



## 2012 – 2013 Brunot area hunting and fishing season proclamation

### 2012-2013 BRUNOT AREA HUNTING AND FISHING SEASONS

| Season Type                   | Permitting Start Date | Season Dates  |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Spring Turkey                 | March 26              | April 14 – May 27   |
| Mule Deer                     | Aug. 13               | Aug. 25 – Nov. 18   |
| Rocky Mtn. Elk                | Aug. 13               | Aug. 25 – Nov. 18   |
| Fall Turkey                   | Aug. 13               | Aug. 25 – Nov. 18   |
| Bighorn Sheep                 | Aug. 13**             | Sept. 4 – Oct. 7  |
| Mountain Goat                 | Aug. 13**             | Sept. 4 – Oct. 31   |
| Moose                         | Aug. 13**             | Sept. 8 – Oct. 14   |
| Mountain Lion                 | Oct. 1                | Nov. 1, – March 31 2013   |
| Upland & Migratory Game Birds | Aug. 13               | Sept. 1 – Dec. 31 (Grouse, Ptarmigan, Pheasant & Chukar) Sept. 1 – Nov. 11 (Doves & Pigeons Only) |
| Waterfowl                     | Aug. 13               | Sept. 22 – Jan. 29, 2013 (Pacific Flyway) Oct. 6 – Feb. 10, 2013 (Central Flyway)                 |
| Small Game                    | Anytime               | Calendar Year   |
| Fishing                       | Anytime               | Calendar Year   |

\*\*Permitting for these rare game species takes place through a special application and drawing process each spring. For more information, see Rare Game Permitting.

### SEASON FRAMEWORK

Hunting and fishing seasons are established annually by the Tribe for all game species found within the Brunot Area. The table found on the inside cover of this proclamation specifies the current seasons (i.e., the start and end dates for legal harvest), as well as the permitting start dates. Most seasons will be the same or very similar from year to year, however, dates of several seasons may vary slightly.

Those animal species not identified as having designated seasons, and those not protected by the Tribe from harvest for cultural or conservation reasons (see Protected Fish & Wildlife), may be harvested without a Tribe-issued hunting or fishing permit.

### Cultural and Ceremonial Hunting

Those Tribal hunters wishing to hunt for cultural or ceremonial purposes within the Brunot Area and outside of the regular, Tribal-approved seasons must contact the SUIT Division of Wildlife prior to hunting. Special authorization is required for any hunting outside of the established seasons, and at least two weeks advance notice of a cultural/ceremonial hunting need should be provided.

### PERMITTING

All Tribal Members hunting or fishing within the Brunot Area must carry with them the appropriate permit(s) issued by either the Tribe or State of Colorado. Tribal Members who obtain Tribal permits are subject to the Tribal seasons and regulations set forth in this Proclamation, to be enforced by the Tribe. Those who obtain State hunting or fishing permits must hunt or fish in accordance with State seasons and regulations (see the Colorado Division of Wildlife), which will be enforced by the State. It is unnecessary, but allowable, for a hunter or angler to be permitted by both entities.

On-Reservation hunting and fishing permits (i.e., within the exterior boundaries of the Southern Ute Indian Reservation) and off-Reservation hunting and fishing permits for the Brunot Area are separate and non-interchangeable. It is the responsibility of each hunter and angler to be properly permitted for the area hunted or fished, and to follow any and all applicable regulations for that area.

Permitting for Brunot Area hunting and fishing is managed entirely through the Tribe's Division of Wildlife office, located in the Annex Building on the tribal government campus near Ignacio, Colorado. Permits may be obtained in-person at this office or by mail for those Tribal Members living outside the Reservation area.

Brunot Area hunting and fishing permits are issued free-of-charge for the first issuance. A \$5 fee applies for replacement of lost or damaged permits.

### 2012-13 Permitting Start Dates

Brunot Area hunting and fishing permits are available to pick up at the Southern Ute Division of Wildlife office (or mail out) beginning on the start dates specified on the inside cover of this Proclamation through the end of the established season. Note: Except for Fishing and Small Game, the permitting start dates do not correspond to the actual season start dates.

For Rare Game (i.e., bighorn sheep, moose, mountain goat), successful applicants in a lottery process will be notified of their permit availability through the Division of Wildlife following permit drawings held each June.

### Permit Eligibility

Only Southern Ute Tribal Members may obtain Brunot Area hunting and fishing permits from the Tribe and the following criteria must be met in order to obtain a valid permit:

- All applicants must present a Southern Ute Tribal identification card at the time of permit pick-up.
- For hunting, but not fishing, only applicants

12 years old or older may obtain a permit, and those under the age of 21 must present a hunter safety card.

- The applicant's hunting and fishing privileges must not be currently suspended or revoked through the Tribe's wildlife penalty-point system.
- Issued permits are not valid unless signed by the applicant.

### Permit Transferability

The transfer of Brunot Area hunting and fishing permits is strictly prohibited, even to other Southern Ute Tribal members or other Native Americans. Only the individual named on the Brunot Area permit is authorized to hunt or fish, per the terms of the permit. "Designated hunting" – the transfer of certain permit types between Tribal Members – is an option only for on-Reservation hunting (i.e., hunting within the exterior boundaries of the Southern Ute Reservation) and is not allowed within the Brunot Area.

### Mail-Out Permits

Mail-out permit(s) will be provided at no-cost by the SUIT Division of Wildlife only to a non-local Tribal Member and only upon receipt of a signed letter of request from the Tribal Member. The letter must include the hunter's name, mailing address, date of birth, copies of the Southern Ute Tribal identification card and hunter safety education card (if applicable), and a list of the permit(s) desired. Permits will not be valid until signed by the applicant.

### Permit Replacement

Lost or damaged Brunot Area permits may be obtained at the Southern Ute Division of Wildlife office for a \$5 per permit fee, regardless of permit type. Lost or damaged permits will be immediately voided, and notification of voided permits will be sent to tribal law enforcement.

### Rare Game Permitting

Unlike other Brunot Area permitting, permitting for Rare Game (i.e., Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, moose, and mountain goat) is handled through a permit application and drawing process. Availability of applications will be announced through local media in the Ignacio area, and applications will only be accepted during the month of May. Random drawings from among the applicants will then determine the recipients of a very limited number of hunting permits. Notification of these individuals will occur during the month of June. Those who repeatedly apply but do not receive a permit will accrue bonus points, which will improve future chances of selection.

For detailed information on the rules governing the Tribal Council-approved lottery process and bonus point system, please contact the Southern Ute Division of Wildlife office.

### HUNTING REGULATIONS

Presented in this section are the 2012/13 Tribal-approved regulations pertaining to the harvest of Brunot Area Big Game, Rare Game, Small Game, Upland Gamebirds, and Waterfowl.

#### Season Bag Limits for Big Game, Rare Game, and Small Game

| Hunt Type                               | Bag Limit (per hunter) |
|---|------------------------|
| Mule Deer                               | 2 (1 buck and 1 doe)   |
| Rocky Mtn. Elk                          | 2 (1 bull and 1 cow)   |
| Mountain Lion                           | 1 (either sex)         |
| Fall Turkey                             | 1 (either sex)         |
| Spring Turkey                           | 1 (bearded gobbler)    |
| Bighorn Sheep                           | 1 (either sex)         |
| <i>(Two permits available for 2012)</i> |                        |
| Mountain Goat                           | 1 (either sex)         |
| <i>(Two permits available for 2012)</i> |                        |
| Moose                                   | 1 (either sex)         |
| <i>(One permit available for 2012)</i>  |                        |
| Small Game <sup>1</sup>                 | Unlimited              |

<sup>1</sup>Small Game includes: bobcat, coyote, fox, all weasels (except river otter), ringtail, raccoon, prairie dog, beaver, muskrat, rabbit/hare, marmot, and tree squirrel.

#### Daily Bag Limits for Upland Gamebirds and Waterfowl

| Upland Gamebirds                              | Bag Limit         |
|---|-------------------|
| Dusky Grouse, Ptarmigan, Pheasant, Chukar     | 3 of each per day |
| Mourning Dove, White-winged Dove <sup>1</sup> | 5 of each per day |
| Bandtailed Pigeon                             | 5 per day         |
| Collared Dove                                 | Unlimited         |

| Waterfowl      | Bag Limit   |
|----------------|---|
| Pacific Flyway | 7 Ducks & Mergansers <sup>1</sup><br>4 Geese (Dark and/or Light)<br>25 Coots/25 Rails/8 Snipe               |
| Central Flyway | 6 Ducks <sup>2</sup> /5 Mergansers <sup>3</sup><br>20 Light Geese/4 Dark Geese<br>15 Coots/25 Rails/8 Snipe |

<sup>1</sup>Including no more than 2 hen mallards, 1 pintail, 2 redheads, and 2 scaup. No canvasbacks shall be taken in the Pacific Flyway.

<sup>2</sup>Including no more than 2 hen mallards, 1 pintail, 1 canvasback, 2 redheads, 2 scaup, and 2 wood ducks.

<sup>3</sup>Including no more than 2 hooded mergansers.

### LEGAL WEAPONS

Legal weapons for harvesting mule deer, elk, mountain lion, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, and moose shall include:

- Any bow with at least 40 pounds of draw weight. Hunting arrows must include a broadhead with an outside cutting diameter of at least 7/8 inch with at least 2 blades. Each cutting edge must be within the same plane throughout the length of the cutting surface.
- Crossbows with a minimum draw weight of 125 lbs, and a minimum draw length of 14 inches from the front of the bow to the nocking point of the drawstring. A positive mechanical safety device is required. Bolts must be a minimum of 16 inches long, having a minimum broadhead width of 7/8 inch, and a minimum of 2 cutting blades. Cutting edges of broadheads must be in the same plane for the entire length of the cutting surface.
- Shotguns of 20 gauge or larger firing a single slug.
- Muzzleloading rifles with a single barrel of at least .40 caliber for deer, and .50 caliber for elk.
- .357 magnum or larger handguns with a barrel length of 6 inches or longer, using .357 magnum or larger caliber ammunition with soft nose or hollow point bullets.
- Center-fire rifles or center-fire handguns chambered for a center-fired cartridge, a minimum of .23 caliber. No fully automatic firearm may be used. All bullets must be soft nose or hollow pointed and not weigh more than 350 grains.

Legal weapons for turkey shall include:

- Shotguns except .410 gauge, bows and crossbows (i.e., as specified above for deer, elk, etc.), rifles and handguns, center-fired cartridges only, and muzzleloading rifles and handguns.

Legal weapons for waterfowl shall include:

- Any shotgun 10 gauge or smaller and not capable of holding more than 3 shotshells in the chamber and magazine combined. Shotshells must not contain lead pellets.

Legal weapons for small game and upland gamebirds shall include:

- Any rimfire or center-fire rifle or handgun, any shotgun, and any bow and arrow or crossbow.

### EVIDENCE OF SEX

Evidence of sex for harvested mule deer, elk, mountain lion, turkey, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, and moose must remain naturally attached to carcasses while transporting animals from the field, while in camp, or until the animal is validated (if required). Evidence of sex will include the head and/or testicles or udder. For mountain lions, the reproductive organs of both male and female must be left attached for identification purposes.

### CARCASS TAGGING

The carcass of a harvested large game animal (i.e., mule deer, elk, mountain lion, turkey, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, or moose) must be tagged by the person who harvested the animal. The hunter must physically notch (cut) the Month and Day of harvest indicated on the permit and sign the permit in ink immediately after harvesting the animal. The hunter must then remove the permit face (i.e., the "tag") from its backing and affix it to the carcass.

All big game animals must be securely tagged with the carcass tag prior to transportation. If numerous trips are required to remove the carcass from the field, the tag should remain attached to the portion of the carcass that is first brought to camp or to a vehicle.

For antlered animals (i.e., buck deer, bull elk, bull moose) and horned animals (i.e., bighorn sheep and mountain goat), an optional antler/horn tag is also provided as a tear-off portion of the permit. The antler/horn tag should be used if the head and carcass are to be separated (e.g., if the head is going to a taxidermist and the carcass is going to a meat processor).

### DEER & ELK HARVEST REPORTING

Hunters are required to report – by phone, writing, or in-person – the successful harvest of any mule deer or elk from the Brunot Area. Hunters should be prepared to describe to the Tribal Division of Wildlife generally where and when an animal was harvested. Reporting must occur within five business days of harvest during regular business hours. Failure to report the successful harvest of any mule deer or elk from the Brunot Area could subject the hunter to penalties under the Tribe's Wildlife Conservation Code.

### RARE GAME AND MOUNTAIN LION HARVEST VALIDATION

Hunters are required to have validated any mountain lion, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, or moose harvested from the Brunot Area. Validation is the physical inspection of the carcass by staff of the Tribal Division of Wildlife. Since Tribal staff is not available for weekend validations, animals must be brought in for validation during regular business hours (Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 12:00pm, 1:00pm - 5:00pm).

For mountain lion, the carcass must be inspected within 48 hours of the harvest. The hunter must present the carcass with skin attached.

For bighorn sheep and mountain goat, the carcass must be inspected within five business days of the harvest. The hunter must present the carcass with head (skull or cape) intact. If the harvested animal is a ram bighorn sheep, the Tribal Division of Wildlife will affix a permanent mark (plug) to the horn as proof of legal harvest.

For moose, the carcass must be inspected within five business days of the harvest. The hunter must present the head of the moose for inspection.

### MOUNTAIN LION HUNTING

Mountain lion hunting in the Brunot Area is divided into four separate units, and each unit has an associated harvest quota. The mountain lion season is open either until the season end-date or until the unit quota is filled, whichever occurs first. If the quota for a unit is filled, the season will immediately close for that unit. A Brunot Area lion permit is valid for hunting in all units that have not reached the designated harvest quota. Please refer to the mountain lion unit map in this Proclamation for the location of each unit.

Lion hunters should be aware that Lion Unit 1 (L1) encompasses both the Southern Ute Indian Reservation and a portion of the Brunot Area. Even though L1 is a combination of Reservation and Brunot lands, lion hunting on the Reservation portion requires a reservation permit, while lion hunting in the Brunot portion requires a Brunot permit. The lion permits for both areas are not interchangeable.

The lion harvest quotas, by unit, are as follows:

| Lion Unit | Harvest Quota        |
|-----------|----------------------|
| L1        | 7 lions or 4 females |
| L2        | 1 lion either sex    |
| L3        | 2 lions either sex   |
| L4        | 2 lions either sex   |

### Important Mt. Lion Hunting Information

A mountain lion telephone information line is available for hunters to call to check on the status of the quotas in each unit. It is the hunter's responsibility to call the harvest quota information line IMMEDIATELY BEFORE hunting to check the status of harvest quotas and unit closures. Call 970-563-0130 at any time for quota status.

It is unlawful to kill mountain lion kittens or female mountain lions accompanied by kittens. Kittens are defined as mountain lions exhibiting visible spotting of the fur. Female mountain lions accompanied by kittens are defined as female mountain lions that have kittens traveling with them or dependent on them.

Trained hunting dogs may be used to hunt mountain lions.

### UPLAND GAME BIRD HUNTING

Hunting for Upland Gamebirds is allowed within the Brunot Area. Upland Gamebirds includes dusky (blue) grouse, ptarmigan, pheasant, chukar, band-tailed pigeon and doves (mourning, whitewinged, and collared). Columbian Sharp-tailed grouse and Gunnison Sage Grouse may occur within the Brunot Area also, however, populations of these birds are very low and hunting of these species is not allowed.

Trained hunting dogs may be used to hunt migratory and upland birds.

### WATERFOWL HUNTING

Hunting for Waterfowl is allowed within the Brunot Area. Waterfowl includes various species of ducks, mergansers, coots, dark and light geese, snipe, and rails (Virginia and sora).

The Brunot Area encompasses parts of both the Central and Pacific Flyways. Most of the Brunot Area is within the Pacific Flyway, while the Central Flyway portion is a much smaller area located east of the Continental Divide. Please refer to a map and be aware of the waterfowl harvest limits for the flyway in which you intend to hunt.

The possession limit for both the Pacific and Central Flyways is two (2) daily bag limits, except that possession of light geese harvested in the Central Flyway is unlimited.

Please note that, under Federal law, all waterfowl hunters are required to purchase and possess a Federal Duck Stamp. A Duck Stamp can normally be purchased for a small fee at a local Post Office.

### TRAPPING OF SMALL GAME

Trapping of small game is a special harvest methodology that is highly regulated at the State level, and is similarly regulated by the Tribe within the Brunot Area. The purpose of the regulations is to minimize the potential impacts of trapping on non-target wildlife, especially rare, threatened, or endangered species. For the Brunot Area, the species of concern with trapping are the Canada lynx and river otter, both of which are the subject of major re-introduction efforts and are protected from take throughout the San Juan Mountains region.

Trapping is allowed year-round, per the established Small Game season, and a trapper must obtain a Small Game permit to engage in any trapping of