

# **Elk General Seasons and Elk Special Permits**

**Jerry Nelson, Deer and Elk Section  
Manager, Game Division, Wildlife  
Program**

# Early Archery

- For the last 6 years early archery has opened the Tuesday after Labor Day (13 day season)
- Hot weather and fire restrictions have proved problematic under current season structure
- Recommend starting the season Saturday after Labor Day (13 day season)

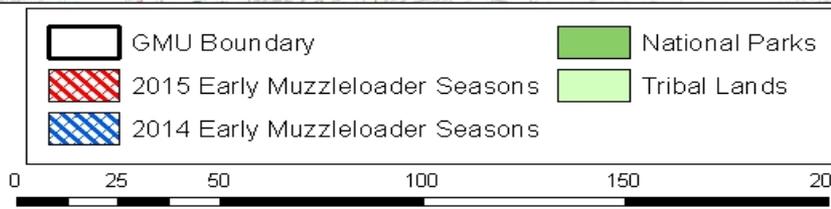
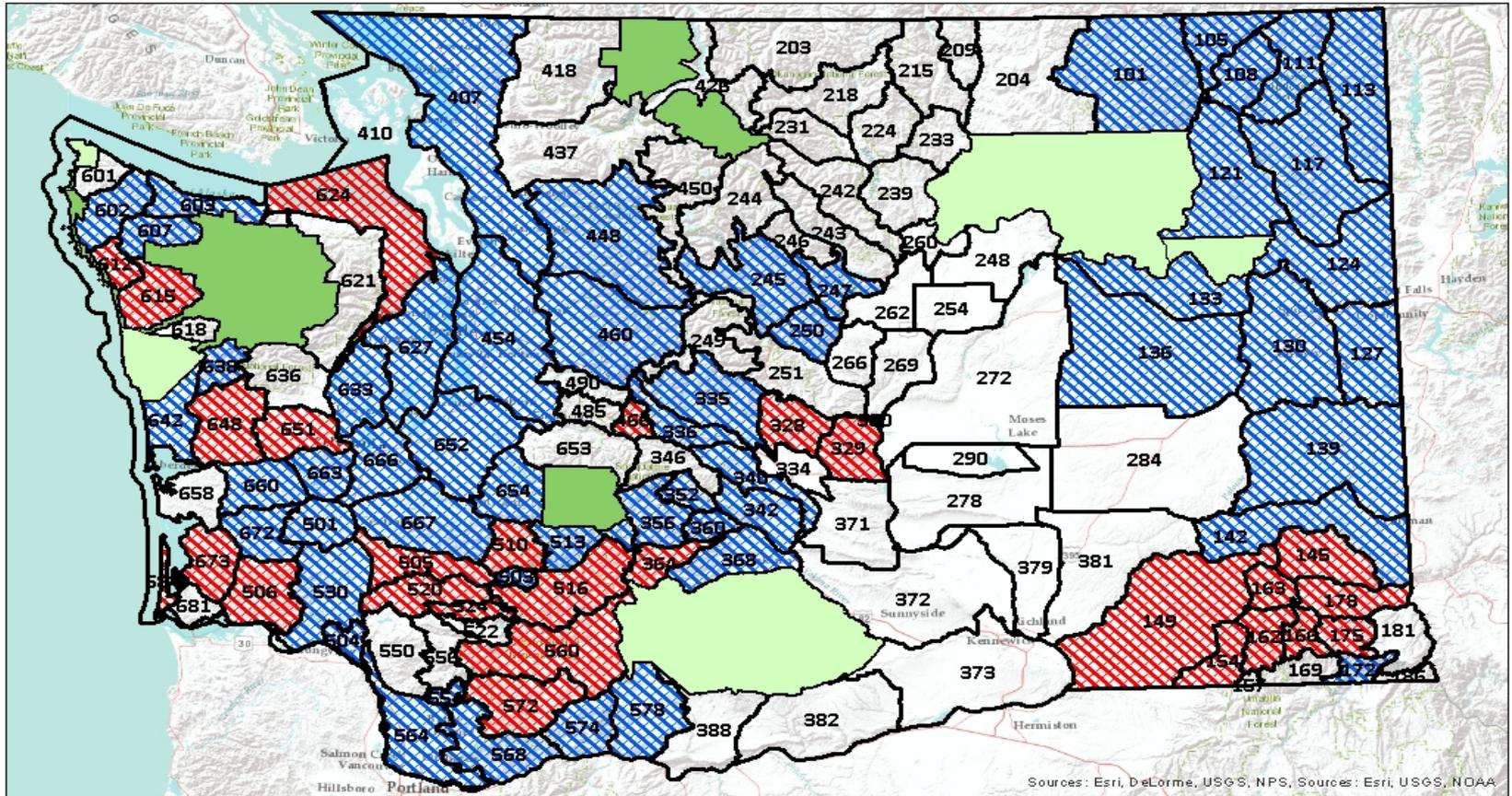


# Muzzleloader Elk

- **There are Currently 50 GMUs Without General Muzzleloader Elk Opportunity**
- **Recommend Opening 27 of Those GMUs to General Muzzleloader Season**
  - **26 early general; 1 late general**



# General Muzzleloader Opportunity



# Margaret GMU 524 General Season

- Changes in land ownership
- Changes in private land access policy



# Elk Season Recommendations

- Move Early Archery to First Sat. After Labor Day
- Open More GMUs to Early Muzzleloader
- Open the Margaret Unit (GMU 524) to General Season
- Increase Antlerless Opportunity in Colockum Through Special Permits and General Archery
- Reduce Antlerless Special Permits for Mount St. Helens and Yakima to Stabilize Population
- Adjust  $\uparrow\downarrow$  Special Permits via Special Permit Allocation Formula
- Adjust Antlerless Special Permits to Address Population Control and/or Agricultural Damage Issues

# Questions?

