

STATEMENT OF REASONS

CHAPTER 47

GRAY WOLF HUNTING SEASONS

W.S. § 23-1-302 directs and empowers the Commission to fix seasons and bag limits, open, shorten or close seasons for gray wolves designated as trophy game animals.

The Department proposes to amend the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission Regulation Chapter 47, Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons to establish annual hunting seasons, licensing limitations and bag limits for the 2026 hunting season. The Department sets gray wolf hunting seasons annually based on public input, annual harvest data and population monitoring data.

At the time of this filing, 2025 gray wolf harvest data is not yet available to the Department. Individual hunt area season dates, mortality limits and specific hunt area limitations may be modified as a result of harvest data currently being evaluated. Any additional proposed changes to hunting season dates, specific hunt area limitations, mortality limits, hunt area boundaries or other gray wolf hunting provisions shall be made available during the public comment period. An updated draft of the 2026, Chapter 47 Gray Wolf Hunting Seasons proposal will be discussed at all in-person public meetings and will be posted on the Department website in May for additional public comment.

Minor formatting edits have been incorporated but do not change the intent of the regulation.