

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

CHAPTER 9

BIGHORN SHEEP HUNTING SEASONS

Section 1. Authority. This regulation is promulgated by authority of W.S. §23-1-302, §23-1-703, §23-2-104 and §23-3-117.

Section 2. Hunting Seasons Established. There shall be open seasons during 2011 for the hunting of bighorn sheep as set forth in this Chapter and in accordance with Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation.

Section 3. Regular Hunting Seasons.

(a) Hunt areas, season dates and limitations.

Hunt Area	Type	Date of Seasons		Limitations
		Opens	Closes	
1	1	Sept. 1	Oct. 31	Limited quota; 20 licenses any ram
2	1	Sept. 1	Oct. 31	Limited quota; 24 licenses any ram
3	1	Sept. 1	Oct. 20	Limited quota; 44 licenses any ram
		Oct. 21	Oct. 31	Unused Area 3 Type 1 licenses valid in that portion of Area 3 in the North Fork of the Shoshone River drainage and the South Fork of the Shoshone River drainage northeast of Ishawooa Creek
4	1	Sept. 1	Oct. 20	Limited quota; 44 licenses any ram
5	1	Sept. 1	Oct. 20	Limited quota; 70 licenses any ram (51 residents, 19 nonresidents)
6	1	Aug. 15	Oct. 31	Limited quota; 2 licenses any ram (2 residents only)
7	1	Sept. 1	Oct. 31	Limited quota; 12 licenses any bighorn sheep
8, 23	1	Sept. 1	Oct. 15	Limited quota; 12 licenses any ram
9	1	Aug. 15	Oct. 15	Limited quota; 4 licenses any ram
10	1	Aug. 15	Oct. 15	Limited quota; 8 licenses any ram
12	1	Sept. 1	Oct. 15	Limited quota; 2 licenses any ram (2 residents only)
18, 21				CLOSED
19	1	Sept. 1	Oct. 31	Limited quota; 8 licenses any ram
20	1	Sept. 1	Dec. 31	Limited quota; 1 license any ram (resident only)
22	1	Sept. 1	Oct. 20	Limited quota; 4 licenses any ram; also valid in Area 5 after September 30 for any ram
24	1	Sept. 1	Oct. 31	Limited quota; 1 license any ram (resident only)

Section 4. Special Archery Seasons.

(a) Hunt areas listed in this section shall have special archery hunting seasons during the dates and with limitations specified in this section. Archers shall possess a limited quota bighorn sheep license in addition to an archery license in order to hunt bighorn sheep during any special archery season. Archers shall hunt only in the hunt area(s) and for the type of bighorn sheep set forth by the limitations of their license as specified in Section 3 of this Chapter.

Hunt Area	Dates of Seasons		Limitations
	Opens	Closes	
1-5, 7, 8, 12, 19, 20, 22-24	Aug. 15	Aug. 31	Refer to Section 3 of this Chapter
9, 10	Aug. 1	Aug. 14	Refer to Section 3 of this Chapter

Section 5. Definitions.

(a) “Bighorn sheep horns” mean the hollow horn sheaths of male bighorn sheep, either attached to the skull or separated.

(b) “Plugging” means placement of a permanent metal plug provided and attached by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

Section 6. Registration and Plugging of Bighorn Sheep Horns. Any person harvesting a bighorn sheep in Wyoming shall within fifteen (15) consecutive days following the harvest present the horns attached to the skull plate for registration and plugging. Any person picking up any bighorn sheep horns in Wyoming shall within fifteen (15) consecutive days following the pickup of the horns present the horn or horns for registration, plugging and interstate game tagging. Plugging may be omitted if the Game and Fish Department determines that the size or condition of the horn prevents proper plugging. Any person taking bighorn sheep horns shall present them in person at one of the following Game and Fish Department offices, Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Bighorn sheep horns not originating in Wyoming shall not be plugged.

Game and Fish Department		
Headquarters	Cheyenne	1(800) 842-1934
Casper Region	Casper	1(800) 233-8544
Cody Region	Cody	1(800) 654-1178
Green River Region	Green River	1(800) 843-8096
Jackson Region	Jackson	1(800) 423-4113
Lander Region	Lander	1(800) 654-7862
Laramie Region	Laramie	1(800) 843-2352
Pinedale Region	Pinedale	1(800) 452-9107
Sheridan Region	Sheridan	1(800) 331-9834

(a) The Wyoming Game and Fish Department may require substantive proof from individuals who do not possess a valid bighorn sheep license and take bighorn sheep horns that the horns were legally acquired. Failure to provide such proof may result in seizure of the horns. Before a person’s bighorn sheep horns may be plugged, the person may be required to take a Wyoming Game and Fish Department enforcement officer to the location where the bighorn sheep horns were acquired. Failure to comply with this request shall be a violation of this regulation and the bighorn sheep horns may be seized.

(b) No person shall alter, deface or remove a plug placed in a bighorn sheep horn by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

(c) No person shall possess the horn(s) of a bighorn sheep that bears an altered, defaced or counterfeit Wyoming plug or from which the plug has been removed.

(d) The insertion of a Wyoming plug does not in itself certify that the animal was legally taken or possessed.

(e) Any person who makes a false statement on the registration form regarding the date the bighorn sheep was taken or the hunt area in which it was taken shall be in violation of this regulation. Such violation shall be punishable as provided by Title 23, Wyoming Statutes for violation of Commission regulations.

Section 7. Hunt Area Descriptions.

(a) Area and Number

Area 1. Clark's Fork. All of the drainage of the Clark's Fork River north of Sunlight Creek and north of the Clark's Fork River below its confluence with Sunlight Creek; and the drainage of Soda Butte Creek outside of Yellowstone National Park.

Area 2. Trout Peak. All of the north drainage of the North Fork of the Shoshone River and north of U.S. Highway 14-16-20 between Pahaska Teepee and the east boundary of Yellowstone National Park; all of the south drainage of the Clark's Fork River south and east of Sunlight Creek and west of Wyoming Highway 120; all of the north drainage of the Shoshone River west of Wyoming Highway 120.

Area 3. Wapiti Ridge. Beginning where U.S. Highway 14-16-20 intersects the east boundary of Yellowstone National Park; easterly down said highway to the North Fork of the Shoshone River; easterly down said river to the South Fork of the Shoshone River at the Buffalo Bill Reservoir; southwesterly up said river to Deer Creek; westerly up said creek to the head of Butte Creek; westerly down said creek to the Thorofare River; westerly down said river to the Yellowstone National Park boundary; easterly then northerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 14-16-20.

Area 4. Yount's Peak. Beginning where Deer Creek enters the South Fork of the Shoshone River; southerly up said river to Needle Creek; southerly up said creek to the head of Emerald Creek; southerly down said creek to Wiggins Fork Creek; southerly down said creek to the Wiggins Fork Road (Shoshone National Forest Road 285); southerly down said road to the Shoshone National Forest boundary; westerly then southerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 287; northwesterly along said highway to the east boundary of Grand Teton National Park; northerly and westerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 287; northerly along said highway to the south boundary of Yellowstone National Park; easterly along said boundary to the Thorofare River; easterly up said river to Butte Creek; northeasterly up said creek to the head of Deer Creek; easterly down said creek to the South Fork of the Shoshone River.

Area 5. Franc's Peak. Beginning where Needle Creek enters the South Fork of the Shoshone River; northeasterly down said river to the Shoshone River; easterly down said river to Wyoming Highway 120; southeasterly along said highway to the Bighorn River; southerly up said river to the Wind River Reservation boundary; westerly along said boundary to the Shoshone National Forest boundary; northwesterly, southwesterly, then westerly along said boundary to the Wiggins Fork Road (Shoshone National Forest Road 285); northerly along said road to Wiggins Fork Creek; northerly up said creek to Emerald Creek; northerly up said creek to Needle Creek; northerly down said creek to the South Fork of the Shoshone River; in addition, all non-Indian fee title lands in that portion of Hot Springs County within the exterior boundaries of the Wind River Reservation.

Area 6. Targhee. Beginning where the Snake River crosses the Wyoming-Idaho state line; northerly along said line to the Yellowstone National Park boundary; easterly along said boundary to the Targhee-John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway boundary; southerly along said boundary to the Targhee Forest-Grand Teton National Park boundary; southerly along said boundary to the Bridger-Teton National Forest-Grand Teton National Park boundary; northerly, easterly and southerly along said boundary to Wyoming Highway 390 west of the Snake River; southerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 22; easterly along said highway to the Snake River; southerly along said river to the Wyoming-Idaho state line.

Area 7. Jackson. Beginning at Togwotee Pass on the Continental Divide; southerly along said divide to the Union Pass Road (USFS Road 600); westerly along said road to Wagon Creek; southerly down said creek to the Green River; southerly down said river to the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary; westerly along said boundary to the divide between the Green River and the Hoback River at the Hoback Rim where U.S. Highway 191 crosses the Rim; westerly along said divide to the divide between the Greys River and the Hoback River; northerly along said divide to the divide between the Greys River and Willow Creek; northerly along said divide to the divide between Bailey Creek and Willow Creek (Greyback Ridge); northerly along said divide to the Dry Wash Draw; westerly down said draw to Bailey Creek; northwesterly down said creek to the Snake River; northerly along said river to Wyoming Highway 22; easterly along said highway to U.S. Highway 191; easterly along said highway to the National Elk Refuge boundary at the north end of the town of Jackson; southerly, easterly and northerly along said boundary to the Grand Teton National Park boundary; northerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 26-287; easterly along said highway to Togwotee Pass.

Area 8. Sheep Mountain. Beginning where Pine Creek crosses U.S. Highway 191 in the town of Pinedale; northwesterly along said highway to the Green River at Warren Bridge; northerly, easterly and southerly up said river to Trail Creek; southerly up said creek to Summit Lake and the head of Pine Creek; southerly down said creek to U.S. Highway 191.

Area 9. Dinwoody. Beginning where U.S. Highway 287 crosses Torrey Creek; southerly along said highway to the Wind River Reservation boundary; southerly along said boundary to the Continental Divide; northwesterly along said divide to the head of Bomber Creek (East Fork of Torrey Creek); northeasterly down said creek to Torrey Creek; northerly down said creek to U.S. Highway 287.

Area 10. Jakey's Fork. Beginning where Torrey Creek crosses U.S. Highway 287; southwestly up said creek to Bomber Creek (East Fork of Torrey Creek); southwestly up said creek to the Continental Divide; northerly along said divide to the head of Roaring Fork Creek; southerly down said creek to the Green River; westerly and southerly down said river to Wagon Creek; northwesterly up said creek to the Union Pass Road (USFS Road 600); northerly along said road to the Continental Divide; northwesterly along said divide to U.S. Highway 287; southeasterly along said highway to Torrey Creek.

Area 12. Porcupine. Beginning where U.S. Highway 14A crosses the Big Horn River; northerly down said river to the Wyoming-Montana state line; east along said line to the Sheep Mountain Road (USFS Road 11); southerly along said road to the Devils Canyon Road (USFS Road 14); southerly along said road to U.S. Highway 14A; westerly along said highway to the Big Horn River.

Area 18. Douglas Creek. Beginning where Wyoming Highway 230 crosses the Wyoming-Colorado state line near Mountain Home; westerly along said line to Wyoming Highway 230; northwesterly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 130; easterly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 230; southwestly along said highway to the Wyoming-Colorado state line.

Area 19. Laramie Peak. Beginning at the junction of Interstate Highway 25 and Wyoming Highway 211 at the town of Chugwater; southwestly along Wyoming Highway 211 to the Iron Mountain-Jordan Road (Platte County Road 10-Laramie County Road 106-2), southwestly along said road to Wyoming Highway 211; southerly along said road to the Fisher Canyon-Rogers Canyon Road (Laramie County Road 228-1 - Albany County Road 17) at Horse Creek Station; southwestly along said road to U.S. Highway 30 at the town of Laramie; northwesterly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 487; northerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 220; northeasterly along said highway to Interstate Highway 25; southeasterly along said interstate to Wyoming Highway 211.

Area 20. Kouba Canyon. Beginning where U.S. Highway 85 crosses the Wyoming – South Dakota state line; southerly along said line to the Dewey Road (Weston County Rd. #2); northwesterly along said road to U.S. Highway 85; northerly along said highway to the Wyoming-South Dakota state line.

Area 21. Encampment River. Beginning where Wyoming Highway 130 crosses the North Platte River in the town of Saratoga; southerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 230; southeasterly along said highway to the Wyoming-Colorado state line; westerly along said line to the Medicine Bow National Forest boundary near the confluence of Spring Creek and the Little Snake River; westerly and northerly along said boundary to Wyoming Highway 70; northeasterly along said highway to the Sage Creek Road (USFS Road 801-Carbon County Road 401); northerly along said road to Sage Creek; easterly down said creek to the North Platte River; southerly up said river to Wyoming Highway 130 in the town of Saratoga.

Area 22. Dubois Badlands. Beginning where U.S. Highway 287 crosses the Wind River Reservation boundary; westerly along said highway to the Wiggins Fork Road (Fremont County Road 285); northerly along said road to the Shoshone National Forest boundary; easterly along said boundary to the Wind River Reservation boundary; southerly along said boundary to U.S. Highway 287. This includes those areas of the Spence-Moriarity Wildlife Habitat Area east of the East Fork of the Wind River.

Area 23. Desolation Peak. Beginning where Roaring Fork Creek enters the Green River; easterly up said creek to the Continental Divide; southwestly along said divide to Hay Pass and the head of the North Fork of Boulder Creek; southwestly down said creek to the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary; northwesterly along said boundary to Pine Creek; northerly up said creek to Summit Lake and the head of Trail Creek; northerly down said creek to the Green River; northerly down said river to Roaring Fork Creek.

Area 24. Big Piney. Beginning at a point where the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary crosses LaBarge Creek; westerly up said creek to the head of the Greys River; northerly down said river to Deadman Creek; easterly up said creek to the divide between the Greys River and the Hoback River, southerly along said divide to the divide between the Hoback River and the Green River; easterly along said divide to the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary on Hoback Rim; southerly along said boundary to LaBarge Creek.

Section 8. 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:

Fred Lindzey, President

Dated: April 27, 2011