



Mackenzie Bison Hunter Information 2021

INTRODUCTION

Hunting for wood bison from the Mackenzie population will re-open September 1, 2021. Hunters with an appropriate tag are authorized to hunt bison in Wildlife Management Units R and D/WB/06. Tags are valid for male bison only.

REPORTING

Information provided by hunters is important to wildlife management. Knowledge of the number of animals taken and their age is vital to understanding the effect hunting may have on wildlife populations. Information on health of those animals is also very useful.

A hunter report form is attached to this information sheet.

Return the completed form to your organisation's coordinator or to an Environment and Natural Resources office or send it to the address on the form.

FIREARMS

Harvesters can look to section 5 of the *Big Game Hunting Regulations* for guidance on firearm and ammunition requirements. A firearm of at least .30 calibre is required to hunt bison in the NWT. A bullet of 200 grains or more is highly recommended.

If you are unsure if your firearm is adequate, please contact your local ENR Resource Officer.

SHOT PLACEMENT

Experience has shown that a **heart/lung** shot placed low and behind the front leg is the most reliable shot. Remember that a third of the shoulder height of a bison is above its backbone. Head and neck shots are not recommended. Mature bulls especially seem to be able to absorb the bullet's shock from many rifle calibers if shot in the head. Neck shots are also not recommended because bullets may not penetrate the thick hide and massive muscles. A shot into the shoulder of an adult male bison may not penetrate through the thick muscle and bone into the chest cavity and there is high probability that a single shot will not knock the animal down.

Be sure sight-in your rifle before hunting. It is very important that your first shot be a good one and well-placed in the heart/lung area. If you did not make a well-placed first shot, you may face the problem of tracking a wounded bison through miles of bush. Under the NWT Wildlife Act, **A person who wounds wildlife shall make every reasonable effort to retrieve it.**

DISCLAIMER

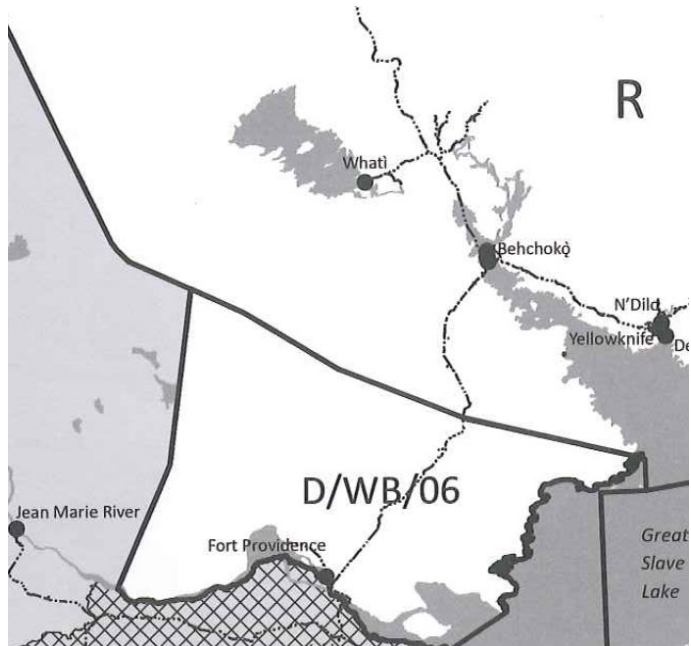
This information package is neither a legal document nor a complete list of the current regulations applying to bison hunting. It provides a summary of the more important rules related to the hunting of bison and is subject to change from season to season. For further information, please contact your local Resource Officer.

Mackenzie Bison Hunt Report Form

Please report on your hunt. Hunter information helps improve wildlife management.

1. Hunter Name & License # (if applicable):	Please bring your harvest report to the Fort Smith ENR office or send to: <i>Environment & Natural Resources Government of the Northwest Territories PO Box 900 Fort Smith, NT X0E 0P0 Attn: Bison Ecologist Fax: 867-872-4250 Or email: Terry_armstrong@gov.nt.ca</i>
2. Bison Tag Number:	
3. Did you hunt bison? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO If yes, how many days? _____	
4. Did you harvest a bison? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
5. Date of kill (dd/mm/yyyy):	
6. Area of Harvest (see Map):	
7. Harvested from/near Highway?	
8. Sex of Bison: <input type="checkbox"/> Male	
9. Age Class: (See Horn Chart): <input type="checkbox"/> Calf <input type="checkbox"/> Yearling <input type="checkbox"/> B1 – Juvenile male <input type="checkbox"/> B2 – Subadult male <input type="checkbox"/> B3 – Adult male <input type="checkbox"/> B4 – Prime	
10. General comments (i.e. signs of disease, animal condition):	

Harvest Areas: Tags valid in zones R and D/WB/06 only



Using Horns to Age Bison

