

NDG&F November 21st Newsletter

Mountain Lion Zone 1 Early Season Ends, Late Season Opens

North Dakota's early mountain lion season in Zone 1 closed Sunday, Nov. 20, and the late season, when hunters can pursue lions with dogs, is now open.

During the early season, hunters took three cats from a harvest limit of eight. Under a new season structure this year, a conditional season could open five days after the late season closes, for hunters to pursue the additional five mountain lions that were not taken.

The late season in Zone 1 opened Monday, Nov. 21 and is scheduled to run through March 31, 2017, or until the harvest limit is reached. The late season harvest limit is seven total lions or three female lions, whichever comes first.

The late season harvest limit in Zone 1 filled early last year, so hunters are advised to check for updates by visiting the North Dakota Game and Fish Department website, gf.nd.gov.

Zone 1 includes land in western North Dakota south of ND Highway 1804 from the Montana border to the point where ND Highway 1804 lies directly across Lake Sakakawea from ND Highway 8, crossing Lake Sakakawea then south along ND Highway 8 to ND Highway 200, then west on ND Highway 200 to U.S. Highway 85, then south on U.S. Highway 85 to the South Dakota border.

The mountain lion season in Zone 2, which is the rest of the state outside Zone 1, has no harvest limit and is open through March 31, 2017.

The mountain lion season is open only to North Dakota residents. Hunters need a furbearer or combination license to participate.

Hunter Education Classes

Most hunter education courses have wrapped up for 2016.

However, individuals or parents with children who will need to take a course in 2017 should monitor the North Dakota Game and Fish Department's website, gf.nd.gov, as classes that begin in January will be added to the Buy and Apply link as soon as times and locations are finalized.

After accessing the Buy and Apply link, click on the [hunter ed enrollment](#) link and "list of hunter education courses." Classes are listed by city, and can also be sorted by start date. To register for a class, click on "enroll" next to the specific class, and follow the simple instructions. Personal information is required.

Individuals interested in receiving a notice by email when each hunter education class is added can click on the "[subscribe to news and alerts](#)" link found below the news section on the Game and Fish home page. Check the box labeled "hunter education" under the education program updates.

In addition, SMS text notifications of new classes can be sent directly to a cell phone. Simply text "NDGF HunterClass" to 468311 to subscribe to this feature.

State law requires anyone born after December 31, 1961 to pass a certified hunter education course to hunt in the state. Hunter education is mandatory for youth who are turning 12 years old, and children can take the class at age 11.

Fishing Tournaments Require Notice

Organizers planning [fishing tournaments](#), including ice fishing contests this winter, are reminded to submit an application along with fishing tournament regulations to the North Dakota Game and Fish Department at least 30 days prior to the start of the event.

The 30-day advance notice allows for review by agency staff to ensure the proposed tournament will not have negative consequences or conflicts with other proposed tournaments for the same location and/or time.

Tournaments may not occur without first obtaining a valid permit from the department.

In addition, the number of open-water tournaments on lakes Sakakawea and Oahe, the Missouri River and Devils Lake are capped each year, depending on the time of the year and location.