

Off-reservation Yellowstone Bison Hunt regulations recommended by the
Blackfeet Fish & Wildlife Commission for the 2020-21 Season

1. Cost of tags:

Tribal Members can purchase individual tags as indicated below and can purchase up to 2 tags for each species or they can purchase one “super tag” for \$125 that includes one tag for each big game species (1 bison, 1 elk, 1 deer, and 1 antelope).

** Note 100% of tag fee's from YNP Bison hunt provide funding for Blackfeet game wardens to be in Gardiner during Bison Hunt.*

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| Bison | \$75 each up to 2 tags |
| Elk | \$30 each up to 2 tags |
| Deer | \$25 each up to 2 tags |
| Antelope | \$20 each up to 2 tags |
| Supertag: | \$125 (1 bison, 1 elk, 1 deer, 1 antelope) |

Note:

- **Hunters must either select the Super Tag or select the individual species they want to hunt. A hunter won't be allowed to pick from both categories.**
- **If a hunter prefers the Super Tag, select any the permits marked “Super Tags” and the system will automatically award all 4 permits.**
- **If a hunter prefers to select permits other than the “Super Tag”, select any of the tags marked YNP Bison, Antelope, Bison, or Elk. A hunter may purchase up to two permits for any species.**

2. Game wardens present or are hunters on their own?

If there are license fees charged, Blackfeet game wardens will be present during the peak of the bison migration (February 1st through March 31) depending on weather and migration numbers.

3. Season length

The season will begin on the date bison regulations are officially approved by the BTBC and end on March 31, 2020.

4. Beatty gulch regulations?

No special regulations; individual hunters will determine when they hunt this area; the Blackfeet Nation has chosen not to sign the MOA that several Tribes have signed regulating the bison hunt in Beatty Gulch; Blackfeet game wardens may only be present when bison are migrating out of Yellowstone National Park.

5. Number of hunters: unlimited or limited

Blackfeet Fish and Wildlife Department will be authorized to sell bison tags to any enrolled Blackfeet over 18 years of age. Bison hunters must read and sign the orientation materials and agree to abide by Blackfeet off-reservation hunting and COVID-19 regulations. No cap on the number of Blackfeet Tribal hunters.

6. Centerfire rifle with 150 gr. Bullet or larger for bison hunting.

Tribal hunters must use a rifle with 150 gr. Bullet or larger when hunting bison. Hunters are advised to use non-lead bullets, if possible.

7. Helpers allowed?

Tribal members are encouraged to have 4 to 5 helpers. These helpers can be tribal members, non-members, or descendants. However, only the tribal hunters are eligible to carry weapons and harvest bison and big game.

8. Since bison migration outside of YNP is unpredictable, are off-reservation tribal hunters allowed to harvest other big game animals (elk, deer, or antelope)?

Blackfeet tribal hunters can obtain up to 2 tags to harvest elk, deer, and antelope, in case bison are not readily available.

9. Harvest report required?

All Blackfeet off-reservation bison hunters must report their harvest within 7 business days of their kill or their decision to discontinue hunting if unsuccessful. Any hunter who fails to contact the BFWD will be ineligible for bison hunting the next season.

10. Are Tribal hunters required to comply with National Park Service and Forest Service regulations.

Blackfeet bison hunters must comply with all National Forest Service and National Park Service regulations while bison and big game hunting in the Gardiner/West Yellowstone areas. (For example, the Forest Service requires bison gut piles to be 200 yards from the road.)

11. COVID-19 related guidelines pertaining to the YNP Bison Hunt.

Blackfeet hunters must comply with the YNP Bison Hunt COVID-19 guidelines (attached).

12. Chronic Wasting Disease guidelines

Blackfeet tribal hunters must be familiar with CWD and comply with sampling and carcass disposal regulations. Tribal hunters must be prepared to remove the lymph nodes and send them in for CWD testing. The Blackfeet Fish and Wildlife Department can provide sampling kits for tribal hunters planning on harvesting deer or elk. Any deer or elk harvested must be sampled and the carcass properly disposed of in a landfill or solid waste container. The hunter should not consume any deer or elk meat until notified that their harvested animal is negative for CWD.