

2019

MOUNTAIN LION

FWP | Montana Hunting Regulations



Mountain lion | *Puma concolor*

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

TURN IN POACHERS: CALL 1-800-TIP-MONT

Regulations Adopted by the Fish & Wildlife Commission

Regulations for season dates, structures, and restrictions were adopted by the F&W Commission on February 13, 2019, under the authority granted in MCA 87-1-301 and are valid March 1, 2019, through April 14, 2020. The F&W Commission reserves the authority to amend the seasons, limits and regulations herein if deemed necessary for wildlife management purposes. Statutes and other information, including other agencies' restrictions, are provided as a courtesy and do not fall under Commission authority. *Martha Williams, Director.*

Discrimination Prohibited – 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 FWP program, activity, or facility may write to FWP Human Resources, 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.

What's New & Reminders

What's New

- Quota changes in Region 5.
- Beginning Oct. 1, 2019, a hunter may have a representative present the hide and skull to a Montana FWP official for inspection. See mandatory reporting requirements for details.

Reminders

- A General Mountain Lion License purchased after August 31 may not be used until five days after the license is issued. This license may be purchased at FWP offices, at License Providers or online.
- Deadline to apply for Special Mountain Lion License drawing is August 9.
- Even though the 2019 Mountain Lion season extends into the 2020 license year, the deadline to purchase 2019 licenses is February 29, 2020.
- **A Base Hunting License** is required for submitting applications as well as for the first hunting license purchase.
- A hunter may take one legal mountain lion per license year.

Residency (MCA 87-6-302)

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

Resident (MCA 87-2-102)

- To be a lawful Montana resident and eligible to purchase any Montana resident fishing, hunting, and trapping licenses, 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;

License Chart

The following 2019 licenses, for the purpose of mountain lion hunting, chasing and/or resident hound training, are valid March 1, 2019 through the dates listed in these regulations and subject to quota closures. A hunter may purchase only one mountain lion license per year.

LICENSE	REQUIREMENT(S)	COST
Conservation	Required prerequisite and must be carried while hunting or chasing lions.	\$8 Resident \$10 Nonresident
Base Hunting License	Annual fee charged at the time the hunter applies for or purchases his/her first hunting license per license year.	\$10 Resident \$15 Nonresident
General Mountain Lion	A General Mountain Lion License purchased after August 31 may not be used until five days after the license is issued. Available to resident and nonresident Conservation License holders 12 years of age or older or who will turn 12 years old before or during the season for which the license is issued. See Youth Hunting Opportunities. Purchase by February 29, 2020.	\$19 Resident \$320 Nonresident
Bow and Arrow (Archery)	A Bow and Arrow License, plus the proper hunting license, is required during mountain lion Archery Only Season or to archery hunt mountain lion in an Arch-Equip only area or hunting district.	\$10 Resident \$10 Nonresident
General Trapper, Resident	Available to resident Conservation License holders 12 years of age or older. Purchase by Feb 29, 2020. Required to hunt or chase bobcat. Deadline for bobcat validation is November 30, 2019. See the Trapping Regulations for details.	\$20 Resident
Resident Hound Training	Available to resident Conservation License holders 12 years of age or older or who will turn 12 years old before or during the season for which the license is issued. See Youth Hunting Opportunities.	\$5 Resident Only
Special Mountain Lion License (Nonrefundable Application Fee)	Over-the-counter or mailed applications must be postmarked by August 9. Online applications (fwp.mt.gov) must be completed by 11:45 p.m. MDT on August 9. NOTE: successful applicants must purchase a Special Mountain Lion License by February 29, 2020.	<u>Application fee:</u> \$5 Resident \$5 Nonresident <u>License cost:</u> \$19 Resident \$320 Nonresident
Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License	Only available to unsuccessful applicants for a Special Mountain Lion License. Eligible hunters will receive a letter with purchase details.	\$19 Resident \$320 Nonresident

- not possess (or have applied for any) current 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.
- 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.
- 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 (TIC).
- If your MDL or MIC was issued less than six

months ago, 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.

Youth Hunting Opportunities

A resident or nonresident youth who will reach 12 years of age by January 16, 2020, may hunt any game species for which their license is valid, after August 15, 2019. Proof of hunter education must be presented at the time of purchase.

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 youth, 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, MCA 45-8-344.

Hunter Education (MCA 87-2-105)

Hunter Education Requirements

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.

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.

Duplicate Certificates

Bowhunter or hunter education certificates of completion for the Montana hunter education and/or bowhunter education courses may be obtained from FWP's website at: fwp.mt.gov/education/hunter

Hunters 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,
29 McGill Hall,
Missoula, MT 59812
(406) 243-5751
or 877-243-5511

montech.ruralinstitute.utm.edu

Licensing – General Information and Procedures

- In most of Region 1, resident mountain lion hunting during the Winter Season is by Special Mountain Lion License with nonresidents limited to, but not guaranteed, 10 percent of the Special Mountain Lion Licenses available.
- In most of Region 2 mountain lion hunting during the early portion of the Winter Season (Dec. 1 – Jan. 31) is by Special Mountain Lion License with nonresidents limited to, but not guaranteed, 10 percent of the Special Mountain Lion Licenses available. General Mountain Lion License holders may hunt during the Late Winter Season (Feb. 1 – Apr. 14) until quotas are filled or until the season is closed.
- In the Missoula Special Management Area within Region 2:
 - **Resident** mountain lion hunting only by General License under a harvest quota. **Exception:** Special Mountain Lion License holders may hunt mountain lion in the Missoula Special Management Area during the Archery Only and Fall mountain lion seasons.
 - **Nonresident** mountain lion hunting only by Special Mountain Lion License and limited to, but not guaranteed, 10 percent of the district quota.

- In Regions 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, all hunting districts are quota-based with a General License for residents and nonresidents.
- Unsuccessful applicants for a Special Mountain Lion License will be eligible to purchase only a Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License valid statewide in any open districts during the Archery Only Season and Fall Season Without Dogs, valid in open districts in Region 2 during the Late Winter Season (Feb. 1 – Apr. 14), and valid (residents only) in the Missoula Special Management Area.
- Unsuccessful resident applicants for a Special Mountain Lion License may purchase a Resident Hound Training License to only chase during the hound training season December 2 - April 14 in any valid hunting district statewide.

General Mountain Lion License

- A General Mountain Lion License is available at all Fish, Wildlife & Parks offices, FWP license providers, online at fwp.mt.gov, or by mail.
 - A General Mountain Lion License purchased after August 31 may not be used until five days after the license is issued.
 - Applications are available at all FWP Regional and Area offices or may be downloaded from the FWP website
- During the Archery Only and Fall Season Without Dogs, a General Mountain Lion License may be used in any valid mountain lion hunting district, even if the district is a Special Mountain Lion License district during the Winter Season.
- During the Winter Season, a General Mountain Lion License is valid in all hunting districts with a harvest quota (excluding Special Mountain Lion License areas).
- During the Late Winter Season (Feb. 01 - Apr. 14) a General Mountain Lion License is valid in all hunting districts that have not reached the harvest quota.
- Nonresidents require a valid mountain lion license (General or Special) to harvest, handle dogs or chase mountain lions.

Special Mountain Lion License

- A limited number of Special Mountain Lion Licenses are available only through a special drawing. Apply by August 9.
- Applicants must possess a current year Conservation License and a Base Hunting License to apply for a Special Mountain Lion License.
- Bonus points will be offered for Special Mountain Lion License applications.
- Nonresidents are limited to no more than 10 percent of the Special Mountain Lion Licenses offered.
- A Special Mountain Lion License may be applied for:
 - online at fwp.mt.gov no later than 11:45 p.m. MDT on August 9, **or**
 - over-the-counter at any FWP regional office, FWP area office, and/or the Helena Headquarters no later than 5 p.m. MDT August 9, **or**
 - by mail. Mailed applications must include the \$5 nonrefundable drawing fee and must be postmarked by August 9. Applications are available at all FWP

regional and area offices or may be downloaded from the FWP website at fwp.mt.gov.

- Drawing results will be available during or after August 19.
- Successful Special Mountain Lion License applicants will be notified by mail and must purchase a mountain lion license no later than February 29, 2020.
- During the Archery Only and Fall Season Without Dogs, a Special Mountain Lion License may be used in any valid mountain lion hunting district.
- During the Winter Season, a Special Mountain Lion License may be used only in a specific hunting district, portion of the hunting district, or a group of hunting districts for which the Special Mountain Lion License is valid.

Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License

- In most Region 2 districts, mountain lion hunting during the early portion of the Winter Season (Dec. 1 – Jan. 31) will be only by Special Mountain Lion License with nonresidents limited to, but not guaranteed, 10 percent of the Special Mountain Lion Licenses available. Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License holders may hunt during the Late Winter Season (Feb. 1 – Apr. 14) until quotas are filled or until the season is closed.
- Unsuccessful applicants for a Special Mountain Lion License will be eligible to purchase only a Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License, valid statewide in the Archery Only Season, in any open districts during the Fall Season Without Dogs, the Late Winter Season (Feb. 1 – Apr. 14) in Region 2 and in the Missoula Special Management Area.
- Unsuccessful resident applicants for Special Mountain Lion Licenses may purchase a Resident Hound Training License to only chase mountain lion and/or bobcat during the hound training season in any valid mountain lion hunting district statewide Dec. 2 – Apr. 14.

Resident Hound Training License (RHTL)

- Available to resident Conservation License holders.
- Entitles the license holder to use a dog or dogs to aid in chasing mountain lions and/or bobcat in all valid mountain lion hunting districts in the state, except HD 282, during the hound training season from Dec. 2 – Apr. 14 per MCA 87-2-521.
- A person may not kill a mountain lion or bobcat with only a RHTL. To kill a mountain lion, you must hold a mountain lion license. To kill a bobcat, you must hold a Trapping License purchased and validated for bobcat by November 30.
- A resident hunter with a valid mountain lion license is not required to have a Resident Hound Training License to chase mountain lion.

Super Tag Lottery for Mountain Lion

- Resident and nonresident hunters can buy an unlimited number of \$5 chances per species by July 1 to win a Montana hunting license for a mountain lion as well as antelope, bison, deer, elk, moose, sheep and goat.
- Each Super Tag license allows one to hunt in any Montana hunting district valid for that species.
- Chances are sold electronically at all FWP License Providers or via fwp.mt.gov.
- Proceeds from the sale of Super Tag chances will enhance public hunting access and boost FWP enforcement efforts.
- For more information, visit FWP's website at fwp.mt.gov.

Laws & Rules

Aerial Spotting (MCA 87-6-208)

- It is unlawful for a person to shoot a game animal from an aircraft.
- It is unlawful for a person to use an aircraft for the purpose of concentrating, pursuing, driving, rallying, or stirring up any game animal.
- Aircraft may not be used to locate 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.

Archery Equipment (MCA 87-6-401, CR)

- It is unlawful to use any chemical or explosive device attached to an arrow to aid in the taking of game animals.
- The following criteria define Archery Equipment. It is unlawful to possess, while hunting 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 game animals 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 bowstring must be moved from brace height to the full draw position by the muscle power of the shooter's body. The energy used to propel the arrow shall not be derived from any other source such as hydraulic, pneumatic, mechanical, or similar devices. These limitations shall not exclude the mechanical leverage advantage provided by eccentric wheels or cams, so long as the available energy stored in the bent limbs of the bow is the sole result of a single, continuous, and direct pulling effort by the shooter.
- The bow must be hand-held. One hand shall hold the bow, and the other hand draw the bowstring. The bowstring must be moved and/or held at all points in the

draw cycle entirely by muscle power of the shooter until release. The bowstring must be released as a direct and conscious action of the shooter, either relaxing the tension of the fingers or triggering the release action of a hand-held release aid.

Exception: Physically disabled bowhunters certified by FWP with the Permit To Modify Archery Equipment (PTMAE) are exempted from the requirement of holding or shooting the bow with their hands.

> A bow is considered lawful if it is at least 28 inches in total length.

> The nominal percent of let-off for hunting bows shall be a maximum of 80 percent as advertised by the manufacturer.

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 and be at least 7/8 inches at the widest point. Expandable broadheads are lawful as long as when expanded they are at least 7/8 inches at the widest point, and weigh no less than 70 grains.

The following are not considered a hunting bow or lawful archery equipment during the Archery Only Season or in an Archery Equipment Only area or hunting district:

- Crossbow.
- Any device with a gun-type stock or incorporating any device or mechanism that holds the bowstring at partial or full draw without the shooter's muscle power.
- Any bow for which a portion of the bow's riser (handle) or any track, trough, channel, or other device that attaches directly to the bow's riser contacts, supports, and/or guides the arrow from a point rearward of the bow's brace height. This is not intended to restrict the use of standard overdraw systems.
- Electronic or battery-powered devices attached to a hunting bow or arrow.
Exception: Camera devices attached to bows for the sole purpose of filming is allowed.
- A bow sight or arrow that uses artificial light, luminous chemicals such as tritium, or electronics. **Exception:** an arrow may have a lighted nock.

Artificial Light (MCA 87-6-401)

It is unlawful for anyone to take or attempt to take any game animal or game bird with the aid of projected artificial light. Use of rifle scopes that project an artificial light to illuminate the target or project infra-red light visible only with specialized optics to illuminate the target are unlawful for the taking of game animals.

Baiting (MCA 87-6-401, CR)

- It is unlawful 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.

Bobcat and Lynx (MCA 87-2-601, CR)

Nonresidents may not take bobcats. Lynx are listed as a federally threatened species and there is no open season. It is a violation of both state and federal law to knowingly chase lynx with dogs.

Check Stations (MCA 87-6-218)

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

Evidence Required of Game Animal's Sex (MCA 87-6-406)

It is unlawful to destroy evidence of sex of a game animal. Effective March 1, 2020, evidence of sex of a mountain lion does not need to be retained until a male or female quota or subquota is reached. Once any male or female quota or subquota is reached, evidence of sex must be retained with a mountain lion carcass until it is processed."

Excess Harvest Resulting in an Unlawfully Taken Animal

If you or a member of your hunting party shoots an animal that results in an unlawfully taken animal, you should notify an FWP game warden or 1-800-TIP-MONT (1-800-847-6668) immediately and follow their instructions.

> Hunters should field dress the animal but DO NOT transport the animal until you've received instructions.

Firearms

- Firearms, including rifles, handguns, shotguns with 0, 00, or slugs, and muzzleloaders; archery equipment; and crossbows are lawful for taking game animals. All other methods of take are prohibited.
- There is no rifle or handgun caliber limitation or magazine/round capacity restrictions for the taking of game animals.
- Rifle scopes with illuminated reticles, built-in range finding capabilities, and "red dot" scopes are lawful for the taking of game animals.

Furbearer Traps (MCA 87-6-601)

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

Glandular Scents (CR)

- Natural or artificial glandular scents may be used by licensed hunters to attract game animals by spraying or pouring the scent on the ground or other objects. **Exception:** Natural or artificial glandular scents may not be used to hunt black bears.
- Hunters may not create a scent station where the scent continues to be dispensed without the hunter's direct action, such as an automatic device, which drips or otherwise continues to dispense scent.
- No scents other than glandular may be used for attracting game animals, but other scents may be used to mask human odor.

Hunter Harassment (MCA 87-6-215)

It is unlawful to:

- Intentionally interfere with the lawful taking of a wild animal.

- Disturb an individual engaged in the lawful taking of a wild animal with intent to prevent the taking of the animal.

Hunter Orange Requirement (MCA 87-6-414)

A person may not hunt any game animals in this state or accompany any hunter as an outfitter or guide under any of the provisions of the laws of this state without wearing as exterior garments, above the waist, a total of not less than 400 square inches of hunter orange (fluorescent) material visible at all times while hunting.

This section does not apply to a person hunting with a bow and arrow during the special archery season; or hunting wolves outside the general deer and elk season as authorized by commission rules. However, bowhunters hunting wolf during any portion of the general (firearm) seasons for deer, elk, antelope, moose, sheep, mountain goat, black bear, mountain lion must meet the hunter orange requirement while hunting.

Hunting Hours (CR)

Authorized hunting hours for the taking of game animals begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset each day of the hunting season. See the official Sunrise-Sunset Tables listed on page 15.

Inspection by Warden (MCA 87-1-502, 87-6-218)

Game animals, game and nongame birds, fish, and furbearers taken must be shown to FWP Enforcement personnel for inspection when requested.

Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact (IWVC)

Montana is a member of the IWVC. Under the compact, member states recognize suspensions of hunting, fishing or trapping privileges. It is unlawful 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.

Kill Site Verification (CR)

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.

License and Permit Possession/Use (MCA 87-6-304)

It is unlawful to:

- Hunt or attempt to hunt for any game animal unless the person is carrying the required license or permit at the time.
- Refuse to produce a license or permit and the identification used in purchasing a license or permit for inspection to a game warden.
- Alter or change a license in any material manner.
- Loan or transfer any license to another person.
- Use a license issued to another person.
- Attach the person's license to a game animal killed by another person.

Have physical control over a valid and unused hunting license or permit issued to another person while in any location that the species to be hunted may inhabit. This prohibition

does not apply to a person who is carrying or has physical control over a license or permit issued to that person's spouse or to any minor when the spouse or minor is hunting with that person.

License Validation/Tagging (MCA 87-6-411)

- 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 the kill, or before the hunter leaves the site of the kill.
- To properly validate a license (sometimes referred to as a tag):



The triangles denoting the month and day the animal was killed must be completely cut out and removed.

The properly validated license must remain with the meat (including cold storage) until consumed.

Littering (MCA 75-10-212)

A holder of a Montana resident or nonresident hunting license or camping permit convicted of littering campgrounds, public or private lands, streams, or lakes, while hunting, fishing, or camping shall forfeit any current Montana hunting, fishing, or trapping license and the privilege to hunt, fish, camp, or trap in Montana for a period of one year.

Marked or Radio-Collared Animals (CR)

It is lawful 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.

Motion-Tracking Devices (MCA 87-6-401)

It is unlawful for a person, while hunting, to possess any electronic motion-tracking device or mechanism that is designed to track the motion of a game animal and relay information on the animal's movement to the hunter.

Motion tracking devices are defined by the F&W Commission as remote operated camera or video devices capable of transmitting real time information, pictures or videos; seismic devices; thermal imaging devices; and satellite and radio telemetry devices.

A radio-tracking collar attached to a dog that is used by a hunter engaged in lawful hunting activities is not considered an unlawful motion-tracking device.

Motorized Vehicles (MCA 87-6-405)

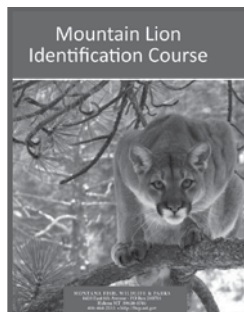
It is unlawful for anyone to:

- Hunt or attempt to hunt any game animal from any self-propelled (motorized) or drawn vehicle. To be lawful, a hunter must have two feet on the ground and his/her body outside of the vehicle. Holders of the Permit To Hunt From A Vehicle (PTHFV) 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 lawful routes (including game retrieval). All federally approved travel plans on public lands in Montana have been adopted by the F&W Commission. Contact the appropriate land management agencies for travel plan information.
- Use a motor-driven vehicle on a road or trail on state land if that road or trail is posted as closed by the land management agency. This restriction applies only to state land and not to federal land.
- Use a motor-driven vehicle other than on a road or trail designated for travel by a landowner unless permission has been given by that landowner.
- Use a powerboat, sailboat, or any boat under sail or any floating device towed by a powerboat, sailboat, or any boat under sail for the purpose of killing, capturing, taking, pursuing, concentrating, driving, or stirring up any game animal.

Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs)

Residents - OHVs (ATV, UTV, dirtbike) must be registered and display a current Off-Highway decal to be used for off-road recreation on public lands (trails, frozen lakes, reservoirs). To be used on roads (county, Forest Service, etc.), an OHV must have a license plate and street-lawful modifications. Register your OHV with the county treasurer.

Nonresidents - OHVs from another state must purchase a nonresident permit to operate (anywhere) in Montana. Idaho and North Dakota residents are exempt. Permits are good for one calendar year, cost \$27, and can be purchased from local vendors (stateparks.mt.gov/recreation/ohvProgram.html, OHV Permit and Laws), at FWP offices or online at app.mt.gov/als. Contact Montana State Parks OHV Program at 406-444-3753 or smcarthur@mt.gov with questions.



The *Mountain Lion Identification Program* is a voluntary training program available to anyone who is interested in mountain lion ecology and/or who wants to hunt mountain lions.

The course:

- presents information about mountain lion biology;
- explains how to determine the gender of a mountain lion; and
- Presents some of Montana's laws and regulations pertaining to mountain lion hunting.

For more information, go to:

fwp.mt.gov/education/hunter/mountainLionID

Outfitters and Guides (MCA 37-47-301)

A person may not act as an outfitter or guide or advertise or otherwise represent to the public that the person is an outfitter or guide without first securing a license.

- It is unlawful to engage in outfitting/guiding while not licensed.
- It is unlawful to hire an outfitter or guide not licensed by the Department of Labor and Industry. For information, call 406-841-2300.

Predators and Nongame Hunting

Predators and nongame species 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.

- **Predators** are classified as coyote, weasel, (striped) skunk, and civet cat (spotted skunk).
- **Nongame species** are defined as any wild animal not otherwise lawfully classified by statute or regulation in Montana. Examples include badger, raccoon, red fox, hares, rabbits, ground squirrels, marmots, tree squirrels, porcupines, and prairie dog.
- **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.
- **Feral swine** cause extensive damage to domestic and native habitats, wildlife, and livestock throughout much of the United States. To prevent the introduction of feral swine into Montana, the 2015 Legislature prohibited the transportation, possession, and hunting of feral swine. If you see or know of any feral swine in Montana, please contact the Montana Department of Livestock at 406-444-2976.

Private Property (MCA 87-6-415)

A resident or nonresident shall obtain permission of the landowner, the lessee, or their agents before taking or attempting to take game animals, migratory game birds, nongame wildlife, predatory animals, upland game birds, or wolves while hunting on private property.

- Even if the land is not posted, hunters must have permission from the land owner, lessee, or their agent before hunting on private property, regardless of whether the land is posted or not.
- Access to public land through private land requires permission of the private land owner, lessee, or their agent.
- Retrieval of all wildlife through private land requires permission of the private landowner, lessee, or their agent.

Public Roadways (MCA 87-6-403)

It is unlawful for anyone to hunt or attempt to hunt any game animal: 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).

Recorded Animal Sounds (MCA 87-6-401)

It is unlawful 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, wolves, and those birds not protected by state or federal law.

Simulated Wildlife (MCA 87-6-217)

It is unlawful to discharge a firearm or other hunting implement at a simulated wildlife decoy in violation of any state statute, 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 lawfully taken, properly tagged game animals that comply with the "Evidence of Sex Requirements" (see page 4).
- It is unlawful to ship, possess, transport, or take out of state unlawfully killed game animals.
- It is a violation of the Federal Lacey Act to transport an unlawfully taken game animal across state boundaries.
- If you are transporting lawfully taken wildlife (including parts and/or products of live or dead animals) between the United States and any foreign country, you must complete a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service declaration form. For further information contact the USFWS wildlife inspector at 406-335-4350 or fws.gov.
- Questions concerning carcass transport may be directed to FWP Enforcement at 406-444-2452 or to your home state's wildlife division.

Two-way Communication (CR)

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

- hunt game animals, or
- avoid game checking stations or FWP enforcement personnel, or to facilitate unlawful activity.
- When hunting mountain lions or bobcats with dogs, this rule applies when dogs are placed, or physically released, on tracks or a scent trail

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

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles UAV (CR)

It is unlawful for a person to use an UAV/drone for the purposes of concentrating, pursuing, driving, rallying, or stirring up any game animal. A UAV/drone may not be used to locate game animals for the purposes of; hunting those animals during the same hunting day after a UAV/drone has been airborne, or providing information for another person for the purposes of hunting those animals within the same hunting day after the UAV/drone has been airborne. UAVs/drones are not allowed to film a hunt.

Waste of Game (MCA 87-6-205)

Mountain lion is excluded from being considered "suitable for food." A person that harvests a mountain lion may not abandon the head or hide in the field.

Hunter 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 Montana'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 website at fwp.mt.gov/fish 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 website at stateparks.mt.gov for site specific information regarding hunting opportunities and restrictions.

Federal Land Access

- National Parks Service: National Parks are closed to hunting. For other lands administered by the National Park Service, please contact the specific site managers for additional information.
- National Wildlife Refuges - More restrictive regulations, including species specific restrictions and closures, may apply to national wildlife refuges open to public hunting. Contact the specific refuge and/or visit fws.gov/refuges for additional information.
- U.S. Forest Service: Area specific closures or restrictions may apply. Inquire at the appropriate Regional Forest Service Office.
- Bureau of Land Management: Area specific closures or restrictions may apply. Inquire at the appropriate BLM Field Office.
- Other Federal lands: Area specific closures or restrictions may apply. Inquire at the local federal land management agency office.

Unlawful Posting of State or Federal Land (MCA 45-8-115) It is unlawful for a person to knowingly post land that is under the ownership or control of the state or federal government to restrict access or use of state or federal land.

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

See Restricted Area Descriptions.

State School Trust Lands

- A Conservation License provides hunters, anglers and trappers access to lawfully accessible State School Trust lands.
- Overnight (2-night) camping is allowed within 200 feet of a lawful access point.
- Motorized travel is only allowed on public roads or on roads designated as open.
- Firearms may not be discharged within one-quarter mile of inhabited dwellings or outbuildings on state trust lands without permission of the inhabitant.
- Game retrieval is by foot or horse only.
- No open fires are allowed except in designated campground fire pits.
- Additional information is available from FWP or contact DNRC at (406) 444-2074.

State Wildlife Management Areas (WMA)

FWP's Wildlife Management Areas are generally open to hunting during the game animal 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: fwp.mt.gov

Stream Access Law

The Stream Access Law does not allow for the hunting of game animals between the ordinary high water marks of streams and rivers without landowner permission.

Tribal Land

Hunting game animals 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 for contact information.

Procedures to Follow After Harvesting a Mountain Lion

Harvest Limit

- A hunter may take one legal mountain lion per license year.

Mandatory Reporting Requirements

- Hunters must personally report their mountain lion kill within 12 hours by calling the mountain lion reporting line at 1-877-FWP-WILD (1-877-397-9453) or 406-444-0356. Hunters could also report their harvest online at fwp.mt.gov through myfwp.
- Within ten (10) days of harvesting a mountain lion, the successful hunter must present the hide and skull to a Montana FWP official. The hide and skull **must** be presented in a condition that allows full inspection and tooth collection (i.e. unfrozen) for the purpose of:
 - inspection and registration of kill.
 - verification of sex.
 - removal of a tooth for aging purposes.
 - issuance and attachment of a hide tag. The hide tag must thereafter remain attached to the hide until tanned.

2019 Mountain Lion

Beginning October 1, 2019, a person licensed to hunt and authorized to possess a carcass of a game animal that requires mandatory department biological inspection may, after validating and attaching the license or tag in accordance with 87-6-411, transfer possession of all or part of that game animal to any person at any time after leaving the site of the kill, provided a statement of possession has been completed. The statement of possession must be on a form prescribed by the department and signed by the licensed person and the person or persons receiving possession, and must accompany the carcass or portion of carcass presented for inspection.

REMINDER: The hunter must still personally report their harvest by phone as required even if a transfer form is completed.

Harvest Reporting and Status/Closure Information

- To report a harvest, call 1-877-FWP-WILD (1-877-397-9453) or 406-444-0356.
- Harvest status/closure may be obtained:
 - by calling 1-800-385-7826 or 406-444-1989 for statewide information or,
 - by checking the FWP website at fwp.mt.gov available 24-hours a day.
- The toll-free line and FWP website are updated daily by 1 p.m. MST.

Trichinella in Mountain Lions

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 mountain lion and 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.

Common Sense Precautions When Field-Dressing Game Animals

To minimize risk of disease or parasite transmission to humans, follow these proper ways to handle wild meat:

- Wear rubber (latex) gloves when field dressing game.
- Minimize contact with animal fluids, brain and spinal tissues.
- Wash hands and instruments thoroughly after field dressing or processing.
- Cook all meat until well done before consuming.

To minimize the risk of disease or parasite transmission to your domestic dog, prevent the consumption of game animal viscera.

Restricted Area Descriptions

Restricted area legal descriptions include both Closed Areas and Weapons Restricted Areas. It is your responsibility to know that you are in a legal hunting area.

HD 309 Gallatin Valley Weapons Restriction Area: Mountain lion hunting is restricted to ArchEquip, shotgun, traditional handgun, muzzleloader or crossbow only, EXCEPT on some private lands which are excluded from the weapons restrictions. See legal description in 2019 Deer • Elk • Antelope regulations. Map available at FWP-R3 HQ 406-994-4042, in Bozeman.

Helena Valley Weapons Restriction Area:

That portion of Deer/Elk HD 388 west of the following boundary: From the intersection of US Highway 12-287 and Lake Helena Drive, then north on said drive to the south shore of the Causeway Arm, then north and east on said shore to Hauser Lake.

Libby Big Game Archery Only Hunting Area:

That Portion of Lincoln County lying within the following boundary: Beginning at the junction of U.S. Highway 2 and Port Blvd. (the old Stimpson mill site entrance) on the south edge of Libby, then heading east on Port Blvd. to the Champion Haul Road, across Libby Creek on said road to National Forest Road 4813, then southerly on Road 4813 to National Forest Road 533, the Swede Mountain Road, then southerly along said road to the Farm-To-Market Road, then northerly along the Farm-to-Market Road to U.S. Highway 2, then northerly along U.S. Highway 2 to Port Blvd., the point of beginning.

Mountain Lion Hunting Districts – Legal Descriptions

Legal descriptions for the 2019 Mountain Lion Hunting Districts are the same as the 2019 Legal Descriptions for the Deer/Elk Hunting Districts and Weapons Restriction Areas found in the 2019 Legal Descriptions document and on the FWP website at fwp.mt.gov

Missoula Special Management Area for Mountain Lion –

The Missoula Special Management Area includes portions of hunting districts 201, 203, 204, 260, 283 and 292, in portions of Mineral, Missoula, Sanders, Granite, Ravalli and Powell Counties. A map and legal description is available from the Missoula FWP office (406-542-5500).

Spanish Peaks Portion of HD 311 for Mountain Lion –

Those portions of Gallatin County within the following boundary: Beginning at the confluence of Cascade Creek and the Gallatin River, then southerly up the Gallatin River to its intersection with Dudley/Creek-West Fork Gallatin divide near Big Sky junction (U.S. Highway 191 and Route 64), then northwesterly up said divide to Wilson Peak, then northeasterly along the Dudley Creek-Hell Roaring Creek divide to Trail 481, then easterly along said trail to Table Mountain, then northerly along the Lava Lake Trail (Trail numbers 445 and 77) to the mouth of Cascade Creek and the Gallatin River, the point of beginning.

Mountain Lion Hunting Seasons

Archery Only Season Without Dogs – September 7 - October 20, 2019.

- Resident and nonresident hunters with either a General Mountain Lion License, a Special Mountain Lion License OR a Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License may harvest any legal lion in any open district statewide during the Archery Only Season.
- A Bow and Arrow License, plus the proper hunting license is required during mountain lion Archery Only Season or to archery hunt mountain lion in an Arch-Equip only area or hunting district.
- Use of dogs is prohibited during the Archery Only Season.
- The Archery Only Season for mountain lion will close:
 - With the end of the Archery Only Season or,
 - Earlier upon reaching a number nearest to 20 percent of the total quota or number of Special Mountain Lion Licenses in the district or management unit, or
 - When one mountain lion is taken in those districts or management units with a total harvest quota of less than five Special Mountain Lion Licenses.
- When a district or management unit closes during the Archery Only Season, the Fall Season Without Dogs in that district will not open.
- In General License areas, the Archery Only Season harvest will be deducted from the district or management unit quota and subquota.
- In Special Mountain Lion License areas, the Archery Only Season male or female harvest will be deducted from that district's or management unit's respective male or female mountain lion subquota or quota.
- Reporting requirements are listed under "Procedures to Follow After Harvesting a Mountain Lion."
- Female mountain lions accompanied by kittens with spots may not be taken.
 - If a lactating female is killed, the hunter must inform an FWP official as soon after the kill as possible.
- No mountain lion with body spots shall be killed.

Fall Season Without Dogs – October 26 - December 01, 2019

- Resident and nonresident hunters with either a General Mountain Lion License, a Special Mountain Lion License OR a Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License may harvest any legal lion in any open district or management unit statewide during the Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Use of dogs is prohibited during the Fall Season.
- The Fall Mountain Lion Season will close:
 - With the end of the general deer/elk season or,
 - Earlier upon the combined Archery Only Season and Fall Season Without Dogs harvest reaching a number nearest to 20 percent of the total quota or number of Special Mountain Lion Licenses in the district or management unit, or

- When one mountain lion is taken in those districts or management units with a total harvest quota of less than five mountain lions or less than five Special Mountain Lion Licenses.
- In general license areas, the combined Archery Only Season harvest and Fall Season Without Dogs harvest will be deducted from the district or management unit quota and subquota.
- In Special Mountain Lion License areas, the combined Archery Only Season and Fall Season Without Dogs male and female mountain lion harvest will be deducted from the respective male or female mountain lion subquota or quota.
- Reporting requirements are listed under "Procedures to Follow Upon Harvesting a Mountain Lion."
- Female mountain lions accompanied by kittens with spots may not be taken.
 - If a lactating female is killed, the hunter must inform an FWP official as soon after the kill as possible.
- No mountain lion with body spots shall be killed.

Winter Season – December 01, 2019 - April 14, 2020

- When the male or female subquota or quota is reached in a hunting district or management unit, the mountain lion season for that subquota or quota in that hunting district or management unit will close upon 24-hours notice, but no later than April 14.
- General Mountain Lion License holders may harvest a mountain lion in any open General Mountain Lion License hunting district or management unit during the Winter Season.
- Special Mountain Lion License holders may harvest a mountain lion only in the hunting district, portion of the district, or group of districts (management unit) for which the Special Mountain Lion License is valid during the Winter Season.
- Female mountain lions accompanied by kittens with spots may not be taken.
 - If a lactating female is killed, the hunter must inform an FWP official as soon after the kill as possible.
- No mountain lion with body spots shall be killed.

Late Winter Season – February 01, 2020 - April 14, 2020

- General Mountain Lion License holders may harvest a mountain lion in any open Region 2 General Mountain Lion License hunting district or management unit during the Late Winter Season. License holders must check the quota status before hunting in a Late Winter Season. The season will not open if Special Mountain Lion License holders fill the quota by February 1.
- Region 2 hunting districts or management units with Special Mountain Lion Licenses are open to Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License holders for this late portion of the Winter Season until the harvest quota is reached.
- When the male or female subquota or quota is reached in a hunting district or management unit, the mountain lion season for that subquota or quota in that hunting

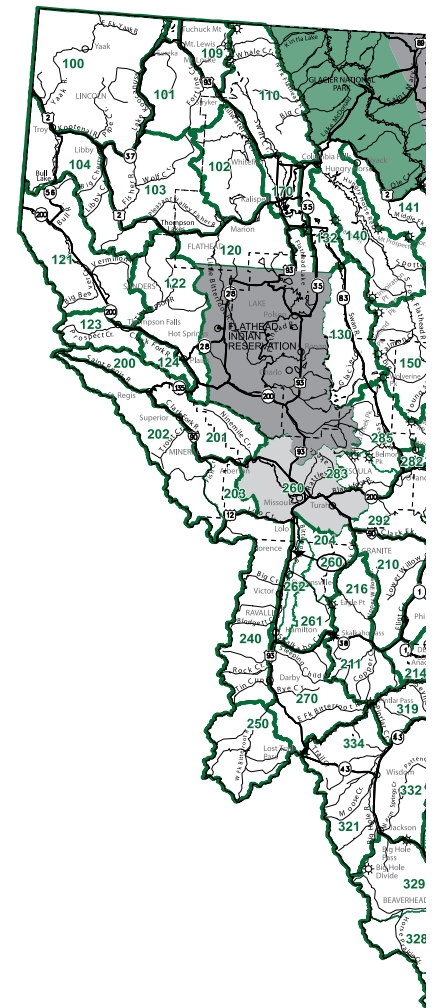
district will close upon 24-hours notice, but no later than April 14.

- Special Mountain Lion License holders may harvest a mountain lion only in the hunting district, portion of the district, or group of districts (management unit) for which the Special Mountain Lion License is valid during the Winter Season or Late Winter Season.
- Female mountain lions accompanied by kittens with spots may not be taken.
 - If a lactating female is killed, the hunter must inform an FWP official as soon after the kill as possible.
- No mountain lion with body spots shall be killed.

Winter Season and Late Winter Season General License Harvest Quotas

- Mountain lion quotas fill quickly in some hunting districts or management unit so hunters should check harvest closure information frequently.
- When the subquota or quota is reached in a hunting district or management unit, the mountain lion season for that subquota or quota in that hunting district will close upon 24-hours notice, but no later than April 14.
- When the total quota is reached in a hunting district or management unit, the mountain

Mountain Lion Hunting District Map



lion season in that hunting district will close upon 24-hours notice to the harvest of all mountain lions, but no later than April 14.

- The Fish & Wildlife Commission has authorized the department to initiate closure prior to reaching the total quota or subquota when conditions or circumstances indicate the total quota or subquota may be reached within the 24-hours closure notice period.

Hound Training Season – December 1, 2019 - April 14, 2020

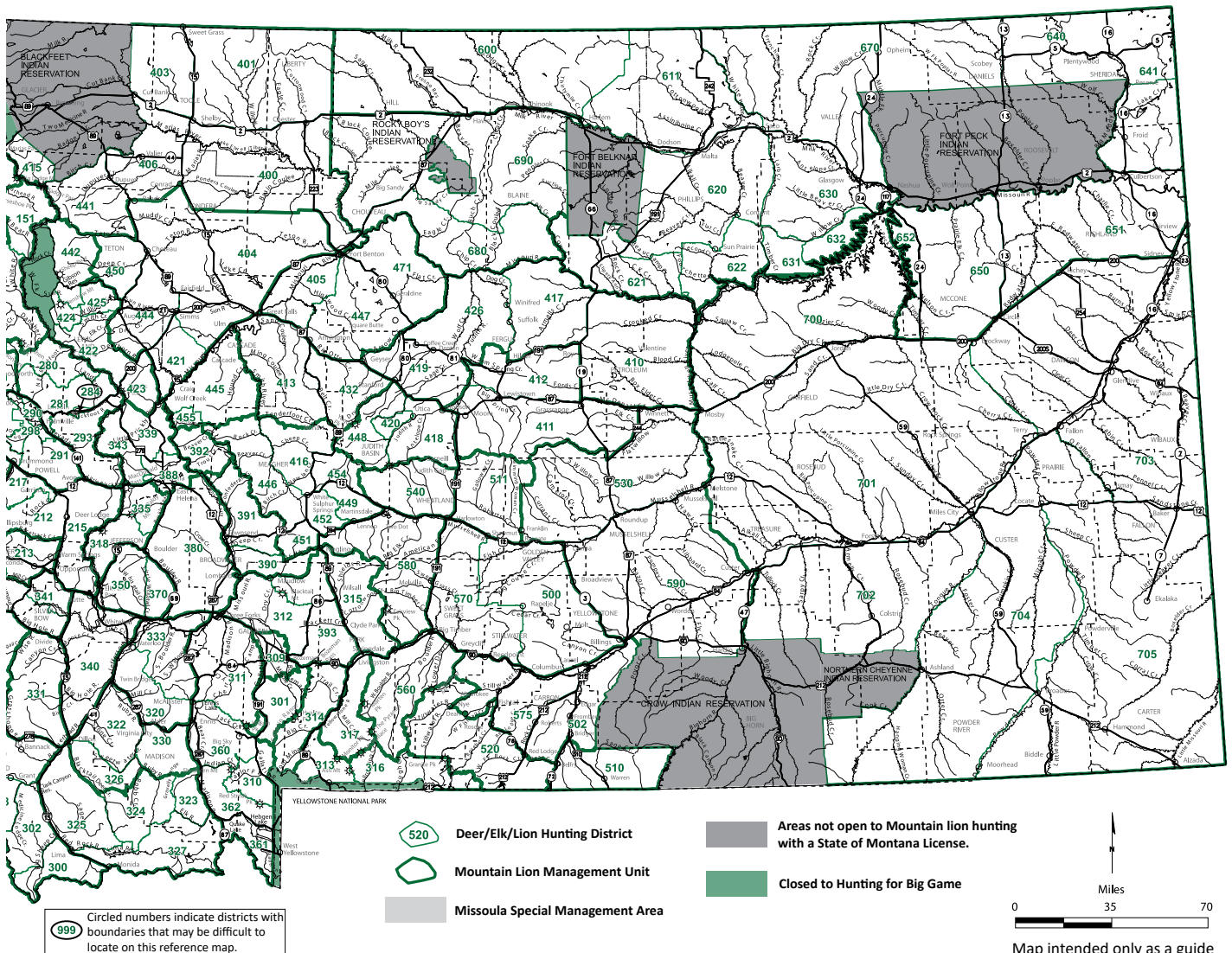
- A hunter with a Resident Hound Training License may lawfully chase mountain lions in any valid hunting district or management unit statewide from December 2 - April 14.
- A hunter with a valid General Mountain Lion License, Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License or Special Mountain Lion License may lawfully chase mountain lions in any valid hunting district or management unit statewide December 1 - April 14.
- A hunter with a valid General Mountain Lion License may lawfully harvest a mountain lion with dogs in any open general license hunting district or management unit during the Winter or Late Winter Seasons.
- A hunter with a valid Special Mountain Lion License may lawfully harvest a mountain

lion with dogs only in the hunting district or management unit for which the Special Mountain Lion License is valid during the Winter Season. **Exceptions:** hunting districts 150 & 151 are open to the use of dogs September 15 - April 14.

- A hunter with a valid Mountain Lion License may lawfully chase mountain lions in any valid hunting district or management unit statewide December 1 - April 14. **Exceptions:** hunting districts 150 & 151 are open to the use of dogs September 15 - April 14.
- A hunter with a valid Resident Hound Training License may lawfully chase mountain lions in any valid hunting district or management unit statewide December 2 - April 14. A person may not kill a mountain lion or bobcat with a Resident Hound Training License.
- Authorized **mountain lion and bobcat hunting and chasing** hours begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset.
- Nonresidents may not hunt or chase bobcat. Residents must possess a valid General Trapper License to hunt and chase bobcat or a Resident Hound Training License to chase bobcats. See the Furbearer and Trapping Regulations for more information.
- Permission is required to release dogs or

chase mountain lions on private land.

- It is prohibited for a dog owner or mountain lion hunter to release dogs on a mountain lion track, or allow dogs to chase a mountain lion, or hold a mountain lion at bay during any period of the day or year when the season is not open to hunting or chasing mountain lions. Legitimate attempts to retrieve loose dogs after legal hunting hours does not constitute a violation of this rule.
- Persons handling dogs in the field are required to:
 - Have a valid General Mountain Lion License if hunting or chasing, **or**
 - Have a valid Special Mountain Lion License if hunting or chasing, **or**
 - Have a valid Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License if hunting or chasing, **or**
 - Have a Resident Hound Training License to only chase.
- Outfitters and guides will be eligible to handle hounds with only a valid Conservation License and a valid Montana outfitter or guide license in their possession. Guides will also be required to provide the license number of the outfitter on whose license they are guiding if required to do so by an FWP employee.



Mountain Lion Management Unit Harvest Quotas and Regulations

Lion Management Unit NOTE: Units are based on deer/elk hunting districts. Some are combinations of 2 or more deer/elk hunting districts. Check status/closure at: fwp.mt.gov or 1-800-385-7826 or 406-444-1989	Harvest Quotas			License that can be used in open management units			
	Any Legal Mountain Lion	Female quota	Male quota	General Mountain Lion License or Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License or Special Mountain Lion License		General Mountain Lion License	Special Mountain Lion License (apply by Aug 9)
				Archery Only Season Sept 7-Oct 20	Fall Season Without Dogs Oct 26-Dec 01	Winter Season Dec 01-Apr 14 Special License holders are restricted to the HD(s) on the license	
				Combined Harvest Limit (20 percent of quota)*		Special License number (for application)	Special License quota
Region 1							
HD 100		12	5*			100-00	24
HD 101		5	2*			101-00	12
HD 102		5	2*			102-00	12
HD 103 NOTE: Libby Big game Archery Only Hunting Area restricted to ArchEquip Only.		7	2*			103-00	12
HD 104		7	2*			104-00	12
HD 109		4	2*			109-00	8
HD 110		4	2*			110-00	8
HD 120		4	2*			120-00	11
HD 121		8	4*			121-00	22
HD 122		5	3*			122-00	14
HD 123		3	1*			123-00	7
HD 124		2	1*			124-00	7
HD 130		5	3*			130-00	14
HD 132	10		2*		●		
HD 140	6		1*		●		
HD 141	6		1*		●		
HDs 150 &151	7		Archery Only Season Sept 7 -Sept 14 1*	Winter Season Sept 15-Apr 14	●		
HD 170 (Flathead Valley)	Unlimited		Unlimited (1 per hunter)		●		

* Region 1: During the Archery Only and Fall Season Without Dogs, a General License, a Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License or a Special Mountain Lion License may be used in any valid mountain lion hunting district but the district will close when the harvest reaches a number nearest to 20 percent of the quota. Any male harvested with a General or Limited R2 General License during the Archery Only Season and/or Fall Season Without Dogs will be subtracted from the male subquota for Special Mountain Lion License holders but will not reduce the 'Any Legal Mountain Lion' quota for Special License holders.

Lion Management Unit NOTE: Units are based on deer/elk hunting districts. Some are combinations of 2 or more deer/elk hunting districts. Check status/closure at: fwp.mt.gov or 1-800-385-7826 or 406-444-1989	Harvest Quotas		License that can be used in open management units								
			Any Legal Mountain Lion	Female quota	Male quota	General Mountain Lion License or Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License or Special Mountain Lion License		General Mountain Lion License	Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License	Special Mountain Lion License (apply by Aug. 9)	
	Archery Only Season Sept 7-Oct 20	Fall Season Without Dogs Oct 26-Dec 01				Winter Season Dec 01-Apr 14 Special License holders are restricted to the HD on the license			Late Winter Season Feb 01 - Apr 14		
	Combined Harvest Limit (20 percent of quota)*			Special License number (for application)	Special License quota						

Region 2

Missoula Special Mgmt Area Residents Only Portions of HDs 201, 203, 204, 260, 283 and 292. MSMA maps and legal descriptions are available at Missoula FWP office 406-542-5500.	12	13	5*	•	•						
Missoula Special Mgmt Area Non-Residents Portions of HDs 201, 203, 204, 260, 283 and 292. MSMA maps and legal descriptions are available at Missoula FWP office 406-542-5500.						201-00	2				
HDs 200 & 201 (excluding Missoula Special Mgmt Area)	7	13	4*			200-00	20	•	•		
HDs 202 & 203 (excluding Missoula Special Mgmt Area)	10	20	6*			202-00	30	•	•		
HD 210	1	3	1*			210-00	4	•	•		
HDs 211 & 216	3	5	2*			211-00	8	•	•		
HDs 212, 215 & 217	1	6	1*			212-00	7	•	•		
HDs 213 & 214	0	2	1*			213-00	2	•	•		
HDs 204, 260 261, & 262 (excluding Missoula Special Mgmt Area).	1	4	1*			204-00	31	•	•		
HD 240	3	4	1*					•	•		
HD 250	3	5	2*					•	•		
HD 270	5	6	2*					•	•		
HDs 280, 281, 284, 293 & portion of 298 east of State Route 141	3	5	2*			280-00	8	•	•		
HD 282	Closed to all lion hunting (harvest and chase).										
HDs 283 & 285 (excluding Missoula Special Mgmt Area)	4	7	2*			283-00	11	•	•		
HDs 290, 291, 292, & portion of 298 west of State Route 141 (excluding Missoula Special Mgmt Area)	3	7	2*			290-00	10	•	•		

* Region 2: During the Archery Only and Fall Season Without Dogs, a General License, a Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License or a Special Mountain Lion License may be used in any valid mountain lion hunting district but the district will close when the harvest reaches a number nearest to 20 percent of the quota. In Special Mountain Lion License areas, the combined Archery Only and Fall Season Without Dogs male and female mountain lion harvest from all license holders will be deducted from the respective male or female mountain lion quotas.

Lion Management Unit NOTE: Units are based on deer/elk hunting districts. Some are combinations of 2 or more deer/elk hunting districts. Check status/closure at: fwp.mt.gov or 1-800-385-7826 or 406-444-1989	Harvest Quotas			Licenses that can be used in open management units		
				General Mountain Lion License or Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License or Special Mountain Lion License		General Mountain Lion License
	Any Legal Mountain Lion	Female subquota	Male subquota	Archery Only Season Sept 7-Oct 20	Fall Season Without Dogs Oct 26-Dec 01	Winter Season Dec 01-Apr 14
				Combined Harvest Limit (20 percent of quota)*		

Region 3

Harvest Quotas	Any Legal Mountain Lion	Female subquota	Male subquota	Licenses that can be used in open management units	General Mountain Lion License
HDs 300, 302, 328, & 329	10	5		2*	•
HD 301	8	4		2*	•
HD 309 NOTE: See Restricted Area Descriptions page 9	5			1* Fall Season Without Dogs in HD 309 - Sept 7-Dec 1	•
HDs 310, 311, 360, 361 & 362 NOTE: Excluding Spanish Peaks portion of HD 311. See legal description.	10	3		2*	•
HD 311 - Spanish Peaks Portion	7			1*	•
HDs 312 & 393	9	4		2*	•
HDs 313 & 316	4	1		1*	•
HD 314	6	2		1*	•
HD 315	3	1		1*	•
HD 317	4	2		1*	•
HDs 318 & 335	6	2		1*	•
HDs 319 & 341	4	2		1*	•
HDs 320 & 333	4	1		1*	•
HDs 321, 332, & 334	3	1		1*	•
HDs 322, 326, & 330	7	2		1*	•
HDs 323, 324, 325, & 327	7	2		1*	•
HD 331	5	2		1*	•
HDs 339, 343, & 388 Note: See Restricted Area Descriptions page 9	8	2		2*	•
HD 340	3	1		1*	•
HDs 350, 370	4	1		1*	•
HD 380	5	2		1*	•
HDs 390 & 391	10	5		2*	•
HD 392	3	1		1*	•

* Region 3: Any lion harvested in the Archery Only or Fall Season Without Dogs will be deducted from the quota (male or female) and from the female subquota. The Fall Season Without Dogs will close upon the combined Archery Only Season and Fall Season Without Dogs harvest reaching a number nearest to 20 percent of a district total quota.

Lion Management Unit NOTE: Units are based on deer/elk hunting districts. Some are combinations of 2 or more deer/elk hunting districts. Check status/closures at: fwp.mt.gov or 1-800-385-7826 or 406-444-1989	Harvest Quotas			Licenses that can be used in open management units		
				General Mountain Lion License or, Limited R2 General Mountain Lion License or, Special Mountain Lion License		General Mountain Lion License
	Any Legal Mountain Lion	Female quota	Male quota	Archery Only Season Sept 7-Oct 20	Fall Season Without Dogs Oct 26-Dec 01	Winter Season Dec 01-Apr 14
Combined Harvest Limit for both seasons (20 percent of harvest quota)*						

Region 4

HDs	Any Legal Mountain Lion	Female quota	Male quota	Licenses that can be used in open management units	Notes
HDs 400, 401, 403, 406, 415 & 441		1	2	1*	•
HDs 404, 421, 444 & 450		3	3	1*	•
HDs 405, 447 & 471		3	4	1*	•
HDs 410, 417, 419 & 426		8	5	3*	•
HDs 411 & 412		8	5	3*	•
HDs 413 & 432		5	5	2*	•
HDs 416, 446, 449, 451, 452 & 454		7	6	3*	•
HDs 418, 420 & 448		4	4	2*	•
HDs 422, 423, 424, 425, & 442		5	8	3*	•
HDs 445 & 455		8	6	3*	•

*Region 4: Any lion harvested in the Archery Only or Fall Season Without Dogs will be deducted from the quota (male or female). The Fall Season Without Dogs will close upon the combined Archery Only Season and Fall Season Without Dogs harvest reaching a number nearest to 20 percent of a male or female quota. When the male or female quota is reached in a hunting district(s), the mountain lion season for that quota in that hunting district(s) will close upon 24-hours notice.

Lion Management Unit NOTE: Units are based on deer/elk hunting districts. Some are combinations of 2 or more deer/elk hunting districts. Check status/closures at: fwp.mt.gov or 1-800-385-7826 or 406-444-1989	Harvest Quotas			Licenses that can be used in open management units		
				General Mountain Lion License or, Limited Region 2 General Mountain Lion License or, Special Mountain Lion License		General Mountain Lion License
	Any Legal Mountain Lion	Female subquota	Male subquota	Archery Only Season Sept 7-Oct 20	Fall Season Without Dogs Oct 26-Dec 01	Winter Season Dec 01-Apr 14
Combined Harvest Limit (20 percent of harvest quota)*						

Region 5

HDs	Any Legal Mountain Lion	Female subquota	Male subquota	Licenses that can be used in open management units	Notes
HDs 500 & 570	4			1*	•
HDs 502 & 575	4			1*	•
HD 510	4	2		1*	•
HD 511	4	2		1*	•
HD 520	5	2		1*	•
HDs 530 & 590	15			3*	•
HD 540	5	3		1*	•
HD 560	8	4		2*	•
HD 580	6	3		1*	•

Region 6

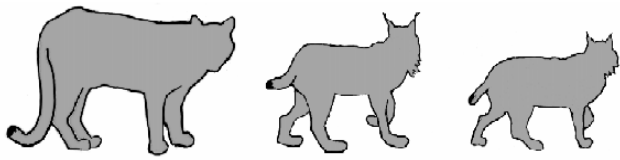
HDs 680 & 690	8	2		2*	•
Region 6 except HDs 680 & 690	4	2		1*	•

Region 7

All HDs in Region 7	45			9*	•
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* Regions 5, 6 & 7: Any lion harvested in the Archery Only or Fall Season Without Dogs will be deducted from the quota (male or female) and from the female subquota. The Fall Season Without Dogs will close upon the combined Archery Only Season and Fall Season Without Dogs harvest reaching a number nearest to 20 percent of a district total quota. When the male or female subquota or quota is reached in a hunting district(s), the mountain lion season for that subquota or quota in that hunting district(s) will close upon 24-hours notice.

Cat Identification



Mountain Lion

Lynx

Bobcat



32" - 44"



3 1/2" - 5"



24" - 33"



3 3/4" - 4 3/4"



22" - 26"

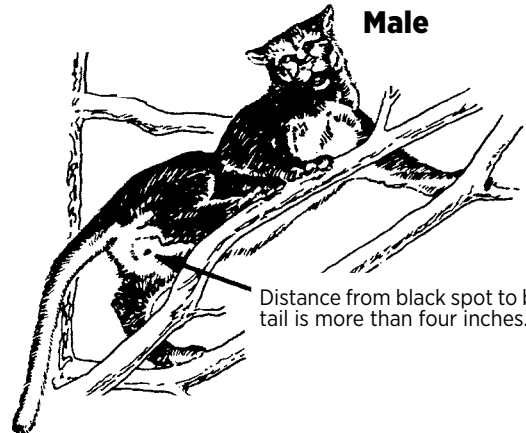


2 1/4"

- Note differences in tail length of mountain lion and black markings on tip of lynx and bobcat tails.
- Lynx ear tufts are longer than bobcat ear tufts.
- Mountain lion and lynx foot sizes are similar; bobcat is much smaller.
- Tracks are shown with shaded area representing impression of hair in the snow.
- Note track size and stride length differences between species.

Sex Determination of Mountain Lion

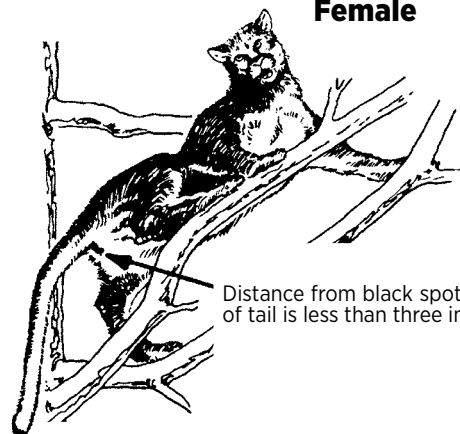
Male adult and subadult lions have a conspicuous black spot, about one inch diameter, surrounding the opening to the penis sheath behind the hind legs and about four to five inches below the base of the tail.



Male

Distance from black spot to base of tail is more than four inches.

Female adult and subadult lions may have black fur surrounding the vulva and located about three inches or less from the base of the tail.



Female

Distance from black spot to base of tail is less than three inches.

Pad Width & Stride Length - potential indicators of sex



< 3.5"

Adult Female

< 40"



> 40"

Adult Male



4 1/4"

Contacts

Mountain Lion Harvest Reporting Number
 24-hours/day - 7 days/week 1-877-FWP-WILD (1-877-397-9453)
 OR 406-444-0356

Mountain Lion Quota Status
 24 hours/day - 7 days/week 1-800-385-7826 OR 406-444-1989
 OR fwp.mt.gov

Bobcat, Otter, Fisher, Swift Fox and Wolverine Quota Status
 24 hours/day - 7 days/week 1-800-711-8727 OR 406-444-9557

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks State Headquarters
 1420 East 6th Avenue, PO Box 200701,
 Helena, MT 59620-0701..... 406-444-2535

Hunter Education.....406-444-9948
 Wildlife Division.....406-444-2612
 Enforcement Division.....406-444-2452
 Parks Division (Montana State Parks).....406-444-3750
 Special drawings406-444-2950
 Resident and nonresident licensing.....406-444-2535
 Hearing Impaired (use Montana
 Relay).....7-1-1 or 1-800-253-4091

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Regional Headquarters

<p>Region 1 490 N Meridian Rd Kalispell, MT 59901 406-752-5501</p>	
<p>Region 2 3201 Spurgin Rd Missoula, MT 59804 406-542-5500</p>	<p>Lewistown Area Res Office (LARO) 333 Airport Road, Ste. 1 PO Box 938 Lewistown, MT 59457 406-538-4658</p>
<p>Region 3 1400 South 19th Ave Bozeman, MT 59718-5496 406-994-4042</p>	<p>Region 5 2300 Lake Elmo Dr Billings, MT 59105 406-247-2940</p>
<p>Helena Area Res Office (HARO) 930 Custer Ave W PO Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620 406-495-3260</p>	<p>Region 6 1 Airport Rd Glasgow, MT 59230 406-228-3700</p>
<p>Butte Area Res Office (BARO) 1820 Meadowlark Ln Butte, MT 59701 406-494-1953</p>	<p>Havre Area Res Office (HVARO) 2165 Hwy 2 East Havre, MT 59501 406-265-6177</p>
<p>Region 4 4600 Giant Springs Rd Great Falls, MT 59405 406-454-5840</p>	<p>Region 7 352 I-94 Business Loop PO Box 1630 Miles City, MT 59301 406-234-0900</p>

Contacts Outside Fish, Wildlife & Parks

<p>Montana State Agencies</p> <p>Agriculture 406-444-3144</p> <p>Guides & Outfitters 406-841-2300</p> <p>Livestock 406-444-7323</p> <p>State Lands (DNRC) 406-444-2074</p> <p>Tourism 406-841-2870</p>	<p>Land Maps</p> <p>USDI Bureau of Land Management 406-896-5000</p> <p>Topographical (USGS) 888-275-8747</p> <p>Tribal Lands</p> <p>Blackfeet Reservation 406-338-7276</p> <p>Crow Reservation 406-638-2179</p> <p>Flathead Reservation 406-883-2888 ext 7200</p> <p>Fort Belknap 406-353-2205</p> <p>Fort Peck Reservation 406-768-5305</p> <p>Northern Cheyenne Reservation 406-477-6526</p> <p>Rocky Boy Reservation 406-395-4207</p>
<p>Federal Agencies</p> <p>US Department of Interior (USDI) 202-208-3100</p> <p>USDI Fish & Wildlife Service 406-449-5225</p> <p>USDA Forest Service 406-329-3511</p> <p>USDI Bureau of Land Management 406-896-5000</p> <p>National Weather Service 406-329-4840 (Missoula)</p>	

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