

NEW SECTION

**WAC 232-12-245 Baiting for the purposes of hunting deer or elk.**

(1) For the purposes of this section: "Bait" is any substance that could serve as a lure, food, or attraction for deer or elk.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, it is unlawful to hunt for deer and elk using any type of bait placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, scattered, or otherwise used for the purpose of attracting deer or elk to an area where one or more persons intend to hunt them, if the volume of bait exceeds 10 gallons.

(3) Bait sites cannot be placed within 200 yards from another bait site.

(4) Exceptions: Hunting on or over the following is not considered an unlawful use of bait while hunting deer or elk:

(a) Locally common agricultural and ranching practices including salt or mineral distribution, and feeding;

(b) Food that is available from undisturbed wild, volunteer, or planted vegetation; including fruit trees, orchards, vineyards, and food plots;

(c) Scents used for cover and attractant that are not consumed by animals;

(d) Naturally occurring mineral deposits; or

(e) Exceptions do not include accidental or intentional spills, dumping, or storage of agricultural produce, feed, or bait.

(5) A violation of this section is punishable as an infraction under RCW 77.15.160 if no animal has been shot or killed and RCW 77.15.410 Unlawful hunting of big game—Penalty, if an animal has been shot or killed.