

4VAC15-90-85

Game: Deer. Hunting elk of either sex.

Summary:

The proposal is to (i) designate that the term elk refers specifically to Rocky Mountain elk (*Cervus elaphus*) and (ii) prohibit the hunting of Rocky Mountain elk in Virginia.

Proposed language of amendment:

4VAC15-90-85. Game: Deer. Hunting of Rocky Mountain elk of either sex.

~~Elk Rocky Mountain elk (*Cervus elaphus*) of either sex may not be taken hunted during the general firearms deer season (as prescribed by 4VAC15-90-10, 4VAC15-90-20, 4VAC15-90-21, and 4VAC15-90-30), during the special archery seasons (as prescribed by 4VAC15-90-70), and during the special muzzleloading seasons (as prescribed by 4VAC15-90-80) with bag limits and checking requirements as prescribed in 4VAC15-90-90, 4VAC15-90-230, and 4VAC15-90-240 in Virginia.~~

Rationale:

The Board of Game and Inland Fisheries requested a moratorium be placed on hunting of elk in Virginia. The Department will be embarking on a pilot program to restore elk in southwest Virginia and until a viable herd is established the hunting of elk will be prohibited.