

NAVAJO NATION FALL HUNTING PROCLAMATION

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

**APPLICATION DEADLINE IS June 16, 2023 at 11:59 P.M.
MDT**

www.nndfw.org

IMPORTANT CHANGES

The Department of Fish and Wildlife is implementing an electronic big game hunt application system. **PAPER AND EMAIL APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED:**

- All 2023/2024 Navajo Nation fall hunts (EXCEPT AYH, Guide Permits, auction and prize permits) require electronic submission of hunt applications at www.navajodraw.com. The big game hunt application system will not be available until May 1, 2023 at 9:00 A.M. MDT and will close down at 11:59 P.M. MDT on June 16, 2023.
- Each applicant must have their own individual email address in order to submit their electronic application.
- At the time of electronic submittal of a hunt application, only the non-refundable application fee will be charged. Only credit/debit cards will be allowed to pay the application fee. If drawn, the remainder permit cost will be charged to the credit/debit card. If a credit/debit card needs to be updated, it is the applicant's responsibility to update the credit/debit card information prior to the hunt draw. An applicant can update their credit card information via email, 2023documents@nndfw.org, or in person using a Credit Card Authorization form. A mass email will be sent to each applicant prior to the hunt draw advising of the deadline to update their credit/debit card.
- Applicants can still apply as a group, if permitted, and one person can enter the other applicants in the group as long as he/she has all information required for the other applicants. The system will only accept one credit/debit card for group applications.
- If an applicant does not complete his/her application, they will have 24 hours to return to the system to complete their application. After 24 hours, the applicant will have to start a new application.
- If an application requires supporting documentation such as Senior Citizens, Veterans, Mobility Impaired, Spouses documents these documents must be submitted to the Department of Fish and Wildlife prior to 5:00 P.M. MDT, June 16, 2023 in person, via mail or at 2023documents@nndfw.org. The Department maintains a list of Senior Citizens, Veterans and Mobility Impaired hunters so you do not need to

submit supporting documentation if you are already on the list; hunters who wish to take advantage of these classifications are encouraged to contact the Department to verify their classification.

- Applicants who are ineligible and who submit an electronic application will be denied entry into the hunt draw. However, applicants who are ineligible due to survey card infractions may pay the \$100 penalty fee for each survey card listed on the ineligible list. Applicants who are ineligible due to a law enforcement infraction must successfully complete a Hunter's Education class prior to being allowed into the hunt draw. Proof of course completion must be submitted to Fish and Wildlife in person, via mail or email at 2023documents@nndfw.org.
- Applicants are encouraged to contact the Department of Fish and Wildlife at 928-871-6450 to verify their eligibility prior to submitting an electronic hunt application.
- Individuals needing assistance with applying online may request assistance by contacting the Department of Fish and Wildlife at (928) 871-6450 or via email at hunt@nndfw.org.

Non-refundable big game hunt application processing fees are as follows:

- \$15.00 for Navajo, non-Navajo, Navajo Spouse, Senior Citizens, Veterans and Mobility Impaired hunters
- \$25.00 for AG
- \$50.00 for BHS, DNS, ENS

AYH and Navajo Guide Applications will still be accepted via mail, email and paper at the Department's main office, along with required documentation. Payments for Guide Permits must be made using Cashier's Checks, Money Orders or Credit/Debit Cards.

The Annual Youth Deer Hunt, previously referred to as DY-1, is now the Annual Youth Hunt (AYH) and hunters may harvest any deer or antlerless elk.

New Lands hunters must check in and check out keys in order to access New Lands to hunt. A \$25 cash deposit is required in order to check out a key. The deposit will be returned to the hunter when the key is returned. Failure to return the key will result in forfeiture of the \$25.

Depredation Cow Elk Hunts:

In order to reduce elk numbers in select locations, the Department has determined that a Depredation Cow Elk (DEPE) Hunt is necessary. In order to apply for a DEPE hunt, one must apply using the navajodraw@nndfw.org system. The application fee is \$15. A DEPE Hunter list will be determined via a random draw. When a DEPE Hunt is scheduled, hunters will be called to determine their availability. If a hunter is not available, the next hunter on the list will be called. Hunters will be escorted by Fish and Wildlife Personnel on the DEPE Hunts. DEPElk Hunts are only open to Navajo Nation members. Applying for DEPE Hunts is a separate application process from the EA, EM, EY and EG hunts and is exempt from the rule that a Big Game Hunter can only submit one application per species for the general hunts.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- **Using ONX while hunting on the Navajo Nation.** The Navajo Nation does not supply ONX with any information in regards to land status. Terms like Off Reservation Trust is a term used by ONX but was not given by the Navajo Nation. The term Off Reservation Trust appears primarily in Units 13 and 14. The exact land status may be Trust, Allotted, Tribal fee, or Private land owned by the Navajo Nation. Units 13 and 14 are very checkerboard, with a lot of the land being allotted. Allotted Lands are treated the same as private property!! Allotees can deny

access to Allotted lands which may be fenced and locked. You need written permission from the Allottee to hunt on Allotted land. On lands where there are multiple Allottees, hunters need 51 percent of the registered Allottees to have permission to hunt on that portion of Allotted land. Hunters should inquire about land status and land status maps by contacting the Navajo Nation Land Department at (928)871-6401 or Website: nnd.org, for exact status of certain lands.

- Leased lands such as Coal Mines and Navajo Agricultural Products Industry are closed to big game hunting.
 - The only hunts with a mandatory check-in will be the DG-11, DNS, ENS and BHS hunts. The Department is trying to increase the number of Chronic Wasting Disease samples taken in the deer and elk herds due to the disease being found adjacent to the Navajo Nation in the four corners area. Therefore, there will be a mandatory check-out requirement for the DG-11 hunt at the Hovenweep check station or by appointment at the main office in Window Rock. Failure to check out an animal will result in the hunter being ineligible the following big game hunt season. All other hunters are encouraged to get their animals checked at deer check stations during the rifle deer hunt or make an appointment at the Department main office in Window Rock, the Fish Hatchery in Toadlena, or at Nenahnezad Chapter House Warehouse. Hunters can call 928-871-6450 for more information or to schedule an appointment.
 - Left-Over Permits: Left-over permit sales will start July 8, 2023. Left-over sale procedures will be available prior to July 8, 2023.
 - The Navajo Nation Fall Hunting Proclamation is a supplement to the Navajo Nation Hunting and Trapping Regulation Booklet. Any changes outlined in this proclamation supersede the Hunting and Trapping Regulations.
 - ATV's are not allowed during big game hunts, except by special permit, or to retrieve downed game. Possession of a firearm, bow or muzzleloader during retrieval is prohibited.
 - Non-Navajo big game hunters using hounds for bear and lion hunts may only be accompanied by Immediate family. Immediate family is defined as spouse, mother, father, son, daughter, brother, sister, grandfather, grandmother. Aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, are not considered immediate family. It is illegal to accompany a non- Navajo in the field while hunting or scouting if that person is not an immediate family member.
 - Non-Navajo hunters using illegal guides or hounds-men who make a kill and subsequently remove the carcass from the Navajo Nation are in violation of both Navajo Nation and federal wildlife laws and will have their hunting privileges revoked. Non-Navajos accompanying big game hunters will be issued a citation for illegal guiding under this provision.
 - Small game hunting, including furbearers, is permitted year-round with proper small game permit.
 - It is illegal to bait big game for the purpose of hunting or scouting. Baiting is defined as placing a natural or artificial food source or supplement utilized to attract a big game animal.
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- If you receive a wildlife violation citation, you will be ineligible to hunt big game. You must successfully complete a hunter education class to become eligible to hunt again.
 - All deer and elk hunters are required to submit the 2 lower middle incisors (Teeth). All buck deer and bull elk hunters must also submit a photograph of the animal they harvest.
 - If you wish to apply for a trophy hunt, you can select up to three DTN hunt choices on one application and three ETN hunt choices on one application. You cannot mix the DTN hunts with the ETN hunts on one application.
 - Mobility Impaired Navajo Hunts: Mobility Impaired permits are for individuals who are permanently disabled. Mobility Impaired permits are available at a 50% discount. 5 General Deer Permits and 5 General Elk Permits are reserved for Mobility Impaired Hunters. If there are more than 5 applicants, for each hunt, then a random computer drawing will be conducted. To apply for a Mobility Impaired Hunt, include documentation of a Mobility Impaired Card or current Doctor's statement (not a rear-view mirror placard) and the general deer or elk hunt code you are applying for on a completed Big Game Hunt application. A mobility impaired permit authorizes the permittee to hunt and/or shoot from a vehicle and/or use an

ATV/UTV. If a mobility impaired hunter has additional needs, they should include any special needs or other hunting regulation variances in a request to the Fish and Wildlife Director. **Mobility Impaired Hunters must apply individually.**

- For temporary disabilities, an individual may request an exemption to the hunting regulations for a specific time frame by requesting the exemption in writing to the Director along with a Doctor's statement.
- 2023 Mountain Lion and Spring Gobbler hunters that fail to return their survey card will be placed on the 2024/2025 ineligible list due to time constraints with survey card deadlines and fall hunt application deadlines.
- General Deer Hunts are DA, DY and DG hunts. General Elk hunts are EA, EM, EY and EG hunts. An applicant may select up to 4 choices in the General Deer Hunts and General Elk Hunts. However, you cannot mix General Deer Hunts with General Elk Hunts on the same application. If you apply for a General Deer Hunt, then you may select any of the other general deer hunts for additional choices. The same applies to the General Elk Hunts. A person may only submit one big game permit application for each of the general deer and general elk hunts for the big game draw. A person may only obtain one permit per hunt code. Submit payment for the highest priced hunt of the four application choices. If you are selected for one of the less expensive hunts, you will be refunded the difference. If an application contains an insufficient payment amount for one of their hunt choices, they will be disqualified from that hunt choice.
- Youth Hunt applicants are limited to one person per application.
- **If one applicant is ineligible or disqualified, then all applicants on that application will also be rejected.**
- **AG Hunt:** A person drawn for this hunt cannot apply for the AG hunt the next three (3) hunt seasons.
- Legal method of take for Turkey Hunts: **Shotgun and bow only.**
- If you do not receive your big game permit(s) by August 1, 2023, please call (928) 871-6450.
- Camping is permitted while in possession of a valid big game hunting permit.
- **Big game hunters must sign their big game permit prior to hunting in order to validate the permit. It is illegal to not tag big game immediately upon making a kill.**
- For those people born after Jan. 1, 1970, proof of Hunter Education Certification (Card) must be in possession when taking big game.
- The mountain lion hunt will be published in a separate proclamation at a later date.

DUE TO PUBLIC CONCERNS, ALL SPORTSMEN ARE REQUIRED TO PACK IN/PACK OUT GARBAGE FROM ALL AREAS OF THE NAVAJO NATION.

GENERAL INFORMATION

All Navajo big game permits are issued on an APPLICATION and RANDOM DRAWING BASIS (if necessary) to ELIGIBLE PERSONS. Any individual may submit one hunt application per species for deer and elk, with the exception of the DEPE, DTN, ETN, DNS and ENS hunts. This does not apply to left-over permits. A person is restricted to one permit per hunt code. In the event a person submits more than one application per species for deer or elk, their applications will be rejected.

Any person 12 years of age and older may hunt big game on the Navajo Nation when properly permitted. A person under the age of 12 may apply for big game hunts only if he/she turns 12 years of age before the beginning of the hunt(s) they are applying for and has successfully completed a Hunter Education Class.

Persons under 12 years of age, having successfully completed a Hunter Education Course, may hunt small game without a permit if accompanied by an adult (18 years of age or older) who has a valid Navajo Nation Small Game Permit in their possession.

No one born after January 1, 1970, may take any game without having satisfactorily completed a certified Hunter Education Course. For those people born after January 1, 1970, proof of Hunter Education Certification (card) must be in possession when taking game animals.

NO COMPLIMENTARY (free of charge) PERMITS will be issued to any person, with the exception of the Annual Youth Hunt and Annual Youth Hunt fundraising efforts and promotional/marketing purposes.

A limited number of special permits for deer, elk and turkey may be issued or donated through fund raising events, pursuant to the Department of Fish and Wildlife Big Game Permit Donation Policy. Written requests for permit donations must be received on or before November 1st of prior year for the following big game hunt season.

Deer densities in Units 6 through 15, excluding 12, are very low. Deer tend to occur in small, widely spaced "pockets". Most resident elk occur in small, local populations. Hunts are designed primarily to control these expanding elk populations.

No person may alter, damage, excavate, deface, destroy or remove any CULTURAL PROPERTIES on Navajo Nation lands. No person may sell, purchase, exchange or transport cultural resources from Navajo lands (Navajo Nation Cultural Resources Protection Act, CMY-19-88).

Hunters dissatisfied with guide services may file a written complaint to the Director, Department of Fish and Wildlife. The complaint should be submitted within thirty days of the hunt and should include a copy of the contract, complaint details and any other relevant documentation. See Section 2.05B of the Navajo Hunting and Trapping Regulation Booklet.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

NO REFUNDS will be made on drawn or issued permits. PERMITS CANNOT BE TRANSFERRED.

If the permit is lost or destroyed, a DUPLICATE PERMIT may be issued at a cost of \$25.00 each. The person whose permit was lost or destroyed must fill out a notarized affidavit in order to receive a Duplicate Permit. The Department is not responsible for permits lost in the mail; the \$25 duplicate permit fee still applies. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that application information is legible and accurate. If there is an error on the Department's part, the Department will issue a duplicate permit at no cost.

An **eligible person** is a person who returned their survey card by the due date for all big game hunts he/she had a permit for the previous season; has successfully completed a hunter education course, if issued a wildlife violation citation on the Navajo Nation; does not currently have their Navajo Nation hunting and trapping privileges suspended; and are not on the Western State Compact list.

A NAVAJO CENSUS NUMBER is required for all Navajo tribal members.

Hunt draw results are confidential and will only be released to individual hunters.

REGULATION INFORMATION

Please refer to the Navajo Nation Hunting and Trapping Regulations for all regulations. This Section only highlights certain regulations.

ALL FISH AND WILDLIFE ARE PROPERTY OF THE NAVAJO NATION AS A WHOLE. All game, fish and other wildlife are protected on the Navajo

Nation and may not be taken, possessed or transported unless specifically permitted. Hunting on the Navajo Nation is a privilege. The Navajo Nation reserves the right to refuse hunting privileges to anyone. All regulations in the Navajo Nation Hunting and Trapping Regulations booklet shall apply. It is the Hunter's responsibility to familiarize themselves with them.

A person may not use any aircraft, including drones, to locate or take any wildlife.

IT IS UNLAWFUL TO POSSESS A FIREARM WITH LIVE AMMUNITION IN THE FIRING CHAMBER IN OR ON ANY MOTOR VEHICLE.

HUNTER ORANGE REQUIREMENT: Any person (including hunt guides or others accompanying the hunter) in the act of taking big game is required to wear a minimum of 300 square inches of daylight fluorescent orange during any hunt allowing the use of any center-fire firearm.

An **ANTLERED DEER** shall mean a mule deer with at least one 2" antler. **SPIKES** are **LEGAL**. An **ANTLERLESS ELK** shall mean an elk with no visible antler (i.e. cow or calf bull). A **BUCK ANTELOPE** shall mean a male pronghorn antelope with a horn longer than its ear.

It is unlawful for anyone to intentionally interfere with a lawful hunt, including illegally denying access to trust lands. If a hunter encounters a locked gate, contact the Department of Fish and Wildlife for assistance.

**** WIN A GENERAL DEER or GENERAL ELK PERMIT ****

Two (2) separate random drawings will take place for eligible hunters.

1st DRAWING: Two (2) 2024-2025 general deer and two general elk hunt permits will be given away as prizes for any eligible hunter who had their animals checked out during the 2023-2024 big game hunt season. Deer check stations will be operated both weekends of the General Deer Hunts. All other hunters can have their animal checked out at the Department of Fish and Wildlife Office in Window Rock, AZ, or in the field if a Department of Fish and Wildlife employee is available.

2nd DRAWING: One (1) 2024-2025 general hunt permit will be awarded to any eligible hunter who submits the head of their deer or elk for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) testing within 48 hours of making a kill during the 2023-2024 big game hunt season. Tissue samples can be collected at deer check stations or you can bring the head to the Department of Fish and Wildlife Office in Window Rock, AZ.

These permits do not count against the one permit per species per person. However, an individual is still limited to one permit per hunt code.

A hunter having their deer/elk checked out **and** submitting tissue samples for CWD testing will be in **both** drawings. A hunter may receive only one prize permit/season. Department of Fish and Wildlife employees are not allowed to be in the drawings. For more information, call (928) 871-6450.

NAVAJO SENIOR CITIZEN AND NAVAJO VETERAN PERMITS

Navajo Senior Citizens, age 60 and older and Honorably Discharged Navajo Veterans may purchase big game hunting permits (excluding DTN, ETN, DNS, ENS, BHS, and AG hunts) at half price. A document showing proof of age must be submitted via email to 2023documents@nndfw.org unless the Department already has a copy on file. This also applies to leftover permit applications.

Navajo Veterans may purchase big game hunting permits (Excluding DTN, ETN, DNS, ENS, BHS, and AG) at half price. A copy of Form DD-214 or Honorable Discharge Certificate from the Armed Forces of the United States must be submitted via email to 2023documents@nndfw.org unless the Department already has a copy on file. This also applies to left-over permit applications. **NOTE:** A person may apply for only a Senior Citizen permit or a Navajo Veterans permit; not both.

NAVAJO SPOUSE PERMITS

Non-Navajo Spouses may only receive one permit per species using the Non-Navajo Spouse provision. This includes left-over permits.

Non-Navajo spouses married to Navajos may purchase big game hunt permits (excluding DEPE, DG-7, DTN, ETN, DNS, ENS, BHS, and AG hunts) at the Navajo price. A copy of the marriage license, Navajo Spouses Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB), and a notarized affidavit dated after January 1, 2023 and prior to 5:00 P.M. MDT on June 16, 2023 stating the applicant is still legally married to a Navajo, must be submitted via email to 2023documents@nndfw.org. The Navajo Spouse Permit provision is not available for widows of Navajo Spouses.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS FOR THE NEW LANDS

No shooting is allowed within one (1) mile of any of the range unit housing clusters or rural community, or within one-half (½) mile of any access road to a housing cluster or rural community. No camping is allowed within one-half (½) mile of any natural waterhole containing water (including seeps and/or springs) or manmade facility containing water (including stock ponds and/or windmill troughs) that are available to big game. Off road vehicle travel is prohibited. New Lands gates are locked. Permitted hunter(s) can check-out a key to New Lands at the Fish and Wildlife Office. A \$25 cash deposit is required when checking out a key. The key must be returned once the hunt is completed and the \$25 cash deposit will be returned to the hunter.

SURVEY CARDS

All big game permit holders must complete and return the big game hunt survey card provided with their permit to the Department of Fish and Wildlife, even if they did not hunt or make a kill **or the permit was lost in the mail. HUNT SURVEY CARDS ARE DUE WITHIN 30 CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE END OF THE HUNT THE PERMIT WAS ISSUED FOR.** Failure to return the required survey card by the due date will cause you to be ineligible for the following big game hunt draw. A hunter that fails to return their survey card may pay a \$100 penalty fee, per hunt, in order to become eligible again. Survey cards will be accepted by mail, email or drop box at the Department of Fish and Wildlife Office. We recommend permit holders mailing a survey card, send it certified mail and/or call our office for confirmation of survey card receipt before the survey card deadline. We also recommend the survey card be emailed and the email will serve as a receipt. Survey cards hand delivered to the Department of Fish and Wildlife Office will be dated and initialed by Department personnel. **A fillable survey card is available on the Fish and Wildlife website. The fillable survey card can be emailed to 2023documents@nndfw.org.** Survey card information can be called in to the front office at the Department of Fish and Wildlife if the survey card is lost. **You are still responsible for submitting your hunt survey even if you never received a permit in the mail or did not hunt. Hunt surveys can be submitted over the phone by calling the Fish and Wildlife Office at (928) 871-6450.**

GUIDE REQUIREMENTS

A GUIDE (OUTFITTER) PERMIT is required for any Navajo who, for pay or gain aids or assists another in the taking of wildlife. The guide permit does not assure consumer satisfaction. It is recommended that potential clients check references before hiring a guide. Only Navajo tribal members are eligible for a guide permit and they must be eligible to hunt. The Guide permit cost is \$50 per applicant per season. The Guide permit application and payment deadline is 5:00 P.M MDT June 16, 2023.

The following are Guide requirements and documentation must be attached to a Guide Application: Must be 21 years of age. Must show proof of Hunter Safety, First Aid Certification, Valid Driver's License, and Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance.

Must attend a Department and Navajo Guide Association sponsored Guide Workshop once.

1. Must have no felony or more serious misdemeanor convictions in the last five (5) years; and must not be on the Department's ineligible list. If ineligible for not meeting survey card requirements, the applicant is required to pay the \$100 penalty fee, per hunt, in order to receive a Guide permit. The guide will only be eligible for left-over permits.
2. Guides must submit two Law Enforcement background checks with their Guide Application. The background checks must be from the Navajo Nation and the state within which they reside. Background checks for first-time guides must go back a period of five years.
3. Guides are required to have a written contract with client(s) for each hunt where guiding services are provided. Guides must provide a copy of each contract to the Department of Fish and Wildlife.
4. Each guide must submit a guide report to the Department of Fish and Wildlife by March 31, 2024 whether or not any guiding activities took place. Failure to do so will result in the suspension of guiding privileges for the following big game season. A guide may pay a \$100 penalty fee to be reinstated, if they submit a late report.

ANNUAL YOUTH HUNT

HUNT CODE	HUNT TYPE	HUNT DATES	OPEN UNITS	Permits Available			COST			2022 1 st Choice Apps.	2022 % Hunt Success
				Navajo	Spouse	Non-Navajo	Vet/Senior	Navajo	Non-Navajo		
AYH	Any Deer or Antlerless Elk	Sept. 22-24, 2023	1-5, 16B	15	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	22	93

Hunters must be 12 to 16 years of age. AYH Hunt applications are due at Fish and Wildlife by 5:00 P.M. MDT on June 16, 2023. Applications may be submitted in person or via email for Fax and is not part of the new hunt draw system. **Only one applicant per application. Proof of Hunter Education Certification (card) must be in possession when taking big game animals.** Weapons: Any legal weapon as defined in the Navajo Nation Hunting and Trapping Regulations.

ARCHERY DEER HUNTS

HUNT CODE	HUNT TYPE	HUNT DATES	OPEN UNITS	Antlered Permits Available			COST			2022 1 st Choice Apps.	2022 % Hunt Success
				Navajo	Spouse	Non-Navajo	Vet/Senior	Navajo	Non-Navajo		
DA-1	Archery Deer	Sept. 2-10, 2023	1	10	0	1	\$23.50	\$47	\$400	29	67
DA-2	Archery Deer	Sept. 2-10, 2023	2	21	1	2	\$23.50	\$47	\$400	105	36
DA-3	Archery Deer	Sept. 2-10, 2023	3	21	1	2	\$23.50	\$47	\$400	67	45
DA-4	Archery Deer	Sept. 2-10, 2023	4	21	1	2	\$23.50	\$47	\$400	85	35
DA-5	Archery Deer	Sept. 2-10, 2023	5	24	1	2	\$23.50	\$47	\$400	50	5
DA-6	Archery Deer	Sept. 2-10, 2023	8-11	25	1	2	\$23.50	\$47	\$400	23	11
DA-7	Archery Deer	Sept. 2-10, 2023	13-15	25	1	2	\$23.50	\$47	\$400	19	0

Weapons: Any legal bow as defined in the Navajo Nation Hunting and Trapping Regulations in the DA hunts. An applicant may select up to 4 General Deer hunt choices when applying

RIFLE DEER HUNTS

HUNT CODE	HUNT TYPE	HUNT DATES	OPEN UNITS	Antlered Permits Available			COST			2022 1 st Choice Apps.	2022 % Hunt Success
				Navajo	Spouse	Non-Navajo	Vet/Senior	Navajo	Non-Navajo		
DG-1	Rifle Deer	October 21 – 29, 2023	1	5	0	0	\$26.00	\$52	NA	58	50
DG-2	Rifle Deer	October 21 – 29, 2023	2	23	1	2	\$26.00	\$52	\$1,400	210	88
DG-3	Rifle Deer	October 21 – 29, 2023	3	23	1	2	\$26.00	\$52	\$1,400	219	73
DG-4	Rifle Deer	October 21 – 29, 2023	4	23	1	2	\$26.00	\$52	\$1,400	208	81
DG-5	Rifle Deer	October 21 – 29, 2023	5	23	1	2	\$26.00	\$52	\$1,400	182	63
DG-6	Rifle Deer	October 21 – 29, 2023	6	9	0	1	\$26.00	\$52	\$1,400	16	100
DG-7	Rifle Deer	October 21 – 29, 2023	7	5	0	0	\$26.00	\$52	NA	26	0
DG-8	Rifle Deer	October 21 – 29, 2023	8	17	1	2	\$26.00	\$52	\$1,400	18	53
DG-9	Rifle Deer	October 21 – 29, 2023	9	17	1	2	\$26.00	\$52	\$1,400	15	6
DG-10	Rifle Deer	October 21 – 29, 2023	10	17	1	2	\$26.00	\$52	\$1,400	22	38
DG-11*	Rifle Deer	December 13-17, 2023	11	30	1	3	\$26.00	\$52	\$1,400	20	10
DG-13	Rifle Deer	October 21 – 29, 2023	13	17	1	2	\$26.00	\$52	\$1,400	27	21
DG-14	Rifle Deer	October 21 – 29, 2023	14	17	1	2	\$26.00	\$52	\$1,400	47	16
DG-15	Rifle Deer	October 21 – 29, 2023	15	9	0	0	\$26.00	\$52	NA	20	25

Weapons: Any legal weapon as defined in the Navajo Nation Hunting and Trapping Regulations. An applicant may select up to 4 General Deer hunt choices when applying. DG-11 hunters are required to have their deer checked and sampled for Chronic Wasting Disease. Failure to do so will result in the hunter being ineligible the following big game season.

YOUTH DEER HUNTS

HUNT CODE	HUNT TYPE	HUNT DATES	OPEN UNITS	Permits Available		COST		2022 1 st Apps.	2022 % Hunt Success
				Navajo	Non-Navajo	Navajo	Non-Navajo		
DY-1	Youth Deer	November 17 – 19, 2023	2, 3, 4	32 Antlered	3 Antlered	\$27	\$300	81	86

Hunters must be 12 to 16 years of age when hunting. NOTE: **Only one applicant per application.** Hunters must be accompanied during the hunt by a person 18 years of age or older. **Proof of Hunter Education Certification (card) must be in possession when taking big game animals.** Weapons: Any legal weapon as defined in the Navajo Nation Hunting and Trapping Regulations.

ARCHERY ELK HUNTS

HUNT CODE	HUNT TYPE	HUNT DATES	OPEN UNITS	Any Elk Permits Available			COST			2022 1 st Apps.	2022 % Hunt Success
				Navajo	Spouse	Non-Navajo	Vet/Senior	Navajo	Non-Navajo		
EA-1	Archery Elk	Sept. 9 – 24, 2023	1-5, 12	120	4	20	\$26.00	\$52	\$600	206	8
EA-2	Archery Elk	Sept. 9 – 24, 2023	13 and 14	120	4	20	\$26.00	\$52	\$600	112	10
EA-3	Archery Elk	Sept. 9 – 24, 2023	6, 7, 8	50	2	5	\$26.00	\$52	\$600	49	6

Weapons: Any legal bow as defined in the Navajo Nation Hunting and Trapping Regulations. An applicant may select up to 4 General Elk hunt choices when applying.

YOUTH ELK HUNTS

HUNT CODE	HUNT TYPE	HUNT DATES	OPEN UNITS	Any Elk Permits Available		COST		2022 1 st Choice Apps.	2022 % Hunt Success
				Navajo	Non-Navajo	Navajo	Non-Navajo		
EY-1	Youth Elk	October 11 – 15, 2023	1 – 8	40	4	\$27	\$300	52	15
EY-2	Youth Elk	October 11 - 15, 2023	11-14	30	3	\$27	\$300	14	33

Weapons: Any legal weapon as defined in the Navajo Nation Hunting and Trapping Regulations. Hunters must be 12 to 16 years of age when hunting. **NOTE: Only one applicant per application.** Hunters must be accompanied during the hunt by a person 18 years of age or older. **Proof of Hunter Education Certification (card) must be in possession when taking big game animals.** An applicant may select a second choice EY hunt when applying.

MUZZLELOADER ELK HUNTS

HUNT CODE	HUNT TYPE	HUNT DATES	OPEN UNITS	Any Elk Permits Available			COST			2022 1 st Choice Apps.	2022 % Hunt Success
				Navajo	Spouse	Non-Navajo	Vet/Senior	Navajo	Non-Navajo		
EM-1	Muzzleloader Elk	Oct. 4 - 8, 2023	1 – 8	55	2	6	\$26.00	\$52	\$1,300	99	17
EM-2	Muzzleloader Elk	Oct. 4-8, 2023	11-14	30	1	3	\$26.00	\$52	\$1,300	26	29

Weapons: Any legal bow or muzzleloader as defined in the Navajo Nation Hunting and Trappings Regulations. An applicant may select up to 4 General Elk hunt choices.

GENERAL ELK HUNTS

HUNT CODE	HUNT TYPE	HUNT DATES	OPEN UNITS	Permits Available			COST			2022 1 st Choice Apps.	2022 % Hunt Success
				Navajo	Spouse	Non-Navajo	Vet/Senior	Navajo	Non-Navajo		
EG-1	General Elk	Nov. 1 - 5, 2023	1 - 8, 11 - 14	120 Any Elk	4 Any Elk	26 Any Elk	\$26.00	\$52	\$1,400	329	9
EG-2	General Elk	November 11 – 19, 2023	1 – 10	175 Antlerless	5 Antlerless	25 Antlerless	\$26.00	\$52	\$300	116	10
EG-3	General Elk	November 4 – 12, 2023	11 – 15	75 Antlerless	2 Antlerless	25 Antlerless	\$26.00	\$52	\$300	78	30
EG-4	General Elk	Dec. 30, 2023 – Jan. 7, 2024	1 – 8	30 Any Elk	1 Any Elk	5 Any Elk	\$26.00	\$52	\$1,400	32	5
EG-5	General Elk	Dec. 30, 2023 – Jan. 7, 2024	11 – 14	50 Any Elk	1 Any Elk	5 Any Elk	\$26.00	\$52	\$1,400	44	22

EG-6	General Elk	February 1 – 28, 2024	1 – 14	100 Antlerless	3 Antlerless	25 Antlerless	\$26.00	\$52	\$300	110	Pending
EG-7	General Elk	February 1 – 28, 2024	16A	20 Antlerless	1 Antlerless	2 Antlerless	\$26.00	\$52	\$300	48	Pending
EG-8	General Elk	February 1 – 28, 2024	16A and 16B	3 Antlerless	NA	0	\$26.00	\$52	NA	13	Pending

Unit 16 has been split into sub-units for the elk hunts. 16A is all of New Lands excluding Padres Mesa. Unit 16B is the Padres Mesa area within New Lands. Weapons: Any legal weapon as defined in the Navajo Nation Hunting and Trapping Regulations. An applicant may select up to 4 General Elk hunt choices when applying.

DEPREDATION COW ELK HUNTS

HUNT CODE	HUNT TYPE	HUNT DATES	OPEN UNITS	Any Elk Permits Available			COST			2022 1 st Choice Apps.	2022 % Hunt Success
				Navajo	Spouse	Non-Navajo	Vet/Senior	Navajo	Non-Navajo		
DEPE	Antlerless Elk	TBD	TBD	TBD	NA	NA	\$26.00	\$52	NA	NA	NA

In order to reduce elk numbers in select locations, the Department has determined that a Depredation Cow Elk (DEPE) Hunt is necessary. In order to apply for a DEPE hunt, one must apply using the navajodraw@nndfw.org system. The application fee is \$15. A DEPE Hunter list will be determined via a random draw. When a DEPE Hunt is scheduled, hunters will be called to determine their availability. If a hunter is not available, the next hunter on the list will be called. Hunters will be escorted by Fish and Wildlife Personnel on the Depredation Hunts. Depredation Cow Elk Hunts are only open to Navajo Nation members. Applying for DEPE Hunts is a separate application process from the EA, EM, EY and EG hunts and is exempt from the rule that a Big Game Hunter can only submit one application per species for the general hunts.

FALL TURKEY HUNTS

HUNT CODE	HUNT TYPE	HUNT DATES	OPEN UNITS	Any Turkey Permits Available			COST			2022 1 st Choice Apps.	2022 % Hunt Success
				Navajo	Spouse	Non-Navajo	Vet/Senior	Navajo	Non-Navajo		

TF	Fall Turkey	November 11 – 19, 2023	1 – 5, 15	60	2	6	\$16.00	\$32	\$100	155	36
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Weapons: Shotgun or bow only.

PRONGHORN ANTELOPE HUNT

HUNT CODE	HUNT TYPE	HUNT DATES	OPEN UNITS	Buck Permits Available		COST	2022 1 st Choice Apps.	2022 % Hunt Success
				Navajo	Spouse			
AG	Antelope	Sept. 2 - 6, 2023	16	3	0	\$25.00	128	50

Weapon: Any legal weapon as defined in the Navajo Nation Hunting and Trapping Regulations. This hunt is open to Navajo tribal members only. A person drawn for this hunt cannot apply for the next three (3) hunt seasons. **All hunters making a kill are required to submit teeth, a photo, and check sheet along with the survey card in accordance to the Survey Card Deadline. Failure to do so will result in the hunter being ineligible for any big game hunts the following season.** If you are not drawn, you do not receive a refund. Only 1 person may apply per AG application.

BLACK BEAR HUNT

HUNT CODE	HUNT TYPE	HUNT DATES	OPEN UNITS	Any Bear Permits Available			COST			2022 1 st Choice Apps.	2022 % Hunt Success
				Navajo	Spouse	Non-Navajo	Vet/Senior	Navajo	Non-Navajo		
B-1	Black Bear	Aug. 5 - Oct. 15, 2023	1-5	40	1	4	\$28.50	\$57.00	\$1,000	51	42
B-2	Black Bear	Aug. 5 – Oct. 15, 2023	12	5	0	2	\$28.50	\$57.00	\$250.00	7	25

WEAPONS: Any legal weapon for big game, as defined in the Navajo Nation Hunting and Trapping Regulation booklet. All hunters making a kill are required to submit teeth, a photo, and check sheet along with the survey card in accordance to the Survey Card Deadline. Failure to do so will result in the hunter being ineligible for any big game hunts the following season. Baiting is not allowed. Dogs may be used for pursuit as long as the permit holder is present. Cubs and sows with cubs may not be taken.

TROPHY DEER HUNTS

HUNT CODE	HUNT TYPE	HUNT DATES	OPEN UNITS	NUMBER OF NAVAJO AVAILABLE PERMITS	NAVAJO COST	2022 1 st Choice Apps.	2022 % Hunt Success
DTN-6	Trophy Deer	Dec. 9-17, 2023	6	1 Antlered	\$315.00	4	100
DTN-7	Trophy Deer	Dec. 9-17, 2023	7	1 Antlered	\$315.00	2	0
DTN-8	Trophy Deer	Dec. 9-17, 2023	8	1 Antlered	\$315.00	2	0
DTN-10	Trophy Deer	Dec. 9-17, 2023	10	1 Antlered	\$315.00	0	0
DTN-12	Trophy Deer	Dec. 9-17, 2023	12	1 Antlered	\$315.00	3	100
DTN-13	Trophy Deer	Dec. 9-17, 2023	13	1 Antlered	\$315.00	1	100
DTN-14	Trophy Deer	Dec. 9-17, 2023	14	1 Antlered	\$315.00	2	50
DTN-16	Trophy deer	Dec. 23 – 31, 2023	16	1 Antlered	\$315.00	2	50

DTN Hunts: An applicant may select a second and third choice DTN hunt on the application. All hunters making a kill are required to submit teeth, a photo, and check sheet and/or survey card in accordance to the Survey Card Deadline. Failure to do so will result in the hunter being ineligible for any big game hunts the following season.

TROPHY ELK HUNTS

HUNT CODE	HUNT TYPE	HUNT DATES	OPEN UNITS	NUMBER OF NAVAJO AVAILABLE PERMITS	NAVAJO COST	2022 1 st Choice Apps.	2022 % Hunt Success
ETN-1	Trophy Archery Elk	Sept. 9 – 24, 2023	9,10,15,16A	2 Any Elk	\$315.00	21	50
ETN-2	Trophy Archery Elk	Sept. 9 – 24, 2023	9,10,15,16A and B	1 Any Elk	\$315.00	19	50
ETN-3	Trophy Rifle Elk	Sept. 27 – Oct. 1, 2023	9, 10, 15, 16A	1 Bull Elk	\$315.00	26	100
ETN-4	Trophy Rifle Elk	Sept. 27. – Oct. 1, 2023	9,10,15,16 A and B	1 Bull Elk	\$315.00	20	100
ETN-5	Trophy Rifle Elk	January 1-10, 2024	9, 10, 15, 16A	1 Bull Elk	\$315.00	11	0

ETN HUNTS: Unit 16 has been split into sub-units for the elk hunts. 16A is all of New Lands excluding Padres Mesa. Unit 16B is the Padres Mesa area within New Lands. An applicant may select up to three ETN hunt choices on the application. All hunters making a kill are required to submit teeth, a photo, and check sheet and/or survey card in accordance to the Survey Card Deadline. Failure to do so will result in the hunter being ineligible for any big game hunts the following season.

SPECIAL ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME HUNTS

HUNT CODE	HUNT TYPE	HUNT DATES	OPEN UNITS	NUMBER OF NAVAJO PERMITS	NAVAJO COST	2022 1 st Choice Apps.	2022 % Hunt Success
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BHS	Desert Bighorn Sheep	December 1 – 5, 2023	6	1 Ram (Once in a lifetime)	\$25	134	100
DNS	Navajo Special Deer	Oct. 1, 2023 - Jan. 31, 2024	1-16	1 Antlered (once in a lifetime)	\$50	58	0
ENS	Navajo Special Elk	Sept. 1, 2023 - Jan. 31, 2024	1-16	1 Any Elk (Once in a lifetime)	\$50	66	100

Special Once-in-a-lifetime hunts: If you are not drawn, you do not receive a refund. BHS, DNS and ENS hunts have a mandatory check-in, if you harvest an animal. Call 928-871-6450 to make an appointment to check animal.

BHS HUNTS: The hunt is only open to Navajo tribal members. Contact the Department of Fish and Wildlife for more information on accessing the hunt areas. Application Cost is a non-refundable \$25. Successful sheep hunters must have their horns plugged by the Department. Only 1 person may apply per application.

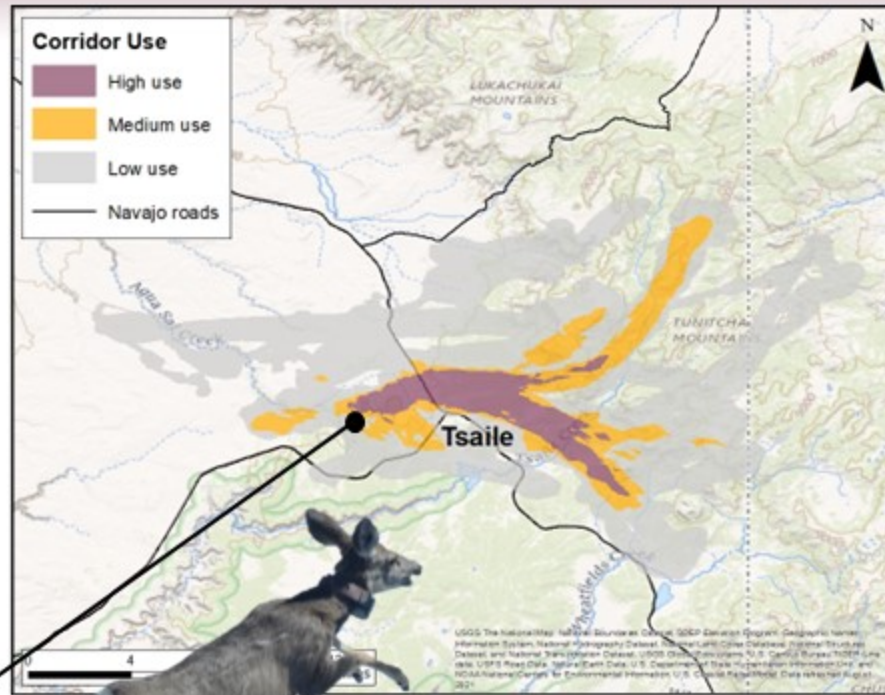
DNS HUNT: The hunt is only open to Navajo tribal members. The DNS hunter is required to have their deer checked and sampled for Chronic Wasting Disease. Failure to do so will result in the hunter being ineligible the following big game season. Only 1 person may apply per DNS application.

ENS HUNT: This hunt is only open to Navajo tribal members. The ENS hunter is required to have their elk checked and sampled for Chronic Wasting Disease. Failure to do so will result in the hunter being ineligible the following big game season. Only 1 person may apply per ENS application.

WILD MIGRATIONS: NAVAJO MULE DEER PROJECT

In the last decade, Navajo Nation has seen a steady decline in its mule deer populations. After observing record low deer counts in 2018, NNDFW decided to launch the **Navajo Mule Deer Project** to better understand deer ecology and movements on the Nation and investigate factors negatively impacting deer herds.

Findings from this long-term study have helped NNDFW better understand mule deer seasonal movements and migration, causes of mortality, fawn survival, and help prioritize areas for protection and enhancement of deer habitats through habitat restoration projects. NNDFW Biologists have used the GPS collar locations over the last 5 years to identify high-use migration corridors, like the one pictured right. We've identified a very important migration corridor near the intersection of Indian Route 12 and US Highway 64 just north of Tsaile. Five percent of our collared deer have been hit and killed within this corridor in the last 2 years.



Have you been lucky enough to spot a collared deer from the Navajo Mule Deer Project? Over the last 5 years, NNDFW has captured and collared 141 mule deer across the Defiance Plateau and Chuska-Carrizo mountain chain. Mule deer migrate up to higher elevations in the summer where there is better forage, and back down to lower elevations in the winter when the snowpack becomes too deep in the mountains. In the photo below, white lines represent the movements of collared mule deer during their migration off Carrizo Mountain to the flats.



One catchment at a time . . .

During times of extended drought, access to water can mean life or death for wild animals. NNDFW has been working hard to restore old water catchments and install new ones in areas that lack permanent sources of water. Seven older water catchments have been brought back to life and 5 new catchments have been installed in critical mule deer habitat.

