

# CONTROLLED HUNTS, SPECIAL HUNTS, TAGS AND PERMITS

## What is a Controlled Hunt?

Controlled hunt is a term used to describe a hunt with a limited number of tags allocated by a random drawing, unlike a general season hunt, which allows unlimited numbers of hunters to purchase tags over the counter. Controlled hunts are often desirable because of location and timing, and success rates are usually higher than general season hunts. Hunters with a valid Idaho hunting license may apply, with some restrictions. Hunters successful in drawing must buy the controlled hunt tag for the hunt in which he or she was drawn.

The odds of drawing a controlled hunt tag depend on the number of other applicants and the number of tags available.

### Key Application Dates

- **May 1 - June 5:** First application period for deer, elk, pronghorn and fall bear.
- **July 10:** Winners of first drawing posted at [idfg.huntfishidaho.net](http://idfg.huntfishidaho.net) and successful applicants notified.
- **August 1:** Deadline for deer, elk, pronghorn and fall bear winners to purchase their controlled hunt tag, **except** those who have drawn an unlimited hunt.
- **August 1:** First day residents and nonresidents may buy leftover nonresident general season deer or elk tags at nonresident prices, as a second tag.
- **August 5-15:** Second application period for deer, elk, pronghorn and fall bear.
- **August 25:** Winners of second drawing will be notified by this date.
- **August 26, 2020:** Leftover tags from second drawing go on sale at 10 a.m. Mountain Time.

### Fees

Applicants must submit pay a nonrefundable application fee (per person, per species) with each application. **The fee is \$6.25 for residents and \$14.75 for nonresidents;** \$1 of this fee may be designated to the Citizens Against Poaching program.

### Ways to Apply:

**License Vendors:** Applications will be taken electronically at any Fish and Game office or license vendor locations in Idaho, beginning May 1 through Midnight Mountain Time June 5, or the vendor's normal closing time.

**Internet:** Applications may be submitted on the Fish and Game Website at [idfg.idaho.gov](http://idfg.idaho.gov). Fees must be paid by Visa, MasterCard or Discover. Applications are processed by an independent contractor. Internet charge is **three percent of the transaction plus \$3.50**. This fee is in addition to the nonrefundable application fee.

**Telephone:** Applications can be placed over the phone by calling 1-800-554-8685. Fees must be paid by Visa, MasterCard or Discover. Telephone applications are processed by an independent contractor. The charge for processing telephone applications is **three percent of the transaction plus \$5.50**. These charges will be explained by operators before the transaction is completed. This fee is in addition to the nonrefundable application fee.

Applications may be processed over the telephone or internet 24 hours a day, seven days a week, May 1 through Midnight Mountain Time June 5.

**ATTENTION: Fish and Game does not accept mail-in applications for Big Game Controlled Hunts.**

### Eligibility

Any person with a valid Idaho hunting license may apply, subject to the following restrictions:

- Holders of a nongame hunting license or hunting passport may **not** apply for any controlled hunt.
- A person who has applied for a bighorn sheep, mountain goat, or moose controlled hunt may not apply for any other controlled hunt in the same year, **except** unlimited controlled hunts, a controlled black bear hunt, controlled turkey hunt, extra deer, extra elk, or extra pronghorn controlled hunts, or a designated depredation hunt. In addition, applicants for bighorn sheep, mountain goat or moose controlled hunts are eligible to participate in the second deer, elk and pronghorn application period and in first-come, first-served deer, elk and pronghorn controlled hunt tag sales.
- A person whose name was drawn in an antlered-only controlled deer hunt may **not** apply for any other antlered-only controlled deer hunt for one year **except** the person may apply in the second application period and leftover controlled hunt drawings or sales. For example, a hunter who drew a tag in an antlered-only deer hunt in 2018 cannot apply for another antlered only deer hunt until 2020, in the first application period. However, that person can apply for an antlered-only deer hunt in the 2019 second application period during August.
- This waiting period also applies to antlered-only controlled elk hunts.
- There is **no** waiting period to apply for any other deer, elk, pronghorn or black bear controlled hunt tags.
- The one-year waiting period does not apply to controlled hunts with an unlimited number of tags or Landowner Appreciation tags.

**Tags:** No person may participate in any controlled hunt without a valid controlled hunt tag in their possession. Tags issued based on erroneous information are invalid, and may not be used. Fish and Game will notify the person if the tag has been invalidated. The person will remain on the drawn list, and if there is a waiting period in a succeeding year, the person will be required to wait the specified time period.

Controlled hunt tags may be exchanged for general season tags if done before the opening of the controlled hunt. Exchange must be completed at a Fish and Game office, or by sending the original tag along with a written request to have the hunt removed from their record. If there is a waiting period in a succeeding year, the person will be required to wait the specified time period before applying for that hunt again. Written requests should be sent to Idaho Fish and Game, P.O. Box 25, Boise, Idaho 83707, Attention: Licensing.

Any person whose name is drawn in a controlled hunt for deer or elk is prohibited from hunting in any other hunt for the same



species (archery, muzzleloader or general), except when the hunter has drawn an extra controlled hunt tag or depredation hunt, or has purchased a leftover nonresident general season tag for that species at the nonresident price.

**Group Application:** Two to four hunters applying together on the same application for the same deer, elk or pronghorn controlled hunt is considered a group application. Two hunters applying together on the same application for the same black bear, turkey, moose, bighorn sheep, or mountain goat controlled hunt is considered a group application. All hunters applying together must comply with all rules and complete the application form properly. All must abide by the same first and second choice hunts. If one applicant is ineligible to draw, the entire application will be declared void and will not be entered in the drawing.

Single or group applications which are not drawn for the first choice hunt will automatically be entered into a second choice drawing, provided the second choice hunt applied for has not been filled.

**Nonresident Tag Limitations:** In controlled hunts with 10 or fewer tags, not more than one nonresident tag may be issued. In controlled hunts with more than 10 tags, **except** unlimited controlled hunts, not more than 10 percent of the tags may be issued to nonresidents.

**Attention:** The Idaho Fish and Game Commission limited Nonresident tag numbers in some unlimited controlled hunts. Tag limits are shown in the notes section for those hunts where tag numbers were limited for nonresidents.

#### Restrictions:

- Only one application per person or group will be accepted for a species, **except** a person or group may submit one additional application per species for an extra hunt. Additional applications for the same person or group for the same species will result in all applications being declared ineligible.
- If a group application exceeds the number of tags available in a hunt, that application will be voided.
- If a resident applies for a controlled hunt on a group application with a nonresident, and the 10-percent nonresident limitation has been met, the entire group application will be voided, including for the resident.

#### Refunds and Overpayment

Fees for hunting licenses will not be refunded to unsuccessful or ineligible applicants. Application fees for controlled hunts are not refundable.

#### Drawing Results

**Applicant Notification:** It is the responsibility of the hunter to find out whether he or she was successful in drawing a controlled hunt. All applicants will receive an email with their draw results if there's a valid email in their license profile. Successful applicants will be mailed a post card at the address listed on their hunting license, by March 10 for spring black bear, and by July 10 for all other big game.

Applicants can login to [idfg.huntfishidaho.net](http://idfg.huntfishidaho.net) to view draw results.

#### Purchasing Deadline

**Successful applicants for deer, elk, fall black bear or pronghorn controlled hunts must purchase their controlled hunt tag no later than August 1** (except unlimited tags), at any license vendor, Fish and Game office, through the Internet, or by telephone at 800-554-8685. Controlled deer, elk, pronghorn or fall bear hunt tags not purchased by this deadline (excluding unlimited tags) will be forfeited by the hunter and placed into the second drawing.

**Applicants who already have a general season tag must return the general season tag to a Fish and Game office to be exchanged for the appropriate controlled hunt tag.**

#### Leftover Controlled Hunts

**Second drawings:** To ensure everyone has equal opportunity at leftover and unclaimed controlled hunt tags from the first drawing, there will be a second application period from August 5 through Midnight Mountain Time August 15. The drawing for these tags will occur around August 22.

Any tags not drawn in the second drawing will be sold first-come, first-served August 25, 2019 at 10 a.m. Mountain Time. The 10 percent nonresident quota and the waiting period restrictions do not apply in the second drawing or leftover sales. **Applicants purchasing a leftover tag must submit the nonrefundable application fee.**

Any leftover controlled hunt tags for spring black bear go on sale April 1.

#### Extra Controlled Deer and Elk Hunts

All controlled deer and elk hunt areas designated by an "X" are extra controlled deer or elk hunts, usually for antlerless deer or elk. Hunters may apply for a controlled hunt and an extra controlled hunt on a separate application. For example, you may apply for a regular controlled deer hunt and send in a second controlled deer hunt application for an X hunt. Hunters also may buy a general deer and elk tag, and apply for an X hunt. If you draw a tag for an X hunt, you could harvest a deer or elk during the general season and a second deer or elk in the extra controlled hunt.

#### Unlimited Controlled Hunts

Unlimited controlled hunts are hunts in which only those who apply during the first controlled hunt application period can obtain a tag. Some unlimited controlled hunts are designated as first choice only. Hunters may only apply for those designated hunts as their first choice.

#### Tag Transfer to Youth

The holder of a controlled hunt tag for big game, excluding moose, bighorn sheep and mountain goat, may transfer that tag to his or her child or grandchild under the age of 18 who is otherwise qualified to participate in the hunt. The child or grandchild may be designated only one controlled hunt tag per species per calendar year. The transfer must be made before the opening date of the hunt. Also, resident adults can only transfer tags to resident youth; Nonresident adults can only transfer tags to nonresident youth.

Individuals who draw a tag in the first drawing where waiting period rules apply and designate the tag to a youth, are still subject to the appropriate waiting period rules.

For more information, please contact the local Fish and Game office or visit us online at [idfg.idaho.gov/license/applications](http://idfg.idaho.gov/license/applications).

## **YOUTH ONLY HUNTS; DEPREDEATION HUNTS; OTHER HUNTS, TAGS AND PERMITS**

### **Youth Only Hunts**

Some controlled hunts are limited to youth only. See page 113 for more information. Only hunters under 18 years of age with a valid license may apply for a youth-only hunt, **except** hunters 65 or older, or those possessing a disabled combination license, or a nonresident disabled American Veteran hunting license may buy a leftover youth-only controlled hunt tag, first-come, first-served, beginning at 10 a.m. Mountain Time, August 26, 2020.

### **Depredation Hunts**

These hunts are sometimes used to relieve big game damage problems on agricultural crops. If these hunts are needed, they will be held on short notice, involve small areas and be limited to a few hunters.

Idaho residents with a valid hunting or combination license can complete the application form on page 112 and mail it to the regional office in the management unit(s) they are willing to hunt. Up to two people can apply together for deer, elk, pronghorn, black bear and turkey. **However, hunters may only submit one application per species per year.** Applying for the same species in more than one region will result in disqualification from all regions. Hunters may apply for different species in the same region.

Applications received May 1 to June 30 will be drawn for depredation hunts in random order. Applications received after June 30 will be added to the end of the list in the order received. The list will be valid from July 1 to June 30 the following year. Generally, applications received after June 30 will have little chance of being selected.

Most regions issue only a handful of depredation tags each year. If a controlled antlerless or doe/fawn hunt is open or about to open in the depredation area, holders of those tags may be given the first option to participate in the depredation hunt. After antlerless or doe/fawn controlled hunts have ended, participants will be selected in order from the depredation hunt list. For more information, contact a regional office, see page 4.

### **Landowner Permission Hunts**

These hunts are a form of depredation hunts. They are established in areas with chronic problems where depredation hunts are an annual occurrence. **Do not apply for these hunts during the controlled hunt application period.** Instead, Landowner Permission Hunt forms (a triplicate form provided by Fish and Game) are provided to landowners prior to the season or upon verifying a depredation problem that cannot be resolved by non-lethal means. Landowners can then provide the permission form to hunters. Landowners and hunters must fill out and sign their respective portions of the forms. Hunters must provide one copy of the form to the landowner and bring the remaining two copies to a Fish and Game office where they can purchase their controlled hunt tag after July 15 as a leftover.

## **Idaho National Laboratory (INL) Elk and Pronghorn Permit**

A pass is required from Fish and Game offices in Pocatello and Idaho Falls to hunt elk in the Lemhi, Beaverhead or Snake River Elk Zones or pronghorn in Units 51, 58, or 63 within one-half mile inside the north and east boundary of the Idaho National Laboratory, which is adjacent to agricultural land. Hunting of all other species on INL land is prohibited.

### **Landowner Appreciation Program Tags**

Idaho Code authorizes the Idaho Fish and Game Commission to establish a limited number of controlled hunt tags for landowners that provide important wildlife habitat values for deer, elk, or pronghorn. Landowner Appreciation Program (LAP) tags are made available, through a separate drawing process, in areas where hunting opportunity is limited to controlled hunts as partial recognition for landowners supporting wildlife and maintaining the hunting heritage.

LAP tags are in addition to tags available in regular controlled hunts. In most cases, LAP tags are set at an additional 10 percent of the regular controlled hunt level. In a few areas, such as Units 40, 41, 42, 45, and 52, the Commission has authorized LAP tag levels at an additional 25 percent of regular controlled hunt levels for some species. Registered Landowners with at least 640 acres that provide significant habitat values for deer, elk or pronghorn are eligible to apply through a separate drawing held after July 15 and may or may not successfully draw depending on the number of landowners applying and the number of tags available. Registered Landowners with at least 320 acres are eligible to apply for any leftover tags after the first landowner tag drawing. If successful, a landowner may designate his or her tag to another individual.

### **Idaho state law prohibits selling or marketing landowner appreciation tags.**

For additional information concerning LAP, including land registration, application process, and landowner eligibility rules contact a Fish and Game office, see page 4.

## **OTHER TAG INFORMATION**

### **Exchanging Deer or Elk Tag**

General season tag exchanges must be completed at any Fish and Game office before the first day of any open hunt for the tag a person holds. The cost to exchange a general season tag is \$3.75. Deer hunters may exchange a general season regular deer tag for a white-tailed deer tag or vice versa; and elk hunters may exchange general season elk tags for use in another zone. For elk general seasons with a tag quota, the exchange must be made before the quota has been met.

### **Junior Resident General Elk Tag**

Junior resident elk hunters who purchase a general season elk zone tag while they are between ages 10 and 17, inclusive, may participate in any A or B tag elk season within the specified zone, regardless of whether they purchased an A tag or B tag. All other season, weapon restrictions, and commission rules apply. Controlled hunts are excluded.

## Nonresident Deer or Elk Tag for Black Bear, Mountain Lion or Gray Wolf

Nonresident deer and elk tags, **excluding** Nonresident Junior Mentored/DAV deer or elk tags, are valid to take a black bear, mountain lion or gray wolf, if a general season is open for that species, instead of a deer or elk where and when the deer or elk tag is valid, and there is an open deer or elk season in that same unit. Hunters may buy other bear, lion or wolf tags, but after the deer or elk tag is used to harvest a deer, elk, black bear, mountain lion, or gray wolf, a second deer or elk tag may not be purchased – except by buying a leftover nonresident general season deer or elk tag when available.

## Resident Purchase of Nonresident Deer or Elk Tag

Residents and nonresidents may buy one general season nonresident deer tag and/or elk tag at the nonresident price starting August 1, to use as a second tag as long as there are tags available in the quota. **Except** second nonresident deer tags cannot be used as a second deer tag in Units 10, 10A, 12, 16A, 17, 19 and 20. Second elk tags are not available for the Elk City Zone. This second nonresident general season deer or elk tag may also be used to tag a black bear, mountain lion or gray wolf instead of a deer or elk.

**Hunters who have purchased a bear or lion tag at the full price will not get a refund to purchase a reduced bear or lion tag.**

## Attention Resident Elk Hunters

If you apply for a controlled elk hunt in 2020, you cannot buy a capped elk zone tag until five (5) days after they go on sale regardless of whether you draw a controlled hunt elk tag. Elk controlled hunts exempt from the waiting period:

- Super Hunts
- Extra antlerless hunts
- Depredation hunts

## Nonresident Tag Quotas

There is a quota on nonresident deer and elk tags. Quotas may be exceeded under the following conditions:

- Persons who have moved into Idaho and are establishing residency who can, by affidavit, show proof of their intent to become bona fide residents, but are not yet fully qualified to buy a resident license, may purchase a nonresident deer tag and nonresident elk tag (except where a zone may be sold out) through the headquarters or regional offices.

**NOTE:** The process for designating a buyer for a returned nonresident tag has been revised as follows:

Fish and Game may, upon receipt of an unused nonresident deer or elk tag and a notarized affidavit stating that the tag buyer has not hunted, issue a nonresident tag before the opening of the season for which the tag is valid as follows:

- To another nonresident designated by the original tag holder. The designation is for a tag from the nonresident quota, it is not a guarantee that the designee may purchase the same tag that was returned. For example, if a nonresident returns a Sawtooth zone elk tag after sell-out, their designee is not guaranteed a Sawtooth elk tag but the designee is guaranteed a nonresident elk tag from the nonresident quota, including any capped zones that have not sold out.
- If the buyer does not make a choice and has retained an outfitter or guide, the outfitter or guide may make the designation.
- If no designation is made by the above, Idaho Fish and Game may sell the replacement tag on a first-come, first-served basis. The designated buyer will pay the regular fee for the replacement tag.

### 2019 or 2020 Depredation Hunt Application

All applications received May 1 to June 30 will be drawn for depredation hunts in random order.

Applications received after June 30 will be added to the end of the list in the order received. The list will be valid from July 1 to June 30 the following year.

1st Hunter \_\_\_\_\_ Hunting license No. \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Hunter \_\_\_\_\_ Hunting license No. \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_

We are applying for (check one)  Deer  Elk  Black Bear  Pronghorn  Turkey

**REMEMBER:** Send only 1 application per species. Hunters may apply only once per species per year. **Applying for the same species in more than one region will result in disqualification from all regions.** Hunters may apply for different species in regions. Please contact a regional office for questions, see page 4.

#### Game Management Units

#### Send To:

1-7, 9 .....	2885 W. Kathleen Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815
8, 8A, 10-19, 20.....	3316 - 16th St., Lewiston, ID 83501
19A, 20A, 22-26, 31-35, 38-42.....	15950 N. Gate Blvd., Nampa, ID 83687
43-49, 52-57 .....	324 South 417 East, Suite #1, Jerome, ID 83338
66A, 68, 68A, 70-78 .....	1345 Barton Rd., Pocatello, ID 83204
50, 51, 58-66, 67, 69.....	4279 Commerce Circle, Idaho Falls, ID 83401
21, 21A, 27-30A, 36-37A .....	99 Hwy 93 North, Salmon, ID 83467

**Clip and mail to appropriate Regional Office, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Attn.: Depredation Hunts.**

CONTROLLED HUNTS  
SPECIAL HUNTS  
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# YOUTH HUNT INFORMATION

## FOR BIG GAME

### Youth Hunts

- Hunters must be 10 to 17 years of age to hunt big game in units designated for youth.
- Hunters must be 10 to 17 years of age to apply for a youth-only big game controlled hunt, except a 9-year old may apply for a controlled hunt, provided they are ten (10) years of age when they participate in the hunt for which they are applying. Hunters who apply for a youth only controlled hunt while 17 and turn 18 before the youth controlled hunt can still participate in the hunts designated for youth.

### Three-year Licenses

- If the youth becomes a resident of another state, this license remains valid but cannot be used to purchase resident tags.
- If the youth purchases the multi-year junior combination or hunting license while 17, he or she may continue to purchase the junior priced tags through the valid dates of the license. Youth hunt restrictions based on age still apply. A holder of a multi-year junior combination or hunting license over the age of 17 cannot participate in big game hunts designated for youth and cannot apply for youth only controlled hunts.

### Junior Licenses

Only properly licensed youth 10 or older may hunt big game, except a 9-year old may buy a license to apply for a controlled hunt provided they are ten (10) years of age when they participate in the hunt for which they are applying. They cannot participate in the hunt until they are ten (10).

### Resident

- All resident youth younger than 12, who possess a junior hunting license, must be accompanied by a licensed adult 18 years of age or older and be close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices.
- All hunters possessing a Hunting Passport must be accompanied by a licensed adult 18 years of age or older and be close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices.

### Nonresident

- Nonresident youth ages 10 to 17, who possess a nonresident junior mentored hunting license, must be accompanied by a licensed adult 18 years of age or older and be close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices. The licensed adult must have a current year tag which is valid for the same species, and may hunt while participating in the mentored hunting program. The licensed adult may not accompany more than two youth at a time. A tag that has already been filled still meets the tag possession requirement.
- Nonresident youth ages 12 to 17, who possess a full price hunting license are not required to follow the “accompanied by” rule in the field.

