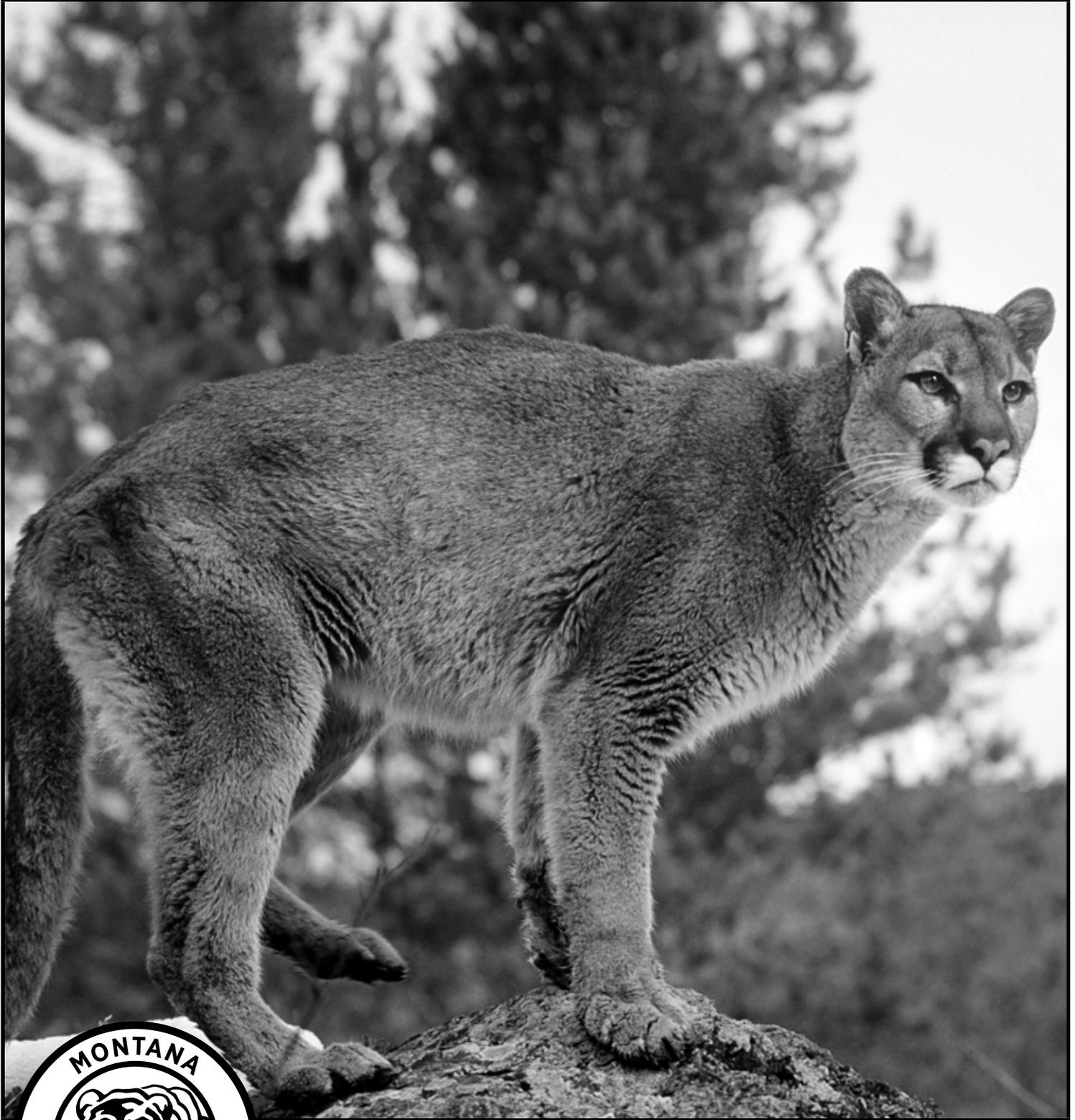


2020

MOUNTAIN LION

FWP Montana Hunting Regulations



Mountain Lion | *Puma concolor*

TURN IN POACHERS: CALL 1-800-TIP-MONT

fwp.mt.gov

Highlights/ Reminders

Highlights

- Township, Range, and Section (TRS) are now required when a hunter calls in to report their harvest.
- Check the 2020 Legal Description book for boundary changes.
- Beginning Oct. 1, 2020, a hunter may have a representative present the hide and skull to a Montana FWP official for inspection. See mandatory reporting requirements for details.
- Region 1 special licenses are now sex specific.
- A new Nonresident Hound Handler license is required for a nonresident to hunt with dogs on their own using any Mountain Lion License (Special or General) in Montana. Hunters who are unsuccessful at obtaining a Nonresident Hound Handler license may NOT hunt with dogs on their own, but they may elect to hire a licensed guide or outfitter to hunt with dogs. See page 3 for additional details.

Reminders

- A General Mountain Lion License purchased after August 31 may not be used until five days after the license is issued. This license may be purchased at FWP offices, at License Providers or online.
- Deadline to apply for Special Mountain Lion License drawing is July 24.
- Even though the 2020 Mountain Lion season extends into the 2021 license year, the deadline to purchase 2020 licenses is February 28, 2021.

Regulations Adopted by the Fish & Wildlife Commission

Regulations for season dates, structures, and restrictions were adopted by the F&W Commission on February 13, 2020, under the authority granted in MCA 87-1-301 and are valid March 1, 2020, through April 14, 2021. The F&W Commission reserves the authority to amend the seasons, limits and regulations herein if deemed necessary for wildlife management purposes. Statutes and other information, including other agencies' restrictions, are provided as a courtesy and do not fall under Commission authority. *Martha Williams, Director.*

Discrimination Prohibited – State and Federal laws, Title VI of Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, or disability. Anyone believing he or she has been discriminated against (as described above) in any FWP program, activity, or facility may write to FWP Human Resources, 1420 East Sixth Avenue, PO Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701 or the office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Obtain a License

- In most of Region 1, resident mountain lion hunting during the Winter Season is by Special Mountain Lion License with nonresidents limited to, but not guaranteed, 10 percent of the Special Mountain Lion Licenses available.

License Chart

The following 2020 licenses, for the purpose of mountain lion hunting, chasing and/or resident hound training, are valid March 1, 2020 through the dates listed in these regulations and subject to quota closures. A hunter may purchase only one mountain lion license per year.

LICENSE	REQUIREMENT(S)	COST
Conservation	Required prerequisite and must be carried while hunting or chasing lions.	\$4 Resident 10-17, 62+ \$8 Resident (18-62) \$10 Nonresident
Base Hunting License	Required prerequisite for hunting or applying for a permit or license.	\$10 Resident \$15 Nonresident
General Mountain Lion	A General Mountain Lion License purchased after August 31 may not be used until five days after the license is issued. Available to resident and nonresident Conservation License holders 12 years of age or older or who will turn 12 years old before or during the season for which the license is issued. Purchase by February 28, 2021.	\$19 Resident \$320 Nonresident
Bow and Arrow (Archery)	A Bow and Arrow License, plus the proper hunting license, is required during mountain lion Archery Only Season or to archery hunt mountain lion in an Arch-Equip only area or hunting district.	\$10 Resident \$10 Nonresident
Resident Hound Training	Available to resident Conservation License holders 12 years of age or older or who will turn 12 years old before or during the season for which the license is issued. See Youth Hunting Opportunities.	\$5 Resident Only
Special Mountain Lion License	Apply in person at FWP headquarters or online at fwp.mt.gov : Online applications (fwp.mt.gov) must be completed by 11:45 p.m. MDT on July 24. NOTE: successful applicants must purchase a Special Mountain Lion License by February 28, 2021.	Application fee: \$5 Resident \$5 Nonresident License cost: \$19 Resident \$320 Nonresident
Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License	Only available to unsuccessful applicants for a Special Mountain Lion License. Eligible hunters will receive a letter with purchase details.	\$19 Resident \$320 Nonresident
Nonresident Hound Handler License	Required to hunt with dogs on your own using any lion license.	\$500 Nonresident

- In most of Region 2 mountain lion hunting during the early portion of the Winter Season (Dec. 1 – Jan. 31) is by Special Mountain Lion License with nonresidents limited to, but not guaranteed, 10 percent of the Special Mountain Lion Licenses available. General Mountain Lion License holders may hunt during the Late Winter Season (Feb. 1 – Apr. 14) until quotas are filled or until the season is closed.
- In the Missoula Special Management Area within Region 2:
 - **Resident** mountain lion hunting only by General License under a harvest quota. **Exception:** Special Mountain Lion License holders may hunt mountain lion in the Missoula Special Management Area during the Archery Only and Fall mountain lion seasons.
 - **Nonresident** mountain lion hunting only by Special Mountain Lion License and limited to, but not guaranteed, 10 percent of the district quota.
- In Regions 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, all hunting districts are quota-based with a General

License for residents and nonresidents.

- Unsuccessful applicants for a Special Mountain Lion License will be eligible to purchase a Surplus Special Mountain Lion License or a Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License. Unsuccessful resident applicants for a Special Mountain Lion License may purchase a Resident Hound Training License to only chase during the hound training season December 2 - April 14 in any valid hunting district statewide.
- If we do not sell all of our Special Mountain Lion Licenses through the drawing process they will be made available as Surplus Special Mountain Lion Licenses. Hunters without a Mountain Lion license and those unsuccessful at the original Special Mountain Lion License drawing are eligible to place their name on the surplus list for a chance at any surplus licenses.

General Mountain Lion License

- A General Mountain Lion License is available at all Fish, Wildlife & Parks offices, FWP license providers, online at fwp.mt.gov,

or by mail.

- A General Mountain Lion License purchased after August 31 may not be used until five days after the license is issued.
- Applications are available at all FWP Regional and Area offices or may be downloaded from the FWP website
- During the Archery Only and Fall Season Without Dogs, a General Mountain Lion License may be used in any valid mountain lion hunting district, even if the district is a Special Mountain Lion License district during the Winter Season.
- During the Winter Season, a General Mountain Lion License is valid in all hunting districts with an open harvest quota (excluding Special Mountain Lion License areas).
- During the Late Winter Season (Feb. 01 - Apr. 14) a General Mountain Lion License is valid in all hunting districts until quotas are filled or until the season is closed.

Special Mountain Lion License

- A limited number of Special Mountain Lion Licenses are available only through a special drawing. Apply by July 24.
- Applicants must possess a current year Conservation License and a Base Hunting License to apply for a Special Mountain Lion License.
- Bonus points will be offered for Special Mountain Lion License applications.
- Nonresidents are limited to no more than 10 percent of the Special Mountain Lion Licenses offered.
- A Special Mountain Lion License may be applied for:
 - online at fwp.mt.gov no later than 11:45 p.m. MDT on July 24, **or**
 - over-the-counter at any FWP Regional office, FWP area office, and/or the Helena Headquarters no later than 5 p.m. MDT July 24.
- Drawing results will be available during or after July 28.
- Successful Special Mountain Lion License applicants will be notified by mail and must purchase a mountain lion license no later than February 28, 2021.
- During the Archery Only and Fall Season Without Dogs, a Special Mountain Lion License may be used in any valid mountain lion hunting district.
- During the Winter Season, a Special Mountain Lion License may be used only in a specific hunting district, portion of the hunting district, or a group of hunting districts for which the Special Mountain Lion License is valid.

Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License

- In most Region 2 districts, mountain lion hunting during the early portion of the Winter Season (Dec. 1 - Jan. 31) will be only by Special Mountain Lion License with nonresidents limited to, but not guaranteed, 10 percent of the Special Mountain Lion Licenses available. Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License holders may hunt during the Late Winter Season (Feb. 1 - Apr. 14) until quotas are filled or until the season is closed.
- Unsuccessful applicants for a Special **2020 Mountain Lion**

Mountain Lion License will be eligible to purchase only a Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License, valid statewide in the Archery Only Season, in any open districts during the Fall Season Without Dogs, the Late Winter Season (Feb. 1 - Apr. 14) in Region 2 and in the Missoula Special Management Area.

- Unsuccessful resident applicants for Special Mountain Lion Licenses may purchase a Resident Hound Training License to only chase mountain lion and/or bobcat during the hound training season in any valid mountain lion hunting district statewide Dec. 2 - Apr. 14.

Resident Hound Training License (RHTL)

- Available to resident Conservation License holders.
- Entitles the license holder to use a dog or dogs to aid in chasing mountain lions and/or bobcat in all valid mountain lion hunting districts in the state, except HD 282, during the hound training season from Dec. 2 - Apr. 14 per MCA 87-2-521.
- A person may not kill a mountain lion or bobcat with only a RHTL. To kill a mountain lion, you must hold a mountain lion license. To kill a bobcat, you must hold a Trapping License purchased and validated for bobcat by November 30.
- A resident hunter with a valid mountain lion license is not required to have a Resident Hound Training License to chase mountain lion.

Super Tag Lottery for Mountain Lion

- Resident and nonresident hunters can buy an unlimited number of \$5 chances per species by June 30 to win a Montana hunting license for a mountain lion as well as antelope, bison, deer, elk, moose, sheep and goat.
- Each Super Tag license allows one to hunt in any Montana hunting district valid for that species.
- Chances are sold electronically at all FWP License Providers or via fwp.mt.gov.
- Proceeds from the sale of Super Tag chances will enhance public hunting access and boost FWP enforcement efforts.
- For more information, visit FWP's website at fwp.mt.gov.

Nonresident Hound Handler License

- For nonresidents to use dogs for hunting mountain lions they must be on an outfitted trip with a licensed Montana outfitter/guide or have one of the Nonresident Hound Handler Licenses in addition to a Mountain Lion License. To apply for a Nonresident Hound Handler License the nonresident must already hold a Mountain Lion License. You must hold a Mountain Lion License valid in at least a portion of the hound handler area you are applying for. If unsuccessful in the hound handler drawing, we would refund the Hound Handler License fee of \$500, but not the prerequisite Mountain Lion License fee of \$320.
- Nonresident Hound Handler License Drawing. Applications for the Nonresident Hound Handler License will be available starting August 3. The deadline to apply for it will be September 4 and the drawing will be September 11. To be eligible for the drawing, hunters must have purchased one of the four types of Mountain Lion License.

- Options for General Mountain Lion License holders. Those with a General Mountain Lion License may apply for any of the hound handler licenses except the three Region 1 areas that include only drawing districts. In the fourth Region 1 district grouping, if successful they could only hunt in the quota only areas until quotas are filled or until the season is closed. For Region 2 areas, if successful they could not hunt the Winter Season, but could hunt the Late Winter Season until quotas are filled or until the season is closed in any of the districts within that area at that time. For the remaining hunt areas, if successful they can hunt in any of the districts within that area that have open quotas.
- Options for Special Mountain Lion License or Surplus Special Mountain Lion Holders. Those with a Special Lion License for a specific district or districts can only apply for a Nonresident Hound Handler License in an area that includes that hunting district or districts. If successful in the Nonresident Hound Handler License drawing they could hunt on their own with hounds in that specific district or districts on the Special Lion License. If unsuccessful in the Hound Handler License drawing they can only hunt with hounds with an outfitter and only in that district or districts.
- Options for Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License Holders. Those with a Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License (those who were unsuccessful at a Special Lion License drawing, and who did not purchase a Surplus Special Mountain Lion License) can only apply for one of the 4 areas (grouping of districts) in Region 2. If successful they could not hunt the Winter Season but could hunt the Late Winter Season until quotas are filled or until the season is closed in any of the districts within that area at that time. If unsuccessful in the Hound Handler License drawing they could only hunt with hounds with an outfitter, and only for the Late Winter Season in Region 2 until quotas are filled or until the season is closed in any of the districts within that area at that time.
- Rules and Restrictions. To be eligible to apply for the nonresident hound handlers license, the applicant must be 18, or turn 18 by April 14, 2021. The holder of a nonresident hound handler license may not assist another person in the pursuit of a lion for harvest. Any area restrictions on the Mountain Lion License and the Nonresident Hound Handler License both apply as well as quota restrictions in quota areas.

Residency (MCA 87-6-302)

- It is unlawful to swear to or to affirm a false statement in order to obtain an original or replacement resident hunting and/or fishing license OR to assist an unqualified applicant in obtaining a resident license.

Resident (MCA 87-2-102)

- To be a lawful Montana resident and eligible to purchase any Montana resident fishing, hunting, and trapping licenses, you must:
 - have been physically living in Montana for at least 180 consecutive days immediately prior to purchasing a resident license;
 - register your vehicle(s) in Montana;

- be registered to vote in Montana if you're registered to vote at all;
- not possess (or have applied for any) current resident hunting, fishing, or trapping privileges in another state or country;
- file Montana state income tax returns as a resident, if you are required to file.
- Once you have established your residency, you must continue to meet all these requirements and physically reside in Montana as your principal or primary place of abode for not less than 120 days per year (days need not be consecutive).
- A person is NOT considered a resident for the purposes of this section if the person:
 - > claims residence in any other state or country for any purpose; or
 - > is an absentee property owner paying property tax on property in Montana.
- To purchase an annual resident Conservation License you will be required to show a valid Montana Driver's License (MDL), a valid Montana Identification Card (MIC), or a valid Tribal Identification Card (TIC).
- If your MDL or MIC was issued less than six months ago, you may be required to show additional proof of residency. An out-of-state driver's license is NOT an acceptable form of ID for resident license purchases. Contact your local FWP office for specifics.

Hunter Education (MCA 87-2-105)

Hunter Education Requirements

If you were born after January 1, 1985, you are required to show proof of completing a Montana hunter safety and education course or an approved hunter safety course from any other state or province prior to applying for or purchasing a hunting license, whether the hunting license is for the rifle or archery season.

Bowhunter Education Requirements

To purchase a Montana Bow and Arrow License, a hunter must:

- provide a certificate of completing the National Bowhunter Education Foundation course, or
- provide any prior year's bowhunting/archery stamp, tag, permit, or license from any state or province.

Duplicate Certificates

Bowhunter or hunter education certificates of completion for the Montana hunter education and/or bowhunter education courses may be obtained from FWP's website at: fwp.mt.gov/education/hunter

Youth Hunter

A resident or nonresident youth who will reach 12 years of age by January 16, 2021, may hunt any game species for which their license is valid, after August 15, 2020. Proof of hunter education must be presented at the time of purchase.

In order to carry or use a firearm for any reason, a youth under 14 years of age must be accompanied by a person having charge or custody of the youth, or be under the supervision of a qualified firearms safety instructor or an adult 18 years of age or older who has been authorized by the youth's parent or guardian, MCA 45-8-344.

Laws & Rules

- Statute denoted by MCA.
- Commission Rule denoted by CR.

Aircraft (MCA 87-6-208)

- It is unlawful for a person to shoot a game animal from an aircraft.
- It is unlawful for a person to use an aircraft for the purpose of concentrating, pursuing, driving, rallying, or stirring up any game animal.
- Aircraft may not be used to locate game animals for the purpose of:
 - hunting those animals during the same hunting day after a person has been airborne, or
 - providing information for another person for the purpose of hunting those animals within the same hunting day after being airborne.

Archery Equipment (MCA 87-6-401, CR)

- It is unlawful to use any chemical or explosive device attached to an arrow to aid in the taking of game animals.
- The following criteria define Archery Equipment. It is unlawful to possess, while hunting game during any Archery Only Season and in Archery Equipment Only areas, archery equipment that does not meet the following criteria:

Hunting Bow: A hunting bow for game animals shall be a longbow, flatbow, recurve bow, compound bow, or any combination of these designs.

- The bow must be a device for launching an arrow, which derives its propulsive energy solely from the bending and recovery of two limbs (includes bows with split limbs).
- The bow must be hand-drawn by a single and direct uninterrupted pulling action of the shooter. The bowstring must be moved from brace height to the full draw position by the muscle power of the shooter's body. The energy used to propel the arrow shall not be derived from any other source such as hydraulic, pneumatic, mechanical, or similar devices. These limitations shall not exclude the mechanical leverage advantage provided by eccentric wheels or cams, so long as the available energy stored in the bent limbs of the bow is the sole result of a single, continuous, and direct pulling effort by the shooter.
- The bow must be hand-held. One hand shall hold the bow, and the other hand draw the bowstring. The bowstring must be moved and/or held at all points in the draw cycle entirely by muscle power of the shooter until release. The bowstring must be released as a direct and conscious action of the shooter, either relaxing the tension of the fingers or triggering the release action of a hand-held release aid.

Exception: Physically disabled bowhunters certified by FWP with the Permit To Modify Archery Equipment (PTMAE) are exempted from the requirement of holding or shooting the bow with their hands.

- > A bow is considered lawful if it is at least 28 inches in total length.
- > The nominal percent of let-off for hunting bows shall be a maximum of 80 percent as advertised by the

manufacturer.

Arrow: An arrow is a projectile at least 20 inches in overall length. The length of the arrow is measured from the rearward point of the nock to the tip of the broadhead.

- A broadhead is mounted on the fore end.
- The arrow shall weigh no less than 300 grains with the broadhead attached.
- Arrows must have broadheads with at least two cutting edges and be at least 7/8 inches at the widest point. Expandable broadheads are lawful as long as when expanded they are at least 7/8 inches at the widest point, and weigh no less than 70 grains.

The following are not considered a hunting bow or lawful archery equipment during the Archery Only Season or in an Archery Equipment Only area or hunting district:

- Crossbow.
- Any device with a gun-type stock or incorporating any device or mechanism that holds the bowstring at partial or full draw without the shooter's muscle power.
- Any bow for which a portion of the bow's riser (handle) or any track, trough, channel, or other device that attaches directly to the bow's riser contacts, supports, and/or guides the arrow from a point rearward of the bow's brace height. This is not intended to restrict the use of standard overdraw systems.
- Electronic or battery-powered devices attached to a hunting bow or arrow.

Exception: Camera devices attached to bows for the sole purpose of filming is allowed.
- A bow sight or arrow that uses artificial light, luminous chemicals such as tritium, or electronics. **Exception:** an arrow may have a lighted nock.

Artificial Light (MCA 87-6-401)

It is unlawful for anyone to take or attempt to take any game animal or game bird with the aid of projected artificial light. Use of rifle scopes that project an artificial light to illuminate the target or project infra-red light visible only with specialized optics to illuminate the target are unlawful for the taking of game animals.

Baiting (MCA 87-6-401, CR)

- It is unlawful for anyone to hunt or attempt to hunt by the aid of or with the use of any bait, salt lick, trap, snare or set gun.
- Baiting shall mean the placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of food sources or salt so as to constitute a lure or attraction.

Bobcat and Lynx (MCA 87-2-601, CR)

Nonresidents may not take bobcats. Lynx are listed as a federally threatened species and there is no open season. It is a violation of both state and federal law to knowingly chase lynx with dogs.

Check Stations (MCA 87-6-218)

All hunters are required by law to stop as directed at all designated check stations on their way to and from hunting areas, even if they have no game to be checked.

Evidence of Sex (MCA 87-6-406)

A person who kills a game animal in this state shall retain evidence of sex of the animal with the carcass until it is processed. The provisions of this section do not apply

Motion tracking devices are defined by the F&W Commission as remote operated camera or video devices capable of transmitting real time information, pictures or videos; seismic devices; thermal imaging devices; and satellite and radio telemetry devices.

A radio-tracking collar attached to a dog that is used by a hunter engaged in lawful hunting activities is not considered an unlawful motion-tracking device.

Motorized Vehicles (MCA 87-6-405)

It is unlawful for anyone to:

- hunt or attempt to hunt any game animal from any self propelled (motorized) or drawn vehicle. To be lawful, a hunter must have two feet on the ground and his/her body outside of the vehicle. Holders of the Permit To Hunt From A Vehicle are the exception to this.
- use a motorized vehicle or aircraft to concentrate, drive, rally, stir-up, corral, or harass game animals.
- use a motor-driven vehicle on a road or trail on state land if that road or trail is posted as closed by the land management agency. This restriction applies only to state land and not to federal land. For more information related to state school trust lands see page 13.
- use a motor-driven vehicle other than on a road or trail designated for travel by a landowner unless permission has been given by that landowner.

Off Road- Federal lands (CR)

- operate, on federal public lands, a motorized wheeled vehicle off legal routes (including game retrieval). All Federally approved travel plans on public lands in Montana have been adopted by the F&W Commission. Contact the appropriate land management agencies for travel plan information.

Boats (MCA 87-6-207)

- use a powerboat, sailboat, or any boat under sail or any floating device towed by a powerboat, sailboat, or any boat under sail for the purpose of killing, capturing, taking, pursuing, concentrating, driving, or stirring up any game animal.

Mountain Lion Specific Regulations

- Female mountain lions accompanied by kittens with spots may not be taken.
 - If a lactating female is killed, the hunter must inform an FWP official as soon after the kill as possible.
- No mountain lion with body spots shall be killed.

Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs)

Residents – OHVs (ATV, UTV, dirtbike) must be registered and display a current Off-Highway decal to be used for off-road recreation on public lands (trails, frozen lakes, reservoirs). To be used on roads (county, Forest Service, etc.), an OHV must have a license plate and street-lawful modifications. Register your OHV with the county treasurer.

Nonresidents – OHVs from another state must purchase a nonresident permit to operate (anywhere) in Montana. Idaho and North Dakota residents are exempt. Permits are good for one calendar year,

cost \$27, and can be purchased from local vendors (stateparks.mt.gov/recreation/ohvProgram.html, OHV Permit and Laws), at FWP offices or online at app.mt.gov/als. Contact Montana State Parks OHV Program at 406-444-3753 or smcarthur@mt.gov with questions.

Outfitters and Guides (MCA 37-47-301)

A person may not act as an outfitter or guide or advertise or otherwise represent to the public that the person is an outfitter or guide without first securing a license.

- It is unlawful to engage in outfitting/guiding while not licensed.
- It is unlawful to hire an outfitter or guide not licensed by the Department of Labor and Industry. For information, call 406-841-2300.

Predators and Nongame Hunting

Predators and nongame species can be hunted in Montana year-round without a license by both resident and nonresident hunters. A Conservation License, or a State School Trust lands recreational use license is required to hunt predators and nongame species on State School Trust lands. Permission must be obtained to hunt predators and nongame species on private land.

- **Predators** are classified as coyote, weasel, (striped) skunk, and civet cat (spotted skunk).
- **Nongame species** are defined as any wild animal not otherwise lawfully classified by statute or regulation in Montana. Examples include badger, raccoon, red fox, hares, rabbits, ground squirrels, marmots, tree squirrels, porcupines, and prairie dog.
- **Furbearers** are protected game species that may only be taken by residents with a valid Trapping License during prescribed open seasons. State classified furbearers include beaver, otter, muskrat, mink, marten, fisher, wolverine, bobcat, lynx, and swift fox.

Public Roadways (MCA 87-6-403)

It is unlawful for anyone to hunt or attempt to hunt any game animal: on, from, or across any public highway or the shoulder, berm, barrow pit or right-of-way of any public highway (the entire width between the boundary lines of every publicly maintained way when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel).

Recorded Animal Sounds (MCA 87-6-401)

It is unlawful to use any recorded or electrically amplified bird or animal calls or sounds or imitations of bird or animal calls or sounds to assist in the hunting, taking, killing or capturing of any wildlife except predatory animals, wolves, and those birds not protected by state or federal law.

Simulated Wildlife (MCA 87-6-217)

It is unlawful to discharge a firearm or other hunting implement at a simulated wildlife decoy in violation of any state statute, ARM, or F&W Commission rule regulating the hunting of the wildlife being simulated.

Transport of Wildlife

- An individual other than the license holder may transport lawfully taken, properly tagged game animals that comply with the "Evidence of Sex Requirements" (see page 4).

- It is unlawful to ship, possess, transport, or take out of state unlawfully killed game animals.
- It is a violation of the Federal Lacey Act to transport an unlawfully taken game animal across state boundaries.
- If you are transporting lawfully taken wildlife (including parts and/or products of live or dead animals) between the United States and any foreign country, you must complete a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service declaration form. For further information contact the USFWS wildlife inspector at 406-335-4350 or fws.gov.
- Questions concerning carcass transport may be directed to FWP Enforcement at 406-444-2452 or to your home state's wildlife division.

Two-way Communication (ARM 12.6.1010)

The use of two-way electronic communication is prohibited:

- While in the act of hunting game animals or wolves to aid in the taking or locating of live animals.
- While in the act of hunting mountain lion or bobcats with dogs, beginning when the dogs are placed or physically released on tracks or a scent trail.
- To avoid game check stations or FWP enforcement personnel.
- To facilitate unlawful hunting activity.

The use of two-way electronic communication for the use of safety or other legitimate purposes is exempt.

Two-way electronic communication includes, but is not limited to, the following; radios (walkie-talkies/CB), cell phones, text messages, and the use of social media or other electronic platforms, applications, or programs.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles UAV (CR)

It is unlawful for a person to use an UAV/drone for the purposes of concentrating, pursuing, driving, rallying, or stirring up any game animal. A UAV/drone may not be used to locate game animals for the purposes of; hunting those animals during the same hunting day after a UAV/drone has been airborne, or providing information for another person for the purposes of hunting those animals within the same hunting day after the UAV/drone has been airborne. UAVs/drones are not allowed to film a hunt.

Waste of Game (MCA 87-6-205)

Mountain lion is excluded from being considered "suitable for food." A person that harvests a mountain lion may not abandon the head or hide in the field.

Mountain Lion Hunting Seasons

Archery Only Season Without Dogs – September 5 - October 18, 2020.

- Resident and nonresident hunters with either a General Mountain Lion License, a Special Mountain Lion License OR a Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License may harvest any legal lion in any open district statewide during the Archery Only Season.
- A Bow and Arrow License, plus the proper hunting license is required during mountain lion Archery Only Season or to archery hunt mountain lion in an Arch-Equip only area or hunting district.

- Use of dogs is prohibited during the Archery Only Season.
- The Archery Only Season for mountain lion will close:
 - With the end of the Archery Only Season or,
 - Earlier upon reaching a number nearest to 20 percent of the total quota or number of Special Mountain Lion Licenses in the district or management unit, or
 - When one mountain lion is taken in those districts or management units with a total harvest quota of less than five mountain lions or less than five Special Mountain Lion Licenses.
- When a district or management unit closes during the Archery Only Season, the Fall Season Without Dogs in that district will not open.
- In General License areas, the Archery Only Season harvest will be deducted from the district or management unit quota and subquota.
- In Special Mountain Lion License areas, the Archery Only Season male or female harvest will be deducted from that district's or management unit's respective male or female mountain lion subquota or quota.

Fall Season Without Dogs – October 24 - November 29, 2020

- Resident and nonresident hunters with either a General Mountain Lion License, a Special Mountain Lion License OR a Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License may harvest any legal lion in any open district or management unit statewide during the Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Use of dogs is prohibited during the Fall Season.
- The Fall Mountain Lion Season will close:
 - With the end of the general deer/elk season or,
 - Earlier upon the combined Archery Only Season and Fall Season Without Dogs harvest reaching a number nearest to 20 percent of the total quota or number of Special Mountain Lion Licenses in the district or management unit, or
 - When one mountain lion is taken in those districts or management units with a total harvest quota of less than five mountain lions or less than five Special Mountain Lion Licenses.
- In general license areas, the combined Archery Only Season harvest and Fall Season Without Dogs harvest will be deducted from the district or management unit quota and subquota.
- In Special Mountain Lion License areas, the combined Archery Only Season and Fall Season Without Dogs male and female mountain lion harvest will be deducted from the respective male or female mountain lion subquota or quota.

Winter Season – December 01, 2020 - April 14, 2021

- When the male or female subquota or quota is reached in a hunting district or management unit, the mountain lion season for that subquota or quota in that hunting district or management unit will close upon 24-hours notice, but no later than April 14.
- General Mountain Lion License holders may

harvest a mountain lion in any open General Mountain Lion License hunting district or management unit during the Winter Season.

- Special Mountain Lion License holders may harvest a mountain lion only in the hunting district, portion of the district, or group of districts (management unit) for which the Special Mountain Lion License is valid during the Winter Season.
- Nonresident lion hunters have further restrictions, see additional information under Nonresident Hound Handler License on page 3.

Late Winter Season – February 01, 2021 - April 14, 2021

- General Mountain Lion License holders may harvest a mountain lion in any open Region 2 General Mountain Lion License hunting district or management unit during the Late Winter Season. License holders must check the quota status before hunting in a Late Winter Season. The season will not open if Special Mountain Lion License holders fill the quota by February 1.
- Region 2 hunting districts or management units with Special Mountain Lion Licenses are open to Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License holders for this late portion of the Winter Season until the harvest quota is reached.
- When the male or female subquota or quota is reached in a hunting district or management unit, the mountain lion season for that subquota or quota in that hunting district will close upon 24-hours notice, but no later than April 14.
- Special Mountain Lion License holders may harvest a mountain lion only in the hunting district, portion of the district, or group of districts (management unit) for which the Special Mountain Lion License is valid during the Winter Season or Late Winter Season.
- Nonresident lion hunters have further restrictions, see additional information under Nonresident Hound Handler License on page 3.

Winter Season and Late Winter Season General License Harvest Quotas

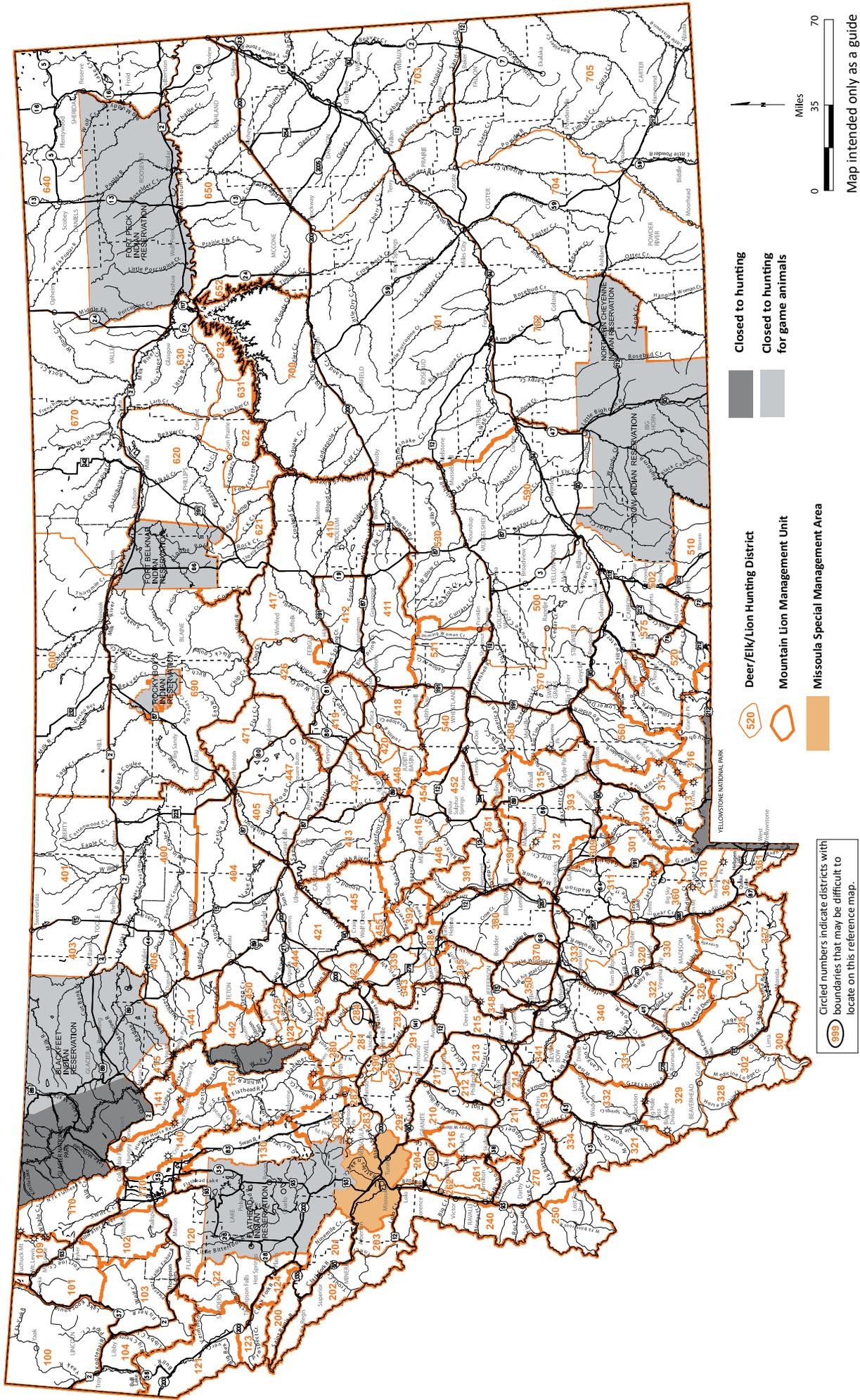
- Mountain lion quotas fill quickly in some hunting districts or management units so hunters should check harvest closure information frequently.
- When the subquota or quota is reached in a hunting district or management unit, the mountain lion season for that subquota or quota in that hunting district will close upon 24-hours notice, but no later than April 14.
- When the total quota is reached in a hunting district or management unit, the mountain lion season in that hunting district will close upon 24-hours notice to the harvest of all mountain lions, but no later than April 14.
- The Fish & Wildlife Commission has authorized the department to initiate closure prior to reaching the total quota or subquota when conditions or circumstances indicate the total quota or subquota may be reached within the 24-hours closure notice period.

Hound Training Season – December 1, 2020 - April 14, 2021

- A hunter with a Resident Hound Training License may lawfully chase mountain lions in any valid hunting district or management unit statewide from December 2 - April 14.

- A resident hunter with a valid General Mountain Lion License, Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License or Special Mountain Lion License may lawfully chase mountain lions in any valid hunting district or management unit statewide December 1 - April 14.
- A resident hunter with a valid General Mountain Lion License may lawfully harvest a mountain lion with dogs in any open general license hunting district or management unit during the Winter or Late Winter Seasons.
- A hunter with a valid Special Mountain Lion License may lawfully harvest a mountain lion with dogs only in the hunting district or management unit for which the Special Mountain Lion License is valid during the Winter Season. **Exceptions:** hunting district 150 is open to the use of dogs September 15 - April 14.
- A resident hunter with a valid Mountain Lion License may lawfully chase mountain lions in any valid hunting district or management unit statewide December 1 - April 14. **Exceptions:** hunting district 150 is open to the use of dogs September 15 - April 14.
- A hunter with a valid Resident Hound Training License may lawfully chase mountain lions in any valid hunting district or management unit statewide December 2 - April 14. A person may not kill a mountain lion or bobcat with a Resident Hound Training License.
- Authorized **mountain lion and bobcat hunting and chasing** hours begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset.
- Nonresidents may not hunt or chase bobcat. Residents must possess a valid General Trapper License to hunt and chase bobcat or a Resident Hound Training License to chase bobcats. See the Furbearer and Trapping Regulations for more information.
- Permission is required to release dogs or chase mountain lions on private land.
- It is prohibited for a dog owner or mountain lion hunter to release dogs on a mountain lion track, or allow dogs to chase a mountain lion, or hold a mountain lion at bay during any period of the day or year when the season is not open to hunting or chasing mountain lions. Legitimate attempts to retrieve loose dogs after legal hunting hours does not constitute a violation of this rule.
- Persons handling dogs in the field are required to:
 - Have a valid resident General Mountain Lion License if hunting or chasing, **or**
 - Have a valid resident Special Mountain Lion License if hunting or chasing, **or**
 - Have a valid resident Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License if hunting or chasing, **or**
 - Have a Resident Hound Training License to only chase.
 - Nonresidents must also have a Nonresident Hound Handler License
- Outfitters and guides will be eligible to handle hounds with only a valid Conservation License and a valid Montana outfitter or guide license in their possession. Guides will also be required to provide the license number of the outfitter on whose license they are guiding if required to do so by an FWP employee.

Mountain Lion Hunting District Map



Turn In Poachers. Enough is Enough! Make the call: 1-800-TIP-MONT

Mountain Lion Management Unit Harvest Quotas and Regulations

Region 1

LMU	Archery/ Fall Season Either Sex Lion Harvest Quota*	Archery/Fall Season Without Dogs Archery Sept 5 - Oct 18 Fall Oct 24 - Nov 29 License Type Required	Winter Quota Either Sex	Winter Season Dec 1 - Apr 14 License Type Required	Special License Number Female must be 1st choice only	Number of Special Licenses Issued	Non-Resident Hound Handler License Needed	Number of Hound Handler Licenses
HD 100	5	Any Lion License	-	Special License Only	100-01(M) 100-02(F)	12(M) 12(F)	194-00	2
HD 101	2	Any Lion License	-	Special License Only	101-01(M) 101-02(F)	5(M) 7(F)	195-00	2
HD 102	2	Any Lion License	-	Special License Only	102-01(M) 102-02(F)	5(M) 7(F)	195-00	2
HD 103 NOTE: Libby Big Game Archery Only Hunting Area restricted to ArchEquip only.	2	Any Lion License	-	Special License Only	103-01(M) 103-02(F)	7(M) 5(F)	194-00	2
HD 104	2	Any Lion License	-	Special License Only	104-01(M) 104-02(F)	7(M) 5(F)	194-00	2
HD 109	2	Any Lion License	-	Special License Only	109-01(M) 109-02(F)	4(M) 4(F)	195-00	2
HD 110	2	Any Lion License	-	Special License Only	110-01(M) 110-02(F)	4(M) 4(F)	195-00	2
HD 120	2	Any Lion License	-	Special License Only	120-01(M) 120-02(F)	4(M) 7(F)	197-00	2
HD 121	6	Any Lion License	-	Special License Only	121-01(M) 121-02(F)	10(M) 20(F)	196-00	1
HD 122	4	Any Lion License	-	Special License Only	122-01(M) 122-02(F)	7(M) 12(F)	196-00	1
HD 123	2	Any Lion License	-	Special License Only	123-01(M) 123-02(F)	4(M) 7(F)	196-00	1
HD 124	2	Any Lion License	-	Special License Only	124-01(M) 124-02(F)	3(M) 6(F)	196-00	1
HD 130	3	Any Lion License	-	Special License Only	130-01(M) 130-02(F)	5(M) 9(F)	197-00	2
HD 140	2	Any Lion License	10	General Lion License	-	-	197-00	2
HD 141	1	Any Lion License	6	General Lion License	-	-	197-00	2
HD 150	1	Any Lion License	7	General Lion License	-	-	197-00	2
Archery Season Sep 5 - Sep 14 Winter Season Sep 15 - Apr 14	Unlimited	Any Lion License	Unlimited	General Lion License	-	-	197-00	2

* Region 1: During the Archery Only and Fall Season Without Dogs, a General License, a Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License or a Special Mountain Lion License may be used in any valid mountain lion hunting district but the district will close when the harvest reaches a number nearest to 20 percent of the quota. A Region 1 Male and Female Special Mountain Lion License is valid for either sex during the Archery Only and Fall Season Without Dogs

Region 2

LMU	Archery/ Fall Season Either Sex Lion Harvest Quota*	Archery/Fall Season Without Dogs Archery Sept 5 - Oct 18 Fall Oct 24 - Nov 29 License Type Required	Female Winter Quota	Male Winter Quota	Winter Season Dec 1 - Apr 14 License Type Required	Special License Number	Number of Special Licenses Issued	Late Winter Season Feb 1 - Apr 14 License Type Required	Non-Resident Hound Handler License Needed	Number of Hound Handler Licenses
Resident only Missoula Special Management Area (MSMA) Portions of HDs 201, 203, 204, 260, 283, & 292	5	Any Lion License	12	13	Any General Lion License	-	-	-	294-00	2
Non-Residents only Missoula Special Management Area (MSMA) Portions of HDs 201, 203, 204, 260, 283, & 292	5	Any Lion License	12	13	Special License Only	201-00	2	-	294-00	2
HD 200 & 201 excluding MSMA	4	Any Lion License	7	13	Special License Only	200-00	20	Any General Lion License	294-00	2
HDs 202 & 203 excluding MSMA	6	Any Lion License	10	20	Special License Only	202-00	30	Any General Lion License	294-00	2
HD 210	1	Any Lion License	1	3	Special License Only	210-00	4	Any General Lion License	296-00	2
HDs 211 & 216	2	Any Lion License	3	5	Special License Only	211-00	8	Any General Lion License	296-00	2
HDs 212, 215, & 217	1	Any Lion License	1	6	Special License Only	212-00	7	Any General Lion License	296-00	2

Region 2 Continued

LMU	Archery/ Fall Season Either Sex Lion Harvest Quota*	Archery/Fall Season Without Dogs Archery Sept 5 - Oct 18 Fall Oct 24 - Nov 29 License Type Required	Female Winter Quota	Male Winter Quota	Winter Season Dec 1 - Apr 14 License Type Required	Special License Number	Number of Special Licenses Issued	Late Winter Season Feb 1 - Apr 14 License Type Required	Non-Resident Hound Handler License Needed	Number of Hound Handler Licenses
HDs 213 & 214	1	Any Lion License	0	2	Special License Only	213-00	2	Any General Lion License	296-00	2
HDs 204, 260, 261, & 262 (excluding MSMA)	1	Any Lion License	1	4				Any General Lion License	295-00	2
HD 240	1	Any Lion License	3	4	Special License Only	204-00	31	Any General Lion License	295-00	2
HD 250	2	Any Lion License	3	5				Any General Lion License	295-00	2
HD 270	2	Any Lion License	5	6				Any General Lion License	295-00	2
HD 280, 281, 284, 293 & portion of 298 east of State Route 141	2	Any Lion License	3	5	Special License Only	280-00	8	Any General Lion License	297-00	2
HD 282	Closed									
HDs 283 & 285 (excluding MSMA)	2	Any Lion License	4	7	Special License Only	283-00	11	Any General Lion License	297-00	2
HDs 290, 291, 292 & portion of 298 west of State Route 141 (excluding MSMA)	2	Any Lion License	3	7	Special License Only	290-00	10	Any General Lion License	297-00	2

* Region 2: During the Archery Only and Fall Season Without Dogs, a General License, a Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License or a Special Mountain Lion License may be used in any valid mountain lion hunting district but the district will close when the harvest reaches a number nearest to 20 percent of the quota. In Special Mountain Lion License areas, the combined Archery Only and Fall Season Without Dogs male and female mountain lion harvest from all license holders will be deducted from the respective male or female mountain lion quotas.

Region 3

LMU	Archery/Fall Season Either Sex Lion Harvest Quota*	Archery/Fall Season Without Dogs Archery Sept 5 - Oct 18 Fall Oct 24 - Nov 29 License Type Required	Female Winter Quota	Male Winter Quota	Either Sex Winter Quota	Winter Season Dec 1 - Apr 14 License Type Required	Non-Resident Hound Handler License Needed	Number of Hound Handler Licenses
HDs 300, 302, 328, 329	2	Any Lion License	5	-	10	General Lion License	395-00	2
HD 301	2	Any Lion License	4	-	8	General Lion License	396-00	2
HD 309 (see restricted area descriptions) Fall Season without dogs in HD 309 Sept 5 - Nov 29	1	Any Lion License	-	-	5	General Lion License	396-00	2
HDs 310, 311, 360, 361, 362 NOTE: Excluding Spanish Peaks portion of HD 311. See Legal description.	2	Any Lion License	3	-	10	General Lion License	396-00	2
HD 311 Spanish Peaks Portion	1	Any Lion License	-	-	7	General Lion License	396-00	2
HDs 312 & 393	2	Any Lion License	4	-	9	General Lion License	396-00	2
HDs 313 & 316	1	Any Lion License	1	-	4	General Lion License	396-00	2
HD 314	1	Any Lion License	2	-	6	General Lion License	396-00	2
HD 315	1	Any Lion License	1	-	3	General Lion License	396-00	2
HD 317	1	Any Lion License	2	-	4	General Lion License	396-00	2
HDs 318 & 335	1	Any Lion License	2	-	6	General Lion License	394-00	2
HDs 319 & 341	1	Any Lion License	2	-	4	General Lion License	395-00	2
HDs 320 & 333	1	Any Lion License	1	-	4	General Lion License	395-00	2

Region 3 Continued, Regions 4, 5, 6, & 7

LMU	Archery/Fall Season Either Sex Lion Harvest Quota*	Archery/Fall Season Without Dogs Archery Sept 5 - Oct 18 Fall Oct 24 - Nov 29 License Type Required	Either Sex Winter Quota	Female Winter Quota	Male Winter Quota	Winter Season Dec 1 - Apr 14 License Type Required	Non-Resident Hound Handler License Needed	Number of Hound Handler Licenses
HDs 321, 332, & 334	1	Any Lion License	3	1	-	General Lion License	395-00	2
HDs 322, 326, & 330	1	Any Lion License	6	2	-	General Lion License	395-00	2
HD 323, 324, 325, & 327	1	Any Lion License	6	2	-	General Lion License	395-00	2
HD 331	1	Any Lion License	5	2	-	General Lion License	395-00	2
HDs 339, 343, & 388 (see restricted area descriptions)	2	Any Lion License	8	2	-	General Lion License	394-00	2
HD 340	1	Any Lion License	3	1	-	General Lion License	395-00	2
HDs 350 & 370	1	Any Lion License	3	1	-	General Lion License	394-00	2
HD 380	1	Any Lion License	5	2	-	General Lion License	394-00	2
HDs 390 & 391	2	Any Lion License	11	5	-	General Lion License	394-00	2
HD 392	1	Any Lion License	4	1	-	General Lion License	394-00	2
*Region 3: Any lion harvested in the Archery Only or Fall Season Without Dogs will be deducted from the quota (male or female) and from the female subquota. The Fall Season Without Dogs will close upon the combined Archery Only Season and Fall Season Without Dogs harvest reaching a number nearest to 20 percent of a district total quota.								
HDs 400, 401, 403, 406, 415, & 441	1	Any Lion License	-	1	2	General Lion License	494-00	2
HDs 404, 421, 444, & 450	1	Any Lion License	-	3	3	General Lion License	494-00	2
HDs 405, 447, & 471	1	Any Lion License	-	3	5	General Lion License	495-00	2
HDs 410, 417, 419, & 426	3	Any Lion License	-	8	5	General Lion License	495-00	2
HDs 411 & 412	3	Any Lion License	-	8	5	General Lion License	495-00	2
HDs 413 & 432	2	Any Lion License	-	5	5	General Lion License	495-00	2
HDs 416, 446, 451, 452, & 454	3	Any Lion License	-	7	6	General Lion License	495-00	2
HDs 418, 420, & 448	2	Any Lion License	-	4	4	General Lion License	495-00	2
HDs 422, 423, 424, 425, & 442	3	Any Lion License	-	5	7	General Lion License	494-00	2
HDs 445 & 455	3	Any Lion License	-	8	6	General Lion License	495-00	2
*Region 4: Any lion harvested in the Archery Only or Fall Season Without Dogs will be deducted from the quota (male or female). The Fall Season Without Dogs will close upon the combined Archery Only Season and Fall Season Without Dogs harvest reaching a number nearest to 20 percent of a male or female quota. When the male or female quota is reached in a hunting district(s), the mountain lion season for that quota in that hunting district(s) will close upon 24-hours notice.								
HDs 500, 502, 530, 570, 575, & 590	5	Any Lion License	23	-	-	General Lion License	594-00	2
HD 510	1	Any Lion License	4	2	-	General Lion License	595-00	2
HD 511	1	Any Lion License	4	2	-	General Lion License	594-00	2
HD 520	1	Any Lion License	5	2	-	General Lion License	595-00	2
HD 540	1	Any Lion License	5	3	-	General Lion License	594-00	2
HD 560	2	Any Lion License	8	4	-	General Lion License	595-00	2
HD 580	1	Any Lion License	6	3	-	General Lion License	594-00	2
HD 690	2	Any Lion License	8	2	-	General Lion License	694-00	2
Region 6 except HD 690	1	Any Lion License	4	2	-	General Lion License	695-00	2
Region 7	9	Any Lion License	45	-	-	General Lion License	794-00	2
*Regions 5, 6 & 7: Any lion harvested in the Archery Only or Fall Season Without Dogs will be deducted from the quota (male or female) and from the female subquota when applicable. The Fall Season Without Dogs will close upon the combined Archery Only Season and Fall Season Without Dogs harvest reaching a number nearest to 20 percent of a district total quota. When the male or female subquota or quota is reached in a hunting district(s), the mountain lion season for that subquota or quota in that hunting district(s) will close upon 24-hours notice.								

Procedures to Follow After Harvesting a Mountain Lion

Mandatory Reporting Requirements

- Hunters must personally report their mountain lion kill within 12 hours by calling the mountain lion reporting line at 1-877-FWP-WILD (1-877-397-9453) or 406-444-0356. Hunters are required to provide: name, telephone number, ALS number, species, date of harvest, HD, specific location (township, range, and section, TRS), and sex when reporting a mountain lion harvest. Hunters could also report their harvest online at fwp.mt.gov through myfwp.
- Within ten (10) days of harvesting a mountain lion, the successful hunter must present the hide and skull to a Montana FWP official. The hide and skull **must** be presented in a condition that allows full inspection and tooth collection (i.e. unfrozen) for the purpose of:
 - inspection and registration of kill.
 - verification of sex.
 - removal of a tooth for aging purposes.
 - issuance and attachment of a hide tag. The hide tag must thereafter remain attached to the hide until tanned.

Beginning October 1, 2020, a person licensed to hunt and authorized to possess a carcass of a game animal that requires mandatory department biological inspection may, after validating and attaching the license or tag in accordance with 87-6-411, transfer possession of all or part of that game animal to any person at any time after leaving the site of the kill, provided a statement of possession has been completed. The statement of possession must be on a form prescribed by the department and signed by the licensed person and the person or persons receiving possession, and must accompany the carcass or portion of carcass presented for inspection.

REMINDER: The hunter must still personally report their harvest by phone as required even if a transfer form is completed.

Harvest Reporting and Status/Closure Information

- To report a harvest, call 1-877-FWP-WILD (1-877-397-9453) or 406-444-0356.
- Harvest status/closure may be obtained:
 - by calling 1-800-385-7826 or 406-444-1989 for statewide information or,
 - by checking the FWP website at fwp.mt.gov available 24-hours a day.
- The toll-free line and FWP website are updated daily by 1 p.m. MST.

Trichinella in Mountain Lions

Trichinella is a parasite of mammals and some birds. Immature parasites develop cysts in the muscle of the host animal and are transmitted to a new host when infected meat is eaten raw or undercooked. Wild animals rarely show signs of infection. Humans and domestic dogs or cats can become infected with Trichinella by consuming raw or undercooked meat from an infected animal. Symptoms of infection vary and may be severe. All bear and mountain lion meat should be treated as if it were infected. Freezing will not kill the organism; however, cooking at temperatures above 165 degrees Fahrenheit will kill the parasite. Many processing techniques (jerky and smoked meats) may not reach the proper temperature. FWP recommends that all mountain lion and bear meat be well cooked to an internal temperature of 165 degrees before consumption by humans or pets. FWP does not offer Trichinella testing. For further information, call the FWP lab at 406-994-6357.

Common Sense Precautions When Field-Dressing Game Animals

To minimize risk of disease or parasite transmission to humans, follow these proper ways to handle wild meat:

- Wear rubber (latex) gloves when field dressing game.
- Minimize contact with animal fluids, brain and spinal tissues.
- Wash hands and instruments thoroughly after field dressing or processing.
- Cook all meat until well done before consuming.

To minimize the risk of disease or parasite transmission to your domestic dog, prevent the consumption of game animal viscera.

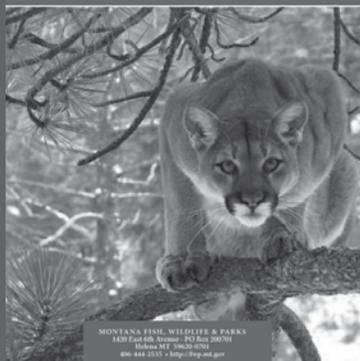
Hunters with a Disability

If you or someone you know has a disability and/or is aging, and is in need of assistive technology (AT) or adaptive equipment to help you participate in outdoor recreation, please contact:

MonTECH at the University of Montana Rural Institute,
29 McGill Hall,
Missoula, MT 59812
(406) 243-5751
or 877-243-5511

montech.ruralinstitute.utm.edu

Mountain Lion Identification Course



The **Mountain Lion Identification Program** is a voluntary training program available to anyone who is interested in mountain lion ecology and/or who wants to hunt mountain lions.

The course:

- presents information about mountain lion biology;
- explains how to determine the gender of a mountain lion; and
- Presents some of Montana's laws and regulations pertaining to mountain lion hunting.

For more information, go to:

fwp.mt.gov/education/hunter/mountainLionID

Hunter Access

Hunters, it is your responsibility to know where you are, to know who owns the land, and to know what access restrictions apply.

Federal Land Access

- National Parks Service: National Parks are closed to hunting. For other lands administered by the National Park Service, please contact the specific site managers for additional information.
- National Wildlife Refuges – More restrictive regulations, including species specific restrictions and closures, may apply to national wildlife refuges open to public hunting. Contact the specific refuge and/or visit [fws.gov/refuges](https://www.fws.gov/refuges) for additional information.
- U.S. Forest Service: Area specific closures or restrictions may apply. Inquire at the appropriate Regional Forest Service Office.
- Bureau of Land Management: Area specific closures or restrictions may apply. Inquire at the appropriate BLM Field Office.
- Other Federal lands: Area specific closures or restrictions may apply. Inquire at the local federal land management agency office.

Unlawful Posting of State or Federal Land (MCA 45-8-115) It is unlawful for a person to knowingly post land that is under the ownership or control of the state or federal government to restrict access or use of state or federal land.

Fishing Access Sites

Many of Montana's Fishing Access Sites (FAS) offer hunting opportunities, however certain restrictions may apply such as no-hunting safety zones and/or restrictions on the type of hunting weapon or firearm that may be used. Refer to the Fishing Access Site website at [fwp.mt.gov/fish](https://www.fwp.mt.gov/fish) for site specific information, opportunities and restrictions.

Indian Reservation Trust Lands

Some reservations may offer game animal hunting opportunities with the use of tribal licenses to non-members. Please contact the appropriate Tribal Government. See "Contacts Outside FWP" on page 16 for contact information.

Montana State Parks

Some of Montana's State Parks provide hunting opportunities; however certain restrictions may apply such as no-hunting safety zones and/or restrictions on the type of hunting weapon or firearm that may be used. Contact the specific park and/or refer to the Montana State Park website at stateparks.mt.gov for site specific information regarding hunting opportunities and restrictions.

Railroad Access

Railroads and railroad right-of-ways are private property and may not be hunted without permission, nor should they be used as access to other lands (private or public) without explicit permission from the railroad.

State Game Preserves

See Restricted Area Descriptions.

State School Trust Lands

- A Conservation License provides hunters, anglers and trappers access to lawfully accessible State School Trust lands.
- Overnight (2-night) camping is allowed within 200 feet of a lawful access point.
- Motorized travel is only allowed on public roads or on roads designated as open.
- Firearms may not be discharged within one-quarter mile of inhabited dwellings or outbuildings on state trust lands without permission of the inhabitant.
- Game retrieval is by foot or horse only.
- No open fires are allowed except in designated campground fire pits.
- Additional information is available from FWP or contact DNRC at (406) 444-2074.

State Wildlife Management Areas (WMA)

FWP's Wildlife Management Areas are generally open to hunting during the game animal hunting season. WMAs with big game winter range are closed to public entry, unless otherwise posted, from the day following the end of the general deer-elk season or December 1, whichever is later, to noon on May 15 each year, as posted.

Exception: There are several exceptions to these guidelines. For WMA specific information, please call the Regional office (see page 16 for contact numbers) or visit the FWP website: [fwp.mt.gov](https://www.fwp.mt.gov)

Stream Access Law

The Stream Access Law does not allow for the hunting of game animals between the ordinary high water marks of streams and rivers without landowner permission.

Restricted Area Descriptions

Restricted area legal descriptions include both Closed Areas and Weapons Restricted Areas. It is your responsibility to know that you are in a legal hunting area.

HD 309 Gallatin Valley Weapons Restriction Area: Mountain lion hunting is restricted to ArchEquip, shotgun, traditional handgun, muzzleloader or crossbow only, EXCEPT on some private lands which are excluded from the weapons restrictions. See legal description in 2020 Deer • Elk • Antelope regulations. Map available at FWP-R3 HQ 406-994-4042, in Bozeman.

Helena Valley Weapons Restriction Area: That portion of Deer/Elk HD 388 west of the following boundary: From the intersection of US Highway 12-287 and Lake Helena Drive, then north on said drive to the south shore of the Causeway Arm, then north and east on said shore to Hauser Lake.

Libby Big Game Archery Only Hunting Area: That Portion of Lincoln County lying within the following boundary: Beginning at the junction of U.S. Highway 2 and Port Blvd. (the old Stimpson mill site entrance) on the south edge of Libby, then heading east on Port Blvd. to the Champion Haul Road, across Libby Creek on said road to National Forest Road 4813, then southerly on Road 4813 to National Forest Road 533, the Swede Mountain Road, then southerly along said road to the Farm-To-Market Road, then northerly

along the Farm-to-Market Road to U.S. Highway 2, then northerly along U.S. Highway 2 to Port Blvd., the point of beginning.

Mountain Lion Hunting Districts – Legal Descriptions

Legal descriptions for the 2020 Mountain Lion Hunting Districts are the same as the 2020 Legal Descriptions for the Deer/Elk Hunting Districts and Weapons Restriction Areas found in the 2020 Legal Descriptions document and on the FWP website at [fwp.mt.gov](https://www.fwp.mt.gov)

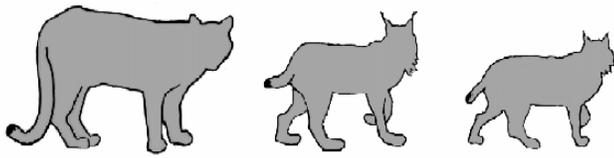
Missoula Special Management Area for Mountain Lion –

The Missoula Special Management Area includes portions of hunting districts 201, 203, 204, 260, 283 and 292, in portions of Mineral, Missoula, Sanders, Granite, Ravalli and Powell Counties. A map and legal description is available from the Missoula FWP office (406-542-5500).

Spanish Peaks Portion of HD 311 for Mountain Lion –

Those portions of Gallatin County within the following boundary: Beginning at the confluence of Cascade Creek and the Gallatin River, then southerly up the Gallatin River to its intersection with Dudley/Creek-West Fork Gallatin divide near Big Sky junction (U.S. Highway 191 and Route 64), then northwesterly up said divide to Wilson Peak, then northeasterly along the Dudley Creek-Hell Roaring Creek divide to Trail 481, then easterly along said trail to Table Mountain, then northerly along the Lava Lake Trail (Trail numbers 445 and 77) to the mouth of Cascade Creek and the Gallatin River, the point of beginning.

Cat Identification



Mountain Lion

Lynx

Bobcat



32" - 44"



3 1/2" - 5"



24" - 33"



3 3/4" - 4 3/4"



22" - 26"

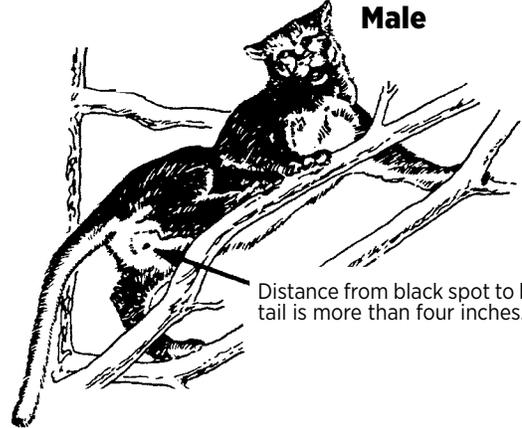


2 1/4"

- Note differences in tail length of mountain lion and black markings on tip of lynx and bobcat tails.
- Lynx ear tufts are longer than bobcat ear tufts.
- Mountain lion and lynx foot sizes are similar; bobcat is much smaller.
- Tracks are shown with shaded area representing impression of hair in the snow.
- Note track size and stride length differences between species.

Sex Determination of Mountain Lion

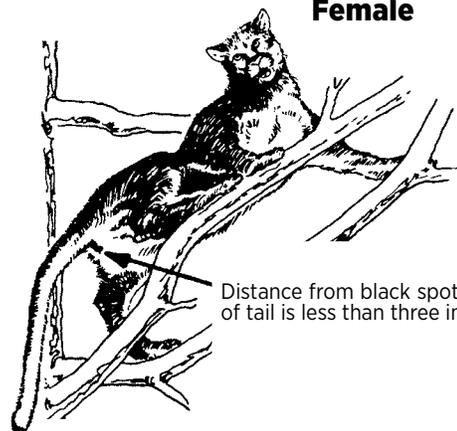
Male adult and subadult lions have a conspicuous black spot, about one inch diameter, surrounding the opening to the penis sheath behind the hind legs and about four to five inches below the base of the tail.



Male

Distance from black spot to base of tail is more than four inches.

Female adult and subadult lions may have black fur surrounding the vulva and located about three inches or less from the base of the tail.



Female

Distance from black spot to base of tail is less than three inches.

Pad Width & Stride Length - potential indicators of sex



< 3.5"

Adult Female



< 40"



> 40"

Adult Male



4 1/4"

2021-2021 Sunrise-Sunset Tables For Determining Hunting Hours



These tables, including adjustments for daylight savings time, are the official sunrise-sunset tables adopted by the Montana Fish & Wildlife Commission for hunting in Montana. Authorized hunting hours for the taking of mountain lion begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset each day of the hunting season. (Do not use times from other sources).

ZONE 1

INCLUDES: Flathead, Granite, Lake, Lincoln, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli and Sanders counties

Day	Oct		Nov		Dec		Jan		Feb		Mar		Apr	
	Rise	Set												
	A.M.	P.M.												
1	7:36	7:14	7:19	5:19	8:01	4:49	8:21	4:59	8:00	5:40	7:15	6:22	7:15	8:06
2	7:37	7:12	7:21	5:18	8:02	4:49	8:21	5:00	7:59	5:41	7:13	6:24	7:13	8:07
3	7:38	7:10	7:22	5:16	8:04	4:48	8:21	5:01	7:57	5:43	7:11	6:25	7:11	8:09
4	7:40	7:09	7:24	5:15	8:05	4:48	8:21	5:02	7:56	5:44	7:09	6:27	7:09	8:10
5	7:41	7:07	7:25	5:13	8:06	4:48	8:21	5:03	7:55	5:46	7:08	6:28	7:07	8:11
6	7:42	7:05	7:27	5:12	8:07	4:48	8:21	5:04	7:53	5:48	7:06	6:30	7:05	8:13
7	7:44	7:03	7:28	5:11	8:08	4:48	8:20	5:05	7:52	5:49	7:04	6:31	7:03	8:14
8	7:45	7:01	7:30	5:09	8:09	4:47	8:20	5:06	7:50	5:51	7:02	6:32	7:01	8:15
9	7:46	6:59	7:31	5:08	8:10	4:47	8:20	5:07	7:49	5:52	7:00	6:34	6:59	8:17
10	7:48	6:57	7:33	5:07	8:11	4:47	8:19	5:09	7:47	5:54	6:58	6:35	6:57	8:18
11	7:49	6:55	7:34	5:06	8:12	4:47	8:19	5:10	7:46	5:55	6:56	6:37	6:55	8:20
12	7:51	6:53	7:36	5:04	8:13	4:47	8:18	5:11	7:44	5:57	6:54	6:38	6:53	8:21
13	7:52	6:51	7:37	5:03	8:13	4:48	8:18	5:12	7:43	5:58	6:52	6:40	6:52	8:22
14	7:53	6:50	7:38	5:02	8:14	4:48	8:17	5:14	7:41	6:00	7:50	7:41	6:50	8:24
15	7:55	6:48	7:40	5:01	8:15	4:48	8:17	5:15	7:40	6:01	7:48	7:42	6:48	8:25
16	7:56	6:46	7:41	5:00	8:16	4:48	8:16	5:16	7:38	6:03	7:46	7:44	6:46	8:26
17	7:58	6:44	7:43	4:59	8:16	4:49	8:15	5:18	7:36	6:04	7:44	7:45	6:44	8:28
18	7:59	6:42	7:44	4:58	8:17	4:49	8:14	5:19	7:35	6:06	7:42	7:47	6:42	8:29
19	8:00	6:41	7:46	4:57	8:18	4:49	8:14	5:21	7:33	6:07	7:40	7:48	6:41	8:31
20	8:02	6:39	7:47	4:56	8:18	4:50	8:13	5:22	7:31	6:09	7:38	7:49	6:39	8:32
21	8:03	6:37	7:48	4:55	8:19	4:50	8:12	5:23	7:29	6:10	7:36	7:51	6:37	8:33
22	8:05	6:35	7:50	4:55	8:19	4:51	8:11	5:25	7:28	6:12	7:34	7:52	6:35	8:35
23	8:06	6:34	7:51	4:54	8:20	4:51	8:10	5:26	7:26	6:13	7:32	7:53	6:34	8:36
24	8:08	6:32	7:52	4:53	8:20	4:52	8:09	5:28	7:24	6:15	7:30	7:55	6:32	8:37
25	8:09	6:30	7:54	4:52	8:20	4:53	8:08	5:29	7:22	6:16	7:28	7:56	6:30	8:39
26	8:11	6:29	7:55	4:52	8:20	4:53	8:07	5:31	7:21	6:18	7:26	7:58	6:28	8:40
27	8:12	6:27	7:56	4:51	8:21	4:54	8:06	5:32	7:19	6:19	7:24	7:59	6:27	8:41
28	8:13	6:25	7:58	4:51	8:21	4:55	8:05	5:34	7:17	6:21	7:22	8:00	6:25	8:43
29	8:15	6:24	7:59	4:50	8:21	4:56	8:04	5:35			7:20	8:02	6:23	8:44
30	8:16	6:22	8:00	4:50	8:21	4:57	8:03	5:37			7:18	8:03	6:22	8:45
31	8:18	6:21			8:21	4:58	8:01	5:38			7:17	8:04		

ZONE 2

INCLUDES: Beaverhead, Broadwater, Cascade, Chouteau, Deer Lodge, Gallatin, Glacier, Hill, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Liberty, Madison, Meagher, Park, Pondera, Powell, Silver Bow, Teton and Toole counties.

Day	Oct		Nov		Dec		Jan		Feb		Mar		Apr	
	Rise	Set												
	A.M.	P.M.												
1	7:28	7:07	7:11	5:12	7:52	4:42	8:12	4:52	7:51	5:33	7:07	6:15	7:07	7:58
2	7:29	7:05	7:12	5:10	7:54	4:42	8:12	4:53	7:50	5:34	7:05	6:16	7:05	7:59
3	7:30	7:03	7:14	5:09	7:55	4:42	8:12	4:54	7:49	5:36	7:03	6:17	7:03	8:00
4	7:32	7:01	7:15	5:08	7:56	4:41	8:12	4:55	7:48	5:37	7:01	6:19	7:01	8:02
5	7:33	6:59	7:17	5:06	7:57	4:41	8:12	4:56	7:46	5:39	6:59	6:20	6:59	8:03
6	7:34	6:57	7:18	5:05	7:58	4:41	8:12	4:57	7:45	5:40	6:58	6:22	6:57	8:04
7	7:36	6:55	7:20	5:04	7:59	4:41	8:11	4:58	7:43	5:42	6:56	6:23	6:55	8:06
8	7:37	6:53	7:21	5:02	8:00	4:41	8:11	4:59	7:42	5:43	6:54	6:25	6:53	8:07
9	7:38	6:51	7:22	5:01	8:01	4:41	8:11	5:00	7:40	5:45	6:52	6:26	6:51	8:09
10	7:40	6:49	7:24	5:00	8:02	4:41	8:10	5:02	7:39	5:46	6:50	6:27	6:50	8:10
11	7:41	6:48	7:25	4:59	8:03	4:41	8:10	5:03	7:37	5:48	6:48	6:29	6:48	8:11
12	7:42	6:46	7:27	4:57	8:04	4:41	8:09	5:04	7:36	5:49	6:46	6:30	6:46	8:13
13	7:44	6:44	7:28	4:56	8:04	4:41	8:09	5:05	7:34	5:51	6:44	6:32	6:44	8:14
14	7:45	6:42	7:30	4:55	8:05	4:41	8:08	5:07	7:33	5:52	7:42	7:33	6:42	8:15
15	7:47	6:40	7:31	4:54	8:06	4:41	8:08	5:08	7:31	5:54	7:40	7:34	6:40	8:17
16	7:48	6:38	7:33	4:53	8:07	4:41	8:07	5:09	7:30	5:55	7:38	7:36	6:38	8:18
17	7:49	6:37	7:34	4:52	8:07	4:42	8:06	5:11	7:28	5:57	7:36	7:37	6:37	8:19
18	7:51	6:35	7:35	4:51	8:08	4:42	8:06	5:12	7:26	5:58	7:34	7:39	6:35	8:21
19	7:52	6:33	7:37	4:50	8:09	4:43	8:05	5:13	7:25	6:00	7:32	7:40	6:33	8:22
20	7:54	6:31	7:38	4:49	8:09	4:43	8:04	5:15	7:23	6:01	7:30	7:41	6:31	8:23
21	7:55	6:30	7:40	4:48	8:10	4:44	8:03	5:16	7:21	6:03	7:28	7:43	6:30	8:25
22	7:56	6:28	7:41	4:48	8:10	4:44	8:02	5:18	7:19	6:04	7:26	7:44	6:28	8:26
23	7:58	6:26	7:42	4:47	8:11	4:45	8:01	5:19	7:18	6:06	7:24	7:45	6:26	8:27
24	7:59	6:24	7:44	4:46	8:11	4:45	8:00	5:21	7:16	6:07	7:23	7:47	6:24	8:29
25	8:01	6:23	7:45	4:45	8:11	4:46	7:59	5:22	7:14	6:09	7:21	7:48	6:23	8:30
26	8:02	6:21	7:46	4:45	8:12	4:47	7:58	5:24	7:12	6:10	7:19	7:50	6:21	8:31
27	8:04	6:20	7:47	4:44	8:12	4:47	7:57	5:25	7:10	6:12	7:17	7:51	6:19	8:33
28	8:05	6:18	7:49	4:44	8:12	4:48	7:56	5:27	7:09	6:13	7:15	7:52	6:18	8:34
29	8:06	6:16	7:50	4:43	8:12	4:49	7:55	5:28			7:13	7:54	6:16	8:36
30	8:08	6:15	7:51	4:43	8:12	4:50	7:54	5:30			7:11	7:55	6:15	8:37
31	8:09	6:13			8:12	4:51	7:53	5:31			7:09	7:56		

ZONE 3

INCLUDES: Big Horn, Blaine, Carbon, Fergus, Golden Valley, Judith Basin, Musselshell, Petroleum, Phillips, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Wheatland and Yellowstone counties

Day	Oct		Nov		Dec		Jan		Feb		Mar		Apr	
	Rise	Set												
	A.M.	P.M.												
1	7:17	6:56	7:01	5:00	7:44	4:30	8:04	4:39	7:42	5:21	6:57	6:04	6:56	7:48
2	7:19	6:54	7:03	4:59	7:45	4:30	8:04	4:40	7:41	5:23	6:55	6:05	6:54	7:49
3	7:20	6:52	7:04	4:58	7:46	4:29	8:04	4:42	7:40	5:24	6:53	6:07	6:52	7:50
4	7:21	6:50	7:06	4:56	7:47	4:29	8:04	4:43	7:38	5:26	6:51	6:08	6:50	7:52
5	7:23	6:48	7:07	4:55	7:48	4:29	8:03	4:44	7:37	5:27	6:49	6:10	6:48	7:53
6	7:24	6:46	7:09	4:53	7:49	4:29	8:03	4:45	7:36	5:29	6:47	6:11	6:46	7:55
7	7:26	6:44	7:10	4:52	7:50	4:28	8:03	4:46	7:34	5:30	6:46	6:12	6:44	7:56
8	7:27	6:42	7:12	4:51	7:51	4:28	8:03	4:47	7:33	5:32	6:44	6:14	6:42	7:57
9	7:28	6:40	7:13	4:49	7:52	4:28	8:02	4:48	7:31	5:33	6:42	6:15	6:41	7:59
10	7:30	6:39	7:15	4:48	7:53	4:28	8:02	4:50	7:30	5:35	6:40	6:17	6:39	8:00
11	7:31	6:37	7:16	4:47	7:54	4:28	8:01	4:51	7:28	5:36	6:38	6:18	6:37	8:02
12	7:33	6:35	7:18	4:46	7:55	4:28	8:01	4:52	7:26	5:38	6:36	6:20	6:35	8:03
13	7:34	6:33	7:19	4:44	7:56	4:28	8:00	4:53	7:25	5:40	6:34	6:21	6:33	8:04
14	7:35	6:31	7:21	4:43	7:57	4:29	8:00	4:55	7:23	5:41	6:32	6:22	6:31	8:06
15	7:37	6:29	7:22	4:42	7:57	4:29	7:59	4:56	7:22	5:43	6:30	6:24	6:29	8:07
16	7:38	6:27	7:24	4:41	7:58	4:29	7:58	4:57	7:20	5:44	6:28	6:25	6:27	8:08
17	7:40	6:26	7:25	4:40	7:59	4:29	7:58	4:59	7:18	5:46				

Contacts

Mountain Lion Harvest Reporting Number

24-hours/day - 7 days/week.....1-877-FWP-WILD (1-877-397-9453)
OR406-444-0356

Mountain Lion Quota Status

24 hours/day - 7 days/week.....1-800-385-7826 OR 406-444-1989
ORfwp.mt.gov

Bobcat, Otter, Fisher, Swift Fox and Wolverine Quota Status

24 hours/day - 7 days/week.....1-800-711-8727 OR 406-444-9557

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks State Headquarters

1420 East 6th Avenue, PO Box 200701,
Helena, MT 59620-0701 406-444-2535

Hunter Education.....406-444-9948

Wildlife.....406-444-2612

Enforcement406-444-2452

Montana State Parks.....406-444-3750

Drawings406-444-2950

Licenses406-444-2535

Hearing Impaired (use Montana
Relay).....7-1-1 or 1-800-253-4091

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Regional Headquarters

Region 1

490 N Meridian Rd
Kalispell, MT 59901
406-752-5501



Region 2

3201 Spurgin Rd
Missoula, MT 59804
406-542-5500

Lewistown Area Res Office (LARO)

333 Airport Road, Ste. 1
PO Box 938
Lewistown, MT 59457
406-538-4658

Region 3

1400 South 19th Ave
Bozeman, MT 59718-5496
406-577-7900

Region 5

2300 Lake Elmo Dr
Billings, MT 59105
406-247-2940

Helena Area Res Office (HARO)

930 Custer Ave W
PO Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620
406-495-3260

Region 6

1 Airport Rd
Glasgow, MT 59230
406-228-3700

Butte Area Res Office (BARO)

1820 Meadowlark Ln
Butte, MT 59701
406-494-1953

Havre Area Res Office (HVARO)

2165 Hwy 2 East
Havre, MT 59501
406-265-6177

Region 4

4600 Giant Springs Rd
Great Falls, MT 59405
406-454-5840

Region 7

352 I-94 Business Loop
PO Box 1630
Miles City, MT 59301
406-234-0900

Contacts Outside Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Montana State Agencies

Agriculture
406-444-3144
Guides & Outfitters
406-841-2300
Livestock
406-444-7323
State Lands (DNRC)
406-444-2074
Tourism
406-841-2870

Land Maps

USDI Bureau of Land
Management
406-896-5000
Topographical (USGS)
888-275-8747

Tribal Governments

Blackfeet Reservation
406-338-7276
Crow Reservation
406-638-2179
Flathead Reservation
406-883-2888 ext 7200
Fort Belknap
406-353-2205
Fort Peck Reservation
406-768-5305
Northern Cheyenne
Reservation
406-477-6526
Rocky Boy Reservation
406-395-4207

Federal Agencies

US Department of Interior (USDI)
202-208-3100
USDI Fish & Wildlife Service
406-449-5225
USDA Forest Service
406-329-3511
USDI Bureau of Land Management
406-896-5000
National Weather Service
406-329-4840 (Missoula)

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