August 9, 2018

2018 Elk Hunt Draw

The Lands and Resources Department is happy to announce that the Nation has been allocated one Elk for this season and is offering a Lottery to qualified HFN citizens for the 2018-19 hunting season. Applications will be accepted August 9th to 17th, 2018 (closing at 4:00 pm) at both offices (PAGO & AGO) and by e-mail. Application forms will be available at both HFN Government Offices where licenses and certificates can also be brought in for copying.

The harvest area will be in the Klanawa Watershed (Elk Hunt Zone 1- 03B-Klanawa) which is within the Maa-nulth Wildlife Harvest Area. The HFN Elk season will run September 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019.

Criteria for eligibility for this draw are:
- Must be enrolled as a Huu-ay-aht Citizen,
- Must have a valid Huu-ay-aht Harvesting Card,
- The Harvesting Card must be checked off for hunting,
- Must have a current Possession & Acquisition License (PAL) or Firearms Acquisition Certificate (FAC),
- Must have passed and have a certificate for the B.C. Hunter Training Program (CORE - Conservation & Outdoor Recreation Education). If you were over the age of 19 on the Effective Date of Treaty (April 1, 2011), you are exempt from this requirement.
- Were not selected as HFNs Elk Draw winner in the previous year

As outlined in the Maa-nulth Wildlife Harvest Plan, all Maa-nulth Nations have signed off on a “herd growth” approach to management (as opposed to a herd reduction or herd maintenance approach). This means it is preferred (but not required) that hunters target immature 'spike bulls' since about 50% of spike bulls survive their first winter when they leave the protection of the cows. Mature bulls generally lead solitary lives in the winter, while the cows stay together and protect the young.
The successful applicant of this lottery must also agree to:

1. Fill out a Maa-nulth Wildlife Harvest Form, which includes information such as effort, date of harvest, location & sex
2. Collect and provide to the HFN, the front incisor tooth from the killed elk, for age and condition assessment.
3. Gift one hind quarter to the HFN and drop off at custom cut game processor for butchering, with the Tayii Ḥawił receiving a prime cut (roast).

The winning hunter must also understand that a **wounded animal which is not recovered is considered a kill and the hunt is over**. This measure is designed to ensure responsible harvesting and promote the growth of local elk herds. We would like to remind all HFN citizens to report the date, location and sex of all elk sightings to help us understand the local population.

Respectfully,

Christine Gruman  
Lands and Resources Specialist  
Huu-ay-aht First Nations

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