

WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

LICENSES AND PERMITS
AVAILABLE FOR DISABLED INDIVIDUALS



Pictured above is a disabled veteran on his 2024 Cow/Calf Elk hunt in which he received his license through the donated license to a disabled veteran program.

Updated October 8, 2025

SUMMARY OF LICENSES AVAILABLE

100% Disable Veteran Bird, Fish and Small Game License

Allows resident veterans to hunt game bird, small game and to fish. Valid as long as individual is a Wyoming resident.

50% Disabled Veteran Fishing License

Allows resident veterans to fish. Valid for life.

Purple Heart Medal Recipient Bird, Fish and Small Game License

Allows resident Purple Heart Medal recipients to hunt game bird, small game and to fish. Valid as long as the individual is a Wyoming resident.

Antelope Commissioner WS 23-1-705(h) Licenses

Antelope Licenses distributed by nonprofit organizations dedicated to providing hunting opportunities to individuals with disabilities.

Elk, Deer, Antelope Commissioner WS-23-1-705(j) License.

Elk, Deer and Antelope license for use by persons age twenty (20) or younger with a life threatening illness.

Donated Resident or Nonresident Licenses for Disabled Veterans or Persons With Permanent Disability Who Use Wheelchairs.

Licenses for use by disabled veterans or persons with a permanent disability who uses a wheelchair and are sponsored by a nonprofit dedicated to providing hunting opportunities to disabled veterans or persons with a permanent disability who uses a wheelchair.

Special Limited Fishing Permits

Allows Wyoming institutions, facilities or schools to have organized fishing outings.

Disabled Hunter and Temporary Disabled Hunter Permit

Allows a disabled individual to have a companion assist them in the field and allows the individual to shoot from a stationary vehicle to take wildlife.

Disabled Hunter Companion Permit

Allows an individual to assist a Disabled Hunter in the field.

Hunting Season Extension Permit

Allows the individual to hunt antelope, deer or elk five (5) days prior to the earliest opening date in the hunt area(s).

Central Visual Acuity Disability Permit

Allows the individual to hunt with a scope that projects light.

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department has several licenses and permits available to individuals with disabilities. The variety of licenses available either grants the disabled individual the privilege of harvesting big game, small game, game birds or taking fish. The permits available are issued to grant the disabled individual some other privilege to enhance a license already in their possession, such as to shoot from their vehicle, receive assistance from a companion or hunt big game up to five (5) days early in some cases.

Each license and permit has specific qualifications that must be met prior to issuance. The qualifications are established by Wyoming Statute and Commission Regulation. The disabled individual is required to submit documentation to the Department evidencing their qualifications for the license or permit requested. The chart on pages 6-9 illustrates the specific statute and/or regulation authorizing the issuance of each license and permit as well as the qualifications required.

A brief description of licenses available to disabled individuals is as follows:

100% Disabled Veteran Bird, Fish and Small Game License. This is a free license made available to residents of the State of Wyoming. The license is valid as long as the individual retains their residency status. The individual must submit documentary evidence from the Veterans Administration Regional Office certifying to the 100% level of service connected disability of the applicant. These licenses are issued at all Department offices.

50% Disabled Veteran Fishing License. This is a free license made available to residents of the State of Wyoming. The statutory language does not state that the license is valid as long as the licensee maintains their Wyoming residency; therefore, the license is valid for a lifetime, once issued. The individual must submit documentary evidence from the Veterans Administration Regional Office certifying to the 50% or more level of service connected disability compensation of the applicant. These licenses are issued at all Department offices.

Purple Heart Medal Recipient Bird, Fish and Small Game License. This is a free license made available to residents of the State of Wyoming. The license is valid as long as the individual retains their residency status. The individual must submit documentary evidence of a U.S. Purple Heart Medal from the Department of Defense or Veterans Administration. These licenses are issued at all Department offices.

Antelope Commissioner WS 23-1-705(h) License. Up to a total of fifty (50) antelope licenses are made available each year for the exclusive distribution by nonprofit organizations dedicated to providing hunting opportunities to individuals with disabilities for use by those individuals for hunting opportunities. The nonprofit organization is required to submit a request by January 31 each year to the License Section for the number of licenses they desire. If more requests are made than licenses available, the License Section will conduct a drawing to determine how many licenses are granted to each nonprofit organization. These antelope licenses are issued to disabled individuals upon payment of the appropriate license fee which is received from the nonprofit organization sponsoring the disabled individual. The Department does not review or approve the qualifications of the disabled individual to obtain this license. The nonprofit organization determines what individuals they will sponsor. The term “disabilities” is defined in Commission Regulation, Chapter 44. The licenses are only issued at the Headquarters Office.

Elk, Deer, Antelope Commissioner WS 23-1-705(j) License. This statute allows the commission, upon payment of the proper fees, to issue any number of antelope licenses, deer licenses, elk licenses and turkey licenses each year for the exclusive use by persons twenty (20) years of age or younger with a life threatening illness who are sponsored by a nonprofit charitable organization with a mission to provide opportunities and experiences to persons with life threatening or serious illnesses. The number to be issued is set by rule and regulation. Currently, commission regulation provides for up to a total of twenty five (25) antelope, twenty five (25) deer, twenty five (25) elk, and twenty five (25) turkey licenses to be issued each year. The nonprofit charitable organization is required to submit a request by January 31 for antelope, deer, elk, spring and fall turkey each year to the License Section for the number of licenses they desire. These licenses are issued upon payment of the appropriate license fee which is received from the nonprofit charitable organization sponsoring the youth. The license is issued at no cost to the licensee. The nonprofit charitable organization must submit documentary evidence from a licensed physician stating the license recipient is clinically diagnosed with a life-threatening or serious illness. The licenses are issued only at the Headquarters Office.

Donated Resident or Nonresident Antelope, Bighorn Sheep, Deer, Elk, Moose or Mountain Goat Licenses for Disabled Veterans or Persons With Permanent Disabilities Who Use Wheelchairs.

The holder of a valid big game license may surrender their license to the Department for reissuance to a disabled veteran or a person with permanent disabilities who uses a wheelchair. Nonprofit charitable organizations must select and sponsor qualified applicants for license issuance. Nonprofit charitable organizations must certify under penalty of law they provide hunting opportunities to disabled veterans or persons with permanent disabilities who use wheelchairs. Applicants may be either residents or nonresidents of the State of Wyoming. Disabled veteran applicants must provide documentary evidence from the United States Department of Veteran Affairs indicating they receive fifty percent (50%) or more service connected disability compensation. Applications submitted by persons with permanent disabilities who use wheelchairs must be signed by a licensed medical doctor, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant who attest the individual is required, at all times, to be confined to a wheelchair for mobility purposes. Licenses are issued, at no fee, only at the Department Headquarters Office.

Special Limited Fishing Permits. The Department is authorized to allow qualified institutions, facilities or schools to issue for no fee a special limited fishing permit to persons under their care and supervision. This allows those institutions, facilities or schools to have organized fishing outings during the year. The institution, facility or school must certify under penalty of perjury they qualify as defined in state statute for this privilege. They are required to remit an annual report to the Department for the number of outings conducted and the number of licenses issued during the calendar year. The authorizations are issued only at the Headquarters Office.

A brief description of permits available to disabled individuals is as follows:

Disabled Hunter Permit. The Department is authorized to issue a free permit to a qualified individual to designate themselves as a disabled person. The disabled individual must submit an application in which a licensed medical doctor, nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, optometrist, or ophthalmologist must attest to the disability of the applicant. Physician attestation is required for the Temporary Disabled Hunter Permit as well, but the qualifying condition will be marked as temporary on the application. The permit is also available to a disabled veteran with at least a seventy (70) percent service connected disability evidenced by a letter from the United States Department of Veteran Affairs. This disabled

hunter permit allows the disabled individual to have a companion assist them in the field to take an animal that has been shot and wounded by the disabled hunter in accordance with state statute and commission rule and regulation. The companion is required to purchase an annual Disabled Hunter Companion Permit to assist the disabled hunter. Hunters with this permit are also allowed to shoot from a stationary vehicle to take wildlife. The permit shall not allow a hunter with a qualifying disability to hunt, shoot or attempt to take any wildlife from, upon, along or across any public road or highway. An application is required for the issuance of this permit in which a physician has verified to the qualifications of the applicant. The permit is also available to a disabled veteran with at least a seventy (70) percent disability evidenced by a letter from the United States Department of Veteran Affairs. These permits are issued by all Department Offices.

Disabled Hunter Companion Permit. This is the annual permit that must be purchased for a fee of \$5.00 for an individual to be designed as a companion for a disabled hunter. These permits are issued by all Department Offices.

Hunting Season Extension Permit. This is a new permit. Disabled Hunter Permit holders no longer automatically qualify for the hunting season extension. The disabled individual must submit an application in which a licensed medical doctor, nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, optometrist, or ophthalmologist must attest that the applicant has a central visual acuity disability, is quadriplegic, upper extremity disabled, paraplegic, permanently paralyzed over at least fifty (50%) percent of their body or otherwise physically disabled so as to be permanently confined to a wheelchair (or similar device). The permit is also available to a disabled veteran with at least a one hundred (100) percent disability evidenced by a letter from the United States Department of Veteran Affairs.

This season extension permit allows the individual to hunt antelope, deer or elk five (5) days prior to the earliest opening date in the hunt area(s) and for the sex of antelope, deer or elk set forth by the limitations of their license as specified in Section 2 of the current regulation for that species. These permits are issued by all Department Offices.

Central Visual Acuity Disability Permits. Any person having a Central Visual Acuity Disability Permit may use a scope that projects a visible light onto a target to take any animal. Central Visual Acuity Disability means a person's vision permanently does not exceed 20/200 in the better eye with corrective lenses, or the widest diameter of the visual field is not greater than twenty (20) degrees. Any person having a central visual acuity disability as attested in writing by the applicant and certified by a licensed medical doctor, nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, optometrist or ophthalmologist, on a form provided by the Department, may be issued a Central Visual Acuity Disability Permit. . The application shall be completed in full and shall bear the applicant's name, address and signature. The application shall also bear the printed name, address and signature of the individual licensed to practice medicine that certifies the applicant meets the qualifications of a person with a central visual acuity disability. Central Visual Acuity Disability Permits shall be issued to qualified applicants at the Department headquarters, located in Cheyenne, or and Regional office. There shall be no fee for a Central Visual Acuity Disability Permit.

License/Permit Issued	Statutory Authority	Commission Regulation(s)
Antelope Commissioner WS 23-1-705(h) License	W.S. 23-1-705. Complimentary licenses; one-shot antelope hunt licenses; gunpowder and buckskin hunt licenses; gratuitous licenses; donated licenses. (h) In addition the commission may, upon receipt of payment of antelope license fees, issue up to a total of fifty (50) antelope licenses each year for the exclusive distribution by nonprofit organizations dedicated to providing hunting opportunities to individuals with disabilities for use by those individuals for hunting opportunities.	Chapter 44 Regulation for Issuance of Licenses, Permits, Stamps, Tags, Preference Points, Competitive Raffle Chances and Coupons Section 5. License Issuance. (e)(i)(B)
Elk Commissioner WS 23-1-705(j) License Deer Commissioner WS 23-1-705(j) License Antelope Commissioner WS 23-1-705(j) License	W.S. 23-1-705. Complimentary licenses; one-shot antelope hunt licenses; gunpowder and buckskin hunt licenses; gratuitous licenses; donated licenses. (j) In addition the commission may issue upon payment of proper fees any number, set by rule and regulation, of antelope licenses, deer licenses, elk licenses and turkey licenses each year for the exclusive use by persons twenty (20) years of age or younger with life threatening illnesses who are sponsored by a nonprofit charitable organization with a mission to provide opportunities and experiences to persons with life threatening or serious illnesses. As a condition of issuing the license, the sponsoring organization shall pay the appropriate license fee on behalf of the licensee and at no cost to the licensee.	Chapter 44 Regulation for Issuance of Licenses, Permits, Stamps, Tags, Preference Points, Competitive Raffle Chances and Coupons Section 13. Commissioner Complimentary Licenses for Persons with Life Threatening Illnesses Up to: 25 antelope, 25 deer, 25 elk and 25 wild turkey
Resident ‘Species’ Donated Disabled Veteran Nonresident ‘Species’ Donated Disabled Veteran	W.S. 23-1-705. Complimentary licenses; one-shot antelope hunt licenses; gunpowder and buckskin hunt licenses; gratuitous licenses; donated licenses. (k) The holder of any valid big game license may surrender said license to the department for reissuance to a veteran with disabilities or a person with a permanent disability who uses a wheelchair as established by commission rule and regulation selected and sponsored by a nonprofit charitable organization providing hunting opportunities for disabled veterans or persons with a permanent disability who use wheelchairs.	Chapter 44 Regulation for Issuance of Licenses, Permits, Stamps, Tags, Preference Points, Competitive Raffle Chances and Coupons Section 15. Donation of Big Game Licenses to Disabled Veterans or Permanently Disabled Person who uses a Wheelchair
50% Disabled Veteran Fishing License	W.S. 23-2-201. Fees; restrictions; verification of residency required. (f) Any resident disabled veteran who receives fifty percent (50%) or more service connected disability compensation from the United States department of veteran’s affairs may apply to the department for a resident disabled veteran’s lifetime fishing license.	Chapter 44 Regulation for Issuance of Licenses, Permits, Stamps, Tags, Preference Points, Competitive Raffle Chances and Coupons Section 14. Pioneer Licenses, Pioneer Heritage Licenses, Honorably Discharged Pioneer Veteran’s Licenses, One Hundred Percent (100%) Disabled Resident Veterans Licenses, Resident Disabled Veteran’s Lifetime Fishing Licenses and Purple Heart Medal Recipients. (f)

License/Permit Issued	Statutory Authority	Commission Regulation(s)
Special Limited Fishing Permits	W.S. 23-2-207. Special limited fishing permit for hospitalized veterans, residents of state institutions, court placed children and residents of licensed nursing care facilities; students. (a) Upon an appropriate form furnished by the appropriate institution or facility as prescribed by rule and regulation of the commission, a special limited fishing permit may be issued without charge by: (iv) Any nursing care facility as defined by W.S. 35-2-901(a)(xvi) and licensed under W.S. 35-2-901 through 35-2-910, to any person under the care and supervision of and residing in the facility, which entitles this person to fish while under the direct control of the facility;	Chapter 44 Regulation for Issuance of Licenses, Permits, Stamps, Tags, Preference Points, Competitive Raffle Chances and Coupons Section 6. Permits. (j)
Central Visual Acuity Permit	W.S. 23-3-306 Use of aircraft, automobiles, motorized and snow vehicles and artificial light for hunting or fishing prohibited; exception; penalties. (f) The commission shall establish by rule and regulation specifications for the taking of game animals with the use of artificial light or lighting devices by persons with central visual acuity disabilities.	Chapter 35 Hunting Permit Regulations For Persons With Disabilities