



Draft Changes for 2022-2023 Hunting Regulations

- Combine elk HD510 and a portion of elk HD520, consistent with combined hunting districts.
- Maintain the 005-00 license and increase the number to account for removed 595-00 elk B-license.
- Remove elk B license 520-01
- Add Regional subunit elk archery

Biological Implications:

- Follows species-specific plan direction to retaining either-sex elk permits to ensure diverse bull age structure.
- Follows species-specific plan for population status for hunting districts that are at or below objective.
- Recognizes elk movement between hunting districts.
- This combination of districts allows us to maintain historical harvest and survey data for future population analysis and simplifies the regulations for hunters.
- Elk B license 520-01 unnecessary when 005-00 elk B licenses are used.
- Regional subunit elk archery follows species-specific plan direction to retain either-sex elk permits to ensure diverse bull age structure. Recognizes elk movement between hunting districts.

Social Implications:

- Simplifies regulations while recognizing public's desire for diverse bull age structure.
- Maintains antlerless elk opportunity
- Addition of regional subunit elk archery maintains either-sex elk opportunity during archery season while recognizing the public's desire for diverse bull age structure. Balances archery and general season hunter demands for bull elk.

Contact: Shawn Stewart, wildlife biologist, ssewart@mt.gov, 406-446-4150