



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

- Combine HD570 and HD500 into a new HD515
- Add early shoulder season dates.
- Remove 500-20 and 570-20 either-sex elk permits and replace with general elk license either-sex opportunity
- Maintain the 005-00 license and increase the number to account for removed 595-00 elk B license.
- Remove 500-20 and 570-20 either-sex elk permits and replace with general elk license either-sex opportunity

## **Biological Implications:**

- Over-objective elk numbers, similar habitat types and landownership patterns, similar regulation type for both districts.
- These districts do not have species-specific plan management objectives to manage for older age class bulls.
- This combination of districts allows us to maintain historical harvest and survey data for future population analysis and simplifies the regulations for hunters.
- Reductions in access will result in lower antlerless elk harvest rates and further increases in population size.
- Maintain liberal antlerless elk harvest opportunity in over-objective elk hunting districts

## **Social Implications:**

- Simplify the regulations by decreasing the number of hunting districts in Region 5.
- Early shoulder season address game damage concerns on private lands.
- No language in the species-specific plan to manage for older age class bulls.
- Loss of managing for older age class bulls
- General elk license holders may be concerned about loss of public access to elk.
- Loss of access can lead to decrease in hunter recruitment and retention.
- Applicants with bonus points lose a preferred permit to apply.
- Maintains antlerless elk opportunity

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