Chapter 34 - **Auxiliary Management Hunting Seasons**  
(Previously Depredation Prevention Hunting Seasons)

- This Regulation has a number of recommendations to address management situations and simplifies a method for licensing hunters.

- It is recommended this Regulation and program be renamed as “Auxiliary Management Hunting Seasons”. An auxiliary Management Hunting Season may be used in addition to regular hunting seasons or lethal take permits to address big game, trophy game or wild turkey damage or for disease management.
Chapter 34 – Auxiliary Management Hunting Seasons, Section 3 - Establishment of Areas

Section 3. Establishment of Areas. The Chief Game Warden through or his designee shall verify and determine the extent of alleged damage or disease management needs and shall, with the written consent of the District Wyoming Game and Fish Commissioner and the cooperating private landowner(s) involved, designate the area to be opened to hunting an auxiliary management hunting season, the opening and closing dates of the auxiliary management hunting season, the maximum number and type of licenses to be issued, the number, sex and species of big or trophy game animals to be taken and any applicable firearm or weapon type restrictions.

These recommendations outline the process for determining the damage or disease management needs outlined in an Auxiliary Management Hunting Season.
Chapter 34 - Auxiliary Management Hunting Seasons, Section 4 - Supervision of Hunters

(a) Department personnel shall may accompany hunters when it is deemed necessary to accomplish the desired goals of the depredation prevention auxiliary management hunting season or when other factors require the presence of Department personnel with the hunter.

(b) Any hunter who participates in an auxiliary management hunting season and who refuses to take an available animal as directed by Department personnel shall not be allowed to continue to participate in that specific auxiliary management hunt.

Section 4 has been edited to indicate that Department personnel may accompany hunters for any auxiliary management hunting season and advising hunters of the need to follow the guidance of Department personnel when hunting during an authorized Auxiliary Management Hunting Season.
Old Section 5 has been completely removed since the Department is proposing to do away with the application process for hunters to be placed on a priority list.

The process for hunters to apply for and receive licenses under this regulation can more efficiently be accomplished through the Department’s Electronic Licensing Service (ELS).

Transitioning to the Department’s ELS will be much more efficient for participating hunters and the Department.

New Section 5 further clarifies that participating hunters may need an elk special management permit, depending on the location of a designated hunt, and further addresses hunting license limitations and preference points for certain species.
Section 6. Bag Limits.

The bag limit for any individual participating in an depredation prevention auxiliary management hunting season shall not exceed more than one (1) big or trophy game animal, of each species or one (1) wild turkey per auxiliary management hunting license issued, during any one harvest year. Any big or trophy game animal or wild turkey taken under this regulation shall be in addition to the bag limit established by other Commission regulations. Any moose, sheep, mountain goat or grizzly bear license issued under this regulation shall be subject to statutory limitations as defined by W.S. §23-1-703(b)(c). Participation in any depredation prevention auxiliary management hunting season under this regulation shall not deny an individual the privilege of hunting in other seasons established by the Commission, except as otherwise provided by statute or regulation.

New Section 6 addresses bag limits for auxiliary management hunting licenses and allows for more than one auxiliary management hunting license to be purchased by any person. This provision is necessary for designated hunts with limited public access.
Chapter 34 - Auxiliary Management Hunting Seasons, Section 7 - Mandatory Hunter Harvest Check

Mandatory Hunter Harvest Check.

When an depredation prevention auxiliary management hunting season is implemented in an effort to control disease, every person harvesting a big or trophy game animal or wild turkey may be required to have the harvested animal inspected by Department personnel. When a person purchases a license to participate in an depredation prevention auxiliary management hunting season under this section, the Department shall advise the person of the time and location where the harvested animal is to be brought for inspection, registration or disease sampling. During the inspection, Department personnel may collect any biological samples deemed necessary by the Department.

New Section 7 clarifies that hunters participating in an auxiliary management hunting season may be required to have their harvested animal inspected by Department personnel, and may require the collection of biological samples from harvested animals to meet disease management objectives.
Section 98. General Regulations. All other Commission regulations and Wyoming statutes shall apply to the taking of big or trophy game animals or wild turkeys during an depredation prevention auxiliary management hunting season unless specifically exempted by this regulation. The Department may restrict firearms or weapon types for public safety concerns.

Section 8 clarifies that all other Commission regulations shall apply to the taking of big or trophy game animals or wild turkeys during an auxiliary management hunting season. This provision is to ensure compliance with other regulations that must be followed by licensed hunters.
Chapter 34 Auxiliary Management Hunting Seasons
Public Comments for the September 2022 Commission Meeting

Written comments shall be mailed to:

Wyoming Game and Fish Department
Attn: Regulations
3030 Energy Lane Casper, WY 82604

or

Online at WGFD Get Involved/Public Meetings page

or

Submitted at the in-person Public Meetings scheduled for each Region.

Deadline is 5:00 PM July 31, 2022.