

GENERAL

1. Application and Agreement Requirement:

- The User ("Hunter") or the other member of the Hunter's party (collectively "Hunting Party") may not enter on Highlands Ranch Community Association (HRCA) property in The Backcountry Wilderness Area ("Property") until the following documents are signed, returned to, and approved by, the HRCA (minors must have all paperwork completed and signed by a parent or legal guardian who also must accompany the minor on the hunt).
 - Backcountry Wilderness Area (BWA) Use Application and Agreement completed, signed, and submitted by the Hunter in a form acceptable to HRCA.
 - The Agreement must be approved and signed by an authorized HRCA representative.
 - Each Hunter and all other members of the Hunting Party must sign an HRCA Waiver, Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk, Indemnification and Covenant Not to Sue form ("Waiver"). HRCA is not responsible for hunting accidents or any other incidents on the property.
 - The Hunter must also complete the "Outfitter Contract," and "Hunter Information Form," as well as any other required paperwork.

2. Guided Experience:

- Hunters must be accompanied by an HRCA-provided guide.

3. Legal Requirements:

- Hunters must possess valid identification and a Colorado hunting license for the specified species and sex issued by the Colorado Division of Wildlife.
- Only registered members of the hunting party are permitted on the property, and the hunter must remain on-site throughout the trip.

4. Compliance Responsibility:

- All members of the hunting party are responsible for knowing and adhering to the rules outlined in the Agreement, as well as these rules and regulations ("HRCA Hunt Rules") and state and federal laws.

5. Eligibility and HRCA Residency:

- To be eligible for the HRCA hunting program (other than exceptions outlined later in this document) one must meet the following qualifications:
 - Hunters must be HRCA members in good standing and an HRCA homeowner currently residing in a home that is part of the HRCA, or a member of that household.
 - Proof of residency is required; failure to provide proof forfeits hunting privileges. Proof of residency includes a state or federal issued identification with the household address or a pay stub or utility bill with the household address.
 - Minors must be the legal dependent of the homeowner.

- All hunters must be eligible to purchase a hunting license and to hunt in the state of Colorado.

6. Discretionary Authority and Closures:

- HRCAs reserves the right to deny hunting access at any time.
- HRCAs may close the property in emergencies, potentially dangerous situations, or at the direction of governmental authorities.
- No refunds are issued for closures.

7. Compliance with Authority:

- Hunters must obey orders from relevant authorities, first responders, and staff promptly.

8. Communication Requirement:

- Hunters must carry a working cell phone and provide their number to HRCAs staff before entry.

9. Species Identification:

- Hunters must be able to accurately identify the game they pursue, including sex and legality.

10. Concealment of Game:

- Game taken from the property should be concealed as much as possible.

11. Revocation of Privileges:

- HRCAs may revoke hunting licenses and related privileges at any time.

12. Restricted Access:

- Certain areas of the property may be restricted from access.

13. Non-Refundable Fees:

- All fees paid to HRCAs, including raffle ticket purchases, are non-refundable.

14. Voucher Policy:

- HRCAs does not guarantee Landowner Vouchers; no refunds are provided if vouchers are unavailable.

15. Multiple Hunter Policy:

- HRCAs may host multiple hunters on the property simultaneously. No hunter is guaranteed to be the only hunter on the property at a given time.

16. Conduct Expectations:

- Failure to comply with rules may result in immediate loss of hunting privileges without a refund, and future program eligibility.

17. Staff Authority:

- Staff decisions regarding rule interpretation and violations are final.

18. External Operations Awareness:

- Utility companies and other parties with property access rights may operate during hunting seasons; hunters should exercise caution.

19. Fees:

- The HRCA required guide is included in the fees. All fees are subject to change at any time. *(Fees are also the recognized HRCA "cash value" of each hunt as referenced in parts of this document).*

- Bull Elk:
 - Trophy: \$2,500
 - Management: \$1,500
 - Youth Management: \$300
- Buck Deer:
 - \$500
 - 3rd Season Youth: \$300
- Cow Elk:
 - \$300
 - Youth: \$250
- Turkey
 - \$150
 - Youth: \$50

20. Seasons, Dates, and Length of Hunts:

- Backcountry Wilderness Area hunt dates and seasons align with those set by Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW). Annual dates and exceptions are outlined in the annual "Hunt Plan" and "Hunt Calendar."
- Rolling Hunt Opportunity
 - Cow Elk and Turkey hunts use this method to determine dates of each hunt.
 - Hunters gain their opportunity in numerical order (order drawn or won). Each successive hunter follows another hunter that has had a successful hunt, scheduling specific dates as the season progresses.
 - If a hunter does not get offered an opportunity to hunt, they receive a refund for the HRCA fees, and their hunt opportunity rolls over to the next year.
 - CPW license fees are non-refundable, and HRCA will not reimburse them.

21. Bull Elk Categories/Classification:

- To offer as many opportunities as possible, each bull elk hunt is pre-determined as to what classification of bull can be harvested.
 - TROPHY:
 - Any bull is eligible for harvest, no restrictions.
 - Targeting mature bulls that score over 300 inches.
 - MANAGEMENT:
 - Harvest is restricted to a bull the HRCA guide approves for harvest.

- Trophy bulls or bulls that show potential to be trophy bulls will not be harvested.
- Targeting immature bulls that are not and will not become trophy bulls or mature bulls that have reached their full potential and are limited by genetics, age, or other factors.

22. Wait Periods for Drawing Hunts:

- Hunters who harvest or have a successful hunt through the drawing are subject to mandatory wait periods.
- Auction, raffle or other non-drawing hunts are exempt from wait periods.
- A “successful hunt” is defined as harvesting an animal, wounding an animal (recovered or not), or a “reasonable” opportunity for a shot and passing (“reasonable” will be determined by the guide).
- Bull Elk Evaluation:
 - Each harvested bull elk will be evaluated by the HRCA Hunt Committee, which will recommend categorization to staff.
 - A wounded, unrecovered bull will be categorized using the guides recommendation as well as possible pictures and other information.
 - Each harvested bull will be rough scored/measured by BWA staff. The score helps categorize the bull but will not be the final determination.
 - Staff decisions regarding “success” and categorization are final.
- Wait Period Definition:
 - Wait periods denote periods of ineligibility for hunts, applicable only to the sex/species of the harvested animal.
 - Hunters cannot accumulate points for that species/sex under the HRCA point system during their wait periods.
 - Wait periods are retroactive to the fall 2017 hunts, applying to hunters who participated in hunts beginning in 2017 to present.
- Wait Periods:
 - Any successful hunt (no harvest, but wounded or reasonable opportunity as clarified above)
 - 2 year wait period.
 - Turkey Harvest
 - 2 year wait period.
 - Management Bull Harvest (Generally 300 inches and below)
 - 3 year wait period.
 - Trophy Bull Harvest (Generally 300-329 inches)
 - 5 year wait period.
 - Giant Bull Harvest (Generally 330-369 inches)
 - 10 year wait period.
 - Buck Deer Harvest
 - 10 year wait period.
 - Bull of a Lifetime Harvest (370 inches and up)
 - 20 year wait period.

23. Drawings:

- Eligibility and Registration:

- Any HRCA member that meets the “Eligibility and Residency” requirements stated previously in this document may enter their name at no cost for various HRCA/BWA Hunt Drawings, including bull elk, cow elk, deer, and turkey. All hunt opportunities and method of awarding each hunt are determined annually in the “Hunt Plan.”
- Transfer Policy:
 - Drawing winners are prohibited from transferring their hunt.
 - If a winner declines the hunt for any reason, they may not transfer it to another person. Instead, a new drawing will be held to select another winner.
- “Provide Your Own Tag” Drawings Eligibility:
 - Participants must provide proof of the required number of CPW preference points to BWA staff to be eligible. The required number of CPW preference points is determined annually based on CPW draw statistics.
 - Failure to provide proof by the deadline will result in removal from the drawing without notice.
 - CPW License Considerations:
 - Even with CPW preference points, obtaining the appropriate license in the CPW drawing is a lottery. Therefore, if the BWA Drawing winner fails to secure the proper CPW tag, their BWA drawing win is void, with no further compensation provided by the BWA.
 - Notification Requirement:
 - Drawing winners must notify BWA staff of their CPW Unit 51 tag drawing result by the 2nd Friday in June.
 - Failure to do so will result in disqualification, and an alternate winner will be selected.
- Drawing Dates:
 - Registration Opens: 3rd Friday in January
 - Registration Closes: 3rd Friday in February
 - Drawings Occur: 1st Tuesday in March

24. Raffles:

- Eligibility Criteria for Raffle Ticket Purchasers:
 - Must be at least 18 years old.
 - Must be eligible to hunt in Colorado.
 - Must be an HRCA member that meets the “Eligibility and Residency” requirements stated previously in this document **UNLESS**:
 - Residency requirements are not in effect for “Buddy” raffles. A non-HRCA member can purchase a “Buddy” raffle ticket **BUT** must designate a “buddy” who does meet the “Eligibility and Residency” requirements stated previously in this document, at the time of purchase.
 - Those who purchase a raffle ticket and do not meet the eligibility criteria will be disqualified without compensation.
- Transfer Policy:
 - HRCA member winners may transfer their hunt opportunity to anyone within their household, including eligible household members under 18, if they meet the “Eligibility and Residency” requirements stated previously in this document.
 - Non-HRCA members in “buddy” hunt raffles may transfer prizes to anyone within their household (proof of residency will be required) that is eligible to hunt in Colorado.

- “Buddy” Hunt Raffles:
 - Raffles labeled as “Buddy” hunts allow two hunters (“Buddies”) to hunt during the same dates.
 - Purchasers do not need HRCA membership but must designate their “buddy” at purchase.
 - The designated “buddy” of a non-HRCA member must meet the “Eligibility and Residency” requirements stated previously in this document if the purchaser does not meet those requirements.
 - If the designated “buddy” of a non-HRCA member cannot participate in the hunt, the non-HRCA member winner receives the cash value of the hunt, (cash value is determined in the “Fees” section of this document) terminating the hunt opportunity.
- Multiple Wins:
 - HRCA members who win multiple raffles in the same period may transfer their hunt within their own household or opt for the cash value of their hunt (cash value is determined in the “Fees” section of this document).
 - Non-HRCA members winning multiple raffles must choose one hunt, receiving the cash value for the others (cash value is determined in the “Fees” section of this document).
 - If the cash value option occurs, an alternate winner may be picked.
- Annual Participation:
 - Once an individual wins a raffle in a calendar year, they are ineligible for hunt prize raffles for the remainder of the year unless purchasing tickets for eligible household members under 18.
- Voucher Unavailability:
 - If HRCA cannot provide a voucher, the winner receives the cash value of the hunt; no other compensation is offered (cash value is determined in the “Fees” section of this document).
- Notification:
 - Winners must notify BWA staff by the second Monday in March of their intent to apply for the appropriate license in the CPW big game drawing.
- Prize Claim:
 - All raffle winners must claim their prize by the second Monday in March for the spring raffle and the 3rd Monday in July for the summer raffle.
- Raffle Dates:
 - Spring Raffle:
 - 2nd Monday in February: Tickets on sale
 - 1st Tuesday in March: Winners Announced
 - Summer Raffle:
 - 3rd Thursday in June: Tickets on sale
 - 2nd Thursday in July: Winners Announced

25. Auction:

- Participant Eligibility:
 - Any HRCA member that meets the “Eligibility and Residency” requirements stated previously in this document may participate in and win an auction hunt in the HRCA/Backcountry Auction.
- Transfer Policy:

- Auction winners may transfer their hunt opportunity within their household, including eligible household members under 18 if they are eligible to hunt in the state of Colorado.
- If it is a “buddy” auction the “buddy” does not need HRCA membership, if they are eligible to hunt in the state of Colorado.
- Notification:
 - Winners must notify BWA staff by the second Monday in March of their intent to apply for the appropriate license in the CPW big game drawing.
- Auction Dates:
 - 3rd Tuesday in February: Registration for the auction opens.
 - 1st Tuesday in March: Auction begins.
 - 1st Thursday in March: Auction ends.

26. Annual Participation Limit:

- Individuals cannot hunt more than once in an annual cycle of awarded hunts, including all species and winning methods. If a person wins more than once, they must choose one hunt and give up the other; transfers of hunt wins are not allowed unless otherwise specified in this document.

27. Payment and Documents

- All payments and required documents (stated at the top of this document) must be completed by the established deadlines.
- Failure to meet these deadlines will result in the forfeiture of hunting privileges.
- Deadlines for Payment:
 - All big game hunts: 3rd Friday in June
 - All turkey hunts: 3rd Friday in March
- Deadlines for Documents:
 - Archery: 2nd Friday in June
 - All big game hunts: 3rd Friday in July
 - All turkey hunts: 3rd Friday in March

28. Weapons

- All weapons and projectiles must meet and follow CPW laws and regulations.

29. Point System:

- The point system only applies to BWA Drawings. It does not apply to hunts won through the Raffle, Auction, or other methods.
- Point Pool Classification:
 - There are three distinct point pools: Bull elk, Buck/Cow/Turkey, and Youth.
- Point Reset Conditions:
 - When a person hunts an animal from any of these pools their points reset to zero within that specific pool only.
 - If a person skips one year of gaining a point in a pool, their points reset to zero for that pool. Only one point per year per pool is allowed.
 - Points do not reset to zero if a hunt was acquired via auction or raffle or any other manner.
- Weighted Point System:

- Points are weighted according to the following system, where each point is equivalent to one year:
 - 5-9 points: Multiplied by 2
 - 10-14 points: Multiplied by 3
 - 15-19 points: Multiplied by 4
 - 20-24 points: Multiplied by 5

30. “Youth” Hunts

- Minimum Age Requirement:
 - Youth hunters must be a minimum of 12 years old at the time of their hunt and must qualify to purchase a hunting license through CPW.
- Maximum Age Limit:
 - Youth hunters must not turn 18 on or before February 15th of the year of their hunt or the year of the CPW drawing for their hunt.
 - All hunters who turn 18 after February 15th of the year of the stated BWA youth hunt are eligible.
- Youth Opportunity:
 - During a youth hunter’s eligibility period, each youth may only hunt each sex/species from a youth specific drawing one time. They may hunt the same sex/species another time as a youth if they are drawn in a regular drawing open to all ages.
- Youth Points:
 - Youth may only begin accumulating BWA points after their 12th birthday.

31. Prohibited Activities:

- The following activities are not permitted:
 - Modification, digging, cutting, or destruction of any kind, anywhere on the property.
 - Carving, chopping, cutting, or damaging any vegetation.
 - Removal of any natural resources.
 - Bringing animals/pets onto the property, excluding service animals.
 - The use or possession of illegal drugs.
 - The consumption of alcohol.
 - Fires, smoking, fireworks, or any other incendiary devices.
 - The use of personal motor vehicles without written permission from the HRCA.
 - Engaging in any dangerous behavior.

32. Assumption of Risk and Liability:

- HRCA is not responsible for any loss, theft, or damage to personal items.
- Hunters assume the following:
 - All risk of loss or damage to personal property brought onto the Property.
 - Liability for any property damage or loss on the Property resulting from their use or operation. HRCA has the authority to levy Reimbursement Assessments to cover incurred costs.
 - Responsibility for the conduct and welfare of all persons, including minors, using the property during the hunt.

33. Enforcement of Rules:

- Violations of these Rules and Regulations or State or Federal law may result in disciplinary action, including removal from the Property, fines, and criminal prosecution.

34. Failure to Comply and Termination:

- Compliance Agreement:
 - Hunters agree to abide by the Agreement, these Rules and Regulations, HRCA rules, regulations, policies, and procedures and state and federal laws. Violations may result in fines, denial of future hunting requests or eligibility for BWA hunts, and other sanctions by the HRCA.
- Termination of Agreement:
 - HRCA reserves the right to terminate the Agreement and expel individuals or groups from the Property for any reason deemed necessary by the HRCA. This includes failure to observe Rules and Regulations, misconduct, or endangerment of others.
- Final Decision Authority:
 - All staff decisions and judgments regarding the Rules and Regulations are final.