

GRIZZLY BEAR

Montana Hunting Regulations



Grizzly bear. Ursus arctos horribilis. Photo by Donald M. Jones

Apply for General Licenses, Special Licenses, and SuperTags Online: fwp.mt.gov

Regulations Adopted by F&W Commission

These regulations are adopted under the authority granted to the Fish & Wildlife Commission (F&W Commission) in MCA 87-1-301 and are valid March 1, 2016, through February 28, 2017 These regulations were adopted by the F&W Commission on February 11, 2016. The F&W Commission reserves the authority to amend the seasons, limits and regulations herein if deemed necessary for wildlife management purposes. M. Jeff Hagener, Director.

State and Federal laws, Title VI of Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, or disability. Anyone believing he or she has been discriminated against (as described above) in any Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) program, activity, or facility may write to FWP Human Resources Office, 1420 East Sixth Avenue, PO Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701 or the office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

License Chart

License	Co	ost	Stipulations
	Resident	Non- resident	
Base Hunting	\$10	\$15	Required prerequisite for hunting.
Conservation	\$8	\$10	Required prerequisite.
Grizzly Bear	\$150	\$1000	
Grizzly Bear Trophy License	\$50	\$50	If a holder of a valid special grizzly bear license who is 12 years of age or older kills a grizzly bear, the person shall purchase a trophy license for a fee of \$50 within 10 days after the date of the kill. The trophy license authorizes the holder to possess and transport the trophy.
Bow and Arrow (Archery)	\$10	\$10	A bow and arrow license, plus the proper hunting license is required during grizzly bear Archery Only Season or to archery hunt grizzly bear in an Arch-Equip only area or hunting district.
Bear Identification Test Certificate Required	Free	Free	A hunter must take and pass a "bear identification test" before purchasing a grizzly bear hunting license. A hunter must present a certificate of completion issued by FWP at the time of purchase. The test is available online at: http://fwp.mt.gov/education/hunter/bearID/

What's New & Reminders

- See license chart for grizzly bear license purchase stipulations.
- · Laws and Regulations are on pages 4-10.

Youth Hunter:

- An Apprentice Hunter is a resident or nonresident, 10-17 years of age, certified at an FWP office. This allows the youth to hunt some species, while accompanied by a mentor, without first completing a hunter education course. The apprentice hunter may not apply for a bighorn sheep license or a hunting license or permit with a limited quota. Other restrictions apply. See our website for details at: http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/licenses/all/apprenticeHunter/default.html
- A resident or nonresident youth 12 years of age or older may hunt any game species for which their license is valid. Those who will reach 12 years of age by January 16, 2017 may hunt any game species, for which their license is valid, after August 15 of the 2016 license year. Proof of hunter education must be presented at the time of purchase.

Licensing – General

- Grizzly bear licenses are available only through a limited drawing. Applications for the drawing must be received by 5:00 PM on XXX X.
- Sportspersons are limited to a "once-in-a-lifetime" harvest of a grizzly bear.
- An applicant who receives a grizzly bear license is not eligible to apply for or receive another license for grizzly bear for the following 7 years (see reference chart):

7 Year	7 Year Wait		
Year License Drawn	Year May Reapply		
2010	2018		
2011	2019		
2012	2020		
2013	2021		
2014	2022		
2015	2023		
2016	2024		

- Licenses will be issued after completion of the required hunt orientation class.
- License holders may legally take one adult grizzly bear subject to all specifications on the license issued.
- If a holder of a valid special grizzly bear license who is 12 years
 of age or older kills a grizzly bear, the person shall purchase
 a trophy license for a fee of \$50 within 2 days after the date
 of the kill (MCA 87-2701). The trophy license authorizes the
 holder to possess and transport the trophy.
- The licenses listed in the license chart are available at FWP offices, FWP website at http://fwp.mt.gov, and FWP license providers.
- Replacements of lost, stolen or destroyed licenses may be purchased at FWP offices and FWP License Providers. A second duplicate license for the same species within a twoyear period may only be purchased at an FWP office. A person cannot replace a license requiring a carcass tag a third time for the same species within a two-year period. A fee of \$5 per license will be charged for each duplicate license.

It is unlawful to:

- Swear or affirm to a false statement in order to obtain a duplicate license.
- Possess an original as well as a duplicate license(s). If the original is found, it must be returned to FWP at any regional office.
- Allow a license of any type to be used by another person.
- Montana is a member of the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact.
 Under the compact, member states recognize suspensions of hunting, fishing or trapping privileges. It is illegal for a violator whose privilege to hunt, fish or trap is suspended to obtain or attempt to obtain a license, tag or permit in a member state. For more information, call 406-444-2452.

Hunter Education for Firearm and Archery

- If you were born after January 1, 1985, you are required to show proof of completing a Montana hunter safety and education course (or an approved hunter safety course from any other state or province) prior to applying for or purchasing a hunting license, whether the hunting license is for the rifle or archery season.
- Montana law requires members of the armed forces and their dependents stationed in Montana to present a Montana hunter education certificate or similar certificate from any state or province when purchasing any Montana hunting license.
- Duplicates Montana certificates of completion for the Montana hunter education and/or bowhunter education courses may be obtained from FWP's website at:

http://fwp.mt.gov/education/hunter.

Bowhunter Education Requirements

- To purchase a Montana bow and arrow license, a hunter must:
- Provide a certificate of completing the National Bowhunter Education Foundation course, or
- Provide any prior year's bowhunting/archery stamp, tag, permit, or license from any state or province. If you can no longer produce this license, for a \$5 fee you may sign an affidavit stating that you previously held such a license. The affidavit is available at all FWP License Providers. The affidavit entitles you to purchase a current year's Montana bow and arrow license.

State School Trust Lands Recreational Use License

 The Conservation License allows hunters, anglers and trappers access to all legally accessible state school trust lands (contact DNRC at 406-444-2074).

Hunter with a Disability

If you or someone you know has a disability and/ or is aging, and is in need of assistive technology (AT) or adaptive equipment to help you participate in outdoor recreation, please contact:



MonTech at the University of Montana Rural Institute 52 Corbin Hall Missoula, MT 59803 (406) 243-5751 http://montech.ruralinstitute.utm.edu/

Licensing - Residency

It is illegal to swear to or to affirm a false statement in order to obtain an original or duplicate resident hunting and/or fishing license OR to assist an unqualified applicant in obtaining a resident license.

Armed Forces

- A member of the regular armed forces of the United States, a member's dependent who resides in the member's Montana household, or a member of the armed forces of a foreign government attached to the regular armed forces of the United States is considered a resident for Montana hunting, fishing and trapping licenses if:
- The member was a resident of Montana under the provisions listed under residency at the time the member entered the armed forces and continues to meet these residency criteria; or
- The member is currently stationed in and assigned to active duty in Montana, has resided in Montana for a least 30 days, and presents official assignment orders and a certificate verifying successful completion of an approved hunter safety course from any state or province.

Nonresident

 Nonresident unmarried minors, at least 12 but not older than 17 years of age, can hunt in Montana as a resident if the minor's parents, legal guardian, or parent with joint custody, sole custody, or visitation rights is a legal resident of Montana.

Resident

- To be a legal Montana resident and eligible to purchase any Montana resident fishing, hunting, and trapping license, as per MCA 87-2-102, you must:
- have been physically living in Montana for at least 180 consecutive days immediately prior to purchasing a resident license;
- register your vehicle(s) in Montana;
- be registered to vote in Montana if you're registered to vote at all:
- not possess current (or have applied for any) resident hunting, fishing, or trapping privileges in another state or country;
- file Montana state income tax returns as a resident, if you are required to file.
- To purchase an annual resident conservation license you will be required to show a valid Montana Driver's License (MDL), a valid Montana Identification Card (MIC) or a valid Tribal Identification Card.
- If your MDL or MIC has been issued for less than six months, you may be required to show additional proof of residency. An out-of-state driver's license is NOT an acceptable form of ID for resident license purchases. Contact your local FWP office for specifics.
- Once you have established your residency, you must continue to meet all these requirements and physically reside in Montana as your principal or primary place of abode for not less than 120 days per year (days need not be consecutive).
- A person is NOT considered a resident for the purposes of this section if the person:
- claims residence in any other state or country for any purpose; or
- is an absentee property owner paying property tax on property in Montana.

Grizzly Bear Specific Regulations

- The grizzly bear season is based on a harvest quota system with the number of licenses available equal to that quota and issued through a random drawing. Hunters may hunt in any Grizzly Bear Management Unit that is open until the season is closed in individual or in all Grizzly Bear Management Units as described below.
- The grizzly bear season will close upon 24 hour notice, but no later than April 20 during the spring season and December 15 during the fall season, in all Grizzly Bear Management Units (GBMUs) when the female quota is reached **OR** the total male quota is reached.
- The grizzly bear season will close upon 24 hour notice, but no later than April 20 during the spring season and December 15 during the fall season, in an individual Grizzly Bear Management Unit (GBMU) when the male subquota is reached for that particular GBMU.
- Sportspersons harvesting a grizzly bear must accurately record the location of kill with a GPS unit or by being able to pinpoint on a high-quality map the exact location. If required by the department the sportsperson must physically return to the kill site for inspection.
- Female bears with young and individual young may not be harvested. Young are defined as two years old or younger.
 It is illegal to harvest/take any grizzly bear accompanied by another bear or bears. This means any bear accompanied by cubs, young, yearling, two-year old or adult bears.
- Sportsmen are limited to a "once-in-a-lifetime" harvest of a grizzly bear.
- It is illegal to bait bears or to hunt bears with dogs. No scents may be used to attract grizzly bears.
- It is illegal to take a grizzly bear while it is in its den.
- Grizzly bear quotas and subquotas may fill quickly. Hunters are responsible to know the quota status before hunting.
- The Fish & Wildlife Commission has authorized the department to initiate closure prior to reaching the female subquota when conditions or circumstances indicate the subquota may be reached within the 24-hour closure notice period.

Mandatory Reporting Requirements

- Hunters must personally report their grizzly bear kill within 12 hours by calling the grizzly bear reporting line at 1-877-FWP-WILD (1-877-397-9453) or 406-444-0356. Even hunters in remote backcountry situations must report their kill within 12 hours.
- Sportspersons harvesting a grizzly bear must accurately record the location of kill with a GPS unit or by being able to pinpoint on a high-quality map the exact location. If required by the department the sportsperson must physically return to the kill site for inspection.
- Inspection Within 2 days of harvesting a grizzly bear, successful hunters are required to present the hide with evidence of sex attached and the skull to FWP in the FWP Region where the bear was taken. The hide and skull must be presented in a condition that allows full inspection and tooth collection (i.e. unfrozen) for the purpose of:
- Registration of kill.
- Verify evidence of sex.
- Determining the reproductive status of female bears.
- Removal of tooth for aging purposes.
- Issuance and attachment of a hide tag and a skull tag. The hide tag must thereafter remain attached to the hide until tanned. The skull tag must thereafter remain on the skull.
- Issuance of a \$50 trophy license.

Grizzly Bear Management Unit Regulations

Grizzly Bear Management Quotas: TBD* Grizzly Bears including no more than TBD* females and TBD* males for all GBMUs combined. Individual GBMUs are established to distribute harvest. The total harvest from all GBMUs cannot exceed these harvest quotas.

Grizzly Bear License. Drawing only. Apply by XXX X.

XXX-00: TBD* Licenses. Valid in GBMUs 301, 302, 303, 304, 500 and 501. Female quota = TBD*. Male quota = TBD* (with male subquotas in each GBMU as presented in the table below).

NOTE: Hunters may hunt in any Grizzly Bear Management Unit (GBMU) that is open until the season is closed in that individual GBMU or in all GBMUs. The grizzly bear season will close upon 24 hour notice, but no later than April 20 during the spring season and December 15 during the fall season, in all GBMUs when the female quota is reached or when the male quota is reached. An individual GBMU will close when the male subquota is reached for that particular GBMU. see the chart below for male subquotas. For Quota Status call 1-800-385-7826 or (406) 444-1989.

Mar 15 – Apr 20 – Either-sex Grizzly Bear. Nov 10 – Dec 15 – Either-sex Grizzly Bear.

GBMU	Female Quota	Male Quota	Male subquota
300 Highland - Ruby		CLOSE)
301 Gravelly			TBD*
302 Madison			TBD*
303 Gallatin - Yellowstone	TBD*	TBD*	TBD*
304 Yellowstone - Boulder			TBD*
500 Beartooth Face			TBD*
501 Stillwater - Bighorn		CLOSE)

* TBD* To Be Determined

Restricted Areas

Weapons Restrictions

Weapons restrictions are in effect in some hunting districts. It is your responsibility to know that you are in a legal hunting area.

The following equipment restrictions apply to Weapons Restriction Areas: **Archery**

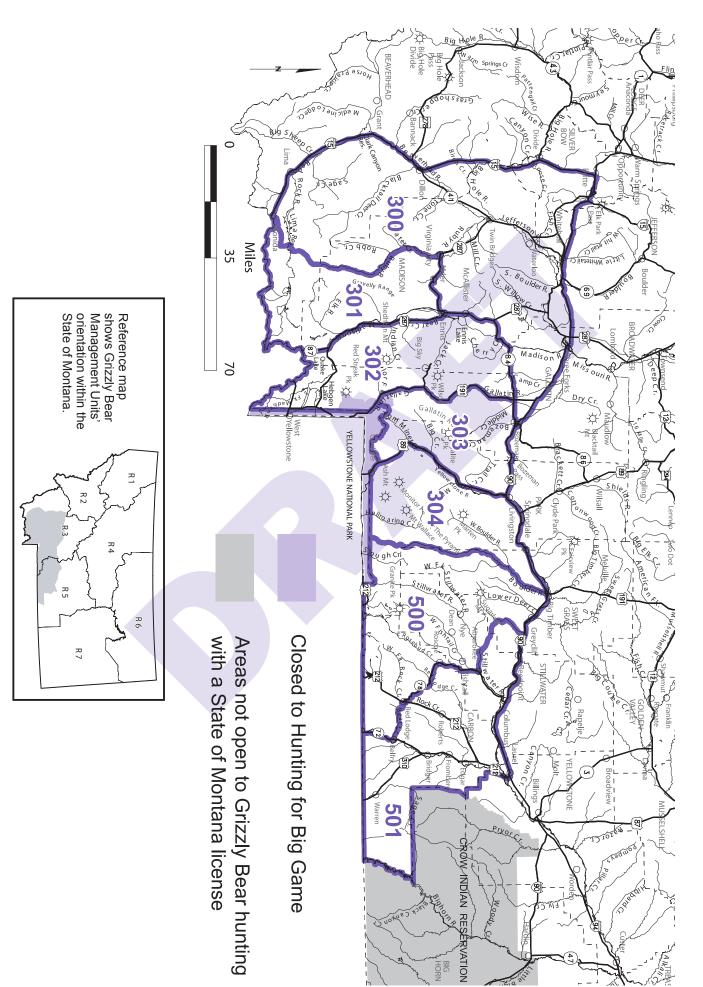
 See legal archery equipment in the "Methods and Means of Hunting" section.

Crossbows

 Legal in weapons restriction areas unless exception noted in specific hunting district regulations.

Muzzleloader

- must not be capable of being loaded from the breech of the barrel;
- may not be loaded with any pre-prepared paper or metallic cartridges;
- must be charged with black powder, pyrodex, or an equivalent;
- must be ignited by a percussion, flintlock, matchlock, or wheelock mechanism;
- must be a minimum of .45 caliber;
- · may have no more than two barrels; and
- must only use plain lead projectiles (not sabots or similar projectiles).



Traditional Handgun

- · must not be capable of being shoulder mounted;
- must have a barrel length of less than 10 1/2 inches; and
- must chamber only a straight wall cartridge, not originally developed for rifles.

Shotgun

 Must be a shouldered, breech-loaded or muzzle-loaded firearm with a smooth bore and/or rifled barrel and/or rifled choke device designed to fire shot or slugs.

Restricted Area Descriptions

Restricted area descriptions include closed and/or weapons restricted areas. It is your responsibility to know that you are in a legal hunting area.

Gallatin Valley Weapons Restriction Area: Beginning at the intersection of Cottonwood Road and Enders Road, continuing southeast from that intersection along Cottonwood Road, north to South 19th, then east on South 19th to Nash Road, then east on Nash Road to Sourdough Canyon Road, then south on Sourdough Canyon Road, to the national forest boundary, then east along said boundary to boundary of State Lands Sections 4, 3, 34, 35 and 1 to Bear Canyon Road, then northerly on Bear Canyon Road to the Bear Canyon Interchange with Interstate 90, then northerly to Rocky Creek, northwesterly along Rocky Creek to L Street, then north on L Street to Story Mill Road, then north on Story Mill Road to Deer Creek Drive, northeast on Deer Creek Drive to Lookfar Way, north on Lookfar Way to Rolling Hills Drive, north on Rolling Hills Drive to Sypes Canyon Road, northwesterly on Sypes Canyon Road to Summer Cuttoff Road, then Saddle Mountain Road, then east on Saddle Mountain Road to Bostwick Road, then north along Bostwick Road to Baseline East Road, then west on Baseline East Road to Walker Road, then north on Walker Road to Penwell Bridge Road, then west on Penwell Bridge Road to Wes Davis Road, then north and west on Wes Davis Road to Hamilton Road, then west and north on Hamilton Road to Cactus Road, then west on Cactus Road to Highway 290, then south on Highway 290 to Weaver Road, then west on Weaver Road to Highway 10, then northwesterly on Highway 10 to Heeb Road, then south on Heeb Road to Amsterdam Road, east on Amsterdan Road, to Linney Road, south on Linney Road to Cameron Bridge Road, then east on Cameron Bridge Road to River Road, then south on River Road to Highway 84, then east on Highway 84 to Shedds Bridge, then south up western most channel of the Gallatin River to Gallatin Gateway Bridge, then east on Gallatin Gateway Road to US Highway 191, then south on US Highway 191 to Cottonwood Road, to point of beginning.

NOTE Sourdough Exclusion Zone from Gallatin Valley Weapons Restriction Area: Beginning at the intersection of Nash and Sourdough Canyon Road, then south on Sourdough Canyon Road to the USFS boundary, then east, north and east along said boundary in Section 8, then along said boundary in Section 8 to the intersection with State Lands in Section 9, then north along the section line of Sections 4 and 5, then west along section line of Sections 5 and 32 to the intersection with Sourdough Road, then south on Sourdough Road, then west on Nash Road, the point of beginning.

Gallatin Special Management Area: Closed to all big game hunting except open to elk hunting by Special Permit Only and to wolf hunting. Those portions of Madison and Gallatin Counties lying within the following boundary description: Beginning at the intersection of US Highway 191 and the north boundary of Yellowstone National Park, then in a northerly direction along said boundary to USFS Trail 57 at Dailey Pass, then in a northwesterly direction along said trail to the headwaters of the South Fork of Buffalo Horn, then down said creek to a posted line that goes along the south side of Cow Flats to its intersection with Buffalo Horn Creek, then down said creek to the Gallatin River, then up said river to Snow Flake Springs and the toe of Snowflake Ridge, then southerly along said ridge and the Sage Creek-Monument Creek Divide, then along Sage Creek-Snowslide

Creek Divide and the Sage Creek-Bacon Rind Divide to the Gallatin Madison Rivers Divide at Redstreak Peak, then southeasterly along said divide to the Yellowstone National Park boundary, then northerly along said boundary to the point of beginning.

Gardiner: CLOSED to all hunting. Beginning at the Junction of U.S. Hwy 89 and Little Trail Creek, then up Little Trail Creek to the posted line (approx. 1/2 mile above U.S. Hwy 89), then southeasterly along said line to the Travertine-Trail Creek Road, then easterly along said road to its intersection with the Gardiner-Jardine Road, then northeasterly along said road to Eagle Creek, then southerly down said creek to the YNP boundary, then westerly along said boundary to the intersection with Stevens Creek, then northeasterly in a straight line to the intersection with U.S. Hwy 89, then northwesterly along said highway to the junction of Little Trail Creek, the point of beginning.

Grizzly Bear Management Legal Descriptions

GBMU 300 Highland – Ruby: Beginning at the junction of Route 509, the Centennial Valley Road, and Interstate 15 near Monida, then north on said interstate to its junction with Interstate 90 near Rocker, then east on said interstate to Bozeman and the junction with State Route 84, then west on said route to its junction with U. S. Route 287 at Norris, then south on said route to its junction with State Route 287 at Ennis, then west on said state route to its junction with Route 357, the Ruby River Road, at Alder, then south on said route to its junction with the Blacktail-Centennial Road east of Lima Reservoir, then south on said road to its junction with the Route 509, the Centennial Valley Road, then west along said road to its junction with Interstate 15 near Monida, the point of the beginning.

GBMU 301 Gravelly: Beginning at the junction of Interstate 15 and Route 509, the Centennial Valley Road, near Monida, then, east along said road to its junction with the Blacktail-Centennial Road, then north along said road to its junction with the Ruby River Road east of Lima Reservoir, then north along said road to its junction with State Route 287 at Alder, then east along said route to its junction with U. S. Route 287 at Ennis, then south along said route to its junction with State Route 87, then south along said route to the Montana-Idaho border at Raynolds Pass, then west along said border to Monida Pass and its junction with Interstate 15, then north along said interstate to its junction with Route 509, the Centennial Valley Road, near Monida, the point of the beginning.

GBMU 302 Madison: Beginning at Raynolds Pass on the Montanaldaho border on State Route 87, then north along said route to its junction with U. S. Route 287, then north along said route to its junction with State Route 84 at Norris, then east along said route to its junction with U. S. Route 191 at Four Corners, then south along said route to its junction with the Yellowstone National Park boundary, then south along said boundary to its junction with the Montana-Idaho border, then west along said border to Raynolds Pass and State Route 87, the point of the beginning.

GBMU 303 Gallatin - Yellowstone: Beginning at the junction of State Route 84 and Interstate 90 at Bozeman, then east along said interstate to its junction with U. S. Route 89 at Livingston, then south along said route to the Yellowstone National Park boundary, then west along said boundary to its junction with U. S. Route 191, then north along said route to its Junction with State Route 84 at Four Corners, then east along said route to its junction with Interstate 90 at Bozeman, the point of the beginning.

GBMU 304 Yellowstone - Boulder: Beginning at the junction of U. S. Route 89 and Interstate 90 at Livingston, then east along said interstate to its junction with the Boulder River near Big Timber, then south along said river to where it crosses U. S. Forest Service Trail 32 in T7S, R12E, SE½ Sec 28 west of Monument Peak, then south along said trail to Boulder Pass where it becomes U. S. Forest Service Trail 99, then south along said trail to its junction with Buffalo Creek in T8S, R12E, SE½ Sec 5, then south along said creek to its junction with the Yellowstone National Park boundary, then west along said boundary to U. S. Route 89 at Gardiner, then north along said route to its junction with Interstate 90 at Livingston, the point of the beginning.

GBMU 500 Beartooth Face: Beginning at the junction of Interstate 90 and the Boulder River near Big Timber, then south along said river to where it crosses U. S. Forest Service Trail 32 in T7S, R12E, SE1/4 Sec 28 west of Monument Peak, then south along said trail to Boulder Pass where it becomes U. S. Forest Service Trail 99, then south along said trail to its junction with Buffalo Creek in T8S, R12E, SE1/4 Sec 5, then south along said creek to its junction with the Yellowstone National Park boundary, then east along said boundary to its junction with the Montana-Wyoming border near Silver Gate, then east along said boundary to State Route 72, then north along said route to its junction with Route 308 at Belfry, then west along said route to its junction with State Route 78 at Red Lodge, then west and north along said route to its junction with Route 420, the Stillwater River Road, at Absarokee, then west along said road to its junction with the Spring Creek Road, then north and west along said road to its intersection with the Stockade Road, then northwesterly along said road to its intersection with the Main Bridger Creek Road, then northeasterly along said road to its junction with Interstate 90, then west along said interstate to its junction with the Boulder River near Big Timber, the point of the beginning.

GBMU 501 Stillwater - Bighom: Beginning at the junction of Interstate 90 and U. S. Routes 212/310 at Laurel, then south along said routes to the Carbon County line, then south and east along said line to the Montana-Wyoming border, then west along said border to its junction with State Route 72, then north along said route to its junction with Route 308 at Belfry, then west along said route to its junction with State Route 78 at Red Lodge, then west and north along said route to its junction with Route 420, the Stillwater River Road, at Absarokee, then west along said road to its junction with the Spring Creek Road then north and west along said road to its intersection with the Stockade Road, then northwesterly along said road to its intersection with the Main Bridger Creek Road, then northeasterly along said road to its junction with Interstate 90, then east along said interstate to its junctions with U. S. Routes 212/310 at Laurel, the point of the beginning.

General Regulations

It is illegal to:

- "Party" hunt. Each hunter must shoot and tag his/her own animal.
- Loan or transfer a license to another person or use a license issued to another person.
- Carry or have physical control over a valid and unused hunting license or permit issued to another person while in any location where the species to be hunted occurs. <u>Exception</u>: a person may carry or have control over a license or permit issued to that person's spouse or any minor when the spouse or minor is hunting with that person.
- Alter a license or permit for any reason.
- Post, place signs or mark state or federal land other than that done by a state or federal land agency.
- Interfere/hinder with the lawful taking of a game animal.

Antler/Horn/Skull Possession

Individuals may possess, transport, sell, or purchase naturally shed antlers, or the antlers with a skull or portion of a skull attached from a game animal that has died from natural causes and that has not been illegally killed. Carcasses and parts of elk, deer, antelope and moose killed in vehicular collisions may be taken and possessed but only with a Vehicle-Killed Wildlife Salvage Permit. No other game animals may be salvaged by this permit. It is illegal to possess a bighorn sheep head/horn picked up in the wild.

Check Stations

All hunters and anglers are required by law to stop as directed at all designated check stations on their way to and from hunting and fishing areas, even if they have no game or fish to be checked.

Furbearer Traps

- It is illegal to disturb traps or trapped animals. Traps and trapped animals are the property of the trap owner.
- · Hunters may not shoot trapped animals.

Hunter Orange Requirement

- <u>Firearm Hunters</u> Any person hunting or accompanying a hunter as an outfitter or guide must wear a minimum of 400 square inches of hunter orange (fluorescent) material above the waist, visible at all times.
- <u>Archery Hunters</u> There is no grizzly bear Archery Only Season. Bowhunters hunting for grizzly bear must always wear a minimum of 400 square inches of hunter orange (fluorescent) above the waist, visible at all times.

Hunting Hours

Authorized hunting hours for the taking of big game animals begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset each day of the hunting season. See official sunrise-sunset tables in these regulations.

Inspection of Wildlife

Wildlife taken must be shown to FWP enforcement for inspection when requested.

Kill Site Verification

As a condition of hunting in Montana, if requested to do so by an FWP warden, you are required to return to the kill site.

Limits and Seasons

- A hunter may legally harvest/take one grizzly bear per lifetime.
- Female bears with young and individual young may not be harvested. Young are defined as two years old or younger.
 It is illegal to harvest/take any grizzly bear accompanied by another bear or bears. This means any bear accompanied by cubs, young, yearling, two-year old or adult bears.
- All grizzly Bear Management Units (GBMUs) listed shall be open to hunting of grizzly bear of either sex until either the female or male subquotas are met.

Littering

A person convicted of littering while hunting, fishing, trapping or camping may lose his or her license and privileges to hunt, fish, trap, or camp within Montana for a period of one year.

Marked or Radio-Collared Animals

It is legal to shoot game animals that have radio collars, neck bands, ear tags and/or other markers, but markers and radio collars must be returned to FWP. Please report the killing of a marked animal to the local FWP Office. If the bear you harvest is marked with an ear tag or radio collar, contact FWP to confirm that enough time has passed since capture to ensure that the meat will not contain residue from drugs or medications that may have been administered.

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV)

- Examples of an OHV include but are not limited to: motorcycles, quadricycles (also known as 4-wheelers), dune buggies, amphibious vehicles, air cushion vehicles, and any other means of land transportation deriving motive power from any source other than muscle or wind.
- In order to operate an OHV on public lands, the OHV must have a valid/current registration and display an OHV decal.
- Nonresidents must register their OHV in their home state or purchase a temporary Off-Highway Vehicle Use permit from Montana FWP. The permit is \$27 and expires on December 31 of the year issued.
- OHV permits may be purchased from some FWP License Providers and some Vendors (such as a private OHV dealership), or online at: https://app.mt.gov/als/index/index.html

Outfitters and Guides

It is illegal to hire an outfitter or guide not licensed by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry. For information call 406-841-2300.

Possession and Sale of Wildlife Parts

- It is illegal to sell or purchase any part of a grizzly bear except as allowed by the laws of Montana:
- The sale or purchase of hides, heads or mounts of lawfully killed grizzly bear is legal.
- The penalty for the illegal sale may be a fine up to \$50,000 and/or imprisonment in the state prison for a term of five years.

Predators and Nongame Hunting

Predators and nongame species are unprotected by federal and/or state law or regulation and can be hunted in Montana year-round without a license by both resident and nonresident hunters. A conservation license or a state school trust lands recreational use license is required to hunt predators and nongame species on state school trust lands. Permission must be obtained to hunt predators and nongame species on private land.

- Furbearers are protected game species that may only be taken by residents with a valid trapping license during prescribed open seasons. State classified furbearers include beaver, otter, muskrat, mink, marten, fisher, wolverine, bobcat, lynx, and swift fox.
- Nongame species are defined as any wild animal not otherwise legally classified by statute or regulation in Montana. Examples include badger, raccoon, red fox, hares, rabbits, ground squirrels, marmots, tree squirrels, porcupines, and prairie dogs.
- Predators are classified as coyote, weasel, (striped) skunk, and civet cat (spotted skunk).

Recorded Animal Sounds

It is illegal to use any recorded or electrically amplified bird or animal calls or sounds or imitations of bird or animal calls or sounds to assist in the hunting, taking, killing or capturing of any wildlife except predatory animals as per Montana law.

Restitution for Illegally Taken Wildlife

Under Montana law, a person convicted, or who was charged and forfeited bond or bail, of illegally killing, taking, or possessing game animals shall reimburse the state. The law sets the amount of restitution for a trophy animal under Montana law as:

Bighorn Sheep	\$30,000
Elk	\$8,000
Antlered Deer	\$8,000
Moose	\$6,000
Mountain Goat	\$6,000
Antelope	\$2,000
Grizzly Bear	\$8,000

- The law specifically outlines minimum standards for a trophy under this regulation, but authorizes the F&W Commission to adopt more specific criteria.
- For the purpose of assessing restitution for illegally taken trophy wildlife under Montana law, the following are considered "trophy" animals:

-Antelope:

 With at least one horn greater than 14 inches in length, as measured along the outside curve from base to tip.

-Elk:

- Must meet all three criteria:
 - 1) At least six points on one antler;
 - 2) A main beam length on each antler of at least 43 inches; and
 - 3) An inside spread of at least 36 inches. OR

 Any elk with at least one six-point antler and having a gross/green Boone & Crockett score of 320 points or greater.

-Mule Deer:

- Must meet all three criteria:
 - 1) At least four points on one antler (excluding brow tine),
 - 2) A main beam length on each side of at least 21 inches, and
 - 3) A greatest inside spread across the main beams of at least 20 inches.

OR

 Any mule deer with at least one four-point antler and having a gross/green Boone & Crockett score of 160 points or greater.

-White-tailed Deer:

- Must meet all three criteria:
 - 1) At least four points on one antler (excluding brow tine),
 - 2) A main beam length on each side of at least 20 inches, and
 - 3) A greatest inside spread across the main beams of at least 16 inches.

OR

 Any white-tailed deer with at least one four-point antler and having a gross/green Boone & Crockett score of 140 points or greater.

A "point" as defined in these regulations is at least four inches long for elk and at least one inch long for deer, measured from base to tip. Boone & Crockett (B&C) measuring procedures or standards are used for criteria measurement. The official measurements for the purpose of this regulation are those that are taken at the time of confiscation or seizure of the trophy. Any B&C measurements will be considered final when taken by an official B&C scorer, regardless of drying time. If the skullcap of antlers or horns is broken in such a manner to render an official B&C score invalid, three official B&C scorers will estimate a score. The three scores will be averaged and the average score used to determine trophy status in accordance with Montana law.

Simulated Wildlife

It is illegal to discharge a firearm or other hunting implement at a simulated wildlife decoy in violation of any state statute, Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM), or F&W commission rule regulating the hunting of the wildlife being simulated.

Transport of Wildlife

- An individual other than the license holder may transport properly tagged animals that comply with the "Evidence of Sex Requirements" and that were lawfully taken by the license holder. If you have specific questions, please contact FWP Enforcement at 406-444-2452.
- All shippers of fish, game or nongame birds, game animals, furbearing animals, the skins of fur-bearing animals or predatory animals, or parts thereof are required to label all packages offered for shipment by parcel post or common carrier (airlines, UPS, U.S. Postal Service, etc.). The label must be securely attached to the address of the package and shall plainly indicate the names and addresses of the consignor and consignee and the complete contents of the package. It is a violation of the Federal Lacey Act to transport an illegally taken game animal across state boundaries.
- It is illegal to ship, possess, or take out of state illegally killed game, game-birds, and/or furbearers. If you are transporting lawfully taken wildlife (including parts and/or products of live or dead animals) between Montana and Canada or between the United States and any foreign country, whether for commercial or noncommercial purposes, you must complete a U.S. Fish

8

- & Wildlife Service (USFWS) Declaration Form 3-177. Form 3-177 is available at all United States customs ports and on the USFWS website at www.fws.gov. For further information, contact the USFWS Wildlife Inspector at 406-335-4350.
- Questions concerning carcass transport may be directed to FWP Enforcement at 406-444-2452 or to your home state's wildlife division.

Hunter Land Access

Hunters, it is your responsibility to know where you are, to know who owns the land, and to know what access restrictions apply.

Fishing Access Sites

Many of FWP's fishing access sites (FAS) offer hunting opportunities; however, certain restrictions may apply such as no-hunting safety zones and/or restrictions on the type of hunting weapon or firearm that may be used. Refer to the Fishing Access Site web page at

fwp.mt.gov/recreation/visitFwpSite.html for site specific information, opportunities and restrictions.

Montana State Parks

Some of Montana's state parks provide hunting opportunities; however certain restrictions may apply such as no-hunting safety zones and/or restrictions on the type of hunting weapon or firearm that may be used. Contact the specific park and/or refer to the Montana State Park web page at **stateparks.mt.gov** for site specific information regarding hunting opportunities and restrictions.

Off-Road Travel and Game Retrieval

- While hunting on private property, a person may not drive off established roads or trails without landowner permission.
- Off-road travel on public land, including game retrieval, is prohibited unless designated as open. Consult appropriate land agency or land map for specifics.
- All federally approved travel plans on public lands in Montana are hereby adopted by the F&W Commission.

Private Land

- Montana law requires permission for all hunting on private land.
- Even if the land is not posted, hunters must have permission from the landowner, lessee, or their agent before hunting on private property.
- Access to public lands through private land requires permission of the private landowner, lessee, or their agent.
- See the Deer*Elk*Antelope Regulations for information on FWP's Block Management Program.

Public Land

- Public lands closed to hunting include:
- National Parks
- National Wildlife Refuge lands, except those areas designated open to public hunting.
- For hunting opportunities on federal lands such as U.S. Forest Service or U.S. Bureau of Land Management, inquire at the local federal office.

Railroad Access

Railroads and railroad right-of-ways are private property and may not be hunted without permission, nor should they be used as access to other lands (private or public) without explicit permission from the railroad.

State Game Preserves

State game preserves may or may not be open to limited hunting. See Restricted Area Descriptions.

State School Trust Lands

 A \$2 fee paid when you purchase your conservation license provides hunters, anglers and trappers access to legally accessible State School Trust Lands.

- Overnight (2 night) camping is allowed within 200 feet of a legal access point.
- Horses may not be kept on state land overnight.
- Motorized travel is only allowed on public roads or on roads designated as open.
- · Game retrieval is by foot or horse only.
- No open fires are allowed except in designated campgrounds.
- Firearms may not be negligently discharged within one-quarter mile of an inhabited dwelling or outbuilding without permission of the inhabitant.
- Additional information is available from FWP or contact DNRC at 406-444-2074.

State Wildlife Management Areas (WMA)

Wildlife Management Areas are generally open to hunting during the big game hunting season. WMAs with big game winter range are closed to public entry, unless otherwise posted, from the day following the end of the general deer-elk season or December 1, whichever is later, to noon on May 15 each year, as posted. Exception: There are several exceptions to these guidelines. For WMA specific information, please call the Regional office (see page 16 for contact numbers) or visit the FWP website at: http://fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/wma/

Stream Access

Big game hunting between the ordinary high-water marks of streams and rivers is illegal without adjacent landowner permission.

Tribal Land

Big Game hunting by Non-Tribal members on Indian Reservations is prohibited by the State of Montana unless it is provided for in a cooperative agreement between the Tribal Government and the State of Montana. Check with local Tribal Government before attempting to hunt on an Indian Reservation. See "Contacts Outside FWP" on page 16.

License and Permit Possession

- Licenses and permits <u>must be carried on your person</u> at all times while in the field hunting.
- Licenses and permits must be produced if requested by FWP Enforcement personnel.

Methods and Means of Hunting

Firearms

- There is no rifle or handgun caliber limitation for the taking of big game animals except as noted for Weapons Restriction Areas (see page 6). Match the caliber and firearm to the size of the animal hunted.
- Muzzleloaders, shotguns, archery equipment, and crossbows are legal.

Archery Equipment

- It is unlawful to use any chemical or explosive device attached to an arrow to aid in the taking of wildlife.
- Lawful Archery Equipment: It is illegal to possess, while hunting big game during any archery only season and in archery equipment only areas, archery equipment that does not meet the following criteria:
- Hunting Bow: A hunting bow for big game shall be a longbow, flatbow, recurve bow, compound bow, or any combination of these designs.
- The bow must be a device for launching an arrow, which derives its propulsive energy solely from the bending and recovery of two limbs (includes bows with split limbs).
- The bow must be hand drawn by a single and direct uninterrupted pulling action of the shooter.
- The bow must be hand-held. One hand shall hold the

bow and the other hand draw the bowstring. <u>Exception</u>: Physically disabled bowhunters certified by FWP with the Permit To Modify Archery Equipment (PTMAE) are exempt from the requirement of holding or shooting the bow with their hands.

- The bow shall be no shorter than 28 inches measured axle to axle.
- The nominal percent of let-off for hunting bows shall be a maximum of 80 percent.
- Arrow: An arrow is a projectile at least 20 inches in overall length. The length of the arrow is measured from the rearward point of the nock to the tip of the broadhead.
- A broadhead is mounted on the fore end.
- The arrow shall weigh no less than 300 grains with the broadhead attached.
- Arrows must have broadheads with at least two cutting edges. Expandable broadheads are legal as long as when expanded they are at least 7/8 inches at the widest point, and weigh no less than 70 grains.

Procedures to Follow After Harvesting an Animal

Evidence Required of Game Animal's Sex and Species

- It is illegal to possess or transport the carcass of any big game animal unless evidence of the animal's sex and species remains naturally attached to its carcass or a portion of the carcass.
- Evidence of sex must remain naturally attached to the hide. The following are considered lawful evidence of sex:
- males: penis, scrotum, testicles or baculum;
- females: vulva.
- As a condition of hunting in Montana, you may be required to return to the kill site if requested to do so by an FWP warden.

License Validation and Tagging

- Immediately after killing a game animal, a hunter must cut out the proper month and day of the kill from the appropriate license and attach it to the animal in a secure and visible manner.
- Carcass/Hide Tag Clarification: Successful grizzly bear hunters are required to immediately validate the hide tag and carcass tag and attach both to the hide. After the hide is removed from the carcass, the carcass tag must be separated from the hide tag and attached to the carcass.
- To properly validate a license (sometimes referred to as a tag):
- A hunter must cut out the proper month and day of the kill from the appropriate license and attach it to the animal before the carcass is removed from the site of kill, or before the hunter leaves the site of the kill.
- The license must be attached to the animal in a secure and clearly visible manner.
- Tearing, slicing or punching the tag is not legal.
- The properly validated carcass license must remain with the meat (including cold storage) until consumed. If quartered, the carcass license should remain with the largest portion of the carcass.

Prohibited Methods of Hunting

Aerial Spotting

The use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) for the purpose of locating, spotting or hunting big game, upland birds or other species under the management authority of FWP during commission-established hunting seasons is prohibited. Aircraft may not be used to locate big game animals for the purpose of:

- Hunting those animals during the same hunting day after a person has been airborne or;
- Providing information for another person for the purpose of hunting those animals within the same hunting day after being airborne;

Artificial Light

It is illegal for anyone to take or attempt to take any game animal or game bird with the aid of projected artificial light.

Baiting

- It is illegal for anyone to hunt or attempt to hunt by the aid of or with the use of any bait, salt lick, trap, snare or set gun.
- Baiting shall mean the placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of food sources or salt so as to constitute a lure or attraction.

Dogs

It is illegal to bait bears or to hunt bears with dogs. No scents may be used to attract grizzly bears.

Game Calls

It is illegal to use a recorded or electrically amplified game call to hunt big game.

Motion-Tracking Devices and/or Camera Devices

It is illegal for a person to possess or use in the field any electronic or camera device whose purpose is to scout the location of game animals or relay the information on a game animal's location or movement during any Commissionadopted hunting season.

Motorized Vehicles

It is illegal for anyone to:

- Hunt or attempt to hunt any game animal or game bird: from any self propelled (motorized) or drawn vehicle. Even if the vehicle is not moving, hunters must be off or out of the vehicle. Holders of Permit To Hunt From A Vehicle are the exception to this.
- Use a motorized vehicle or aircraft to concentrate, drive, rally, stir-up, corral, or harass game animals.
- Operate, on public lands, a motorized wheeled vehicle off legal routes (including game retrieval). Contact the appropriate land management agencies for travel plan information.

Night Vision Equipment

It is illegal to use night vision equipment or electronically enhanced light gathering optics for locating or hunting game.

Public Roadways

It is illegal for anyone to hunt or attempt to hunt any game animal or game bird: on, from, or across any public highway or the shoulder, berm, barrow pit or right-of-way of any public highway (the entire width between the boundary lines of every publicly maintained way when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel, in the State of Montana, as per Montana law).

Two-way Communication

Two-way electronic communication (radios, cell phones, text messages, etc.) may not be used to:

- hunt game animals or upland game birds, migratory birds or furbearers as defined in Montana law ("Hunt" means to "pursue, shoot, wound, kill, chase, lure, possess or capture."); or
- avoid game checking stations or FWP enforcement personnel; or
- to facilitate illegal activity.

The rule does not prohibit the possession or use of two-way communication for safety or other legitimate purposes.

Youth Restrictions

In order to carry or use a firearm for any reason, a youth under 14 years of age must be accompanied by a person having charge or custody of the child, or be under the supervision of a qualified firearms safety instructor or an adult 18 years of age or older who has been authorized by the youth's parent or guardian, as per Montana law.

Waste of Game

Hunters or persons in possession of a game animal or game animal parts are prohibited from wasting or rendering unfit for human consumption any part of a game animal that is defined as "suitable for food." Hunters are prohibited from wasting grizzly bear meat unless the meat is determined to contain Trichinella (MCA 87-6-205). Definition of parts of a grizzly bear that are considered suitable for food: All four quarters above the hock including loin and backstraps.

Trichinella in Bears

Trichinella is a parasite of mammals and some birds. Immature parasites develop cysts in the muscle of the host animal and are transmitted to a new host when infected meat is eaten raw or undercooked. Wild animals rarely show signs of infection. Humans and domestic dogs or cats can become infected with Trichinella by consuming raw or undercooked meat from an infected animal. Symptoms of infection vary and may be severe. All bear and mountain lion meat should be treated as if it were infected. Freezing will not kill the organism; however cooking at temperatures above 165 degrees Fahrenheit will kill the parasite. Many processing techniques (jerky and smoked meats) may not reach the proper temperature. FWP recommends that all bear meat be well cooked to an internal temperature of 165 degrees before consumption by humans or pets. FWP does not offer Trichinella testing. For further information call the FWP lab at 406-994-6357.

Carry Bear Pepper Spray and Know How To Use It!

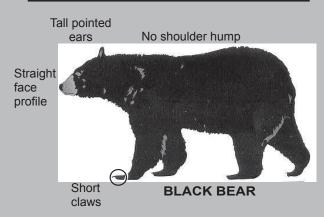
- Hunting puts you at risk of encountering a bear. Calling game and using scents may attract bears.
- If you hunt alone, let someone know about your plans. If you feel uneasy hunting alone, hunt with a partner.
- Bears are opportunists and change their behavior to take advantage of new food sources. Always assume that grizzlies are in the area and make sure your camps, cabins, and homes are bear proof, and that bear attractants are unavailable or contained.
- Mentally rehearse a worst-case scenario with encountering a bear. "If the mind has never been there before, the body does not know how to respond." The following is a list of recommended responses to minimize the likelihood of attack or chances of human injury:
- Make certain you have bear pepper spray at the ready and know how to use it. In sudden grizzly encounters, bear pepper spray has proven effective. Bears sprayed in the face at close range often stop attacking.
- -Always maintain a safe distance from bears.
- Report encounters with Grizzly Bears to FWP at 1-800-TIP-MONT, U.S. Forest Service, or one of the nearest FWP bear management specialists listed below:
- Kevin Frey, Bozeman, MT 406-994-3553
- Mike Madel, Choteau, MT 406-466-5100
- Tim Manley, Kalispell, MT 406-250-1265
- Kim Annis, Libby, MT 406-293-4161 x207
- James Jonkel, Missoula, MT 406-542-5508
- In an actual emergency, phone 9-1-1. Seeing a grizzly is not necessarily a reportable encounter or an emergency.
 Report encounters where the bear displayed aggressive or defensive behavior toward people, livestock or pets.

Be Bear Aware!

Hunters must be able to tell the difference between a grizzly and a black bear.

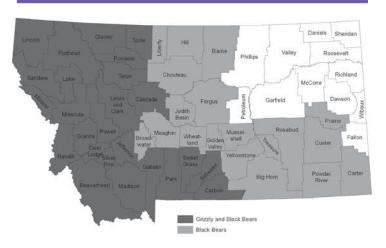
- · Learn how to identify bears.
- · Be absolutely sure of your target.
- If in doubt, don't shoot.

Look for a combination of characteristics





General Distribution of Bears in Montana



2016 Sunrise-Sunset Tables For Determining Hunting Hours

These tables, including adjustments for daylight savings time, are the official sunrise-sunset tables adopted by the Montana Fish & Wildlife Commission for hunting in Montana. Authorized hunting hours for the taking of grizzly bear begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset each day of the hunting season. (Do not use other sources.)



ZONE 2

INCLUDES: Beaverhead, Broadwater, Cascade, Chouteau, Deer Lodge, Gallatin, Glacier, Hill, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Liberty, Madison, Meagher, Park, Pondera, Powell, Silver Bow, Teton and Toole Counties.

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Grizzly Bear hunt information is available by calling 1-406-xxx-xxxx.

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Helena, MT 59620-0701	406-444-2535
Hunter Education	406-444-9948
Wildlife Bureau	406-444-2612
Enforcement Bureau	406-444-2452
Parks Division (Montana State Parks)406-444-3750
Special drawings	406-444-2950
Resident and nonresident licensing	406-444-2535
Hearing Impaired (use Montana	
Relay)7-1	-1 or 1-800-253-4091

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Montana State Agencies Agriculture

Agriculture 406-444-3144 Guides & Outfitters 406-841-2300 Livestock 406-444-7323

State Lands 406-444-2074

Tourism 406-841-2870

Federal Agencies

US Department of Interior 202-208-3100 US Fish & Wildlife Service 406-449-5225 US forest Service 406-329-3511

Bureau of Land Management 406-896-5000 National Weather Service 406-329-4840 (Missoula)

Land Maps

Bureau of Land Management 406-896-5000 Topographical (USGS) 888-275-8747

Tribal Lands

Blackfeet Reservation
406-338-7276
Crow Reservation
406-638-2179
Flathead Reservation
406-883-2888
ext 7200 or 7273
Fort Belknap
406-353-2205
Fort Peck Reservation
406-768-5305

Northern Cheyenne Reservation 406-477-6526 Rocky Boy Reservation

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