



## **Ron Stewart Preserve at Rabbit Mountain Special Regulations and Guidelines for Hunting Access Permit Holders**

Congratulations on your selection to participate in the Ron Stewart Preserve at Rabbit Mountain Elk and Vegetation Management Program. As an access permit holder, you are an important part of Boulder County's comprehensive elk management plan. Boulder County Parks & Open Space has implemented a series of management actions to encourage the resident elk population to resume a more natural migration pattern thus reducing elk-related damage on the diverse local ecosystem and nearby farmlands.

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:**

Rabbit Mountain access permits are valid only for the dates indicated on the permit. Ron Stewart Preserve is open to permitted hunters on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. Indian Mountain is open during all permitted dates. Access to the Cushman property is by appointment only. Once your tag is filled and you have retrieved your animal, your access permit is no longer valid on any property.

### **Public Access & Scouting:**

During the hunting access period, Ron Stewart Preserve is open to the public from Thursday – Sunday. Permitted hunters may scout the property on foot during this time, but firearms are not permitted. Indian Mountain is closed to the public and may be accessed for scouting only during the dates indicated on your access permit. Access to Indian Mountain prior to your assigned hunting dates or after your tag has been filled is **not** permitted.

Please be mindful of scouting within neighborhoods adjacent to Rabbit and Indian Mountain. Do not trespass on private roads or driveways.

### **Boulder County Special Regulations & Guidelines:**

1. All hunters must participate in an onsite orientation program and pass a proficiency test prior to their designated access dates. Returning hunters that have previously

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participated in the program may complete an online orientation in lieu of the onsite program.

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 Ron Stewart Preserve and adjacent Boulder County Parks & Open Space properties.
4. Hunting is for antlerless elk only. Rifle only. No lead ammunition.
5. All hunters, including guests, are required to wear at least 500 square inches of fluorescent orange or pink.
6. Each permitted hunter may be accompanied by two guests. Guests may not hunt or carry a firearm and must stay with the hunter at all times (no scouting of other areas on foot).
7. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, participants must wear a mask at any time they are within six feet of non-household participants.
8. Hunters may enter the property one hour before sunrise and remain onsite until one hour after sunset. Animals may be harvested during legal hunting hours only. An extension may be granted by the hunt coordinator for animal retrieval.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. Carcasses must be at least 100 feet away from all trails or roadways. All animal materials (meat and waste) must be removed from any harvest on the Cushman Property. All harvests must be reported to the hunt coordinator within 24 hours.
12. Remains may not be left for retrieval the following morning. Hunters must haul out their harvest on the same day.
13. No motorized vehicles are allowed. Elk retrieval is by foot or horse only. Hunters may use designated fire roads for retrieval when appropriate. Wheeled game carts are allowed.
14. Ground blinds are permitted if removed daily. Tree stands are not allowed.
15. No access will be permitted to the Rabbit Mountain golden eagle closure area after December 15.
16. All hunters will be required to complete an online post-hunt survey. You will be asked for the GPS location of your harvest site.
17. Leave no trace. Hunters are required to pack out their waste. The removal of human-made artifacts and/or natural objects such as vegetation, arrowheads, antler sheds, and skulls is prohibited.
18. Hunters must be respectful of the sweat lodge footprint on southern Indian Mountain. Hunters must not enter any buildings or remove any artifacts.
19. Posting of photos taken during the Ron Stewart Preserve at Rabbit Mountain Elk Management Program to social media sites is highly discouraged.

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20. No smoking.
21. No drones or UAS may be used.
22. No collared elk may be taken.
23. No pets are allowed.

**Cushman Property Access & Guidelines:**

The Cushman property is owned by Boulder County Parks & Open Space and is leased to Dwayne Cushman who operates a cattle grazing operation on the property. Mr. Cushman has agreed to allow hunters onto the property when the elk are present. **Hunting is by appointment only and only during the week permitted on your hunting access permit.**

You may contact Mr. Cushman directly at the number listed below. Please contact Mr. Cushman from 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. the evening before you plan to visit the property. When hunting the Cushman property, you are still required to leave your entry and exit times on the hunter access and reporting voicemail. Mr. Cushman will provide you with elk movement observations and local hazards. The safety zone is well marked.

Cushman Hunting Guidelines:

1. All Boulder County Rules and Regulations apply including special hunting regulations and guidelines. All state laws and regulations apply.
2. Access is limited to one location only. See map.
3. No motorized use on the property.
4. Leave all interior gates as you find them. The gate on N. 75<sup>th</sup> Street should remain closed at all times.
5. Do not harass livestock or interfere with ranching operations.
6. **You must remove all remains, including gut piles.**

To schedule an appointment call **Dwayne Cushman at 303-775-0339.**

**Notification & Important Contact Information:**

1. Hunters must notify the hunt coordinator via voicemail when they enter and exit the hunting area.
  - **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 Ron Stewart Preserve and the surrounding hunting areas.
  - Emergencies: 911

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- 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](mailto:jdalton@bouldercounty.org)
- Parks & Open Space Hunting Coordinator Dave Hoerath: 303-678-6204, [dhoerath@bouldercounty.org](mailto:dhoerath@bouldercounty.org)
- Parks & Open Space Public Information Officer, Vivienne Jannatpour: 303-678-6277, [vjannatpour@bouldercounty.org](mailto:vjannatpour@bouldercounty.org)
- CPW District Wildlife Manager, Ben Gallowich: 303-906-7870, [ben.gallowich@state.co.us](mailto:ben.gallowich@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. Alternatively, feedback can be submitted directly to Boulder County Parks & Open Space on the Rabbit Mountain Elk and Vegetation Management Plan website. You may also email your feedback to any of the ranger staff or the hunt coordinator.