

Agenda Item 19

Please insert this document after page 9

WAC 232-28-272 2009 Black bear and 2009-2010, 2010-2011, and 2011-2012 cougar hunting seasons and regulations

Supplemental Recommended Adjustments

The following adjustments are proposed since the Code Reviser (CR 102) filing and are NOT included in your notebook language.

Page 1

Delete GMU 204 from hunt area for Northeastern B and add it to hunt area for Northeastern A. The reason for the change is for consistency of season dates among adjacent GMUs.

Pages 4-5

Change the "Hunt Area" in each table from:

Hunt Name	Hunt Area
Coastal Puget Sound North Cascades Columbia Basin	GMUs 418, 426, 437, 448, 450, 460, 466, 485, 501, 504, 506, 530, 601-621, 636-651, 658-663, 672-684, 699, 407, 410, 454, 624-633, 652, 666
South Cascades Blue Mountains Kittitas-Yakima Spokane	GMUs 124-133, 145-154, 162-186, 328, 329, 342-368, 503, 505, 510-520, 524, 550-574, 653, 654, 667
Chelan Okanogan Okanogan-Ferry Stevens-Pend Oreille Klickitat	GMUs 101, 105, 108-121, 203, 204, 209-242, 242-247, 249-251, 382, 388, 578 within Chelan, Ferry, Klickitat, Okanogan, Stevens, or Pend Oreille counties

To:

Hunt Name	Hunt Area
Coastal Puget Sound North Cascades Columbia Basin	GMUs 136-142, 248, 254-290, 371-381 , 418, 426, 437, 448, 450, 460, 466, 485, 501, 504, 506, 530, 601-621, 636-651, 658-663, 672-684, 699, 407, 410, 454, 624-633, 652, 666
South Cascades Blue Mountains Kittitas-Yakima Spokane	GMUs 124-133, 145-154, 162-186, 328, 329, 342-368 , 503, 505, 510-520, 524, 550-574, 653, 654, 667
Chelan Okanogan Okanogan-Ferry Stevens-Pend Oreille Klickitat	GMUs 101, 105, 108-121, 203, 204, 209-242, 242 243-247, 249-251, 382, 388, 578 within Chelan, Ferry, Klickitat, Okanogan, Stevens, or Pend Oreille counties

The reason for the change is to correct omissions.

Agenda Item 19

Please insert this document after page 12

WAC 232-28-272 2009 Black bear and 2009-2010, 2010-2011, and 2011-2012 cougar hunting seasons and regulations

SUMMARY OF SUPPLEMENTAL WRITTEN PUBLIC INPUT

Supplemental public comments were not captured in the original summary of written comments. Each comment may be representative of multiple like comments.

COMMENTS	AGENCY RESPONSE
<p>I'm just writing a quick note to make the WDFW aware that I am strongly opposed to the closure of public lands to bear hunting during the month of August.</p>	<p>The rationale for limiting bear season to private lands in August was based on a couple concerns. The primary reason was bear harvest over the last three years exceeded some of our indicators for sustainable populations in some of the bear management units. So our objective was to reduce harvest slightly during the fall season. Shortening the fall seasons also facilitates additional spring harvest on industrial timberlands to address bear damage to trees. As we increase spring seasons, we may continue to exceed the thresholds for maintaining sustainable populations. Spring seasons not only help address tree damage, but the harvest tends to include mostly males; which helps manage for sustainable black bear populations.</p> <p>The decision to reduce take during the early portion of the season (August) rather than the end of the season was because then it also helps reduce conflict with other summer recreational users (e.g., campers, hikers, berry pickers). The reason for allowing harvest on private lands in August was to still provide a mechanism to take bear involved in nuisance activity (e.g., orchard damage).</p> <p>The Department has received numerous comments on this recommendation and all of the comments do not support the change to the August bear season. Because we're "on the bubble" in terms of the biological justification for reducing bear harvest, the Department has altered our recommendation to open the 2009 fall bear season August 1 rather than September 1 (for the subset of Bear Management Units) with no private land designation. The revised recommendation tries to balance the emerging biological concern, provide early fall hunting opportunity, and address public input. After a thorough review of bear harvest trends and biological information, the Department will provide the Fish and Wildlife Commission with a recommendation for the 2010-2011 fall bear hunting season in March 2010.</p>

COMMENTS	AGENCY RESPONSE
Does not maximize opportunity if you take away season time & areas. Leave bear & cougar season as is.	The Department tries to maximize seasons, but within biologically sustainable limits. The proposed reductions in bear and cougar seasons are due to biologically concerns for sustainable populations.
Extend the seasons for everything.	The Department tries to maximize seasons, but within biologically sustainable limits.

Agenda Item 19

Please insert this document after page 14

WAC 232-28-287 2009-2010, 2010-2011, and 2011-2012 Cougar permit seasons and regulations

Supplemental Recommended Adjustments

The following adjustments are proposed since the Code Reviser (CR 102) filing and are NOT included in your notebook language.

Page 13

For hunt area in the Kittitas-Yakima hunt, change from “GMUs 328, 329, 342-368” to “GMUs 328-368.” The reason for the change is to correct for GMU omissions.