

2016
BLACKFEET FISH & WILDLIFE
CODE

CHAPTER 3, SECTION 3-7-M (1)

BIG GAME MUST BE TAGGED
IMMEDIATELY AFTER KILL BEFORE BEING
TRANSPORTED.

A PERSON WHOSE TAG IS ATTACHED TO A
BIG GAME ANIMAL MUST BE PRESENT
WHILE THE ANIMAL IS BEING
TRANSPORTED FROM THE FIELD

FINE: \$500.00

THE TEN INDIAN COMMANDMENTS

1. Treat the Earth and all that dwell therein with respect.
2. Remain close with the Great Spirit.
3. Show great respect for you fellow beings.
4. Work together for the benefit of all mankind.
5. Give assistance and kindness whenever needed.
6. Do what you know to be right.
7. Look after the well-being of the mind and body.
8. Dedicate a share of your efforts to the greater good.
9. Be truthful and honest at all times.
10. Take full responsibility for you actions.

HOW TO HUNT SAFELY IN BEAR COUNTRY

Grizzly and black bears can be found in much of the Blackfeet Reservation. In recent years grizzly bear populations have been expanding eastward and can now be found in areas where they have long been absent.

Be aware that the act of hunting puts you at risk of encountering bears and that elk bugling, game calls, and cover scents may attract bears.

If you hunt alone in bear country let someone know your detailed plans and have a way to periodically check in. Hunting partners should share details of their hunt plans and have a check in or communication system.

While hunting in bear country, pay attention to fresh bear sign. Look for bear tracks, scat, digs, a carcass and concentrations of natural foods, such as berries. Use caution when hunting areas that have evidence of bear activity or areas where you see scavenging birds such as magpies, ravens or crows – there may be a carcass nearby.

Communicate with other hunters and let them know when bears have been seen and/or fresh sign has been observed.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ENCOUNTER A BEAR

The mere presence of a bear does not always pose a risk. When in close proximity to people, most bears become aware of human presence and leave the area. If you encounter a bear, assess the situation, stay calm and **do not run**. Decide if the bear is aware of you or if it is fleeing or unaware. Keep the bear in sight and back away and leave the area. Occasionally bears will approach you when you are leaving, so be cautious.

When hunting in bear country, it is recommended that every hunter carry bear pepper spray. Pepper spray has been proven to be more effective than firearms at stopping a grizzly bear charge. Keep the bear pepper spray within reach and be familiar with the firing mechanism. In sudden encounters with grizzly bears, bear pepper spray has proven to be a valuable tool for deterring attacks. Grizzly bears sprayed in the face at very close range often stop attacking and are less likely to inflict serious injury.

Most bear attacks are prompted by inadvertently running into a female with young, surprising a bear at close range or near a carcass. It is recommended that hunters mentally rehearse a worst-case scenario with bears. If the mind has never been there before, the body does not know how to respond.

Use a weapon only if bear pepper spray is unavailable. Be aware that bears wounded with an arrow, knife or firearm may intensify the level of attack.

As a last resort, if physically attacked, play dead. Lie down, covering your neck and head with your hands and arms. If you have a backpack leave it on to protect your back. Stay face down never look at the bear and remain still until the bear is long gone. Many people have survived bear attacks using this method.

SAFEGUARDS FOR RETRIEVING GAME MEAT OUT OF BEAR COUNTRY

When hunting in bear country, the golden rule is to get that elk or deer out of the area as quickly as possible. The longer a carcass remains laying on the ground, hung up in hunting camp, or in the back of a truck, the more likely it will be discovered by a bear. The sooner elk or deer are taken home and butchered, the better.

Some bears may move towards gunshots because they have learned to associate hunting activities with gut piles or animal carcasses.

Carcasses left out for a period of time require special precautions. Carry a colored, lightweight tarp or space blanket. Put the guts on the tarp and drag them as far away from the carcass as possible. Then use the tarp to cover the carcass. This will reduce the scent trail from the gut pile to the carcass and discourage scavengers' attention to the carcass. Hang clothing or other items at the sight to keep animals away. Locate an observation point 200 yards (if possible) away from the carcass with clear line of sight. **Before leaving**, walk to the observation point and memorize the site.

When returning, approach the carcass carefully. Yell or whistle repeatedly. With binoculars study the scene from the observation point and scan the area for the carcass and any movement. If a bear is at the site and refuses to leave or the meat has been covered by a bear and is not salvageable, leave immediately and report the incident to Blackfeet Fish and Wildlife. You may receive a replacement tag. Do not attempt to frighten away or haze a bear that does not leave a carcass when it becomes aware of you.

If you live in bear country, do not hang carcasses behind the house or in the garbage for extended periods. Big game carcasses stored outside should be hung from a pulley attached to a stout "meat pole" that is at least 25 feet off the ground. The lowest portion of the elk or deer should swing from the center of the pole and at least 10 feet off the ground. Bears have been known to climb trees and stand on objects in order to reach food. For more information on how to install a "meat pole" contact Fish and Game.

Bears are opportunists and change their behavior in order to take advantage of new food sources. So if you are hunting or living in bear country, make sure your camps, cabins and homes are 'bear-proof' and that items that may attract bears such as carcasses, garbage and/or pet, livestock or bird food are unavailable or contained.

PLEASE REPORT ALL BEAR ENCOUNTERS AND DIRECT QUESTIONS TO:

Blackfeet Fish & Wildlife Dept.

Phone: 406 338-7207

After hours Tribal Game Wardens or bear management personnel can also be reached through the Law Enforcement Dispatcher at 338-4000

HUNTING REGULATIONS
2016

1. Big Game must be tagged immediately after kill and tag must be notched out before being transported. 3-7-M
2. A person whose tag is attached to a big game animal must be present while the animal is being transported from the field. 3-7-M (1)
3. Big Game Tags/Special Permits are non-transferable and non-refundable. 3-7-M (2)
4. Non-Members with special number spouse big game permits may hunt in Zone2, 2A East and 2AWest, and Zone 3, but only during the time in which hunting season is open. 4-2-E
5. Harassment or driving of big game animals by any means will be prohibited. Violators will be fined \$300.00. 3-9-G
6. Only Tribal Members and Descendants are allowed to gather, retrieve or hunt antlers and mushrooms on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation. Non-Members are prohibited and violators will be fined \$300.00.
7. A Transport Permit is required for meat. An Export Permit is needed for Antlers, Heads, & Furs. (Animal Parts) 3-3-A
8. All Hunters shall make food, including garbage and livestock food, (excluding Hay) unavailable to bears. 3-17-B
9. During daylight hours all camps should be attended or food shall be stored in a bear resistant manner. 3-17-B
10. During nighttime while camping, all food not in use or being prepared shall be stored in a bear resistant manner. 3-17-B
11. Big Game gut piles shall be removed at least 100 yards from any camp or designed hiking trail. 3-17-E
12. Big Game carcasses should be removed from the field as soon as possible. If left overnight, carcasses should be stored in a bear resistant manner if possible. 3-17-F
13. If a grizzly bear claims a hunter's big game carcass, the hunter should contact a Tribal Game Warden. Upon investigation the hunter may be issued a replacement tag. 3-7-F
14. Special Lottery Tag Moose and Elk that are taken by hunters MUST be inspected by a Tribal Game Warden. This is for the purpose of identification of sex and age. (No Exceptions). 3-7-G

15. Hunter must submit to a game inspection at check stops set up by Game Wardens. 11-13
16. To get from one staging area to another in Zone 2A, hunters cannot drive through; they are required to drive around the perimeter. FWA-1-B-(1)
17. Zone 2A west is restricted to foot and horseback traffic only. FWA-1-A-(3)
18. Zone 2A east is restricted to foot and horseback traffic. This Zone is a designed hunting zone for the elderly and handicap which allows vehicle use. FWA-1-A-(4)
19. BOW SEASON – The use of Cross Bows for Big Game Hunting is ILLEGAL. 3-7-K (1)

NOTE: **BEAR RESISTANT MANNER** means stored in bear resistant containers, suspended at least 10 feet above ground and 4 feet from any supportive structure (tree trunk, etc.), unavailable due to human attendance, or any combination of these.

BEAR RESISTANT CONTAINER means a securable container constructed of solid material.

When secured under stress the container will not have any cracks, openings, or hinges that would allow a bear to gain entry by biting or clawing. Wood containers are not considered bear resistant unless they are reinforced with metal. Locked vehicles with closed windows are considered bear resistant.

SAFETY REMINDERS:

400 Square inches of Hunter Orange is required for all Big Game Rifle Hunters on the Blackfoot Reservation (See FWA 7A.1 (d)).

The Southern Piegan Diabetes Project advises that “walking and exercise does a body good.”

Blackfoot Fish and Wildlife Department provides Hunter Safety classes if anyone is interested, contact Tony Sinclair the Environmental office at: (406) 338-7421.

ZONE 1: OPEN TO SPECIAL PERMIT AND LOTTERY WINNERS ONLY.

ZONE 2 A: WEST IS RESTRICTED TO HORSEBACK AND WALKING FROM STAGING AREAS.

ZONE 2A: EAST IS RESTRICTED TO FOOT AND HORSEBACK ONLY FROM STAGING AREAS.

1. Elderly and Handicap tag holders can drive into Zone 2A EAST only, and will be limited to one firearm per vehicle.

ZONE 3: IS OPEN TO BIG GAME HUNTING.

1. Use of hunting tag on animal is required during general hunting season.
 - a. Mule Deer Season is October 15, 2016 to November 1, 2016.
2. No tags required after General Hunting season closes.
 - a. Animals harvested after closure of the General Hunting season must report harvest within 24 hours.
 - b. Restricted to Bull Elk and Whitetail Buck.
3. Zone 3 is closed March 1, 2017 to July 19, 2017

ZONE 4: OPEN TO BOW HUNTING SEASON ONLY

STAGING AREAS: (LABELED IN NUMBERS) REMEMBER YOU CAN'T DRIVE THRU HUNTING ZONES TO GET FROM ONE STAGING AREAS TO THE OTHER. YOU HAVE TO DRIVE ALL THE WAY AROUND ON HIGHWAY.

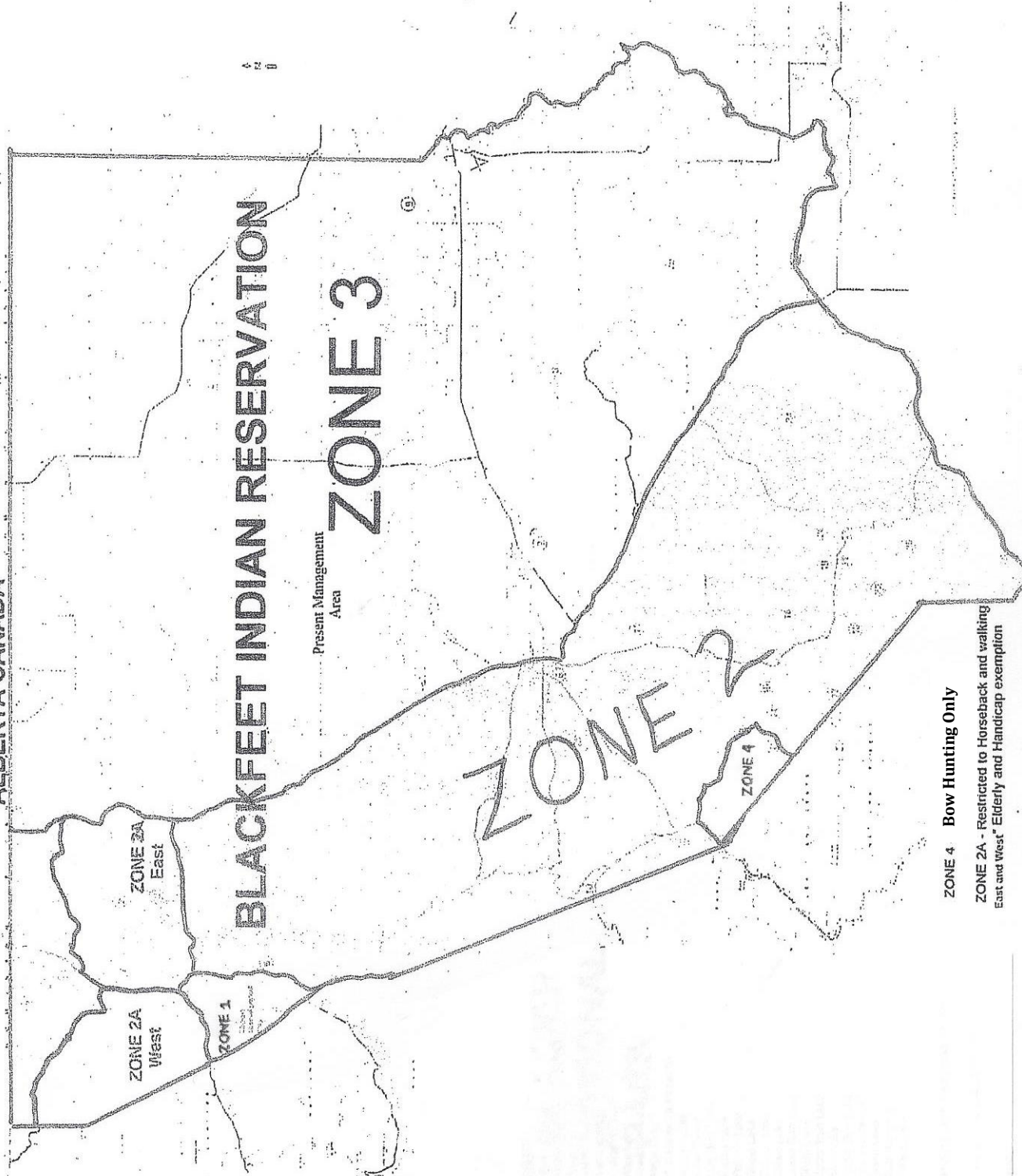
ZONE 2A WEST:

1. **Chief Mountain Road staging area:** Across the road from Burns Sawmill, Slide Lake Road by cattle guard east of Crusher Hill Pullout and approach across from Bob Fullerton's Place.
2. **Yellow Mountain Staging area:** Kennedy Creek crossing south of fence line (near Glacier National Park Boundary) and north of Tower Ridge and picnic table road intersection.
3. **Many Glacier Road Staging area:** Little Canada turnout and Camp 5 turnout.

ZONE 2A EAST:

1. **Duck Head Bay Staging area:** West end of Duck Lake just past first cattle guard.
2. **Spider Lake Staging area:** Anywhere along the canal road east of Spider Lake and west of Iron Bridge crossing on St. Mary Canal.
3. **North Fork Road Staging area:** Near the garbage bin along the road a mile north of the Duck Lake Road.

ALBERTA CANADA



BLACKFEET INDIAN RESERVATION

Present Management Area
ZONE 3

ZONE 2

ZONE 2A
East

ZONE 2A
West

ZONE 1

ZONE 4

ZONE 4 Bow Hunting Only

ZONE 2A - Restricted to Horseback and walking
East and West* Elderly and Handicap exemption

2016 BIG GAME SEASON AND LIMITS

Species	SEASON DATES				LICENSES		
	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Animal Limits	Members	Non-Members
ELK	CLOSED Except for Special Permit and lottery winner Restricted to foot & horseback only Camping is prohibited	<u>BOW SEASON</u> 1 st Saturday of Sept. to 2 nd Friday of October (Sunset) <u>RIFLE SEASON</u> 3 rd Saturday of October to 3rd Sunday of Dec.	<u>BOW SEASON</u> 1 st Saturday of Sept. to 2 nd Friday of October (Sunset) <u>RIFLE SEASON</u> 3 rd Saturday of October to 3rd Sunday of Dec.	<u>BOW SEASON</u> 1 st Saturday of Sept. to 2 nd Friday of Oct. <u>RIFLE SEASON</u> <u>CLOSED</u>	1 Per Member - if member is a recipient of a lottery tag and successful they will forfeit their general elk tag.	Part of numbered General Hunting Permit - \$20.00 Lottery Ticket for the Boulder/Flattop area. \$5.00 per ticket \$200.00 limit. Only one tag per member	Non-member Spouse and Descendant (Cow Only) Special Permit Holders hunting only in Zone 1, (5) Tags awarded, \$12,000.00 10 Cow elk (not in Zone 1)
WHITE TAIL DEER	CLOSED	<u>BOW SEASON</u> 1 st Saturday of Sept. to 2 nd Friday of October (Sunset) <u>RIFLE SEASON</u> 3 rd Saturday of October to 3rd Sunday of Dec.	<u>BOW SEASON</u> 1 st Saturday of Sept. to 2 nd Friday of October (Sunset) <u>RIFLE SEASON</u> 3 rd Saturday of October to 3rd Sunday of Dec.	<u>BOW SEASON</u> 1 st Saturday of Sept. to 2 nd Friday of Oct. <u>RIFLE SEASON</u> <u>CLOSED</u>	2 Per Member 1 Per Descendant & Non-Member Spouse	Part of numbered Hunting General Tag \$20.00	Non-member Spouse and Descendant (Cow Only) Special Permit Holders hunting only in Zone 2 and Zone 3 5 Tags Awarded, \$3,000.00
MULE DEER (Either Sex)	CLOSED	3 rd Saturday of October to 1 st Sunday of Nov.	3 rd Saturday of October to 1 st Sunday of Nov.	CLOSED	1 Per Member	Part of number Hunting General Tag \$20.00	Special Permit Holder Hunting only in Zone 2 and Zone 3, 5 Tags Awarded, \$3,000.00
MOOSE <u>Lottery and Special permit only</u>	CLOSED	<u>BOW SEASON</u> 1 st Saturday of Sept. to 2 nd Friday of October (Sunset) <u>RIFLE SEASON</u> 3 rd Saturday of October to 3rd Sunday of Dec.	<u>BOW SEASON</u> 1 st Saturday of Sept. to 2 nd Friday of October (Sunset) <u>RIFLE SEASON</u> 3 rd Saturday of October to 3rd Sunday of Dec.	CLOSED	1 Per Lottery tag - 7 Lotteries drawn Special Permit Hunting only 5 tags awarded	Lottery Ticket \$5.00 per ticket \$200.00 Limit. Only 1 tag awarded per member. Seven lottery tags drawn	Special Permit Holders Hunting only in Zone 2 and Zone 3, 5 Tags awarded, \$14,000.00
ANTELOPE	CLOSED	<u>BOW SEASON</u> 1 st Saturday of Sept. to 2 nd Friday of October (Sunset) <u>RIFLE SEASON</u> 3 rd Saturday of October to 3rd Sunday of Dec Non-member Spouse and Descendant (Cow Only)	<u>BOW SEASON</u> 1 st Saturday of Sept. to 2 nd Friday of October (Sunset) <u>RIFLE SEASON</u> 3 rd Saturday of October to 3rd Sunday of Dec	CLOSED	1 Per Member	Numbered Hunting tag separate from General Tag \$5.00	Special Permit Holder Hunting only in Zone 2 and Zone 3, (5) Tags Awarded, \$1,000.00

2016 BIG GAME SEASON AND LIMITS

Species	SEASON DATES				LICENSES		
	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Animal Limits	Members	Non-Members
BIG HORN SHEEP	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	One Big Horn sheep every other year	Lottery Ticket \$5.00 per ticket \$200.00 Limit. Only 1 tag awarded per member. One lottery tag drawn.	Special Permit Holder Hunting only in Zone 1, 1 tag awarded \$30,000.00
MOUNTAIN GOAT	CLOSED	<u>RIFLE SEASON</u> 2 nd Saturday of October to 3 rd Sunday of December	CLOSED	CLOSED	1 Per Member	Numbered Hunting tag separate from General Tag \$10.00	Special Permit Holder Hunting only in Zone 2, 1 tag awarded, \$5,000.00
BLACK BEAR (10)	CLOSED	<u>BOW SEASON</u> 1 st Saturday of Sept. to 2 nd Friday of October (Sunset) <u>RIFLE SEASON</u> 3 rd Saturday of October to 3 rd Sunday of December <u>SPRING SEASON</u> 3 rd Saturday of April to June 1 st Must harvest within the Spring Season	<u>BOW SEASON</u> 1 st Saturday of Sept. to 2 nd Friday of October (Sunset) <u>RIFLE SEASON</u> 3 rd Saturday of October to 3 rd Sunday of December <u>SPRING SEASON</u> 3 rd Saturday of April to June 1 st Must harvest within the Spring Season	<u>BOW SEASON</u> 1 st Saturday of Sept. to 2 nd Friday in Oct. TRIBALMEMBERS ONLY <u>RIFLE SEASON</u> <u>CLOSED</u>	1 Per Member for Spring Hunt 1 Per member for General Hunting Season	Numbered Hunting tag separate from General Tag \$5.00	Special Permit Holders hunting only in Zone 2 and Zone 3, \$1,500.00 Per Bear
MOUNTAIN LION (10)	CLOSED	Year round for depredation and nuisance control. Member and guide dog use only. <u>RIFLE SEASON</u> 3 rd Saturday of Oct. to 3 rd Sunday of Dec. <u>SPECIAL SEASON</u> Jan. 1 st to March 31, 2015 (Sunset)	Year round for depredation and nuisance control. Member and guide dog use only. <u>RIFLE SEASON</u> 3 rd Saturday of Oct. to 3 rd Sunday of Dec. <u>SPECIAL SEASON</u> Jan. 1 st to March 31, 2015 (Sunset)	CLOSED	Depredation and nuisance control. Contact Fish and Wildlife for Tags. 1 per member	Depredation and nuisance control. Contact Fish and Wildlife for Tags. Numbered Hunting tag separate from General Tag \$5.00	Special Permit Holders hunting only in Zone 2 and 3. \$500.00 Per Animal Trophy fee - \$1,500 additional successful take (Boone Crockett score)
GRAY WOLF	CLOSED	3 rd Saturday of October to end of March	3 rd Saturday of October to end of March	CLOSED	3 Per Member	Numbered Hunting tag separate from General Tag \$10.00 No Trapping	Non-member spouse and descendent 3 tags

OTHER LICENSES 2016 HUNTING SEASON AND LIMITS

Species	SEASON DATES				LICENSES		
	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Animal Limits	Members	Non-Members
WATERFOWL	CLOSED	Federally Established	Federally Established	CLOSED	None	None	Non-member/non-Montana Resident - Upland /Waterfowl Bird Permit \$125.00 Non-member/Montana - Resident \$60.00
UPLAND BIRDS	CLOSED	Sept. 1 st - Nov. 30 th Except Male Ring Necked Pheasants Season Begins Oct 12 th – Nov. 30 th	Sept. 1 st - Nov. 30 th Except Male Ring Necked Pheasants Season Begins Oct 12 th – Nov. 30 th	CLOSED	5 Partridge, 3 Ruffed and/or Sharp Tail, Sage/Mountain Grouse 3 Cock Male Ring Necked Pheasants	None	Non-member/non-Montana Resident - Upland /Waterfowl Bird Permit \$125.00 Non-member/Montana - Resident \$60.00
SMALL GAME Ground Squirrels	CLOSED	March 1 st – Sept. 30 th	March 1 st – Sept. 30 th Land Owner Permission	CLOSED	None	None	Special Permit Holders \$30.00 <u>Land Owner Permission</u>
FURBEARERS HUNTING & TRAPPING	CLOSED	Sept. 30 th - April 30 th	Sept. 30 th - April 30 th	CLOSED	Non-Member Beaver trapping & hunting Coyotes Only BOBCAT CLOSED	Permit Required \$5.00 Trapping Log Required Export Permits Required	\$100.00 Permit Required. Trapping Log Required Export Permits Required Non Transferable
COYOTES	CLOSED	Open Year round for Tribal Members	Open Year round for Tribal Members	CLOSED	None	None	<u>\$100.00 permit with restrictions and seasons</u> <u>Season for non-members Nov.1 to March 31 Land owner permission Allowed Only in Zones 2 & 3</u>
WOLVERINE	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	NONE	NONE	NONE
BOBCAT	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	NONE	NONE	NONE