

Health Management Calendar for Elk
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JANUARY-FEBRUARY

- Whole herd test for TB
- Worm all animals when in chute, using appropriate wormer based on fecal test, and past parasite problems in herd. Worm for both external & internal parasites.
- Vaccinate for Lepto; 8-way Clostridial; tetanus toxoid

MARCH - APRIL

- Assure high level of nutrition for calves and bulls
- Record button casting dates of bulls
- Assure adequate exercise and nutrition for cows
- If indicated, vaccinate cows for neonatal calf diseases

MAY-JUNE

- Udder check cows and group close calving cows
- Observe for calving difficulties, orphan calves, scours in calves
- Tag new born calves
- Velvet bulls
- Weigh and worm bulls
- Increasing nutrition for cows by providing excellent forage and begin supplementing grain
- Submit registration of calves

JULY - AUGUST

- Keep cows and calves on good forage and give added grain if needed
- Check fecal samples for parasites
- Select bulls for breeding
- Semen test bulls at the end of August
- Creep-feed calves
- Get velveting bulls to maximum weight for optimum velvet yield the following year
- Remove velvet regrowth
- Remove hard horns on spikers
- Forage test hay
- Review ration formulation

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

- Wean and weigh calves
- Vaccinate and worm calves
- Put bulls in for breeding; change to back-up bull after 5-6 weeks
- Work and weight cows - body condition score at 3 and increasing
- Start tick treatment
- Submit breeders report
- Draw purity test blood samples
- Collect blood or hair for DNA testing

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

- Remove bulls Nov. 1 or 15
- Assure high energy diet for bulls to regain weight
- Provide calves with excellent quality forage and grain supplement
- Repeat tick treatment
- Worm for internal & external parasites
- Collect & freeze semen for insurance purposes of select bulls
- Pregnancy check cows
- Separate groups for the Winter Calves:
 - Yearling heifers
 - Adult cows
 - Yearling bulls
 - Adult bulls

Reference; Haight and Hudson, "Farming Wapiti & Red Deer," 1993