of HD 412 south of Hanover Road would become part of HD 419
- Eliminate 412-20 either-sex elk permit
- Remove HD 412 from 900-20 either-sex archery permit

Biological Implications:

If adopted, this boundary change will result in changes to license/permit types (LPTs) and how elk are managed in the Snowy and Missouri River Breaks EMUs—primarily concerning limited-entry archery permits (see district change sheets for individual elk HDs for details).

While HD 412 has been traditionally considered part of the Snowy Elk Management Unit (EMU), elk in HD 412 more commonly move between HD 412 and Breaks EMU HDs 417 and 426 than they do between HDs 412 and 411 (the north side of the Snowy Mountains).

Elk have been documented moving between Armells Creek in HD 417 and the Judith Mountains in HD 412. Similarly, elk in the Moccasin Mountains of HD 412 have been documented crossing the Judith River into HD 426 (from radio-tagged elk calf data in 2018 and 2019). In removing HD 412, adjusting the boundaries as described will account for elk movements and distribution as well as elk use of private lands and land use/hunting access trends across these three HDs.

Social Implications:

Public comment pending regarding these possible changes. The boundary change is mainly to reduce the total number of HDs and license/permit types (LPTs) in order to simplify regulations.