



# **MASTER HUNTER PROGRAM**

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

600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091

### **Master Hunter Information and Outreach Meeting April 4, 2009 Longview**

1. How many years have you been a Washington certified Master Hunter? **Avg 3.56 years**
2. How many times have you participated in a Master Hunter hunt? **Avg 3.19**
3. Have you visited the Master Hunter website? **Y 89% N 11%**  
Did you find your information? **Y 84% N 16%**
4. Your suggestions for improving the Master Hunter Website:

**\*List of positive outcomes each year.**

**\*List of violators. List of those being investigated: a “list of shame.”**

**\*Require attendance at I&O meetings and require signatures.**

**\*Add some ‘hunting stories’ from MH experiences that shed positive light on the program.**

**\*Promote the “wildlife value” MHs bring to the WDFW and to the public.**

5. Was this Information and Outreach meeting of value to you? **Y 100% N**
6. Were your concerns and questions answered satisfactorily? **Y 100% N**
7. Do you favor the newly adopted “No Tolerance” stance concerning game violations?  
**Y 98% N <1% M 1%**  
Why? **Zero tolerance is difficult unless there is a mechanism to deal with honest mistakes.**

8. What is your opinion of the increased service hours for Master Hunter certification?

**Near unanimous support (94%) with the following comments:**

**\*Unless the Dept is willing to engage the MH corps increased hours is difficult to support.**

**\*If the reason for volunteering is to give back, then increasing the hours should not be necessary.**

**\*Increase to 80+. Increase the hours so only dedicated hunters will reapply.**

**\*Require hours each year, not just once for 5 years.**

**\*No mandatory meetings.**

9. What is your opinion of the shift in emphasis from “What can I get?” to “What can I give?”

**Unanimous support with the following comments:**

**\*They are not exclusive of each other, they are both important.**

**\*The way it should always be.**

**\*We always thought it was that way.**

10. Have you ever mentored an inexperienced hunter? **Y 61% N 39%**

11. Would you be willing to mentor an inexperienced hunter? **Y 89% N 11%**

12. Would you be willing to assist a hunter with disability? **Y 100% N**

13. Do you have any suggestions for how to improve the Master Hunter program?

**\*The new law will help.**

**\*Weed out the slobs and keep the numbers between 1500-2000.**

**\*Open elk areas 3911-3912 to all tag holders.**

**\*Make it more elite, only open enrollment when space opens up.**

**\*More interaction with WDFW.**

**\*Let's keep it positive.**

**\*Get more youth involved.**

**\*Newsletter.**

14. Do you have any suggestions or opportunities for service projects not listed on the website?

**\*Forest service gave me places to go pick up trash. Woods are full of trash, clean it up.**

**\*Get farmers and ranchers involved.**

15. Anything you would like to say to the Master Hunter Advisory Group?

**\*Be careful to NOT create an "elitist group."**

**\*Thanks!**

**\*Partnership tags for big game as dealing with a down elk is not a one-person job.**

**\* Great job! Keep it up.**

**\*MH status should be for serious committed hunters only. Putting in hours only once every 5 years shows no special commitment. Increase hours.**

**\*More opportunity for muzzleloaders.**