

STATEMENT OF REASONS

CHAPTER 3

BLACK BEAR HUNTING SEASONS

W.S. § 23-1-302(a)(i) directs and empowers the Commission to fix seasons and bag limits, shorten or close seasons on any species or sex of wildlife for any type of legal weapon, except predatory animals, predacious birds, protected animals and protected birds, in any specified locality of Wyoming, and to give notice thereof.

The Wyoming Game and Fish Commission promulgates Chapter 3, Black Bear Hunting Seasons to establish limitations on the take of black bears during the spring and fall hunting seasons.

Section 9. The previous three (3) year black bear harvest information is not yet available for analysis at the time this draft regulation is being prepared for public comment. As a result of harvest information analysis, the Department may propose additional changes to hunting season dates, annual female mortality limits or hunting season structures. Any proposed black bear season date changes, annual female mortality limits or hunting season structures will be made available to the public for comment prior to all in-person public meetings to be held around the state. Once harvest data has been completely evaluated, an updated version of this Chapter 3 regulation will also be made available for public viewing and comment on the Department's website.