



# **MASTER HUNTER PROGRAM**

## **WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091

### **Master Hunter Information and Outreach Meeting Spokane, Bothell, and Wenatchee Meeting Summary Regions 1, 4, and 2**

1. How many years have you been a Washington certified Master Hunter? **(Avg 5.78 years)**  
**(Including 10.3% new applicants)**
2. How many times have you participated in a Master Hunter hunt? **(Avg 3.48 hunts)**
3. Have you visited the Master Hunter website? Y **(93.75%)** N **(6.25%)** Did you find your information? Y **(96%)** N **(4%)**
4. Your suggestions for improving the Master Hunter Website: **(Most had no comment but “Keep it current,” “Make it easy to post projects,” “Weekly updates during 3911,” “Use spell check,” and “Email alerts like DFW,” “Include minutes of all MH meetings for those who were unable to attend,” were submitted.)**
5. Was this Information and Outreach meeting of value to you? Y **(100%)** N
6. Were your concerns and questions answered satisfactorily? Y **(93.55%)** N **(0)** Undecided **(6.45%)**
7. Do you favor the newly adopted “No Tolerance” stance concerning game violations? Y **(77.42%)** N **(22.58%)** Why? **Supporters used phrases such as “higher standard,” “ethical hunter,” “no excuse for violations,” while non-supporters referred to “appeal process,” “losing MH privileges over a parking ticket,” and “3911/3912 as traps**
8. What is your opinion of the increased service hours for Master Hunter certification? **(Overwhelming support with 25% of responders stating that they would like to see increased (above 40) hours implemented.)**
9. What is your opinion of the shift in emphasis from “What can I get?” to “What can I give?” **(Overwhelming support 96.77%. However the opinions among the non-supporters included: “More incentives would increase participation and encourage people to give back,” and “There is only so much selflessness that is tolerable.”)**
10. Have you ever mentored an inexperienced hunter? Y **(83.87%)** N **(16.13%)**
11. Would you be willing to mentor an inexperienced hunter? Y **(83.87%)** N **(9.67)** Undecided **(6.46%)**
12. Would you be willing to assist a hunter with disability? Y **(80.64%)** N **(12.9%)** Undecided **(6.46%)**
13. Do you have any suggestions for how to improve the Master Hunter program? **(Suggestions included: “Partner with established hunting groups such as Pheasants Forever and Inland**

**Northwest Wildlife Council,” “Make candidates qualify with all hunting implements,” “More interaction between biologists, agency, and landowners,” “Speedy distribution of new information.” “Mandatory attendance of Game Commission meetings,” “Equal access for westside hunters to eastside hunts.”)**

14. Do you have suggestions or opportunities for service projects not listed on the website?  
**(“Use Master Hunters to trap and transfer wild turkeys,” “Stream cleaning,” “Help the local gun club,” “Washington State only.” )**

15. Anything you would like to say to the Master Hunter Advisory Group?  
**(Comments included: “Good job. Let’s improve the image...,” “We should have [better] opportunity for [trophy] hunts for sheep, big bull, big buck tags,” “[Increased opportunity for] any hunting method, any tag [for Master Hunter hunts],” “...Good idea for Master Hunter Coordinator for each game unit...” “Need email and phone numbers for MHAG members, also an organizational diagram of MHAG.” “How about a Master Hunter hat?”**

**Near unanimous support for Master Hunter privileges to be limited to Washington State residents was voiced at Bothell and Wenatchee.**