

Who is hunting what, where and when

By Larry Hyslop



Chukar hunter Alan Jenne pockets a chukar as his dog Gauge looks on.

If you are a hunter, you probably know by heart the opening and closing dates of your particular hunt and most others. For us non-hunters, it can be perplexing as we head out to camp or hike, not knowing who will be hunting what at our destination. So I to put together a concise, but not very precise, guide to the hunting seasons in Elko County. To simplify things, it does not list junior hunts.

Archery hunts are finishing up so I will skip those. County wide muzzle-loader hunts for mule deer and elk take place the last part of September. One muzzle-loader hunt for elk bulls runs around the first of December.

Bull elk are rifle hunted in the Ruby Mountains until December. An early rifle hunt takes place in the Jarbidge area the second half of September. A rifle hunt near Pilot Peak takes place in late September. A rifle hunt from the middle of October until the middle of November takes place in the eastern half of the county and the Jarbidge area.

Cow elk are rifle hunted in the Ruby Mountains through December. A rifle hunt in in the eastern half of the county and the Jarbidge area takes place in October. One hunt in the northeast corner of the County is in early October. Another December rifle hunt takes place in the northeast county corner, Jarbidge area and north of Wells.

The biggest hunt of the season is the county wide Mule Deer rifle hunt throughout October. Some areas extend into November. A late November buck archery hunt takes place in the western half of the county.

The only pronghorn antelope hunt is a county-wide doe rifle hunt in the middle of September. Bighorn sheep and mountain goat hunts extend through October county-wide. Rabbits, including cottontails, pygmy and white-tail jacks, are hunted county-wide from the middle of October through February.

All upland game bird hunts are held county-wide. Mourning doves are hunted in September and pheasants during November. Sage-grouse are hunted only through a short season from September 25 until October 9.

American crows are hunted from September until the middle of November and again in the spring. Chukar, Hungarian partridge and three species of quail are hunted from the middle of October through January.

In the high country, blue grouse are hunted from September through November and Himalayan snowcock are hunted in the Rubies. Watch for falcons, since falconry hunts of upland game birds and rabbits runs from September through February.

November through December, a mule deer hunt takes place in the Goose Creek area, consisting of archery, muzzle-loader and rifle. All in all, hunting seasons go through February in most areas of Elko County. Go to ndow.org to look up specific hunting seasons and dates.

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Return to [Elko Nature Notes](#)