

Ordinance 44(D) Hunting, Fishing and Recreation Regulations For **Members of the CSKT** Proposed Changes for March 1, 2027 through February 29, 2028

Changes/removal are highlighted in ~~strikeout~~ and additions are added in **bold**. Descriptions of changes are in *italics*. Page numbers from the 2026-2027 regulation book are listed next to the change for comparison.

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All language for the special hunts will be added back to the main regulation booklet in its entirety for enforcement purposes. *No proposed changes in language or regulations, is a format change, but making it known here.*

2. Elk Hunting in the Ferry Basin Wildlife Management Unit

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3. Bighorn Sheep in the Little Money (Camas) Wildlife Management Unit

4. Gray Wolf Hunting—*added back in*

7. Moose Hunting

Section 4. Restricted Areas.

B. Restricted Areas. The following areas are closed to entry to non-members of the Tribes, except that a non-member spouse, non-member children of a member of the Tribes, **as well as non-member immediate family members, such as parents, grandparents, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, brother, sister, niece, and nephew** may accompany the member for purposes other than hunting and fishing, provided such non-members, if of age, possess a valid recreation permit.

Justification: Under the current regulation, non-members may only enter restricted areas if accompanied by a spouse who is a Tribal member. This limitation does not reflect the broader structure of Tribal families or how members traditionally share time on the land with their relatives.

The proposed amendment provides an update by allowing Tribal members to be accompanied by immediate family members who are not enrolled. This includes parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters, non-member children, nieces, and nephews.

This change recognizes the importance of extended family relationships within our community and allows members to share experiences with their families in a way that aligns with Tribal values. This amendment does not expand access broadly to the public. Access remains limited to those accompanied by a Tribal member, and all existing permit requirements for non-members remain in place. This ensures that Tribal oversight, resource protection, and enforcement authority are maintained.

Restricted Areas: *Were designated but did not get added to the Regulation Book.*

(6) Twin Lakes Recreation Area

(7) Hog Heaven Range & Chief Cliff Area, described as: All tribally owned lands west of Highway 93 from the Reservation northern boundary to the intersection of Highway 28, and lands north of said intersection and following Highway 28 westerly to the intersection of the Brown's Meadow Road, and lands east of the Brown's Meadow Road (or all tribally owned lands served or accessed by the Hog Heaven forest tribal road system (H-1000 to H-4000 numbered tribal forest roads).

8) Portion of the North Salish Range known as Irvine Lookout Area, described as: All tribally owned forested and range lands served or accessed by the Irvine forest tribal road system (I-1000 to I-6000 numbered tribal forest roads).

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Part II Fishing Regulations Members 1. *Reservation-Wide Fishing Regulations*

Add under Part Title, before numbering starts:

Tribal Members fishing on the Reservation are required to have their valid Tribal Identification on their person to do so.

[Purpose: Requiring valid Tribal identification ensures membership can be verified in the field, promoting fair and consistent enforcement of Tribal regulations.]

C. It is unlawful: (3) To leave or dump any dead animal, fish **or fish entrails**, garbage or litter in or on any property where public recreation is permitted.

Justification: Proper disposal of fish waste, animal carcasses, and litter protects water quality, reduces odors, discourages wildlife conflicts, and helps maintain clean, safe recreation areas for all visitors. Desire by staff to specifically include the word "fish entrails"

Part III Recreation Regulations Members 1. Regulations general application

Add under Part title, before numbering starts:

Tribal Members recreating on the Reservation are required to have their valid Tribal Identification on their person to do so.

[Purpose: Requiring valid Tribal identification ensures membership can be verified in the field, promoting fair and consistent enforcement of Tribal regulations.]

I. Allowing Pets or livestock to run unattended:

(2) Purposely, knowingly, or negligently permit a dog to chase, stalk, pursue, attack, or kill a big game animal.

Justification: Dogs chasing wildlife can injure animals, disrupt natural behavior, separate young from their mothers, and increase wildlife mortality. Keeping dogs under control helps conserve healthy wildlife populations.

(To be added directly below E.; the current F. will become G.)

F. Glass bottles are prohibited at all CSKT recreation sites along rivers, lakes, and reservoirs, including but not limited to boat launches, day-use areas, campgrounds, trails, and access roads. Glass bottles are also prohibited along the entire Lower Flathead River

Justification: Broken glass creates a long-lasting safety hazard for visitors, pets, and wildlife, is difficult to completely remove from beaches and shorelines, and can persist in the environment for many years. Prohibiting glass bottles helps protect public safety, reduce litter, and preserve the natural and cultural resources of CSKT recreation areas.

Part III Recreation Regulations Members 1. Regulations general application

S. ~~Backcountry~~ Food Storage Regulations

(4). ~~Backcountry~~ Food Storage Regulations

Justification: The intent of this proposed change is to make this Food Storage over all, NOT just in the backcountry.

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Part III Recreation Regulations Members

2. Mission Mountains Tribal Wilderness Regulations

~~C. The picketing or restraint of livestock shall be at least 100 feet from any water body or established campsite. Livestock shall be kept at least 10 feet from the base of any tree.~~

C. Saddle stock, pack stock and livestock shall be picketed or otherwise restrained at least 100 feet from any water body or established campsite.

D. Stock shall not be restrained within 10 feet of the base of any tree.

Justification: terminology for all types of current 'stock' ex. llamas and goats. Separating out dissimilar topics assists in citations.

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Section 3. Livestock (**Saddle stock or Pack stock**)

*Justification/Clarification: **Pack stock** refers to animals carrying equipment or supplies (typically horses, mules, burros, llamas, etc.). **Saddle stock** refers to animals ridden by people. **Livestock** is much broader and can include cattle, sheep, goats, horses, mules, llamas, and other domesticated animals.*

A.

~~(2) The picketing or restraint of livestock within 100 feet of any water body or established campsite, or by use of other than established corrals or picket areas. A 30 foot picket line stretched between two trees is the recommended method of restraining livestock.~~

(3) Pack and saddle stock shall be restrained using a picket line or other method that minimizes damage to trees, vegetation, and soil. A picket line approximately 30 feet in length stretched between two suitable trees is the recommended method, where conditions allow.

Justification: terminology for all types of current 'stock' ex. llamas and goats. Separating out dissimilar topics assists in citations.

4. Off-Road Motor Vehicle Use, Motorcycles, ATV's, Snowmobiles, and Electric Bicycles

~~A. Motorized vehicle use off of authorized roadways is allowed for retrieval of downed game or previously cut forest products, only. All other off road motor vehicle use is prohibited. The thus purpose an authorized roadway is defined as a route specifically built as authorized by the Tribes for the purpose of motor vehicle use.~~

A. Motorized vehicle travel off of an authorized roadway is permitted only for the direct retrieval of legally harvested big game or legally cut forest products. All other off-road motor vehicle use is prohibited. An authorized roadway is a road or trail designated or maintained by the Tribes for motor vehicle use.

Justification: rewrite for the following for clarity and enforcement.

~~C. Certain Tribal roads may be closed to motorcycle, ATV or motorized use. These roads will be posted.~~

C. Entry or travel by motorized vehicles on roads posted closed or which have had man-made obstructions such as trenches, berms, and gates or other barricades placed on them, is prohibited.

Justification: rewrite for the following for clarity and enforcement.

Part III. Recreations Regulations. 1. Regulation of General Application.)

V. Metal Detecting and Archaeological Resource Protection

(1) The use or possession of metal detectors, magnetometers, or any similar device for the purpose of locating, searching for, or removing buried or submerged objects is prohibited on all Tribal lands within the exterior boundaries of the Flathead Indian Reservation, including recreation sites, campgrounds, day-use areas, trails, shorelines, riverbeds, and all undeveloped Tribal lands.

(2) Metal detecting or similar activities may only be conducted when authorized in writing by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. Law Enforcement investigation is excluded from this restriction.

(3) It is unlawful to excavate, remove, damage, alter, deface, possess, transport, or otherwise disturb any archaeological, cultural, or historical resource, or any site of cultural or spiritual significance located on Tribal lands.

(4) It is unlawful to disturb or remove topsoil or subsoil, non-fossilized or fossilized paleontological specimens, artifacts, or cultural materials, or any parts thereof.

This section is consistent with applicable federal laws including, but not limited to, the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA), the Antiquities Act of 1906, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), and 36 CFR 261.9.

Metal detecting regulation Justification: This regulation is requested to clearly prohibit metal detecting and protect cultural and archaeological resources on Tribal lands. While current regulations prohibit damage and removal of resources, they do not explicitly address the tools used to locate them, creating an enforcement gap.

Adding this provision strengthens Tribal authority, aligns with existing protections, federal and state law, and provides clear, enforceable direction to prevent disturbance before it occurs, while still allowing authorized use under Tribal permit for legitimate purposes (law enforcement).

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Part III, Recreation Regulations Members, Section 7. Bison Range Special Regulations:
(To be added directly below N.)

O. Alcohol and illegal drugs are prohibited in all areas of the Bison Range.

P. Do not cut any vegetation and/or trees.

Q. Do not leave campfires unattended.

Justification: Alcohol consumption has led to disruptive behavior and conflicts with staff. This regulation helps protect visitor safety and preserves the Bison Range as a family-oriented wildlife conservation and recreation area. We also manage the vegetation in the day use area. Fire wood is provided at the fire rings for visitor use. Campfires should never be left unattended.

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General Information: Trail Etiquette

Hikers should yield the trail to pack and saddle stock.

When practical and safe, move to the downhill side of the trail and remain still until the stock has passed.

Cyclists shall yield to hikers and pack and saddle stock.

All trail users should minimize impacts to the wilderness and respect other visitors.

Justification: Not a regulation change, just etiquette and Additional information, specifically because we have been working on the regulations in relation to pack animals on trails.