

WILD BISON



2000 Conservation Stamp Art, Bison by Dave Wade

THIS PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

TABLE I
WILD BISON
HARVEST STATEWIDE
BY TOTAL HUNTERS
2017

	VALID LICENSES*	NUMBER ACTIVE HUNTERS	HARVEST				TOTAL HUNTER DAYS	HUNTER SUCCESS	DAYS/ HARVEST
			BULL	COW	CALF	TOTAL			
STATE TOTAL	125	111	46	22	2	70	1,183	63.1%	16.9
RESIDENT	96	87	32	19	1	52	1,077	59.8%	20.7
NONRESIDENT	29	24	14	3	1	18	106	75.0%	5.9

*Equals licenses sold per regulations through the draw and medical carryover (MCO) adjustments, governor licenses, supertag, trifecta licenses and refunds.

TABLE II
WILD BISON
TEN-YEAR COMPARISON OF STATEWIDE HARVEST
2008–2017

YEAR	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
VALID LICENSES*	307	288	195	227	265	328	321	311	299	125
RESIDENT	279	266	180	208	246	293	259	248	234	96
NONRESIDENT	28	22	15	19	19	35	62	63	65	29
NUMBER ACTIVE HUNTERS	307	281	192	225	262	327	311	288	281	111
RESIDENT	279	262	177	206	243	292	249	227	221	87
NONRESIDENT	28	19	15	19	19	35	62	61	60	24
TOTAL HARVEST	258	139	178	194	200	234	299	206	274	70
RESIDENT	233	120	163	177	183	205	239	157	214	52
NONRESIDENT	25	19	15	17	17	29	60	49	60	18
BULL HARVEST	126	98	74	101	98	104	111	47	69	46
RESIDENT	105	79	62	85	83	81	90	37	50	32
NONRESIDENT	21	19	12	16	15	23	21	10	19	14
COW HARVEST	132	41	92	86	77	89	156	123	168	22
RESIDENT	128	41	89	85	75	84	118	86	132	19
NONRESIDENT	4	0	3	1	2	5	38	37	36	3
CALF HARVEST	0	0	12	7	25	41	32	36	37	2
RESIDENT	0	0	12	7	25	40	31	34	32	1
NONRESIDENT	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	5	1
TOTAL RECREATION DAYS	2,223	2,416	998	1,542	2,024	2,363	908	2,111	823	1,183
RESIDENT	2,106	2,312	952	1,470	1,949	2,173	831	1,811	719	1,077
NONRESIDENT	117	104	46	72	75	190	77	300	104	106
DAYS/HARVEST	8.6	17.4	5.6	7.9	10.1	10.1	3.0	10.2	3.0	16.9
RESIDENT	9.0	19.3	5.8	8.3	10.7	10.6	3.5	11.5	3.4	20.7
NONRESIDENT	4.7	5.5	3.1	4.2	4.4	6.6	1.3	6.1	1.7	5.9
ACTIVE LICENSE SUCCESS	84.0%	49.5%	92.7%	86.2%	76.3%	71.6%	96.1%	71.5%	97.5%	63.1%
HARVEST METHOD										
FIREARM	-	-	98.3%	98.7%	97.5%	98.3%	95.6%	98.0%	96.0%	98.6%
ARCHERY	-	-	1.7%	1.3%	2.5%	1.7%	4.4%	2.0%	4.0%	1.4%

*Equals licenses sold per regulations through the draw and medical carryover (MCO) adjustments, governor licenses, supertag, trifecta licenses and refunds.

TABLE I-HA
WILD BISON
HARVEST, HUNTING PRESSURE, HUNTER SUCCESS
 BY HUNT AREA
2017

AREA	TYPE	ACTIVE LICS/HTRS	HARVEST				HUNTER SUCCESS	DAYS/ HARVEST	HUNTER DAYS	VALID LICENSES*
			BULL	COW	CALF	TOTAL				
2 Jackson	Type 1									
(plus 1 R Super Tag & plus 1 R Gov Lic & minus 1 R Donated)	Resident	53	32	7	0	39	73.6%	18.8	733	57
(plus 3 N Gov Lic & plus 1 N Donation Recipient)	Nonresident	18	14	1	0	15	83.3%	5.3	79	19
	Type 4									
	Resident	34	0	12	1	13	38.2%	26.5	344	39
	Nonresident	6	0	2	1	3	50.0%	9.0	27	10
	Area Total	111	46	22	2	70	63.1%	16.9	1,183	125

*Equals licenses sold per regulations through the draw and medical carryover (MCO) adjustments, governor licenses, supertag, trifecta licenses and refunds.

TABLE I-HU
WILD BISON
HARVEST
 BY HERD UNIT
2017

HERD UNIT	TYPE	ACTIVE LICS/HTRS	HARVEST				HUNTER SUCCESS	DAYS/ HARVEST	HUNTER DAYS	VALID LICENSES*
			BULL	COW	CALF	TOTAL				
101 Jackson	Resident	87	32	19	1	52	59.8%	20.7	1,077	96
(HA 2)	Nonresident	24	14	3	1	18	75.0%	5.9	106	29
	Total	111	46	22	2	70	63.1%	16.9	1,183	125

*Equals licenses sold per regulations through the draw and medical carryover (MCO) adjustments, governor licenses, supertag, trifecta licenses and refunds.

TABLE III
WILD BISON
License Data Summary
2017

TYPE	Valid Licenses*	Number Surveyed	Number Usable (hunters and nonhunters)	Response Rate (# Usable/# Surveyed)
Resident	96	96	96	100.0%
Nonresident	29	29	29	100.0%
Total	125	125	125	100.0%

*Equals licenses sold per regulations through the draw and medical carryover (MCO) adjustments, governor licenses, supertag, trifecta licenses and refunds.

CHAPTER 15

WILD BISON RECREATIONAL HUNTING SEASON

Section 1. Authority. This regulation is promulgated by authority of Wyoming Statutes § 23-1-101, § 23-1-302 and § 23-2-107.

Section 2. Definitions. Definitions shall be as set forth in Title 23, Wyoming Statutes, Commission regulations and the Commission also adopts the following definitions:

(a) “Archery Equipment” means a bow of at least fifty (50) pounds draw weight. The crossbow hunter must be equipped with a crossbow of not less than ninety (90) pounds draw weight and a crossbow bolt of at least sixteen (16) inches in length. The broadhead of arrows or bolts shall have a minimum cutting width of one (1) inch.

(b) “Bull” means any male wild bison older than one (1) year of age.

(c) “Calf” means young of the year wild bison.

(d) “Edible portions” means the meat of the front quarters as far down as the knees, the meat of the hindquarters as far down as the hocks, and the meat along the backbone between the neck and hindquarters including the loins and tenderloins, excluding meat on the ribs and neck.

(e) “Female” means any female wild bison older than one (1) year of age.

(f) “Firearm” means any firearm which has a barrel bore diameter of at least twenty-seven hundredths (27/100) of an inch and is chambered to fire a center-fire cartridge not less than two (2) inches in overall length, including a soft or expanding point bullet of a minimum of one hundred fifty (150) grains, seated to a normal depth.

(g) “Hunter Information Card” means a survey form used by the Department to collect wild bison hunting and harvest information.

(h) “Muzzle-loading Firearm” means a muzzle-loading rifle having a barrel bore diameter of at least 50/100 of an inch and a charge of at least one hundred (100) grains of black powder or equivalent.

(i) “National Elk Refuge Permit” means a permit that allows a properly licensed wild bison hunter to access the National Elk Refuge to take a wild bison.

(j) “Site of kill” means the location where the harvested animal died.

(k) “Type” means a limitation on a wild bison license in a particular hunt area for the sex of animal, the length of season, the type of weapon or a portion of a hunt area in which the license shall be valid.

(l) “Waste” means to leave, abandon or allow any edible portion of meat from a wild bison to become tainted, rotten or otherwise unfit for human consumption prior to processing at a person’s home or at a processor.

Section 3. Legal Methods of Take. Wild bison shall be taken by the use of legal firearms, archery equipment and muzzle-loading firearms.

Section 4. National Elk Refuge Permits. A National Elk Refuge permit is required prior to hunting wild bison on the National Elk Refuge and shall be in possession of the hunter while hunting wild bison on the National Elk Refuge. A limited number of permits shall be available to hunt wild bison on the National Elk Refuge. Permits shall be issued by the Department to licensed wild bison hunters by random drawing and shall be valid only for specified dates. Alternate permits may become available throughout the hunting season depending upon harvest and management objectives.

Section 5. Tagging Requirements. When any wild bison is killed under a license, the licensee shall detach, sign and date the carcass coupon and attach the coupon to the carcass before leaving the site of the kill. The coupon shall remain on the wild bison carcass at all times until the meat undergoes processing, except that during transportation of the carcass the coupon may be removed to prevent its loss. If the coupon is removed for transportation of the carcass, it shall be in the possession of the person accompanying the carcass at all times.

Section 6. Retrieval of Edible Portions. No person shall take and leave, abandon, or allow any wild bison, or edible portion to intentionally or needlessly go to waste. The failure of any person to properly dress and care for any wild bison killed by that person and if the carcass is reasonably accessible, within forty-eight (48) hours to take or transport the carcass to the camp of that person, and to properly care for the carcass is prima facie evidence of a violation of this section. The Department may require substantive proof from any person who fails to retrieve from the site of kill all edible portions of a wild bison as to why the edible portions were not removed from the field.

Section 7. Wearing of Fluorescent Orange Clothing. No person shall hunt any wild bison without wearing in a visible manner one (1) or more exterior garments, which shall include a hat, shirt, jacket, coat, vest or sweater of a fluorescent orange color.

Section 8. Retention of Evidence To Identify Sex of Wild Bison Harvested. Any person who takes any wild bison in a hunt area where the taking of either sex is controlled or prohibited shall comply with this section while said animal is in transportation from the site of the kill to the residence of the person taking the wild bison, or delivered to a processor for processing.

(a) In hunt areas where the taking of any wild bison is restricted to a specific sex of animal, the visible external sex organs shall accompany the animal as a whole, or edible portion thereof.

Section 9. Transportation and Exportation.

(a) No person shall ship, transport, or receive for shipment or transportation within Wyoming, any wild bison or part thereof, unless tagged with a Wyoming interstate game tag, or unless:

(i) The transportation is by a person accompanying the carcass of a wild bison who is in possession of a proper coupon.

(b) No wild bison or any part thereof shall be shipped or transported from the State unless accompanied by the licensee who harvested the animal, in possession of a proper coupon, or unless:

(i) The part to be exported from the State is of a nonedible trophy or hidelike nature and properly tagged with a Wyoming interstate game tag.

(ii) The wild bison was legally harvested by a nonresident and is tagged with a Wyoming interstate game tag.

Section 10. Hunting Regulations.

(a) Shooting Hours. Shooting hours for the hunting of wild bison shall be from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one-half (1/2) hour after sunset.

(b) Bag and Possession Limits. The bag and possession limit for wild bison shall be one (1) wild bison per license.

(c) Hunt Areas, Season Dates and Limitations.

Hunt Area	Type	Season Dates		Quota	Limitations
		Opens	Closes		
2	1	Aug. 15	Jan. 1	70	Any wild bison; also valid in Area 1 within the Clark's Fork River and Soda Butte Creek drainages. Valid in other portions of Area 1 upon notification and authorization by the Department
2	1	Jan. 2	Jan. 31		Any wild bison. Limited alternate permits for the National Elk Refuge may be available through the Department's Jackson Regional Office on a first-come first-served basis until the season closes or forage/weather conditions dictate that supplemental feeding is necessary
2	4	Aug. 15	Jan. 1	50	Any female or calf wild bison; also valid in Area 1 within the Clark's Fork River and Soda Butte Creek drainages. Valid in other portions of Area 1 upon notification and authorization by the Department
2	4	Jan. 2	Jan. 31		Any female or calf wild bison. Limited alternate permits for the National Elk Refuge may be available through the Department's Jackson Regional Office on a first-come first-served basis until the season closes or forage/weather conditions dictate that supplemental feeding is necessary
3					CLOSED

(d) Wild bison hunting seasons may be closed because of an emergency upon forty-eight (48) hours notice.

Section 11. Mandatory Reporting. Within three (3) consecutive days (seventy-two (72) hours) after taking a wild bison, the licensee shall submit a completed hunter information card to the Department Jackson Regional Office. All unsuccessful wild bison hunters shall submit a completed hunter information card to the Department's Jackson Regional Office within three (3) consecutive days (seventy-two (72) hours) after the season closes.

(a) For successful hunters, the hunter information card shall include the licensee's name, license number, date of harvest, total number of days hunted, the sex and age class (adult, yearling, calf) of the wild bison harvested, the drainage and the legal description of where the wild bison was harvested to include section, range and township or UTM coordinates. Successful hunters shall also supply biological samples as required by the Department.

(b) For unsuccessful hunters, the hunter information card shall include licensee's name, license number and total number of days hunted.

(c) Any person who makes a false statement on the hunter information card 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 12. Hunt Area Descriptions.

Area and number.

Area 1. Absaroka. All lands within Park, Hot Springs and Fremont counties and Teton County east of the Continental Divide, excluding lands administered by the Wind River Reservation, Yellowstone National Park and the lands described in Area 3.

Area 2. Jackson. All lands within Lincoln and Sublette counties and Teton County west of the Continental Divide, excluding Grand Teton National Park, John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway and Yellowstone National Park.

Area 3. North Fork. All of the north, south and west drainages of the North Fork of the Shoshone River.

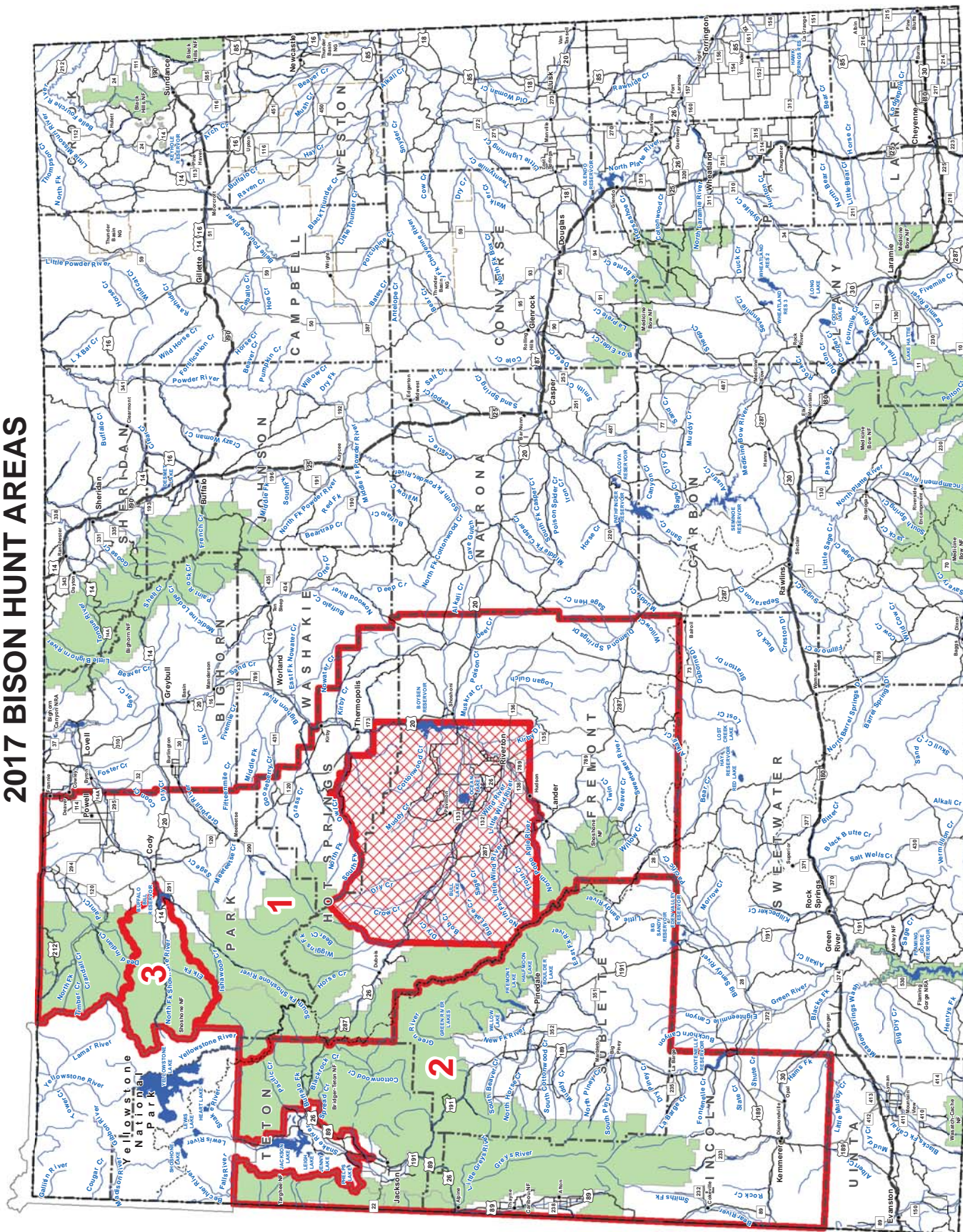
WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

Keith Culver, President

Date: April 20, 2017

THIS PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

2017 BISON HUNT AREAS



These areas closed to hunting

THIS MAP IS FOR GENERAL REFERENCE ONLY. Please use the written boundary descriptions in this regulation for detailed boundary information.