

# #1

COMPLETE

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## Q1

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## Q2

Please comment on 2024 Elk Hunting Access (EHA) Agreements

The idea of access to land that won't be overloaded with other hunters is a dream to most hunters. But this agreement was created by the large landowners in the legislature. The initial agreement, as I remember, was for 4 hunters to be allowed access for the landowner to be given a special permit. I don't remember the specifics of how many days each of the hunters were to be allowed access or if it was even addressed. Now I read that the landowner gets licenses and permits for EACH 3 hunters that he allows and after reading the comments from the FWP picked hunters, they were short changed in Many of the cases regarding areas that they could access and the number of days that they were allowed to hunt. Several of the hunters complained about the area being open for Block Management anyway and they didn't know they had a permit until after the landowner had filled his limit of hunters for the majority of the season. I am more prone to allowing the Block Management landowners permits for allowing access because they are actually opening their land to the public. This is hard because there are ranchers who are doing a good job of helping hunters. One comment was that the landowner must allow access this year in order to receive the permit next year. This is not a bad idea. The other alternative is that FWP must follow up on all hunters who are selected to see if they received the same treatment as the landowner's selected hunter. If the landowner did not live up to his part of the agreement, they would be banned from participating since they are cheating the public. My thoughts:

1. Landowners and their choice of hunters are only allowed to hunt the same areas and dates as the FWP chosen hunters. Possible 1 or 2 day exception for the landowner only.
2. Limit of 1 permit per landowner
3. If FWP hunters are only allowed cows, landowner and their hunters are only allowed an antlerless permit.
4. If the landowner is going to participate in the EHA agreement, Perhaps their land should be closed to Block Management for the first week of the Archery and General season for the EHA Hunters.
5. If the landowner does not allow reasonable access to the land or enough days, the landowner should be reviewed and a second offense, even in the same year, would be reason to ban the landowner from being allowed to participate in the EHA Agreement.

Thank you for the Opportunity to comment

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