



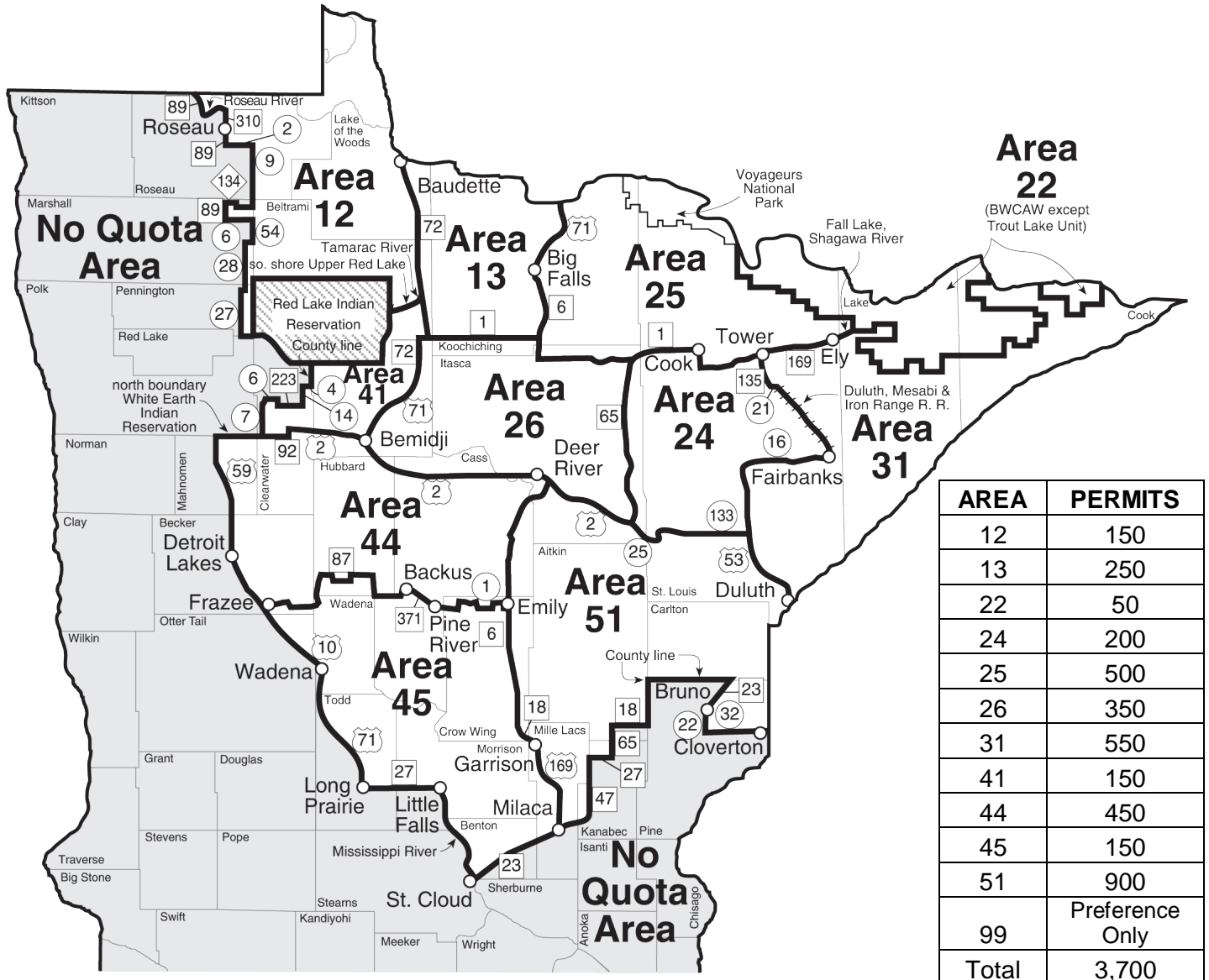
2015 BEAR LICENSE INFORMATION

SEASON DATES

September 1 to October 18

Application Deadline is Friday, May 1, 2015

Note: Customers are responsible for providing accurate and correct information to the license agent for the license, lottery application or permit they are requesting. The customer is also responsible for verifying that they have the correct license type, application or permit they requested and that the information (i.e., customer address, zone, permit area, etc.) is correct prior to leaving the agent location.



Bear lottery winners must purchase their license by August 1, 2015. Unsold and any surplus licenses will become available to any eligible person starting August 5, 2015 at noon. Please look for a DNR news release or check the DNR Web Site (www.dnr.state.mn.us) in late July, for further information.

No-quota Area licenses are valid for hunting bears only in the No-quota Area. When purchasing a No-quota area license you will be asked which kill block (Deer Permit Area) you intend to hunt in the No-quota Area.

Baiting may not begin prior to August 14, 2015. The establishment of bear bait stations is prohibited in Area 22 (Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness), but hunters may use baits or attractants that are attended at all times by the hunter (removed when not hunting).

Hunters can apply for preference only by selecting bear area 99. By selecting 99, you will be unsuccessful in the lottery and accrue one preference point.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
2015 BEAR HUNT INFORMATION

General

The Department of Natural Resources revised bear permit area boundaries in 1987 to allow for less restrictive taking of bear around the margins of their range. The number of bear hunters in this marginal area is not limited. As a result, 2015 bear season licensing will consist of two types:

1. **Permit Areas.** A limited number of bear licenses will be issued through preference system drawings (see map).
2. **A No-quota Area.** That part of the state outside the permit areas. An unlimited number of licenses will be available, and no application or drawing is required.

2015 BEAR SEASON DATES – September 1 thru October 18.

LIMIT - One adult bear per licensed hunter in Quota Areas. One adult bear per licensed hunter in No Quota areas.

LICENSE - \$45.00 Resident age 18 and over. \$231.00 Non-resident age 18 and over. Ages 13-17 regardless of residency the fee is \$6.00. Price includes issuing fee. Ages 10-12 regardless of residency the fee is a \$1.00 issuing fee.

METHODS OF TAKING - Firearm or bow and arrow legal for big game. (See 2015 Hunting Regulations, available August 1).

Caution on Bear Permit Drawing.

Any person making a faulty application will be disqualified from this drawing. Further, improper application may violate Minnesota Statutes and related rules, which would subject the applicant to prosecution for a misdemeanor.

No application for the drawing, application for the license, or license shall be transferable to another person at any time for any reason. **SEND NO MONEY** - Applicants successful in the drawing will receive instructions for obtaining their bear license. Only applicants who are successful in the drawing will be notified. Successful applicants will be notified by June 19, 2015.

Areas Open to Hunting

1. **Permit Areas** are open to hunters who have been issued a license through the preference drawing system. A hunter with such a license is restricted to the Bear Permit Area for which their license is issued. Landowner permission is required for private agricultural or posted land.
2. **The No-quota Area** outside of Bear Permit Areas is open only to bear hunters licensed under the No-quota licensing provision. A hunter with such a license is restricted to the **No-quota Area**. Note: the No-quota Area is almost all-private land and a place to hunt should be found **prior to** buying a license. A map of Permit Areas and the surrounding No-quota Area is provided on the front of this sheet.

Who is Eligible?

Residents and Nonresidents must be at least 10 years of age or older to apply. All applicants born after December 31, 1979 must have a valid Firearms Safety Certificate prior to October 18, 2015, unless they are a Minnesota resident ages 10 or 11, and have not had their big game hunting privilege suspended pursuant to M.S. Section 97A.421. Obtaining a No-quota bear license has no effect on eligibility or preference in the drawings for Bear Permit Areas.

No-quota Area Licenses

No-quota Area licenses are valid for hunting bears only in the No-quota Area. When purchasing a No-quota area license you will be asked which kill block (Deer Permit Area) you intend to hunt in the No-quota Area. This is for estimating hunting pressure and hunting success for the No-quota area. No application is necessary for No-quota licenses. These licenses will be available after July 1 from any ELS agent, and the DNR License Center in Saint Paul.

Bear Permit Area Licenses by Drawings

Licenses are made available by a drawing that is based on a system of preference. A hunter's preference level is determined by the number of years they have submitted valid but unsuccessful applications since last receiving a license. The applicants Drivers License number or Minnesota Identification Card number (issued in lieu of a Drivers License number by the Department of Public Safety - requires a minimum of 60 days to obtain) or the MDNR # from your previously issued hunting or fishing license is necessary for computerized identification. The applicant must supply one of these numbers. Information supplied on the application will be matched against existing state records for validity and eligibility. Incomplete or otherwise invalid applications must be rejected. If your drivers license number has changed since you last applied please contact the DNR. You will not gain a preference unless you apply using the same MDNR number that you used last time you applied.

A Minnesota resident who is currently serving, or has served at any time during the past 24 months, in active service as a member of the United States armed forces, including the National Guard or other military reserves will be given first preference to qualified service members or veterans. Applicants must complete and submit a Preference To Service Members application after they apply for lottery and before the drawing. Application is available at all ELS agents or DNR's web site (www.mndnr.gov).

To apply for the Preference Bear Hunt drawing, follow these instructions:

Applicants can apply by going in person to any ELS agent, by internet at www.dnr.state.mn.us or by phone, 1-888-665-4236.

Fee to apply is \$5.00. Additional convenience fee's will be added if using the inter-net or phone.

Residents- Provide your Minnesota driver's license or Minnesota State ID or if under 21 and no ID, provide your firearms safety number to any ELS-POS agent before the May 1, 2015 deadline. Youth ages 10 and 11 that do not have a current ELS record must have a record created by an ELS agent or by calling the DNR License Center. (Note: Youth records should be created in advance to any deadline. Any last minute issues may prevent youth from entering the lottery). Nonresidents may apply by using their non-Minnesota driver's license or Minnesota DNR number.

You must apply with the same ID as last year to receive preference.

The ELS-POS agent will ask you this series of questions:

1. Do you qualify for a Minnesota resident license? (Present your Minnesota resident ID).
2. Type of license applying for? (**Code 662 Bear Hunt Application**).
3. Area you wish to apply for (12,13,22,24,25,26,31,41,44,45,51,99). Please check Bear Hunt Information sheet. * Hunters can apply for preference only by selecting bear area 99. By selecting this area, you will be unsuccessful in the lottery and accrue a preference point instead.
4. **You may apply for a second choice unless first option is area 99. Second choice can be any area but area 99.**
5. Group option: you may apply for Bear permits individually or as a member of a group. (Maximum Number of people is four).

When applying as a group, either all-valid members will be selected or none. All group members must apply for the same area. The first applicant of each group will "create a new group" in the ELS system and will receive a group ID number that is printed on the receipt which must be supplied to the rest of the group to use when they apply.

Those group members will ask the ELS agent to "join an existing group" and will provide the group number. The member with the lowest preference determines the preference of the group. This will complete the application for the Bear Hunt preference drawing.

6. Federal law requires the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to collect your Social Security number (SSN) when you apply for a game and fish license or lottery application for child support enforcement purposes.

Immediately check your receipt to make sure the agent has entered your information correctly. This is the only time this information can be changed. Your application will be sent to Minnesota DNR automatically for the preference drawing.

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. Any person who makes a false statement on an application shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.
2. Application deadline is Friday, May 1, 2015.
3. Successful applicants will be notified by June 19, 2015.
4. As in the past, preference will NOT be given for the current year if applicant is successful in the drawing, first or second choice, but does not purchase a license.
5. **Bear lottery winners must purchase their license by August 1, 2015. Unsold licenses will then become available to any eligible person on August 5, 2015 at noon.**

IMPORTANT - BWCAW APPLICANTS

Because all travel permits for the BWCAW will probably have been issued by the time you have been drawn for a license, it is recommended that you apply to the Forest Service for a travel permit at about the same time you apply for the bear drawing. To do that you will have to know the general area you wish to hunt. Although you may not be drawn for a bear license it is advisable to take this precaution regarding a travel permit. The Forest Service charges an administrative fee for travel reservations. If you call in your reservation be sure to have a VISA or MasterCard number ready.

Area 22 consists of the Boundary Water Canoe Wilderness (BWCAW), except that part lying south of the Echo Trail in St. Louis County also known as the Trout Lake unit, is not included.

Area 22 provides a unique hunting opportunity to those who have the necessary experience, equipment, and commitment. It is not recommended for novice hunters or novice canoeists. The problem preventing meat spoilage early in the season is a considerable challenge and often can be met only with special equipment and extra help. Motorboats are not allowed on most lakes and streams within the BWCAW. The ban on machines includes wheels for any kind of conveyance and chain saws. Please call the U.S. Forest Service at 1-877-550-6777 regarding travel permits (required May 1 to Sept. 30) and other regulations pertaining to the BWCAW or write USFS 8901 Grand Ave Place, Duluth MN 55808.