



# Elk Hunting Strategic Plan

Multi-Year Hunt Planning Template — 10-Year Outlook

Map your hunting strategy across multiple states and species over a 10-year horizon. Track preference points, draw timelines, and build a plan that ensures you always have a tag in your pocket.

## HUNTING PARTY

Name	_____	Name	_____
Name	_____	Name	_____
Group communication (email/text/app)			
_____			

## HUNT OBJECTIVE

Primary goal (e.g., 1 elk hunt/year minimum)

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Secondary species targets

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Planning horizon (e.g., 2026–2035)

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## ELK STATE STRATEGY OVERVIEW

STATE	OTC?	DRAW FREQUENCY	POINTS NEEDED	WEAPON	NOTES
Colorado	Yes	Annual	-	Bow	General archery OTC or draw units
Montana	No	Annual / Every 2 yrs	1–2	Both	Big Game Combo available most years
Wyoming	No	Every 3–5 yrs	4–6	Both	Point-based; apply every year
Idaho	Yes	Annual / Every 2 yrs	Varies	Both	OTC available; research zones early
Utah	Yes	Annual	0	Bow	OTC archery; combine with other state
Oregon	Yes	Annual	Varies	Both	OTC options; research zones
New Mexico	No	Every 5–7 yrs	Varies	Bow	Random draw; Gila zones preferred
Arizona	No	Every 10+ yrs	Varies	Bow	Long-term bucket list — start accruing points now

## OTHER SPECIES TARGETS



SPECIES	STATE	FREQUENCY	NOTES / PRIORITY
Mule Deer	Montana / Wyoming / Colorado	Every 2–3 yrs	Combo tags; plan alongside elk
Mule Deer	South Dakota	Annual app	~78% nonresident draw odds
Aoudad	Texas	Every 1–3 yrs	Guided; research current costs
Axis Deer	Texas	Every 2–3 yrs	Private land; build connections early
Caribou	Alaska	5+ year plan	DIY feasible; plan logistics early
Moose	Alaska	10+ year plan	Cost-intensive; start saving now
Whitetail	Home state	Annual	Local access; sharpen skills

### 10-YEAR HUNT PLANNER

YEAR	STATE(S)	SPECIES	DRAW STRATEGY	PARTY GOING	NOTES
2026					
2027					
2028					
2029					
2030					
2031					
2032					
2033					
2034					
2035					

### PREFERENCE POINT TRACKER

Update annually after each application period.

STATE	HUNTER 1	HUNTER 2	HUNTER 3	HUNTER 4	YEAR UPDATED	NOTES
Colorado						
Montana						



STATE	HUNTER 1	HUNTER 2	HUNTER 3	HUNTER 4	YEAR UPDATED	NOTES
Wyoming						
Idaho						
Utah						
Oregon						
New Mexico						
Arizona						
Nevada						

### ANNUAL APPLICATION CALENDAR

STATE	APP OPENS	APP CLOSES	DRAW RESULTS	COST (APPROX.)
Montana	Fall	April 1	April 14	Varies by license
Colorado	Jan	April 6	June 4	\$50–\$800+ nonresident
Idaho	Jan	June 5	June 19	\$50–\$500+ nonresident
Wyoming	Jan 4	Feb 1	May 21	\$700+ elk tag nonresident
Arizona	Oct	Feb 9	March 5	Varies
New Mexico	Jan	March 17	April 22	Varies
Utah	Jan	March 4	May 15	Varies

### NOTES & STRATEGY DECISIONS

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