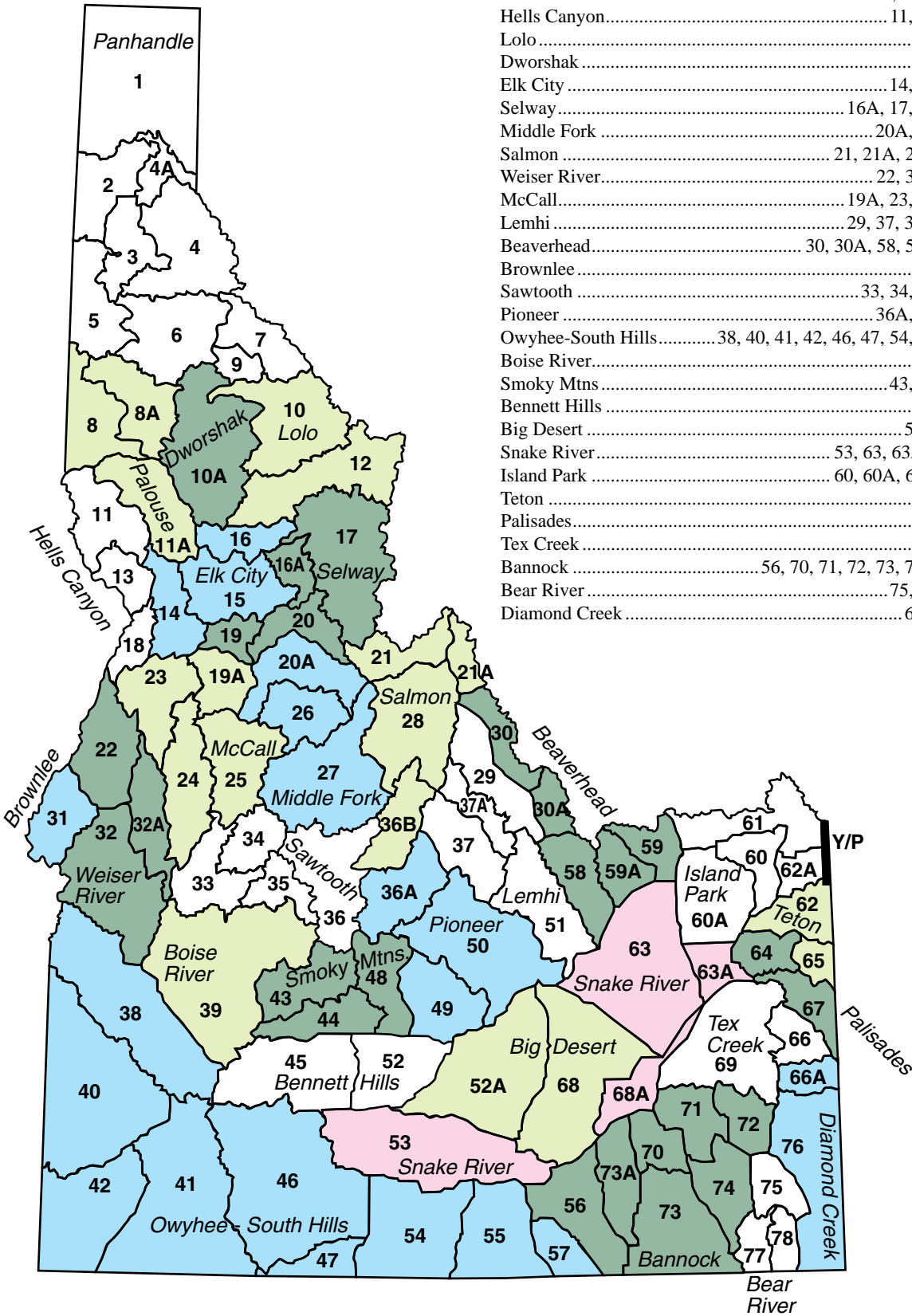


# Elk Management Zones

Zone Name	Units	Rules Book Page Number
Panhandle	1, 2, 3, 4, 4A, 5, 6, 7, 9	28
Palouse	8, 8A, 11A	28
Hells Canyon	11, 13, 18	28
Lolo	10, 12	29
Dworshak	10A	29
Elk City	14, 15, 16	29
Selway	16A, 17, 19, 20	30
Middle Fork	20A, 26, 27	30
Salmon	21, 21A, 28, 36B	30
Weiser River	22, 32, 32A	31
McCall	19A, 23, 24, 25	32
Lemhi	29, 37, 37A, 51	33
Beaverhead	30, 30A, 58, 59, 59A	33
Brownlee	31	33
Sawtooth	33, 34, 35, 36	34
Pioneer	36A, 49, 50	34
Owyhee-South Hills	38, 40, 41, 42, 46, 47, 54, 55, 57	34
Boise River	39	35
Smoky Mtns	43, 44, 48	35
Bennett Hills	45, 52	35
Big Desert	52A, 68	35
Snake River	53, 63, 63A, 68A	36
Island Park	60, 60A, 61, 62A	36
Teton	62, 65	36
Palisades	64, 67	36
Tex Creek	66, 69	37
Bannock	56, 70, 71, 72, 73, 73A, 74	37
Bear River	75, 77, 78	37
Diamond Creek	66A, 76	38



# 2009 Elk Hunting Seasons

Elk hunting in Idaho is managed in 29 elk zones. In addition, Fish and Game has established a 2-tag system as an effort to offer elk hunters the most general season choices. Hunters may select 1 zone and choose either an “A tag” or a “B tag” in most elk zones.

In general, A tags provide more opportunity for muzzleloader and archery hunters, and B tags provide more opportunity for centerfire rifle hunters.

Controlled hunts, allocated by random drawing, also are available in most of the state.

Any person who receives a controlled hunt permit for elk is prohibited from hunting in any other elk hunt – archery, muzzleloader or general, **except** for depredation hunts, extra antlerless elk hunts or by buying a leftover nonresident elk tag, if available.

**Note:** Residents or nonresidents may buy 1 unsold nonresident general season deer and elk tag at the nonresident price starting August 28, to be used as a second tag.

**Antlered elk:** Only elk with at least 1 antler longer than 6 inches may be taken in any season which is open for antlered elk only. In antlered seasons, including spike-only, antlers must accompany the carcass while in transit.

**Antlerless elk:** Only elk without antlers or with antlers shorter than 6 inches may be taken in any season which is open for antlerless elk only.

**Spike elk:** Only elk with no branching on either antler and at least 1 antler longer than 6 inches may be taken in any season which is open for spike elk only. A branch is an antler projection at least 1 inch long and longer than the width of the projection.

**Brow-tined elk:** Only elk having at least 1 antler with a visible point on the lower half of the main beam which is 4 inches or greater in length may be taken in any season open for brow-tine elk only.

## Archery & Muzzleloader Permits

Any person hunting in an archery-only season must have their license with archery permit validation. In a muzzleloader-only season hunters must have a muzzleloader permit validation - including controlled hunts.



Legal in spike elk hunts

### Spike Elk

One antler must be at least 6 inches or longer. (Not legal in brow-tined elk hunts.)



Not legal in spike elk hunts or brow-tined elk hunts

### Branch antlered bull (or larger)

Not legal for spike-only hunts if branched point is longer than 1 inch.



Antler branch is a projection 1 inch or more in length.

Legal in brow-tined elk hunts



**Caution** - Archers: “Any weapon” antlerless elk hunts will be open, on or within 1 mile of private fields on which cultivated crops are currently growing, in all or parts of the following zones: Palouse, Pioneer, Beaverhead, Salmon, Lemhi, McCall and Weiser. Additionally, an any-weapon controlled hunt occurs from August 9 - September 15 in a portion of Unit 48 (see Hunt No. 2093). Please use appropriate caution.

Panhandle Zone (Units 1, 2, 3, 4, 4A, 5, 6, 7, 9)			
	August/September	October	November
<b>A Tag</b>	<p><b>Archery only</b> — any elk Sep 6 - Sep 19</p> <p>Antlered elk only Sep 20 - Sep 30</p>	<p><b>Any weapon</b> — antlered only Oct 25 - Oct 29</p>	<p><b>Muzzleloader only</b> — antlered only Units 4, 7, 9 only Nov 20 - Dec 1</p>
<b>B Tag</b>	<p><b>Archery only</b> — any elk Sep 6 - Sep 12</p>	<p><b>Any weapon</b> — antlered only Oct 10 - Oct 24 Any elk Oct 15 - Oct 17</p>	<p><b>Muzzleloader only</b> — spike only Dec 2 - Dec 9</p>
Palouse Zone (Units 8, 8A, 11A)			
	August/September	October	November
<b>A Tag</b>	<p><b>Archery only</b> — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 See archers caution pg 27.</p> <p><b>Any weapon</b> – antlerless only Near cultivated fields outside National Forest System Boundary. See Note 2, Page 38. Aug 1 - Sep 15</p>		
<b>B Tag</b>	<p><b>Archery only</b> — spike or antlerless Aug 30 - Sep 14</p>	<p><b>Any weapon</b> — antlered only Oct 10 - Oct 24</p>	<p><b>Muzzleloader only</b> — spike or antlerless Unit 8A only: Dec 2 - Dec 9 See Note 1, Page 38.</p>
Hells Canyon Zone (Units 11, 13, 18) — Controlled Hunts Only.			

Lolo Zone (Units 10, 12)

	August/September	October	November	December
<b>A Tag</b>	<b>Archery only</b> — antlered only Aug 30 - Sep 30			
<b>B Tag</b>		<b>Any weapon</b> — antlered only Oct 10 - Nov 3		
NOTE: 1,600 B Tag Quota Available on First-Come, First-Served Basis				
<b>NOTE: Reductions in hunting opportunity may be implemented in 2010.</b>				

Dworshak Zone (Unit 10A)

	August/September	October	November	December
<b>A Tag</b>	<b>Archery only</b> — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30			<b>Muzzleloader only</b> — spike or antlerless Dec 2 - Dec 5 <b>Spike only:</b> Dec 6 - Dec 14
<b>B Tag</b>	<b>Archery only</b> — spike or antlerless Aug 30 - Sep 14	<b>Any weapon</b> — antlered only Oct 10 - Nov 3		
NOTE: 2,380 B Tag Quota Available on First-Come, First-Served Basis				

Elk City Zone (Units 14, 15, 16)

	August/September	October	November	December
<b>A Tag</b>	<b>Archery only</b> — any elk Unit 15 only Aug 30 - Sep 30		<b>Muzzleloader only</b> — spike or antlerless Unit 14 & 16 only, Nov 21 - Dec 9	<b>Archery only</b> — any elk Unit 15 only Dec 5 - Dec 20
<b>B Tag</b>	<b>Archery only</b> — spike or antlerless Unit 15 only Aug 30 - Sep 14	<b>Any weapon</b> — antlered only Units 15, 16: Oct 10 - Nov 3 Unit 14: Oct 10 - Oct 24		
<b>Note:</b> 1,790 B Tag Quota Available on First-Come, First-Served Basis				



Selway Zone (Units 16A, 17, 19, 20)			
	September	October	November
<b>A Tag</b>		<b>Any weapon — antlered only</b> Oct 1 - Oct 31	
<b>B Tag</b>	<b>Any weapon — antlered only</b> Sep 15 - Sep 30		<b>Any weapon — antlered only</b> Nov 1 - Nov 11
<b>Note:</b> 647 A Tag Quota Available on First-Come, First-Served Basis			
<b>Note:</b> 1,067 B Tag Quota Available on First-Come, First-Served Basis			
Middle Fork Zone (Units 20A, 26, 27)			
	August/September	October	November
<b>A Tag</b>		<b>Any weapon —</b> Oct 1 - Oct 31 Units 20A, 26 - any elk Unit 27 - antlerless or brow-tined bulls <b>only</b>	
<b>B Tag</b>	<b>Any weapon —</b> Sep 15 - Sep 30 Units 20A, 26 - antlered <b>only</b> Unit 27 - brow-tined bulls <b>only</b>		<b>Any weapon —</b> Nov 1 - Nov 18 Units 20A, 26 - antlered <b>only</b> Unit 27 - brow-tined bulls <b>only</b>
<b>Note:</b> 1,551 A Tag Quota Available On First-Come, First-Served Basis			
<b>Note:</b> 1,636 B Tag Quota Available on First-Come, First-Served Basis			
Salmon Zone (Units 21, 21A, 28, 36B)			
	August/September	October	November
<b>A Tag</b>	<b>Archery only — any elk</b> Aug 30 - Sep 30 Units 21, 21A, 36B <b>only</b> See archers caution pg 27.		<b>Muzzleloader only —</b> antlerless <b>only</b> Unit 21A <b>only</b> Nov 10 - Nov 30
<b>B Tag</b>	<b>Any weapon - antlerless only</b> Aug 1 - Sep 30 Near cultivated fields outside National Forest System Boundary in Units 21A & 28 <b>only</b> See Note 2, Page 38.		<b>Archery only — any elk</b> Unit 28 <b>only</b> Dec 1 - Dec 31
<b>B Tag</b>	<b>Archery only — antlerless only</b> Aug 30 - Sep 14 Unit 21A <b>only</b>	<b>Any weapon — antlered only</b> Oct 15 - Nov 8	
<b>NOTE: Reductions in hunting opportunity may be implemented in 2010.</b>			

Weiser River Zone (Units 22, 32, 32A)

	August/September	October	November	December
<b>A Tag</b>	<p><b>Archery only</b> — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 See Note A below. Motorized Vehicle Restriction Units 32, 32A, See Note 2, Page 44.</p>			
	<p><b>Any weapon</b> — antlerless <b>only</b> Unit 22 ONLY: Aug 15 - Sep 30 Outside National Forest System Boundary <b>only</b>, See Note C below, Extremely Limited Access</p>	<p><b>Any weapon</b> — antlerless <b>only</b> Unit 32 ONLY: Aug 1 - Nov 30 Please obtain permission to hunt private land before buying this tag! See Note B below, Extremely Limited Access. Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.</p>		
<b>B Tag</b>			<p><b>Any weapon</b> — antlered <b>only</b> Oct 25 - Nov 3 Motorized Vehicle Restriction Units 32, 32A, See Note 2, Page 44.</p>	

**Note A - Closed area:** That portion of Unit 32 west of the following boundary: Beginning at the Unit 32/38 boundary at Emmett, then north on Highway 52 to the Van Dussen Road, then north on the Four Mile Road to the Unit 32/32A boundary is **closed**.

**Note B - Open area:** That portion of Unit 32 west of the following boundary: Beginning at the Unit 32/38 boundary at Emmett, then north on Highway 52 to the Van Dussen Road, then north on the Four Mile Road to the Unit 32/32A boundary. Most elk are on private property in this area.

**Note C - Open area:** That portion of Unit 22 that lies outside National Forest System Boundary and drains into the Weiser River, upstream from and including the Hornet Creek drainage and downstream from and including the West Fork Weiser River drainage. Most elk are on private property in this area. The National Forest System Boundary is a legislatively set boundary - it is not necessarily the boundary of Forest Service property. State, private, and other lands within the National Forest System Boundary are not open to hunting during this season. (Please refer to a U.S. Forest Service map for the location of this boundary.)



## McCall Zone (Units 19A, 23, 24, 25)

	August/September	October	November	December
	<b>Archery only</b> — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30	<b>Any weapon</b> — spike only Short range weapons <b>only</b> within described boundaries in Unit 24, see Note A below. Oct 5 - Oct 14	<b>Muzzleloader only</b> — antlerless only Units 19A, 23, 24 <b>only</b> Nov 10 - Nov 30	
<b>A Tag</b>	<b>Short range weapons only</b> — antlerless only Units 23 & 24 <b>only</b> Outside National Forest System Boundary, see Note B below. Aug 15 - Sep 30			
<b>B Tag</b>			<b>Any weapon</b> — antlered only Oct 15 - Nov 3 Short range weapons <b>only</b> within described boundaries, see Note A below.	

**Note A** - Short range weapons **only** in that portion of Unit 24 within the following boundary: Beginning in McCall at the junction of State Highway 55 and Boydston Street, then south on Boydston Street to West Valley Road, then west and south along West Valley Road and West Mountain Road to Cabarton Road, then north on Cabarton Road to State Highway 55, then north on State Highway 55 to Farm-To-Market Road, then north on Farm-To-Market Road to Elo Road, then west on Elo Road to State Highway 55, then north on State Highway 55 to the point of beginning.

**Note B** - You may hunt only outside the National Forest System Boundary. The National Forest System Boundary is a legislatively set boundary - it is not necessarily the boundary of Forest Service property. State, private, and other lands within the National Forest System Boundary are not open to hunting during this season. (Please refer to a U.S. Forest Service map for the location of this boundary)

Lemhi Zone (Units 29, 37, 37A, 51)

	September	October	November	December
	<p><b>Archery only</b> — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 See archers caution pg 27. Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.</p>		<p><b>Muzzleloader only</b> — antlerless only Nov 25 - Dec 9 Motorized Vehicle Restriction, See Note 2, Page 44.</p>	
<b>A Tag</b>	<p><b>Any weapon</b> — antlerless only Near cultivated fields outside National Forest System Boundary. See Note 2, Page 38. Unit 29 only: Aug 1 - Sep 15 Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.</p>		<p><b>Any weapon</b> — spike only Nov 1 - Nov 7 Units 37, 51 only Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.</p>	
No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts				

Beaverhead Zone (Units 30, 30A, 58, 59, 59A)

	August/September	October	November	December
	<p><b>Archery only</b> — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 See archers caution pg 27. Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.</p>			
<b>A Tag</b>	<p><b>Any weapon</b> — antlerless only Near cultivated fields outside National Forest System Boundary. See Note 2, Page 38. Unit 30 only: Aug 1 - Sep 30 Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.</p>	<p><b>Muzzleloader only</b> — antlerless only Oct 15 - Oct 31 Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.</p>		
No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts				

Brownlee Zone (Unit 31)

	August/September	October	November	December
	<p><b>Archery only</b> — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30</p>			
<b>A Tag</b>				
No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts				



Sawtooth Zone (Units 33, 34, 35, 36)			
	August/September	October	November
<b>A Tag</b>	<b>Archery only</b> — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30	<b>Any weapon</b> — spike only Oct 5 - Oct 14	<b>December</b>
<b>Note:</b> 1,342 A Tag Quota Available on First-Come, First-Served Basis			
<b>B Tag</b>	<b>Archery only</b> — antlerless only Aug 30 - Sep 14	<b>Any weapon</b> — antlered only Oct 15 - Nov 8	
<b>Note:</b> 2,382 B Tag Quota Available on First-Come, First-Served Basis			
Pioneer Zone (Units 36A, 49, 50)			
	August/September	October	November
<b>A Tag</b>	<b>Archery only</b> — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 See archers caution pg 27. Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.		<b>December</b>
	<b>Any weapon</b> — antlerless only Near cultivated fields outside National Forest System Boundary. See Note 2, Page 38. <b>Unit 36A only:</b> Aug 1 - Sep 30 Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.		
No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts			
<b>NOTE: Reductions in A Tag hunting opportunity may be implemented in 2010.</b>			
Owyhee – South Hills Zone (Units 38, 40, 41, 42, 46, 47, 54, 55, 57)			
	September	October	November
<b>A Tag</b>	<b>Any weapon</b> — antlerless only Unit 54 only - that portion within Cassia County outside the National Forest boundary Aug 1 - Dec 31		<b>December</b>
No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts			

Boise River Zone (Unit 39)

	September	October	November	December
<b>A Tag</b>	<b>Muzzleloader only</b> — antlerless only Sep 8 - Sep 30 Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.		<b>Archery only</b> — any elk Nov 10 - Nov 30 See Note 3, Page 38.	
<b>B Tag</b>			<b>Any weapon</b> — antlered <b>only</b> Nov 1 - Nov 9	

Smoky Mountain Zone (Units 43, 44, 48)

	August/September	October	November	December
<b>A Tag</b>	<b>Archery only</b> — any elk Units 43, 48 <b>only</b> Aug 30 - Sep 30 See archers caution pg 27. Motorized Vehicle Restriction in Unit 48 See Note 2, Page 44.		<b>Any weapon</b> — spike <b>only</b> Nov 1 - Nov 7 Motorized Vehicle Restriction in Unit 48 See Note 2, Page 44.	
No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts				

Bennett Hills Zone (Units 45, 52)

	September	October	November	December
<b>A Tag</b>	<b>Muzzleloader only</b> — antlerless <b>only</b> Sep 1 - Sep 14 Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44			
No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts				

Big Desert Zone (Units 52A, 68)

	August/September	October	November	December
<b>A Tag</b>	<b>Archery only</b> — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30			
No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts				



Snake River Zone (Units 53, 63, 63A, 68A)			
	August/September	October	November
	Archery only — any elk, Unit 68A only Aug 1 - Sep 30		Archery only — antlerless only, Unit 68A only Oct 1 - Dec 31
A Tag	Any weapon — any elk, Unit 63 only		Any weapon — antlerless only, Unit 63 only
	Short range weapons only — any elk Unit 63A only Aug 1 - Aug 31		Short range weapons only — antlerless only, Unit 63A only Sep 1 - Dec 31
<p>Any weapon — any elk, Unit 53 only Aug 1 - Dec 31</p> <p>Motorized Vehicle Restriction in Unit 53, See Note 2, Page 44.</p>			
No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts			
Island Park Zone (Units 60, 60A, 61, 62A)			
	August/September	October	November
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30	Any weapon — spike only Oct 15 - Oct 28	Muzzleloader only — spike or antlerless Unit 61 only Nov 11 - Nov 24
		Short range weapons only on Chester Wetlands WMA	
No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts			
Teton Zone (Units 62, 65)			
	August/September	October	November
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30	Any weapon — antlerless only Oct 22 - Nov 15	
B Tag	Archery only — spike or antlerless Aug 30 - Sep 14	Any weapon — antlered only Oct 15 - Oct 21	
No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts			
Palisades Zone (Units 64, 67)			
	August/September	October	November
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30	Any weapon — antlerless only Oct 22 - Nov 30	
B Tag	Archery only — spike or antlerless Aug 30 - Sept 14	Any weapon — antlered only Oct 15 - Oct 21	

Tex Creek Zone (Units 66, 69)			
	August/September	October	November
<b>A Tag</b>	<b>Archery only</b> — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.	<b>Any weapon</b> — antlerless only Oct 22 - Nov 30 Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.	<b>November</b>
<b>B Tag</b>	<b>Archery only</b> — spike or antlerless Aug 30 - Sep 14 Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.	<b>Any weapon</b> — antlered only Oct 15 - Oct 21 Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.	<b>December</b>
Bannock Zone (Units 56, 70, 71, 72, 73, 73A, 74)			
	August/September	October	November
<b>A Tag</b>	<b>Archery only</b> — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 Motorized Vehicle Restriction in Units 56, 70 & 73 See Note 2, Page 44.	<b>Any weapon</b> — antlerless only Units 70, 71, 72, 73, 73A, 74 only: Oct 25 - Nov 15 Motorized Vehicle Restriction in Units 70 & 73 See Note 2, Page 44.	<b>Muzzleloader only</b> — antlerless only Nov 16 - Nov 30 Motorized Vehicle Restriction in Units 56, 70 & 73 See Note 2, Page 44.
No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts			
Bear River Zone (Units 75, 77, 78)			
	September	October	November
<b>A Tag</b>	<b>Archery only</b> — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.	<b>Any weapon</b> — antlerless only Oct 25 - Nov 15 Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.	<b>Muzzleloader only</b> — antlerless only Nov 16 - Dec 31 Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.
<b>B Tag</b>	<b>Archery only</b> — spike or antlerless Aug 30 - Sep 14 Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.	<b>Any weapon</b> — antlered only Oct 15 - Oct 24 Motorized Vehicle Restriction See Note 2, Page 44.	



Diamond Creek Zone (Units 66A, 76)		December
		November
A Tag	August/September	October
	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 Note: 1,837 A Tag Quota Available On First-Come, First-Served Basis No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts	

ELK GENERAL SEASON SPECIAL AREA DESCRIPTIONS

• **Note 1 — Unit 8A Muzzleloader Spike or Antlerless Hunt** — That portion of Unit 8A east of State Highway 6 and State Highway 9 and north of the following line: Beginning at the boundary of Unit 8A at its junction with State Highway 8 at Deary, then east on Highway 8 to Forest Service Road 1963 at Helmer, then south and east on Forest Service Road 1963 to Long Meadow Creek, then southeast on Long Meadow Creek to Dworshak Reservoir, then east along the shoreline of Dworshak Reservoir to the Unit 8A boundary at Dent Bridge.

• **Note 2 — Outside the National Forest System Boundary in Palouse, Lemhi, Beaverhead, Salmon and Pioneer Zones — Antlerless Hunts:** These hunts are open only outside the National Forest System Boundary within 1 mile of private fields on which cultivated crops are currently growing. The National Forest System Boundary is a legislatively set boundary — it is not necessarily the boundary of Forest Service property. State, private and other lands within the National Forest System Boundary are not open to hunting during this season. (Please refer to a U.S. Forest Service map for the location of this boundary.) “Private fields on which cultivated crops are currently growing” is defined as: fields on which soil has been used or broken up for the raising of crops, and artificially irrigated pasture. “Currently” means during the current or most recent growing season. Lands enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside farm programs are specifically excluded.

• **Note 3 — Unit 39 Archery Hunt CLOSED Area:** That portion of Unit 39 within Ada County AND that portion within the following boundary: Beginning at the intersection of State Highway 21 and the Middle Fork Boise River road (Forest Rd 268), east on Forest Rd 268 to Cottonwood Creek-Thorn Creek Road (Forest Rd 377), north and west on Forest Road 377 to State Highway 21, south and west on Highway 21 to the point of beginning.



Idaho Fish and Game photo