



Red Hill Special Regulations and Guidelines for Hunting Access Permit Holders

Congratulations on your selection to participate in the Red Hill Elk Management Program. As an access permit holder, you are an important part of Boulder County's comprehensive elk management program. Through adaptive management, Boulder County Parks & Open Space is implementing a series of management actions to reduce summer elk residents, and encourage local populations to resume their migratory patterns, thus reducing elk damage.

Your actions on Boulder County property and surrounding properties are critical to the success of this program. Accordingly, please follow the special regulations and guidelines outlined below. Additionally, all Boulder County Parks & Open Space Rules and Regulations apply unless otherwise noted below. All state wildlife regulations and laws apply.

Failure to comply with these regulations and guidelines may result in a fine, whether administered by Boulder County Parks & Open Space or Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and the revocation of your hunter access permit.

Permitted Access:

Red Hill access permits are valid only for the dates indicated on the permit. The management area is open to permitted hunters Mondays through Saturday. No access is permitted on Sundays during the hunting season without permission.

Public Access & Scouting:

Boulder County properties within the Red Hill elk management area are closed to the public, therefore public access is not permitted. Scouting from the road is acceptable if a traffic hazard is not created.

Boulder County Special Regulations & Guidelines:

In addition to Colorado state hunting laws, the following are special regulations and guidelines outlined by Boulder County Parks & Open Space:

1. All hunters must participate in an on-site orientation program and pass a shooting proficiency test prior to their designated access dates.
2. Access permits are valid only for the days indicated on permit. Once you have filled your tag, access permits are invalid.
3. Hunters are required to carry their hunting access permit at all times while hunting on Boulder County Parks & Open Space properties.
4. Hunting is for antlerless elk only using the method of take with which you passed your shooting proficiency test. No substitutions may be made.
5. All hunters, including archers, and their guests are required to wear at least 500 square inches of fluorescent orange or pink.

Hunter Access and Reporting Voicemail
303-678-6357

6. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, you must wear a mask at any time you are within six feet of non-household participants.
7. Each permitted hunter may be accompanied by one guest. Guests may not hunt or carry a firearm and must stay with the hunter at all times (no scouting of other areas). Guests must also wear hunter orange or pink.
8. Parking is in designated locations only. Only one vehicle per hunting party is permitted during hunting access and scouting. Parked vehicles must display a valid Boulder County Parks & Open Space windshield hang tag. Vehicles without a valid windshield hang tag may be ticketed and towed at the owner's expense. Additional vehicles may be permitted for retrieval, pending permission from the hunt coordinator or ranger staff.
9. Hunters may enter the property one hour before sunrise and remain onsite until one hour after sunset. An extension may be granted by the hunt coordinator for animal retrieval. Animals may be harvested during legal hunting hours only.
10. Upon entering the property, hunters must call the hunter access and reporting voicemail to alert the hunt coordinator and rangers of a hunter on property. Name, location, number in party, and description of vehicle are given to confirm there are no unidentified trespassers.
11. If applicable, firearms must be unloaded when in the designated safety zone. Firearms may only be used within the designated safety zone to dispatch an injured animal.
12. Ground blinds are permitted if removed daily. Tree stands are not allowed.
13. Elk must be field-dressed prior to removal from the hunting area. Gut piles must be at least 100 feet away from private property lines and roadways. All harvests must be reported to the hunt coordinator within 24 hours.
14. Remains may not be left for retrieval the following morning. Hunters must haul out their harvest on the same day.
15. No motorized vehicles are allowed. Elk retrieval is by foot or horse only. Hunters may use designated fire roads for retrieval with permission. Wheeled game carts are allowed.
16. Leave no trace. Hunters are required to pack out all of their waste. The removal of human-made artifacts and/or natural objects such as vegetation, arrowheads, antler sheds, and skulls is prohibited.
17. Posting of photos taken during the hunting program to social media sites is highly discouraged.
18. No smoking.
19. No access will be permitted to the bald eagle closure area after October 15 (see map).
20. No drones or UAS may be used.
21. No collared elk may be taken.
22. No pets are allowed.

Personal Safety:

Please take necessary precautions to protect yourself from environmental hazards during your hunt.

Summer storms – During the summer months, afternoon storms producing lightning may develop quickly. Please keep watch of developing storms and take cover when necessary.

Rattlesnakes – Rattlesnakes may be encountered in one of the several prairie dog colonies found both east and west of US 36.

Poison ivy – Poison ivy occurs in many areas west of US 36, particularly drainages.

Neighbor and Public Safety:

Please practice extra caution when hunting near adjacent residential areas. Residential properties are concentrated near but are not limited to areas in northern Red Hill West and southern Red Hill East (see map). Hunters must shoot toward the interior of the hunt property in these areas.

Extra caution should be taken in the shared easement west of the North Pointe neighborhood (see map – Shared Access/No Hunting). Neighbors in the North Pointe neighborhood are permitted to access this area during the hunting season. Your method of take therefore must be unloaded.

The hunt area is closed to the public, excluding the easement. Please report any trespassing by the general public within the hunt area to ranger staff and/or hunt coordinator.

Loukonen Dairy Property/Red Hill East Guidelines:

The Loukonen Dairy property (Red Hill East) is owned by Boulder County Parks & Open Space and is leased to the Loukonen family who operates a cattle grazing operation on the property. The Loukonens are amenable to hunting on the leased areas.

Loukonen Dairy Hunting Guidelines:

1. All Boulder County Rules and Regulations apply including special hunting regulations and guidelines. All state laws and regulations apply.
2. No motorized use on the property.
3. Leave all interior gates as you find them.
4. Do not harass livestock or interfere with ranching operations.
5. Be mindful of hunters on adjacent private property.
6. If you witness elk damage to a fence during your hunt, please notify Boulder County staff immediately.

Method of Take Rules and Regulations:

Shotguns, muzzleloaders, and archery are all permitted methods of take for the Red Hill hunting program. Please take note of all requirements for the method of take that you plan to utilize as well as the recommended guidelines that may influence the success of your hunt. Hunters must use the method of take with which they passed their proficiency test. See page 14 of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Big Game brochure for more information on legal methods of take and compliance with Colorado state regulations.

Shotguns

Shotguns must comply with Colorado state regulations regarding legal shotguns as a method of take for big game. Shotguns are permitted throughout the hunt area, including areas east and west of US Highway 36.

In addition, the following are **required**:

1. All ammunition must be lead-free.
2. Shotguns must be 12 gauge minimum.

While not required, the following guidelines are recommended:

1. Use of slugs of at least 300 grains
2. Use of scopes
3. Use of rifled barrels

Muzzleloaders

Muzzleloaders must comply with Colorado state regulations regarding legal muzzleloaders as a method of take for big game during the rifle season. Muzzleloaders are permitted throughout the hunt area, including areas east and west of US Highway 36.

Muzzleloader unloading:

1. Each parking access location includes a muzzleloader unloading zone (see map), which consists of a blue barrel filled with substrate.
2. Muzzleloaders may be discharged at this target at a safe distance.
3. Please report any necessary adjustments to the hunt coordinator.

In addition, the following are **required**:

1. All ammunition must be lead-free.
2. No round ball ammunition is allowed.

While not required, the following guidelines are recommended:

1. Use of scopes
2. Use of sabots
3. Use of pelletized powder

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Archery

Archery equipment must comply with Colorado state regulations regarding legal bows and arrows as a method of take for big game during the rifle season. Crossbows are not permitted. Archery is permitted ONLY in areas west of US Highway 36.

In addition, the following are **required**:

1. Arrows must weigh a minimum of 400 grains.
2. Broadheads must be the fixed type (no mechanical broadheads).
3. Bows must have a minimum draw weight of 50 pounds.

Notification & Important Contact Information:

1. Hunters must notify the hunt coordinator via voicemail when they enter and exit the hunting area. This allows the hunt coordination team to better monitor for trespassers or suspicious activity.
 - Hunter Access and Reporting Voicemail: 303-678-6357
2. Hunters are required to report all unrecovered animals, injured animals that travel onto private property, regulation infractions, and unauthorized access/use of Red Hill the surrounding hunting areas.
 - Emergencies: 911
 - Boulder County Parks & Open Space Park Rangers: 303-441-4444
 - On-call District Wildlife Officer: 303-239-4501
3. Other important phone numbers and contact information:
 - Parks & Open Space Hunting Coordinator, Jenny Dalton: 323-420-8551, jdalton@bouldercounty.org.
 - Parks & Open Space Hunting Coordinator, Dave Hoerath: 303-678-6204, dhoerath@bouldercounty.org
 - Parks & Open Space Public Information Officer, Vivienne Jannatpour: 303-678-6277, vjannatpour@bouldercounty.org
 - CPW District Wildlife Manager, Joe Padia: 303-906-3643, joe.padia@state.co.us

Feedback:

Once your hunt is complete, you will be emailed a link to an online survey to provide feedback regarding the elk and vegetation management and hunting access program. You may also email feedback to any of the ranger staff or the hunt coordinator or via the Elk Management website.

Submit feedback to: boco.org/elk