

**BEAR AND COUGAR RULE PROPOSED CHANGES, 2020-2024****BEAR**

- There are no proposals to adjust harvest limits in any zone. New data was incorporated in the previous rule development cycle to adjust harvest limits in those zones that were studied, and ongoing research in a new zone is still in the data collection stage. Data collected from harvested bears does not suggest any significant trends in population dynamics that would call for adjustments to harvest limits.

Zone	Game Management Units	Estimated Primary Black Bear Habitat (km <sup>2</sup> )	Harvest Limit (Female Harvest Limit)
			2020 – 2024
1	4, 5, 6, 7, 51, 52	9,296	158 (63)
2	2	880	15 (6)
3	49, 50, 53	2,109	65 (26)
4	45, 46, 48	5,778	109 (43)
5	54, 55	4,723	92 (37)
6	39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 47, 59	4,689	33 (13)
7	56, 57, 58	1,645	35 (14)
8	8	719	11 (4)
9	9, 10	2,963	36 (14)
10	12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27	15,488	146 (58)
11	37, 38	1,811	36 (14)
12	34	2,428	33 (13)
13	36	1,184	16 (6)
14	14	1,267	19 (7)
<b>Total</b>		<b>54,793</b>	<b>804 (318)</b>

- There are no proposals to adjust Bear Management Zone boundaries for any zones.
- Change the start date for the bear general weapon type season to September 25<sup>th</sup> in Bear Management Zones 10, 12, and 13, and extend the closing date to December 15<sup>th</sup> in Zones 10 and 12, and November 30<sup>th</sup> in Zone 13. The bear archery season will still begin September 1, during which the use of dogs is still not allowed.
- Group the Barker and Colin Neblett Wildlife Management Area (Hunt Code BER-1-104) and Valle Vidal (Hunt Code BER-1-105) draw licenses as a single license, and include the Urraca Wildlife Management Area in the areas open to hunting with that license.

**COUGAR**

- No longer allow traps and foot snares as a method of sport harvest for cougar.

- Adjust cougar harvest limits to align with recent data and management objectives. The harvest limits for CMZs B and F will be updated when the results from recent research in those zones becomes available:

CMZ	Current Total Limit (Female Sub-limit)	Harvest Limit Proposal	Proposed Total Limit (Female Sub-limit)	Additional Proposals
A	42 (13)	No Change	42 (13)	
B	28 (9)	TBD	TBD	Combine with CMZ F
C	84 (42)	Change	57 (17)	
D	23 (11)	Change	15 (5)	
E	50 (15)	Change	42 (13)	
F	46 (23)	TBD	TBD	Combine with CMZ B
G	73 (37)	Change	50 (15)	
H	42 (21)	Change	29 (9)	
I	24 (7)	No Change	24 (7)	
J	89 (27)	Change*	84 (25)	GMU 25 moved to CMZ L
K	66 (33)	Change	45 (14)	
L	19 (10)	Change*	19 (6)	GMU 25 added
M	31 (9)	Change	25 (7)	
N	15 (5)	TBD	TBD	
O	21 (6)	Change	17 (5)	
P	14 (7)	No Change	14 (7)	
Q	34 (11)	No Change	34 (11)	
R	26 (8)	No Change	26 (8)	
S	25 (13)	Change	17 (5)	

- Move Game Management Unit 25 from Cougar Management Zone J to Cougar Management Zone L.
- No longer allow an additional two tags for cougar license holders who have successfully filled their original two tags.

These proposed changes will be updated and posted to the Department website as further details become available.

*If you would like to comment on the proposal, please send an email to:*

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