

Antelope – HD 576



Draft Changes for 2022-2023 Hunting Regulations

- Combines antelope hunting districts 550, 560 and 570 into new HD576.
- Aligns southern boundary to match southern boundary for deer and elk district boundary (I-90 instead of Yellowstone River)
- Remove 550-30 license
- Remove 560-30 license
- Remove 570-30 license
- Add 576-30 license

Biological Implications:

- Combined antelope districts have similar population trends, habitat types, and hunter access conditions.
- This combination of districts allows us to maintain historical harvest and survey data for future population analysis and simplifies the regulations for hunters.
- Combined hunting district requires new license type
- New license type added for combined hunting district
- Maintains harvest opportunity

Social Implications:

- Simplifies hunting regulations.
- Provides a larger area for hunters holding this license to gain permission from private landowners and hunt accessible public lands.
- May not address hunter crowding issues near larger population areas such as Billings. This could lead to landowner frustration and reduction in hunter access to private lands.
- Reduced access leads to reduced hunter recruitment and retention.

Contact: Justin Paugh, wildlife biologist, jpaugh@mt.gov, 406-932-5012

Shawn Stewart, wildlife biologist, sstewart@mt.gov, 406-446-4150