

STATEMENT OF REASONS

CHAPTER 2

GENERAL HUNTING REGULATION

W. S. § 23-1-302 directs and empowers the Commission to fix seasons and bag limits, open, shorten or close seasons on any species or sex of wildlife except predatory animals, predacious birds, protected animals and protected birds, to adopt rules regulating, limiting or prohibiting the use of hunting technologies as specified and to promulgate such orders as the Commission considers necessary to carry out the intent of this act.

The Department proposes to amend the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission Regulation Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation. The Department sets hunting seasons annually based on public input, annual harvest data, population monitoring data, individual herd unit objectives and ongoing habitat evaluations. General hunting regulations are also modified to address these specific hunting regulations.

The Department is proposing to amend Section 15, which governs the transportation and disposition of deer, elk and moose taken within Wyoming. The change would allow the operator of a meat processing plant to transport carcass parts of these species for disposal in a landfill or incinerator in another state, subject to that state's laws, rules and regulations.

At the time of this filing, the 2025 harvest information for big game, small game and game birds is not yet available to the Department. Additional terms and definitions may be added or edited for clarity or if necessary in conjunction with specific species regulations. An updated draft of the 2026 Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation proposal will be available at all in-person public meetings and online Department presentations. Any updates to this draft regulation will be posted to the Department website for additional public comment.