

**NEW REGULATION DRAFT 5/2/2008
WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION**

CHAPTER 47

GRAY WOLF HUNTING SEASONS

Section 1. Authority. This regulation is promulgated by the authority of W. S. §23-1-101, §23-1-102 §23-1-108, §23-1-302, §23-1-304, §23-2-104, §23-2-303, §23-3-111, §23-3-115 and §23-3-304.

Section 2. Definitions. For the purpose of this regulation, definitions shall be as set forth in Title 23, Wyoming Statutes and the Commission also adopts the following definitions:

(a) “Harvest quota” means the total number of gray wolves for a single hunt area that may be legally taken by licensed hunters during any single gray wolf hunting season within the area where gray wolves are classified as trophy game animals.

Section 3. Hunting Seasons Established. There shall be open seasons for the hunting of gray wolves as set forth in this regulation. This regulation shall remain in effect until modified or repealed by the Commission.

Section 4. Hunting Regulations for Gray Wolves Classified as Trophy Game Animals.

(a) Gray wolves shall only be taken during open seasons with legal firearms and archery equipment, except as otherwise provided by State statutes and Commission regulations.

(b) All gray wolves within the hunt areas described in Section 8, the National Elk Refuge, Grand Teton National Park, Yellowstone National Park and the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway shall be classified as trophy game animals. Gray wolves in all other portions of Wyoming shall be classified as predatory animals.

(c) Open Hours for the Taking of Gray Wolves. Gray wolves classified as trophy game animals in open hunt areas shall only be taken one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one-half (1/2) hour after sunset.

(d) No person, except as authorized by the Department, shall take a gray wolf classified as a trophy game animal with the use of or by the aid of radio tracking equipment.

(e) Bag and Possession Limit. The bag and possession limit for any person with a proper license shall be one (1) gray wolf during any one (1) calendar year (January 1 – December 31). Licensed hunters may take any gray wolf.

(f) Reporting and Registering Kills. All licensed hunters taking a gray wolf in the hunt areas described in Section 8 shall retain the pelt and skull from each gray wolf for registration purposes. Even if the skull is damaged, it shall accompany the pelt for registration purposes. Visible external evidence of sex shall remain naturally attached to the pelt.

(i) Within twenty-four (24) hours after taking a gray wolf, the licensee or his designee shall report the gray wolf take by calling 1-866-373-5805 twenty-four (24) hours a day. The report shall include the name of the person making the report, hunter's name, license number, date of the kill and location of the site of kill to include hunt area, section, township and range or UTM coordinates.

(ii) Within five (5) days after taking a gray wolf, the licensee taking the gray wolf shall present the pelt and skull to a district game warden, district wildlife biologist or Department personnel at a Game and Fish Regional Office during business hours for registration. The pelt and skull shall be presented in an unfrozen condition in order to allow collection of biological samples and to determine the age and sex of the gray wolf. The licensee shall provide his license number, date of kill and location of the site of kill to include hunt area, section, township and range or UTM coordinates.

(iii) Any person taking a gray wolf wearing a radio tracking device (including, but not limited to an electronic collar or ear tag) within the hunt areas described in Section 8 shall surrender the device to the Department in accordance with registration dates in subsection (ii).

(g) Any person who makes a false report or statement on the registration form regarding the date the gray wolf was taken or the hunt area in which it was taken shall be in violation of this regulation and, such violation shall be punishable as provided by Title 23, Wyoming statutes for violation of Commission regulations.

Section 5. Hunt Areas, Season Dates, Harvest Quota and Limitations.

(a) The hunt areas set forth in Section 8 shall be open to the hunting of gray wolves.

Gray Wolf Management Unit	Hunt Area	Season Dates		Harvest Quota	Limitations
		Open	Closes		
Sunlight	1	Oct. 1	Nov. 30	5	General license; any gray wolf
Francs Peak	2	Oct. 1	Nov. 30	10	General license; any gray wolf
Gros Ventre	3	Oct. 1	Nov. 15	5	General license; any gray wolf, except the lands of the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway shall be closed
Green River	4	Oct. 1	Nov. 30	5	General license; any gray wolf

Section 6. Area Harvest Quota Limitation. The gray wolf hunting season shall close in each wolf hunt area when the harvest quota for that area has been reached. If the harvest quota is not reached, the season shall close upon the date specified in Section 5 of this regulation. Prior to hunting, it is the hunter's responsibility to confirm the hunt area is open. The status of hunt area closures is available by calling toll free 1-866-373-5805 twenty-four (24) hours a day.

Section 7. Archery. Gray wolves may be taken with legal archery equipment in all hunt areas and during open seasons as set forth in Section 5 of this Chapter.

Section 8. Hunt Area Descriptions.

(a) Area and Number.

Area 1. Sunlight. Beginning at the junction of Wyoming Highway 120 and the Wyoming-Montana state line; southerly along Wyoming Highway 120 to the intersection with U.S. Highway 14-16-20 in the town of Cody; westerly along U.S. Highway 14-16-20 to the Yellowstone National Park boundary; northerly along said boundary to the Wyoming-Montana state line; east along said line to its junction with Wyoming Highway 120.

Area 2. Francs Peak. Beginning at the intersection of Wyoming Highway 120 and U.S. Highway 14-16-20 in the town of Cody; southerly along Wyoming Highway 120 to the Greybull River; southwesterly up said river to the Wood River; southwesterly up said river to the Shoshone National Forest boundary; southerly along said boundary to the Wind River Indian Reservation boundary; westerly then southerly along said Reservation boundary to its junction with U.S. Highway 26-287; northwesterly along said highway to the easternmost boundary of Grand Teton National Park; westerly then northerly along said boundary to the east boundary of the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway; northerly along said boundary to the Yellowstone National Park

boundary; east then north along said Park boundary to U.S. Highway 14-16-20; easterly along said highway to the junction with Wyoming Highway 120 in the town of Cody.

Area 3. Gros Ventre. Beginning where U.S. Highway 26-287 intersects with the Union Pass Road (Fremont County Road 240 and U.S.F.S. Road 263); southerly along said road to Union Pass and U.S.F.S. Road 600; westerly then southerly along said road to the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary; southwesterly along said boundary to its junction with U.S. Highway 189-191; northwesterly along said highway to the intersection with U.S. Highway 26-89-191; northerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 22 in the town of Jackson; westerly along said highway to the Wyoming-Idaho state line; north along said line to the Yellowstone National Park boundary; east along said boundary to the east boundary of the John D. Rockefeller Memorial Parkway; southerly along said boundary to the boundary of Grand Teton National Park; southerly then easterly along said boundary to its easternmost intersection with U.S. Highway 26-287; southeasterly along said highway to the Union Pass Road (Fremont County Road 240); excluding all lands within the exterior boundaries of Grand Teton National Park and the National Elk Refuge.

Area 4. Green River. Beginning where U.S. Highway 26-287 crosses the west boundary of the Wind River Indian Reservation; southerly along said boundary to the Continental Divide; southeasterly along said Divide to the Middle Fork of Boulder Creek; westerly down said creek to Boulder Creek; westerly down said creek to the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary; northwesterly along said boundary to the Union Pass Road (U.S.F.S. Road 600); northerly then easterly along said road to Union Pass and U.S.F.S. Road 263; northerly along said road to Fremont County Road 240 at the forest boundary; northerly along said road to U.S. Highway 26-287; southeasterly along said highway to the west boundary of the Wind River Indian Reservation.

Section 9. Violation of Commission Regulations. Failure to abide by the provisions of this regulation shall be punishable as provided by Wyoming statutes for violation of Commission regulations.

Section 10. Savings Clause. If any provision of this regulation shall be held to be illegal or unconstitutional, such a ruling shall not affect other provisions of this regulation which can be given effect without the illegal or unconstitutional provision; and, to this end, the provisions of this regulation shall be severable.

Wyoming Game and Fish Commission

By:

Jerry Galles, President

Dated: July 30, 2008