

Landowner Hunting Permits

WAC 232-28-296

Brian Calkins

Small Game/Hunter Access Section Manager
Game Division, Wildlife Program

Program Overview

Private lands Access Program:

- Assist landowners in managing public access
- Typical landowner incentives include
 - Technical Advice/Support
 - Signage, Gates, Hunting Blinds
 - Staff Monitoring
 - Litter Cleanup
 - Scheduling Hunters (Hunt by Reservation)
 - Cash Incentives (select areas)

Program Overview

Private lands Access Program:

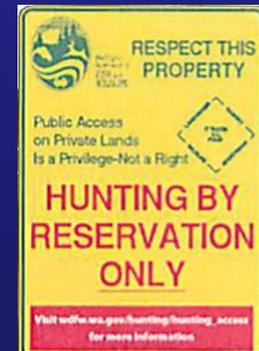
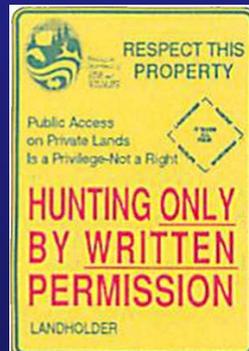
- 14 Private Lands Biologists
- Other permanent and seasonal staff
- 580 landowner contracts
- 1.3 million acres
- Webpage for each site



Program Overview

Access Types:

- Hunt by Written Permission
- Feel Free to Hunt
- Register to Hunt
- Hunt by Reservation
- Landowner Hunting Permit



Program Overview

Hunt By Reservation:

- Automated online system
- Allows hunters to reserve a site in advance
- Manage hunter numbers
- Quality experience
- Over 100 sites
- 5,000 user accounts



LHP Background

Commission Policy C-6002:

- LHP Permits authorized only by the Commission
- Customized Seasons
- Permit Allocation:
 - 50% of antlerless
 - 25% of bull or buck
 - Exceptions only by Commission
- Equal opportunity for all hunters with permits
- Owners charging access fees waive damage claims

LHP Background

Commission Policy C-6002:

- Landowners shall make provisions for significant public benefit
- General hunting season opportunity is encouraged
- Landowner incentives may include the following:
 1. Customized hunting seasons
 2. Second tag opportunity
 3. Technical services to the landowner

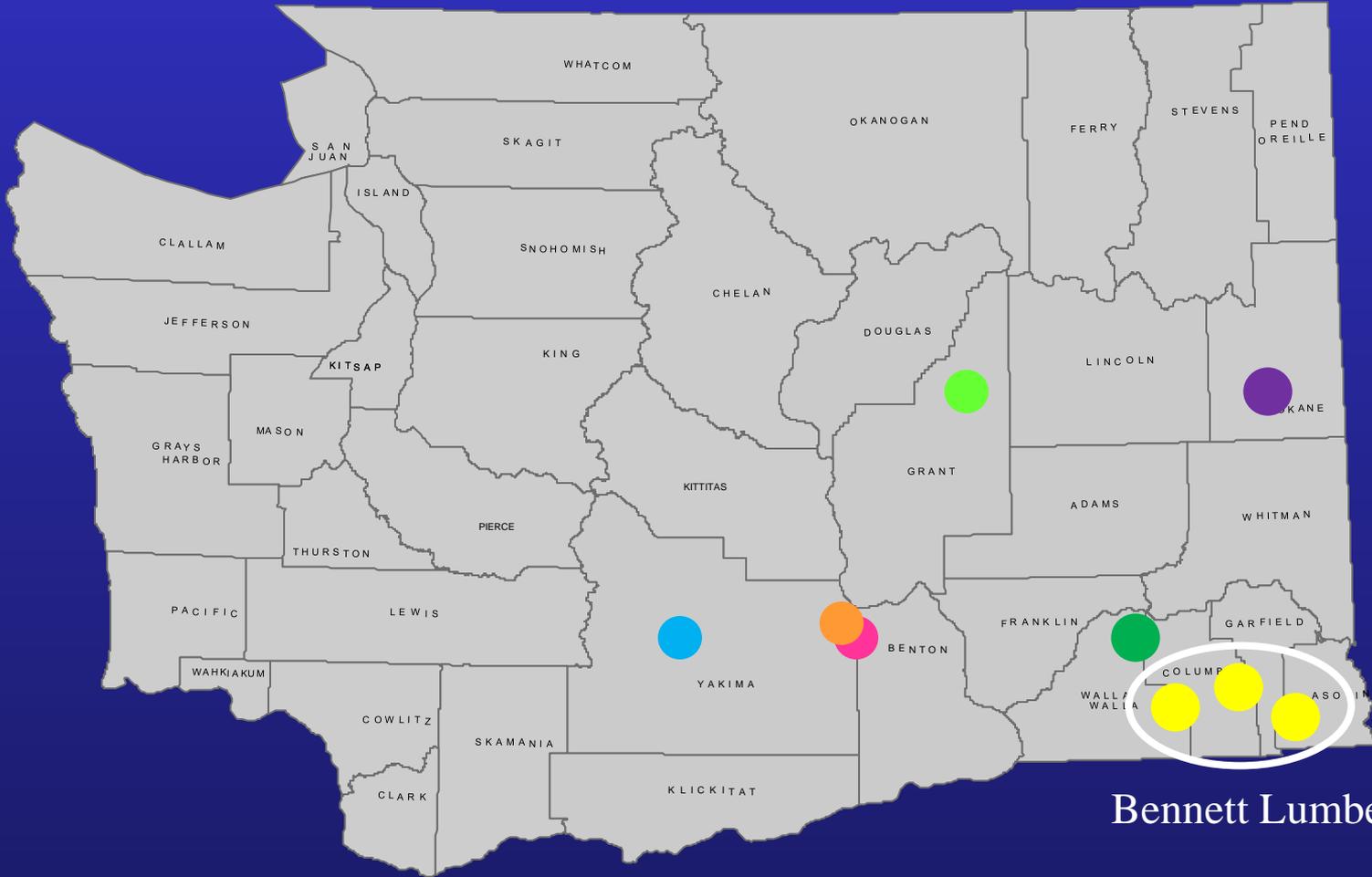
LHP Participation

In 2014 we had seven Cooperators:

- Six are continuing in the program
- 4-0 Ranch opting out
 - WDFW land acquisitions
- Proposed addition:
 - Bennett Lumber



Locations



Bennett Lumber

Proposed Changes

Minor date and permit level adjustments:

- Pine Mountain Ranch
 - Landowner and special permits increased from 2 to 3
(recommended adjustment)
- ZMI Ranch
 - 6 additional antlerless deer special permits
(assist with damage control)
- CPWMA
 - Permits combined into longer seasons
(Increase success/assist with damage)

Proposed Changes

Use of second tags noted:

(recommended adjustment)

- Columbia Plateau Wildlife Management Association
 - Had been used in the past under WAC 232-28-293.
- Bennett Lumber
 - Part of new proposal

Proposed Changes

Bennett Lumber LHP proposal:

- Multiple Parcels
- 9,835 Acres
- Landowner permits: 6 buck, 2 bull, 10 cow
(1 bull in following years)
- In lieu of special permits:
 - Lands would be enrolled in WDFW access programs
 - Larger parcels: Hunt by Reservation
 - Smaller parcels: Feel Free to Hunt
- Hunter days and opportunity far greater than if permit allocation formula was used.

Proposed Changes

Bennett Lumber LHP proposal:

- Standard allocation formula:
 - 12 to 13 hunters would receive permits
 - About 70 user days
 - These permits would be subtracted from other hunts
- Estimated Reservation Opportunity
 - >1500 potential user days
 - Does not include “feel free to hunt” parcels
 - Difficult to estimate

Questions?

