

Controlled Hunt Information

Controlled hunt is a term used to describe a hunt with a limited number of permits, unlike a general season, which allows unlimited numbers of hunters. Controlled hunts are often desirable because of location and timing, and success rates are usually higher than general season hunts. Controlled hunt permits are allocated by a random drawing.

Applications

Key dates:

- **Moose, mountain goat and bighorn sheep: April 1 – April 30.**
- **Successful applicants will be notified by June 10.**

To apply, see instructions below. Controlled hunt applications may be submitted at any hunting and fishing license vendor, Fish and Game office, by telephone at 1-800-554-8685 or 1-800-824-3729, or online at <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov> (Rules for deer, elk, pronghorn and black bear controlled hunts are different and covered in their own brochure and Website section.)

Notice: A person may apply for only one species. Any person applying for any moose, bighorn sheep, or mountain goat hunt is prohibited from applying for any other big game controlled hunt in the same year. **Except:** They may apply for a controlled depredation hunt for deer, elk, or antelope, a controlled black bear hunt, or leftover deer, elk or antelope controlled hunt permit, an unlimited controlled hunt, or extra deer, elk, antelope, or turkey hunt.

Eligibility

Any person possessing a valid hunting license is eligible to apply for controlled hunts subject to the following restrictions:

- Holders of a Nongame Hunting License only may not apply for any controlled hunt.
- Any person may apply for one permit for antlered moose or one permit for antlerless moose.
- Any person whose name was drawn on a controlled hunt for moose may not apply for any controlled moose permit except leftover permits for a period of two years.
- Any person who has harvested an antlered moose in Idaho may not apply for any moose permit **except** an antlerless permit. Any person who has harvested an antlerless moose in Idaho may not apply for any moose permit except an antlered moose permit
- Any person may apply for a leftover moose, bighorn sheep, or mountain goat permit.
- Any person whose name was drawn for any controlled hunt for either subspecies of bighorn sheep may not apply for any bighorn sheep permit for two years.
- Any person who has killed a California bighorn ram or Rocky Mountain bighorn ram, on any controlled hunt in Idaho may not apply for a permit for the same species, **except** any person who has killed a California bighorn ram south of Interstate Highway 84 since 1974 and is otherwise eligible, may apply for a Rocky Mountain bighorn ram permit for any hunt north of Interstate Highway 84. Any person, who has killed a Rocky Mountain bighorn ram north of Interstate Highway 84 since 1974 and is otherwise eligible, may apply for a California bighorn ram permit for any hunt south of Interstate Highway 84.
- **No person applying for a Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep controlled hunt as a first choice shall apply for a California bighorn sheep controlled hunt as a second choice. No person**

shall apply for both a Rocky Mountain and a California bighorn hunt the same year.

- Any person may obtain a Special Auction or Special Lottery permit for bighorn sheep.
- Any person may obtain a Super Hunt permit for moose.
- Any person who has killed a mountain goat in Idaho since 1977 may not apply for a mountain goat permit.
- Any person whose name was drawn for a controlled hunt for mountain goat and who failed to harvest may not apply for any mountain goat permit for two years.

Permits: No person may hunt in any controlled hunt without a valid controlled hunt permit and tag in their possession. In the event a permit and tag is issued based on erroneous information the permit will be invalidated by Idaho Fish and Game and may **not** be used. Fish and Game will notify the permittee of the invalidation of the permit. The person will remain on the drawn list, and if there is a waiting period in a succeeding year, the person will be required to wait the specified time period.

Nonresident Limitations: In controlled hunts with 10 or fewer permits, not more than one nonresident permit will be issued. Nonresident hunters are limited to no more than 10 percent of the total number of controlled hunt permits for each species. (In Idaho, special bighorn sheep permits available by auction and lottery are not included in the 10 percent limitation.)

In controlled hunts with more than 10 permits, not more than 10 percent of the permits will be issued to nonresidents.

Requirements: Only one application per person or group will be accepted for the same species. Additional applications for the same person or group for the same species will result in all applicants being declared ineligible.

- Applications for moose, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat controlled hunts may be made by telephone, at a license vendor, or online. The controlled hunt worksheet (opposite page) and fees may be sent by mail to any Fish and Game office. Applications must be postmarked no later than April 30. The application period begins April 1.
- Any person may apply for a moose Super Hunt permit.

Fees

Resident controlled hunt fees for bighorn sheep, mountain goat or moose tag, permit and application fee: \$180.75.

Nonresident controlled hunt fees for bighorn sheep, mountain goat or moose tag, permit and application fee: \$1,765.75.

These fees include a nonrefundable application fee of \$6.25; \$1 of this fee may be designated for the Citizens Against Poaching program. Application, permit and tag fees must be included with applications for trophy species.

A single payment, either cashier's check, money order, certified check, or personal check, may be submitted to cover fees for all applications in the same envelope when using the controlled hunt worksheet and applying by mail. If a payment is insufficient to cover fees, all applications will be voided. Do not mail cash.

Application Hours: Applications may be processed over the telephone 24 hours a day, seven days a week, April 1 through midnight April 30.

Telephone Applications: Applications for controlled hunts for moose, bighorn sheep, or mountain goat can be placed over the phone by calling 1-800-55HUNT 5 (554-8685). Fees must be paid by either Visa, MasterCard or Discover. Telephone applications are processed by an independent contractor. The charge for processing telephone applications is 3 percent of the transaction (\$4.94 for residents and \$45.44 for nonresidents) plus \$5.50. These charges will be explained by operators before the transaction is completed. This fee is in addition to the \$6.25 (per person, per species) nonrefundable application fee and the tag fee.

Internet Applications: Application may be made on the Fish and Game Website at <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov>. Internet charge is **3 percent of the transaction plus \$3.50**. This fee is in addition to the \$6.25 (per person, per species) nonrefundable application fee. Applications may also be mailed to any Fish and Game office.

Applications will be taken electronically at all Fish and Game license vendor locations in Idaho, beginning April 1, through midnight April 30, or the vendor's normal closing time.

Group Application is defined as two hunters applying for the same controlled hunt on the same form. Group applications will be accepted for moose, sheep and goat controlled hunts. Both hunters must comply with all rules and complete the application form properly. Both must abide by the same first and second choice hunts.

Notification

Drawing results will be posted on the Fish and Game Website in early June. Look up results at <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/apps/ch/results.cfm>.

It is the hunter's responsibility to verify results.

All applicants will receive either a permit and tag or a refund check by mail no later than June 10. If purchases are made with a credit card, you will not receive a refund check, but a credit to your account by July 1. Refund amounts are resident: \$174.50; and nonresident: \$1,759.50. If you do not receive one of these by July 1, please call Fish and Game at 208-334-3717, or write to P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707.

Notice: Only tag/permit fees will be refunded; hunting license fees and application fees (\$6.25) will not be refunded if you do not draw. If applying by telephone, processing fees will not be refunded.

Leftover Controlled Hunts

Any permits leftover after the first drawing will be offered in a second drawing. Nonresident quotas and waiting period restrictions do not apply in the second drawing or leftover sales.

The application period for the second trophy species drawing will be June 15-25, with the drawing June 30. Any leftovers from the second drawing will go on sale July 10. Remember, application, permit and tag fees must be included for trophy species. You may apply in the second trophy drawing, or purchase a leftover moose tag, even if you have previously harvested a moose in Idaho.

Leftover controlled hunt permits for moose, mountain goat and bighorn sheep go on sale July 10.

Overpayment: Overpayment of fees of more than \$5 for moose, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat applications will be refunded. Overpayments of \$5 or less will **not** be refunded and will be retained by Fish and Game.

- Single or group applications which are not drawn for the first choice hunt will automatically be entered into a second choice drawing, provided the second choice hunt applied for has not been filled.
- Unfilled (leftover) controlled hunts: See Big Game Rules.

Roads, Trails, Motor Vehicles and Wildlife

What You Need to Know

Motor vehicles, from pickups and SUVs to motorcycles and ATVs, have changed hunting and some of those changes have created challenges for hunters, land managers and wildlife. Consider the following:

- Roads that are open to motor vehicles increase access into big game habitat, and, as a result, the number of hunters increases. Generally, the number of hunters in an area is directly related to the number of roads.
- The combination of more hunters and their increased mobility in roaded areas increases the vulnerability of deer and elk to harvest. Deer and elk in a heavily roaded area are more likely to be killed during the hunting season, and for that reason these areas have fewer old bulls or bucks. It also means that hunting seasons have to be shorter to prevent over harvest.
- Research shows that slow moving vehicles on primitive roads and trails are more disturbing to elk than fast moving vehicles on highways. Slow moving vehicles traveling cross-country have the same effect. Deer and elk often flee from the sound of motor vehicles and may leave the area.
- The number of ATVs in Idaho has increased fivefold since 1994; in 2005 more than 90,000 off-highway vehicles were registered in the state. Most people who own ATVs use them for hunting.
- Conflicts occur where ATVs have increased access into areas that

were lightly used in the past. Conflicts also occur because some people select areas closed to motor vehicles for hunting and are upset when these rules are violated by others.

- Cross-country travel with motor vehicles can create a network of new travel ways that cause erosion, spread noxious weeds, and damage fish and wildlife habitats. Much of this cross-country travel occurs during the hunting season. To reduce these impacts, Idaho's land and wildlife managers ask all hunters using motorized vehicles to stay on roads and trails and use designated routes where they are established. Do not travel cross-country with a motor vehicle.

Look for Designated Routes on Public Lands

- The U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management have already established designated routes in several areas of Idaho. Please pay attention to the travel system in the areas you hunt.

For more information about travel management on Idaho's Federal lands, contact these offices or websites:

- U.S. Forest Service 208-373-4007 website: www.fs.fed.us.
- Bureau of Land Management 208-373-4007 website: www.id.blm.gov.

Access management helps wildlife and hunters. Please observe established road closures and access restrictions. Report road closure violations by calling 1-800-632-5999, or any Idaho Fish and Game, BLM or U.S. Forest Service office.

Idaho's Motorized Vehicle Restriction

Wisely managing roads, trails and motor vehicles will:

- Yield more old bucks and bulls.
- Permit more hunting opportunity.
- Allow longer seasons.
- Decrease erosion.
- Reduce conflicts.
- Reduce damage to habitat and the spread of noxious weeds.

Best of all, it will make hunting better.

Remember!

- **Observe road closures and access restrictions.**
- **Say no to cross-country travel.**
- **Stay on roads and trails open to motorized travel.**
- **Use designated routes where they're established.**
- **Follow Idaho's Motorized Vehicle Restriction Rule.**

Motorized Vehicle Restriction Rule

The Fish and Game Commission has adopted motor vehicle use restrictions while hunting big game and upland game to resolve many hunters' concerns about off-road travel. The restricted units are 29, 30, 30A, 32, 32A, 36A, 37, 37A, 39 (muzzleloader), 45, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 52A (muzzleloader), 53, 56, 57, 58, 59, 59A, 66, 69, 70, 72 (late season), 73, 75, 77, and 78.

Motorized Vehicle Use Restrictions

The use of motorized vehicles by hunters as an aid to hunting big game and upland game animals is restricted in certain areas. This use restriction is in addition to all federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances and orders; including, but not limited to, any motorized vehicle licensing, registration, and permitting requirements and traffic laws. Hunters must comply with all motorized vehicle limits or prohibitions instituted by the landowner or land manager. Also, this use restriction rule is not an exception from, and is in addition to, the statutory prohibition against hunting from or by the use of any motorized vehicle set forth in Idaho Code Section 36-1101(b)(1).

Use Restriction. In designated areas and hunts, hunters may use motorized vehicles only on established roadways that are open to motorized traffic and capable of being traveled by full-sized automobiles. Any other use by hunters is prohibited. All off-road use by hunters is prohibited.

Exceptions. This use restriction rule shall not apply to the following permissible motorized vehicle uses:

- a. Holders of a valid Handicapped Person's Motor Vehicle Hunting Permit may use a motorized vehicle as allowed by the land owner or manager.
- b. Hunters may use a motorized vehicle to retrieve downed game if such travel is allowed by the land owner or manager.
- c. Hunters may use a motorized vehicle to pack camping equipment in or out if such travel is allowed by the land owner or manager, but hunters may not hunt while packing camping equipment.
- d. Private landowners, their authorized agents and persons with written landowner permission, may use a motorized vehicle on their private land, but they may not hunt from or by the use of any motorized vehicle.

Restricted Areas and Hunts. This motorized vehicle use restriction applies to identified areas and hunts in all big game management units. Hunts and areas with a motorized vehicle use restriction are identified in each big game seasons.

Defined Terms

- a. A full-sized automobile is any motorized vehicle with a gross weight in excess of 1,500 pounds.
- b. An established roadway is as any road built, maintained, approved or designated by any government entity or private landowner for the purpose of travel by full-sized automobiles. An established roadway shows evidence of repeated use by full-sized automobiles, and may include a traveled way of natural earth with depressed wheel tracks and little or no vegetation in the tracks.
- c. A hunter is a person engaged in the activity of hunting as defined in Idaho Code Section 36-202(j).

Highway rights-of-way: The entire width between the boundary lines of every highway publicly maintained when any part is open to the use of the public for vehicular travel, with jurisdiction extending to the adjacent property line, including sidewalks, shoulders, berms and rights-of-way not intended for motorized traffic. No person shall shoot from a public highway or discharge any firearm from or across a public highway.

Special Vehicle Restrictions

State and federal agencies and private landowners have established road closures in key big game areas to protect deer and elk populations. Please check with regional Fish and Game, U.S. Forest Service, or Bureau of Land Management offices for information regarding vehicle restrictions on roads, trails, and unroaded areas.



Be Outside!
For ideas on connecting
children to nature
from backyards to mountaintops
go to:
beoutsideidaho.org