

CR 25-04 2026 Wildlife Heritage Tag

The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, under the authority of Section 501.181, 502.140, 502.250 and 503.140 of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS), does hereby adopt the following regulation for the management of wildlife resources in the State of Nevada.

Wildlife Heritage Tags

Hunting Hours: Big game mammals may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. Wild turkey may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset as listed on government sunrise-sunset tables.

Take Limit: One animal allowed per tag.

Legal Weapon: Any legal firearm or bow as described in NRS 503.150 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 503.141, 503.142, 503.143 and 503.144 may be used throughout the big game season. Additionally, any legal weapon or shotgun or bow as described in NAC 503.187 may be used throughout the wild turkey season.

Exclusions: Heritage Tags exclude the use of seasons, quotas and hunt units designated for depredation, management, and emergency hunts.

Unit Closures: The Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee and Commission directive on unit closures is associated with the setting of the annual bighorn sheep quotas and the following table that identifies the maximum number of specialty tags for every unit group that has an open season. Some unit groups may be set to zero (0) if they are not able to sustain additional ram harvest beyond the general draw's tag quota. Maximum Specialty Tag Quotas reflect the combination of the Heritage, Dream, Silver State, and Partnership in Wildlife tags. As directed by the below table and in correlation with the general hunt quotas for Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep.

BHS Unit Group Quota	Maximum Specialty Tag Quota °
1-2	0
3-6	1
7-12	2
13-20	3
>20	4

General hunt tag quotas for the corresponding year are approved during the May Commission meeting.

° Tag holders, or their licensed guide if applicable, must call the Bighorn Sheep Harvest Information Hotline prior to hunting daily to determine if any hunt units have been closed due to the harvest limits being reached. The number is 1-833-923-0754 and is accessible 24 hours a day. The Nevada Department of Wildlife phone number to call and report a harvested bighorn sheep is 775-688-2327. Sheep harvests must be reported by 9:00PM Pacific Time the day of harvest.

Species	Class	Unit Group	Season	Quota	Organization
Mule Deer	Any mule deer	Any hunt unit assigned an antlered mule deer season.	August 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026	2	To be determined at June NBWC meeting
Pronghorn Antelope	Any pronghorn antelope	Any hunt unit assigned a pronghorn antelope with horns longer than ears season.	August 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026	2	To be determined at June NBWC meeting
Rocky Mountain Elk	Any elk with at least one antler	Any hunt unit assigned an antlered elk season except for unit 091.	August 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026	2	To be determined at June NBWC meeting

Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep* °	Any ram	Any hunt unit assigned a Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep season.	July 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026	2	To be determined at June NBWC meeting
Wild Turkey	Any wild turkey	Any hunt unit assigned a wild turkey season.	March 21, 2026 through May 3, 2026	5	To be determined at June NBWC meeting
Total				13	

In the instance that an approved Heritage Tag vendor is unable to hold an event or receive payment of the full bid amount where a Heritage Tag is sold, the Board of Wildlife Commission grants authority to the Department to allocate the tag(s) to a different Commission approved Heritage Tag vendor for the corresponding year who has the ability to hold their event and offer for auction the Heritage Tags.

In the event a Heritage tag holder requests a return of the purchased Heritage tag for medical, military, or death reasons pursuant to NAC 502.422, the Department may refund the corresponding tag fee for the species designated on the tag but will not refund the bid amount received through auction.

The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners hereby delegates authority to the Nevada Department of Wildlife to adjust season dates to accommodate Department of Defense operations so long as there is no change to the overall length of the season.

Hunt units mentioned below reflect the general hunt seasons. If hunt units are closed to the general hunt season, they are also closed to specialty tags.

* There are portions of hunt unit 181 in Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon where public access is restricted. To hunt Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep in the NAS portions of this unit, the tag holder is required to attend a NAS hunter safety briefing. Those portions of hunt unit 181 that do not fall within the boundaries of NAS Fallon are open to the public.

* Portions of Hunt Units 280, 281, 282 are within the Nevada Test and Training Range (NTTR) where public access is restricted. Hunters and everyone in their respective hunting parties must comply with all Nevada hunting requirements and all NTTR safety and security requirements including the following: 1) consent to and pass a criminal history background check; 2) be at least 14 years old on opening day of the respective hunting season; 3) attend the Nellis Air Force Base hunter safety briefing; and 4) within the NTTR Hunt Units 280, 281, 282 limit party size to 5 including tag holder. Additional party members may complete background check and safety briefing, but only maximum of 5 party members including tag holder may be present within the NTTR Hunt Units 280, 281, 282 at any given time. Those portions of Hunt Units 280, 281, 282 that do not fall within the boundaries of NTTR are open to the public.

* Hunters and members of their parties who fail to comply with these requirements may be denied access to the NTTR. Hunters and members of their parties may not access the NTTR after a tag is filled and animal has been removed and in possession of tag holder. No pets are allowed on NTTR. It is the hunter's responsibility to meet and/or comply with all NTTR eligibility requirements. In some units there may be adjustments to season dates to accommodate Department of Defense operations.

If a Black Bear tag is awarded through the Heritage Tag program, those areas within Units 192 and 194 are closed except those areas that are within the U.S. Forest Service Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) and those areas bounded on the west by the LTBMU boundary from the southern boundary of Township 16 North, Range 18 East, Section 13 to the Mount Rose Wilderness Area boundary (approximately located at the Relay Ridge Radio Tower), by the Mount Rose Wilderness Area boundary from the LTBMU boundary to the western boundary of Range 19 East, and by the western boundary of Range 19 East from the Mount Rose Wilderness Area boundary to USFS Road No. 41049 (Logan Meadow Lane/Thomas Creek), bounded on the north by USFS Road No. 41049 from the western boundary of Range 19 East to Timberline Drive, by Timberline Drive from its junction with USFS Road No. 41049 to State Highway 431 (Mount Rose Highway), and by State Highway 431 from its junction with Timberline Drive to its junction with U.S. Highway 395, bounded on the east by U.S. Highway 395 from its junction with State Highway 431 to the southern boundary of Township 16 North, Range 19 East, Section 14 (approximately located at the northbound Bellevue Interchange off-ramp), and bounded on the south by the southern edge of Township 16 North, Range 19 East, Sections 14 – 18, following the southern boundary of the University of Nevada, Reno Little Valley Study Area, and Township 16 North, Range 18 East, Section 13 to the LTBMU boundary.