

CONTRACTUAL ELK PUBLIC ACCESS AGREEMENTS

I. PURPOSE

- (1) The purpose of the following rules is to clarify the application and selection processes for the contractual elk public access agreements, commonly referred to as 454 agreements, pursuant to 87-2-513, MCA.
 - (2) The following rules supersede Administrative Rule of Montana 12.9.908.

II. PROCESS FOR APPLYING

- (1) Applications for the elk public access program must be submitted on a form prescribed by the department.
 - (2) Applications must be complete to be considered.
 - (3) Applications must be postmarked on or before May 15.
 - (4) Applications postmarked after May 15 will not be considered.

III. PROCESS FOR REVIEW

- (1) Department personnel will review all applications for completeness and timeliness.
- (2) All applications determined to be complete and postmarked on or before May 15 will be presented to the Fish and Wildlife Commission for approval.
- (3) Any application determined to be incomplete or not postmarked on or before May 15 will automatically be rejected and will not be considered by the Fish and Wildlife Commission.

IV. EFFECTIVE DATE AND EXPIRATION OF THESE RULES

- (1) These rules are effective upon approval of the commission.
- (2) These rules expire two years after approval of the commission.
- (3) These rules may be amended or repealed upon approval of the commission.
- (4) Prior to expiration, the commission may extend the effective date of these rules for no more than two years.

Legal Review	Chair Fish and Wildlife Commission
Approved:	