

# What's the difference?

**Bonus Point =**  
**Everyone has a chance**  
**but those with more**  
**points have more of a**  
**chance**

**Preference Point =**  
**Only those with most**  
**points get drawn**  
**(Except Wyoming who**  
**has a wonky system)**

# What States Use What?

- State with Bonus Points
  - Montana
  - Arizona
- States with preference points:
  - Montana
  - Wyoming
  - Colorado







# Point Rules by State

- Montana
  - Bonus Points are Squared
  - If you have 10 bonus points, you get 101 “raffle tickets” for the drawing – 100 for your squared bonus points and 1 for your current application:  $(10 \times 10) + 1$ .
  - Preference points are for non-residents only
- Wyoming
  - In the draw, 75 percent of available licenses in each hunt area and license type will be allocated to the preference point drawing. In Wyoming, preference points rank applicant pools. The remaining 25 percent of available licenses will be allocated in a random drawing, regardless of preference points.
- Colorado
  - Preference points increase your chances of drawing a limited license. CPW awards preference points by species. When you don't draw your first hunt choice, you automatically earn a preference point, except with desert bighorn sheep. Points cannot be used in the same year they are earned.





# Point Rules by State Continued:

- Arizona (Hard to Understand)
  - The bonus point system grants an applicant one random number entry for each bonus point that has been accumulated into the drawing for that species.
  - An accumulated credit (or point) that authorizes the Department to issue a Big Game Drawing applicant additional computer-generated random numbers during a draw. The bonus point system grants an applicant one random number entry for each bonus point that has been accumulated into the drawing for that species. Each bonus point random number entry is in addition to the application random number entry itself. This system provides applicants with an added chance of receiving a low random number in the draw, hence improving their draw odds, while still providing a chance (no matter how small) for any applicant to get drawn.



# Lottery Draw States

- Alaska
  - The Alaska draw system is straightforward and fair when distributing permits. Both resident and nonresident hunters have an equal chance of drawing. There is no form of bonus or preference points. The state's system is a true lottery each year.
- Idaho
  - All Controlled Hunts are assigned by random lottery draw.
- New Mexico
  - The Big game drawing is subject to a quota system. In accordance with state law, the draw attempts to distribute a minimum of 84 percent of the licenses for each hunt to New Mexico residents, 10 percent to residents or nonresidents who've contracted with an outfitter and 6 percent to nonresidents who have not contracted with an outfitter (this does not prohibit nonresidents in the 6 percent pool from contracting with an outfitter if they are lucky in the draw).
  - All drawing applications are randomly assigned a sequence number. A computer program then examines each application in the sequence in its entirety, prior to moving on to the next application. When an application is examined, the computer attempts to fulfill the first hunt choice, subject to the quotas described above. If the first hunt choice is already filled, the computer will try to assign the second choice to that application, then the third choice.





The background of the slide is a photograph of a mountain landscape. In the foreground, there are dense green pine trees. In the middle ground, two hunters wearing orange safety vests are perched on a light-colored, rocky cliff edge. The background shows more of the mountain and forest, with some areas appearing hazy or misty.

# What points to buy?

- Montana
  - Non-res hunting license preference point
  - Species-specific points
  - <https://fwp.mt.gov/buyandapply/hunting-licenses/bonus-points>
- Arizona
  - Species Bonus Points
  - <https://www.azgfd.com/hunting/hunt-draw-and-licenses/big-game-draw/bonus-point-process/>
- Wyoming
  - Species-specific preference points
  - <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/hunting/preference-points>
- Colorado
  - Species Specific Preference points
  - <https://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/BigGameLicenseOptions.aspx>





# When to Buy Points?

- Montana
  - Non – res hunting dates – March 1<sup>st</sup> – April 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Species Point Dates –
    - Deer and Elk = April 1<sup>st</sup>
    - Moose, Bison, Sheep, Goat = May 1<sup>st</sup>
    - Antelope = June 1<sup>st</sup>
- Arizona
  - Point date
    - Elk and antelope = Jan 10<sup>th</sup> – Feb 6<sup>th</sup>
    - Deer, Sheep, Bison = Feb 15<sup>th</sup> – June 4<sup>th</sup>
    - Turkey and Javelina = Sept 15<sup>th</sup> – Oct 15<sup>th</sup>
- Wyoming
  - Species Hunting tag application –
    - Antelope, Deer, Elk = May 31<sup>st</sup>
    - Moose, Goat, Bison, and Sheep = April 30<sup>th</sup>
  - Point Date – July 1<sup>st</sup> – Oct 31<sup>st</sup>
- Colorado
  - License Date – March 1<sup>st</sup> – April 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Species Point Date = March 1 – April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8pm Mountain Time
  - Secondary Draw June 20-28<sup>th</sup>
  - OTC licenses are available on August 6<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. Mountain Time





# What is OTC and what states offer this option?

- **OVER THE COUNTER Licenses**

- Colorado
- Alaska – First Come First Serve
- Idaho – First Come First Serve
- \*Wyoming, \*Montana,
- \* = Extenuating circumstances ie. Lots of areas with easy-to-draw tags but they still require a draw





# What is a Super Tag?

- The Super Tag, a special hunting license awarded by lottery, allows winners to hunt in any hunting district within the state, including the famous limited-entry trophy areas.



A wide-angle landscape photograph showing a flat, arid plain under a clear blue sky. On the horizon, a bright, glowing orange-yellow shape, resembling a low sun or a fire, is visible. The foreground is a vast, open field with sparse, low-lying vegetation. The overall tone is serene and contemplative.

Questions?