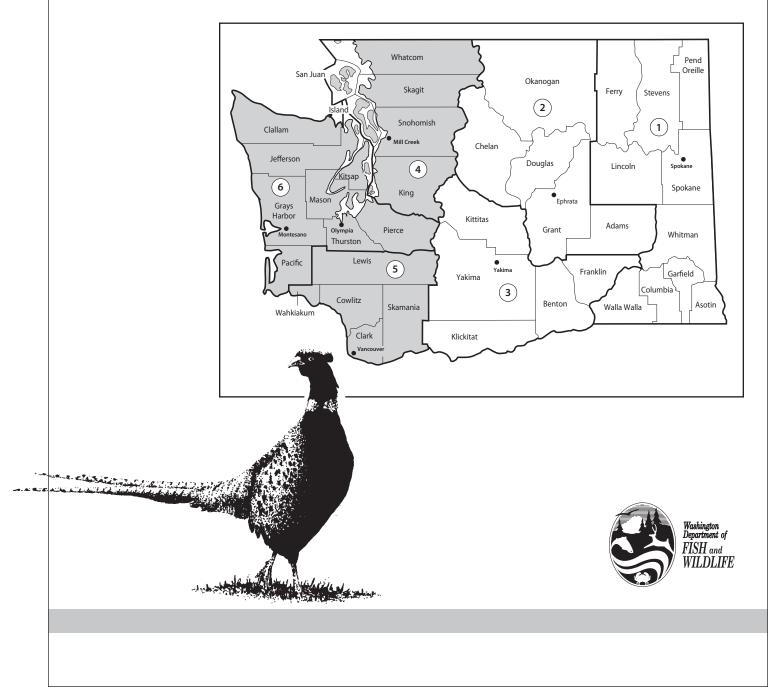
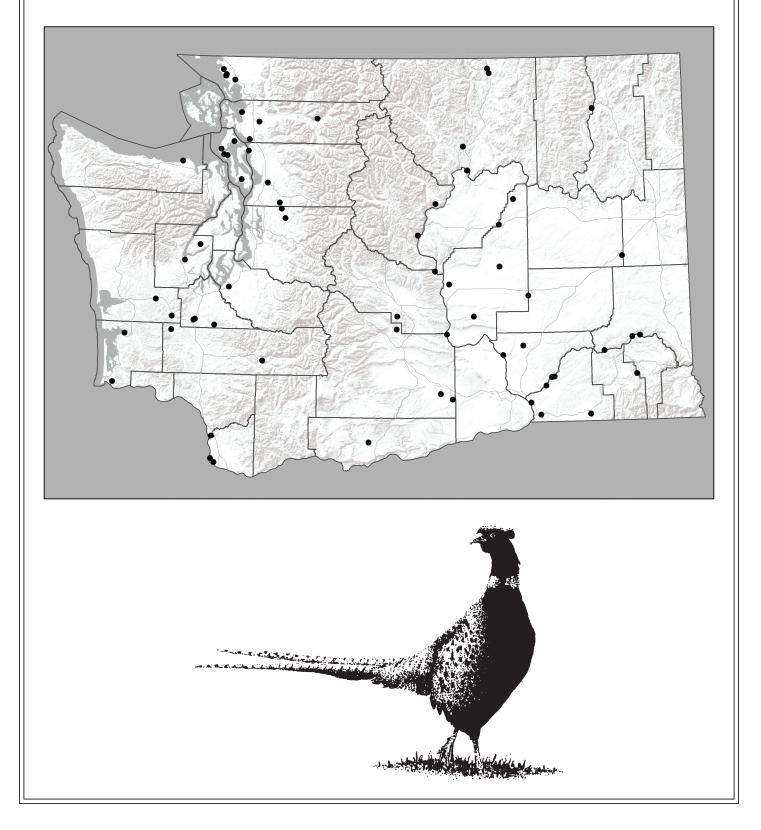
# Western Washington Pheasant Release Program



# **IMPORTANT NOTICE TO SMALL GAME HUNTERS**

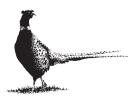
To protect other wildlife species including waterfowl and raptors, nontoxic shot is now required for all upland bird, doves and band-tailed pigeons game hunting on all pheasant release sites statewide. If you hunt any of these release sites, you may possess and use only approved nontoxic shot (either in shotshells or as loose shot for muzzleloading). Some of these sites have further restrictions. See Migratory Waterfowl and Upland Game Seasons pamphlet for more information.



# Western Washington Pheasant Release Program

The number of pheasants released on each site is based on several factors including the estimated numbers of hunters using those sites.

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# WESTERN WASHINGTON PHEASANT RELEASE PROGRAM



The major goal of the pheasant program in western Washington is to provide an upland bird hunting opportunity. The program also encourages participation from young and older-aged hunters.

The cool, wet climate of western Washington combined with the lack of grain farming limits naturally sustained pheasant populations. Each year 30,000 to 40,000 pheasants are released on about 25 release sites.

Most release sites remain the same from one year to the next. Maps to those sites are enclosed. Information and maps for new or relocated sites are available at regional offices listed.

## Hunting Seasons and Regulations

The general western Washington hunting season lasts from late September to November 30 each year (see hunting pamphlet for details). Hunting is allowed from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. each day. Some areas do not release birds throughout the season due to flooding or other conflicts. Pheasant hunting is allowed at the Dungeness Recreation Area in Clallam County between the first weekend in October and November 30 on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

To protect other wildlife species including waterfowl and raptors, nontoxic shot is required for all upland bird, dove and band-tailed pigeon hunting on all pheasant release sites statewide.

A western Washington pheasant license is required to hunt pheasants in western Washington. A small game license and western Washington punch card are not required to participate. The western Washington pheasant permit costs \$90.00 for adults and \$42.00 for youth (under 16). The bag limit is two pheasants of either sex per day. A three-day permit is also offered for \$42.00 for residents.

Generally, most release sites have established parking areas or access points. These areas are open to all users. Any restrictions associated with use of the release sites other than those noted in the hunting pamphlet, will be posted at the access points.

There are several safety issues that hunters should be aware of while hunting on release sites. The sites are usually fairly crowded and often relatively close to houses or other types of recreation. Hunter orange must be worn by hunters using release sites. Be aware of Safety Zones signs and stay away from areas posted as such. Other instructions and information will be posted at release sites.

While it is always important to be courteous to other hunters, it is especially important while hunting crowded release sites. A few courtesy rules include:

- Don't trail or otherwise position yourself to take advantage of other hunters, you may end up in their line of fire!
- Racing out ahead of other hunters to beat them to birds is unethical and dangerous. Please respect others and allow time and space.
- 3. If you see other hunters that may not be familiar with hunting the release site, invite them to join your group. This is especially important for young hunters and those without dogs. By promoting safe, ethical hunting you help ensure the continuation of recreation for yourself and for future generations.

## Western Washington Regional Offices:

#### **Region 4**

(425) 775-1311 16018 Mill Creek Blvd. Mill Creek, WA 98012-1296 **Region 5** 

(360) 696-6211 2108 Grand Blvd. Vancouver, WA 98661

#### **Region 6**

(360) 249-4628 48 Devonshire Rd. Montesano, WA 98563



# **REGION FOUR PHEASANT HUNTING INFORMATION**

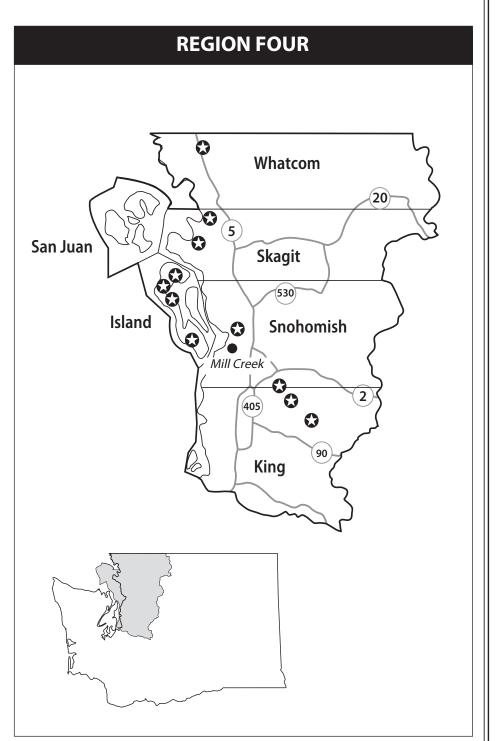
In order to maintain a more safe and enjoyable hunt, there are special restrictions on several of the more popular release sites. Hunters must choose to hunt on either odd-numbered or even numbered weekend days, from 8:00 AM until 10:00 AM. Youth and senior hunters may hunt on either day. These sites include: Lake Terrell (including British Petroleum and Intalco), Snogualmie (including Stillwater, Cherry Valley, and Crescent Lake segments), Skagit (including Smith Farm/Leque Island segments), wildlife areas, and all sites on Whidbey Island.

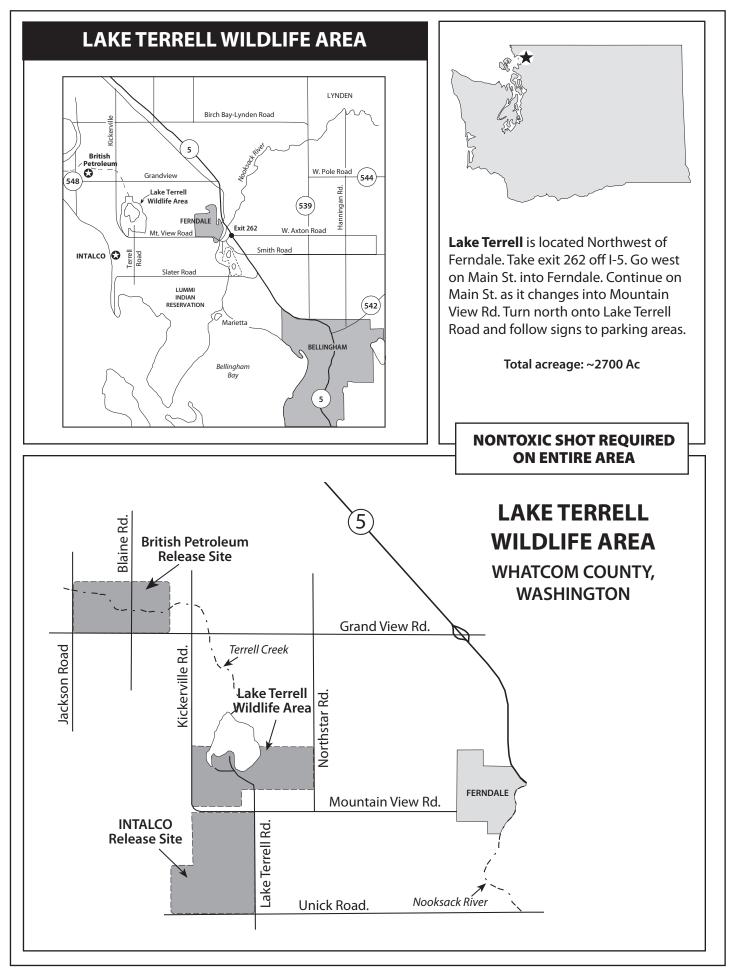
Nontoxic shot must be used on all release sites statewide. Other instructions and information may be posted at release sites.

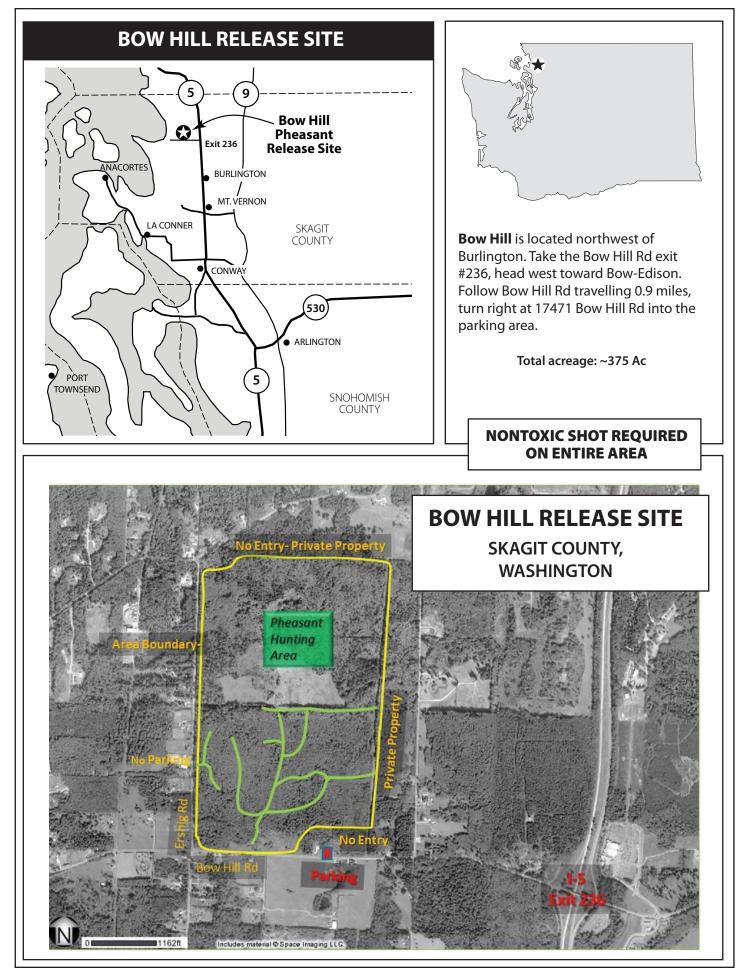
**Reminder:** At least 400 square inches of Hunter Orange must be worn by all upland bird hunters.

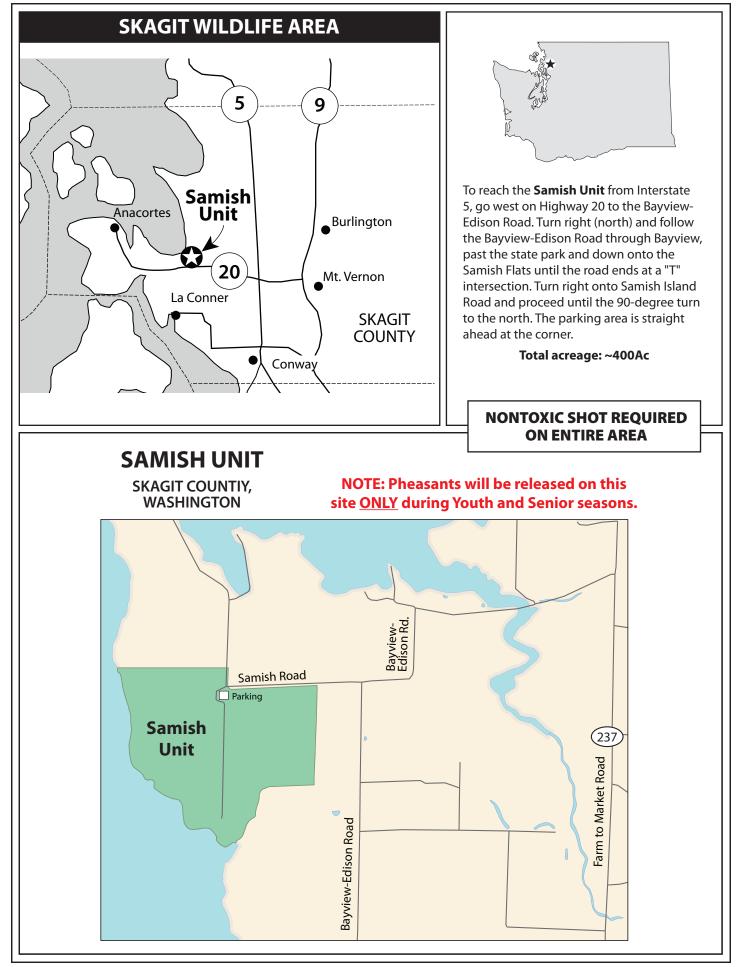
Typically, birds are released on these areas at least three times per week, mainly on weekends. The two main release sites on Whidbey Island are on the Naval Air Station. (OLF and Seaplane Base). In order to hunt on these sites, hunters must obtain a NAS Whidbey Island Upland Game Hunting Permit from the Environmental Bldg. 113 on Ault Field. Please call (360) 257-1009 for additional information.

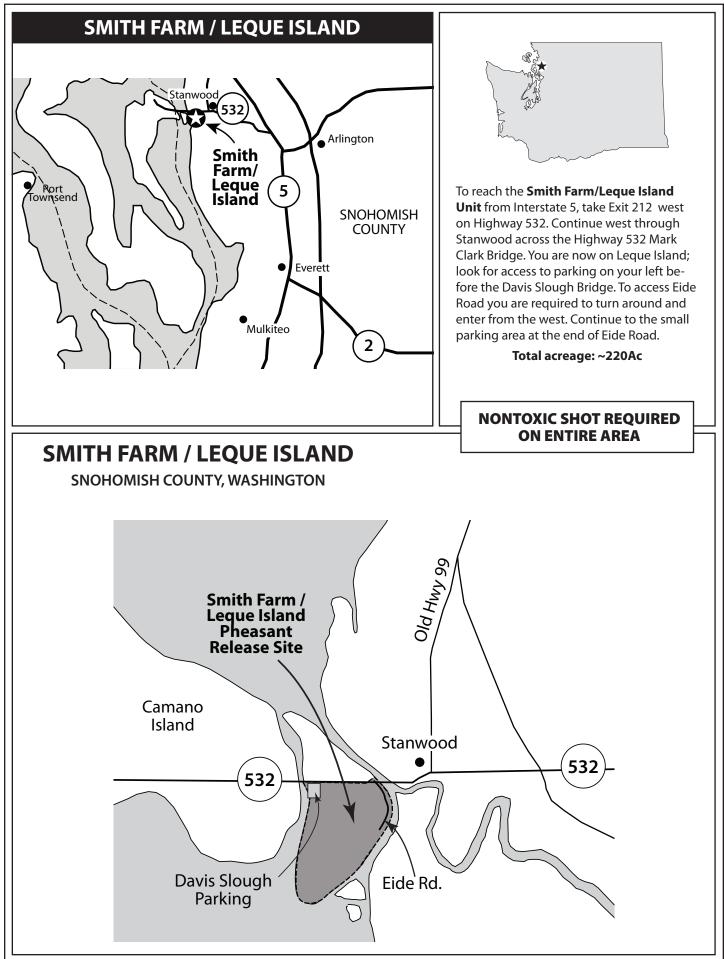
> Region 4 Office: (425) 775-1311 16018 Mill Creek Blvd. Mill Creek, WA 98102-1296

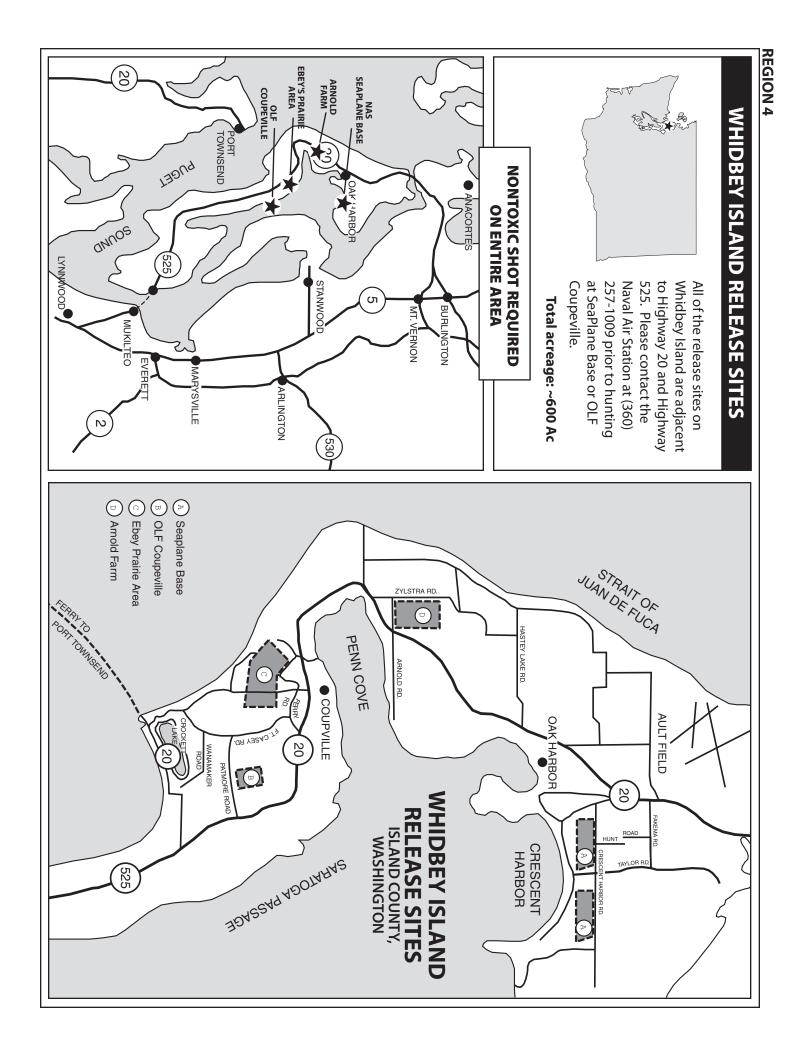


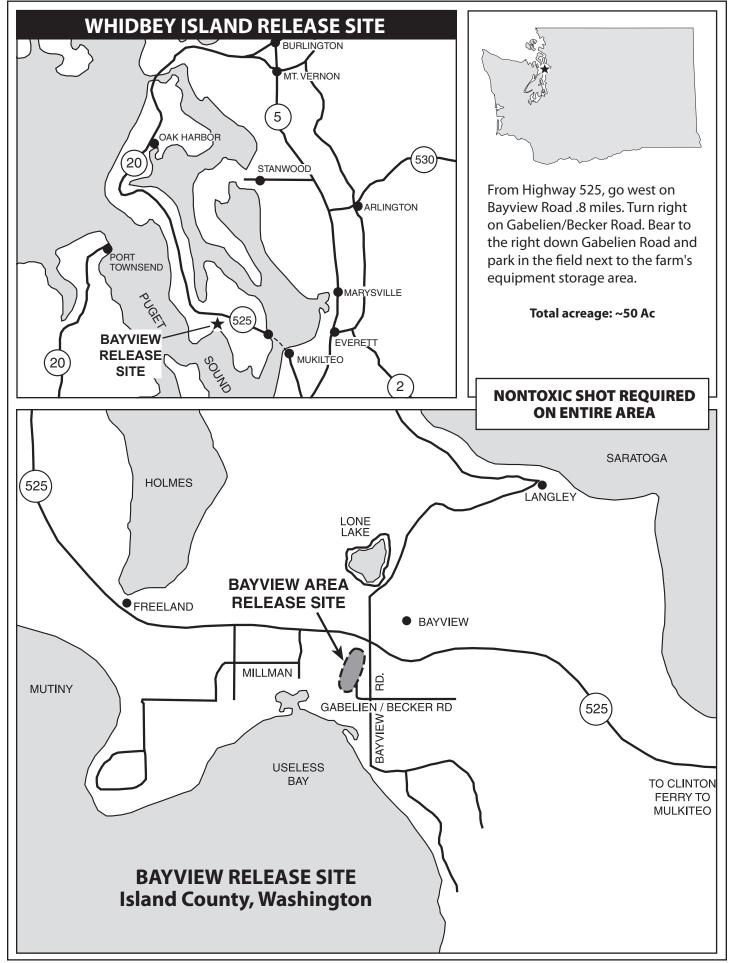


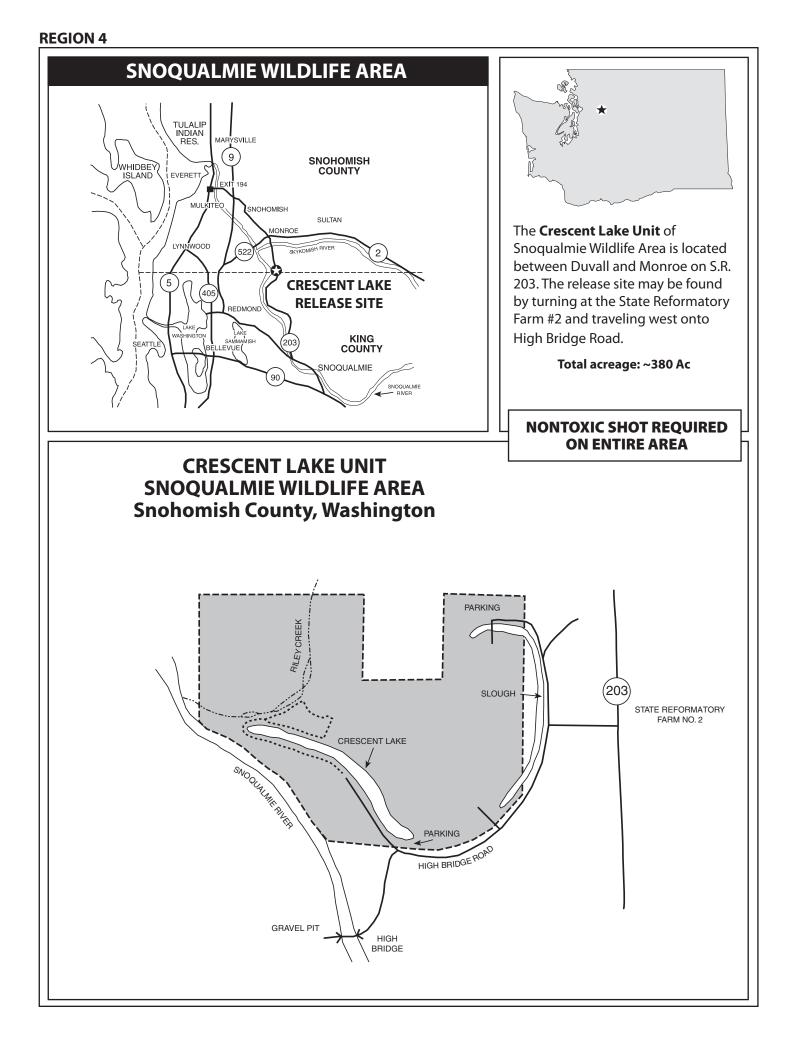


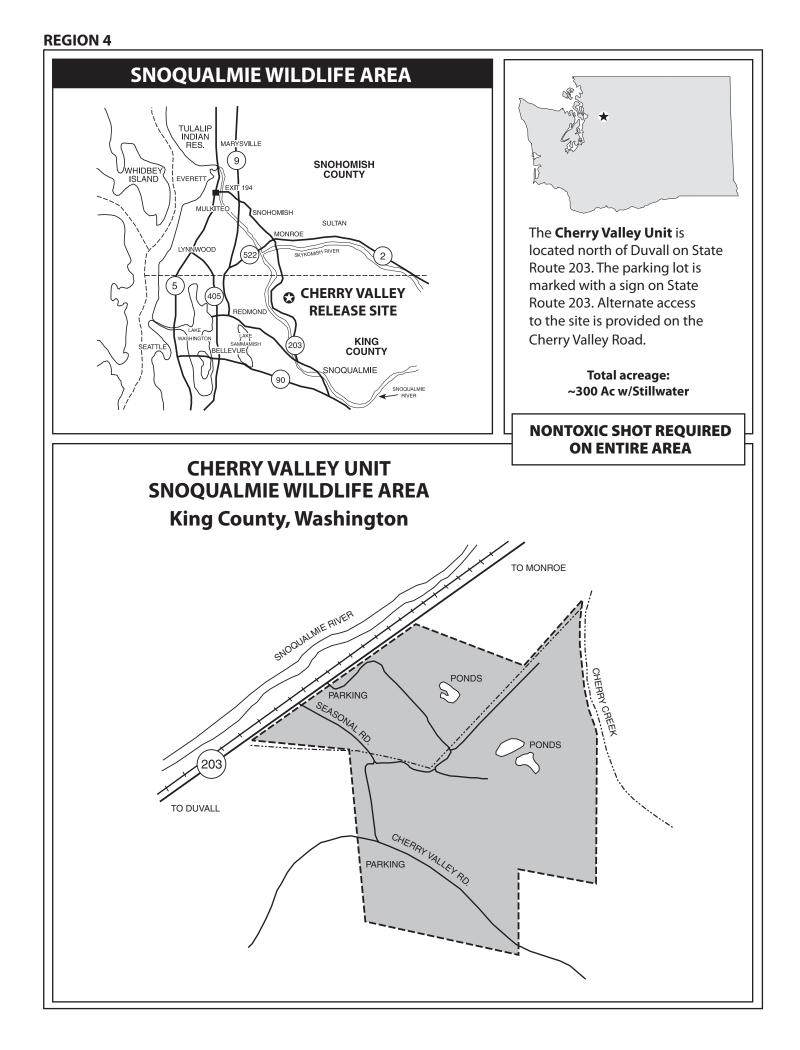


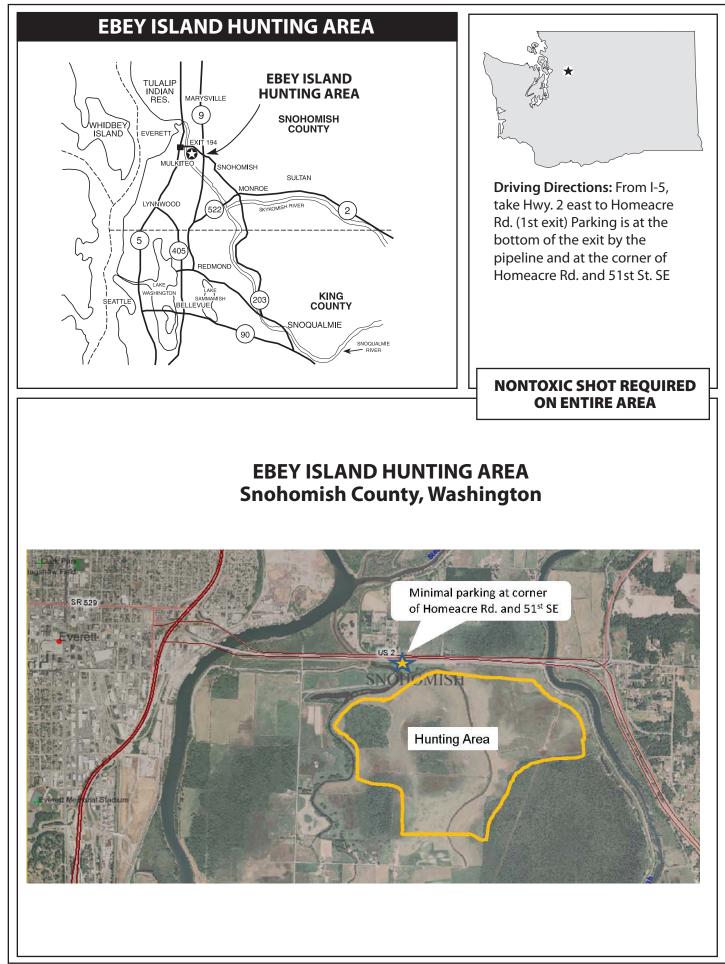


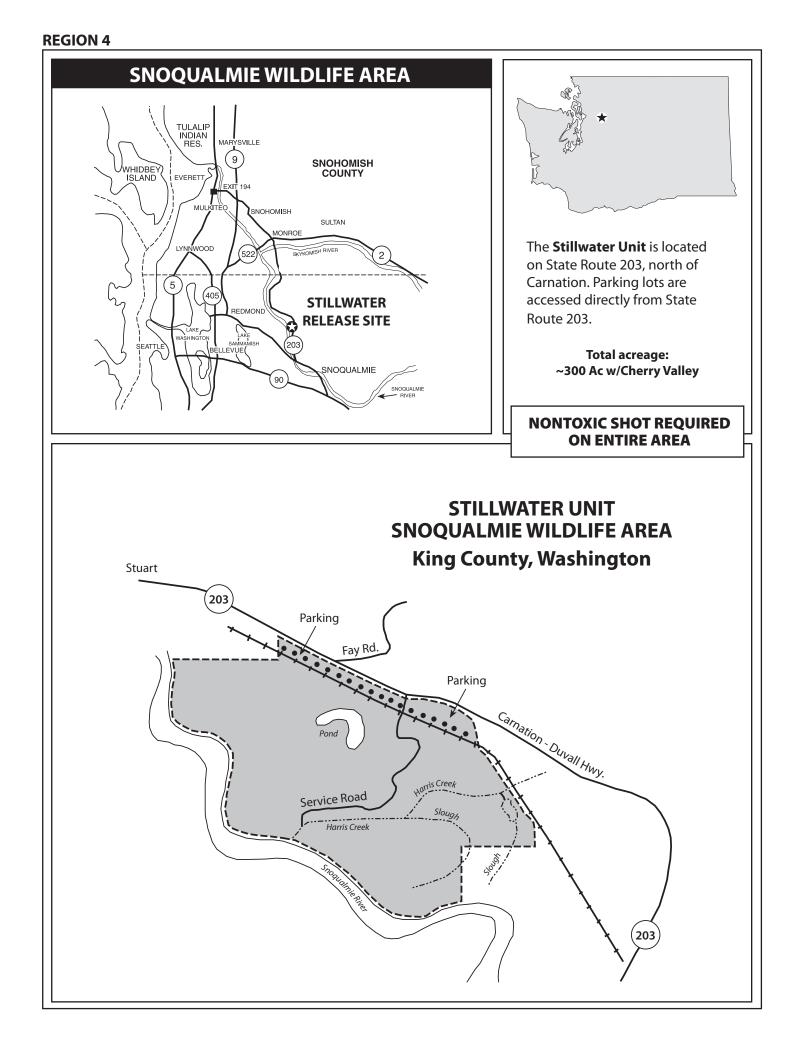






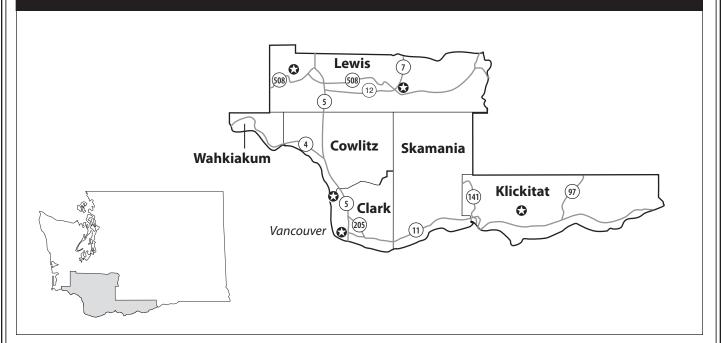






# **REGION FIVE PHEASANT HUNTING INFORMATION**

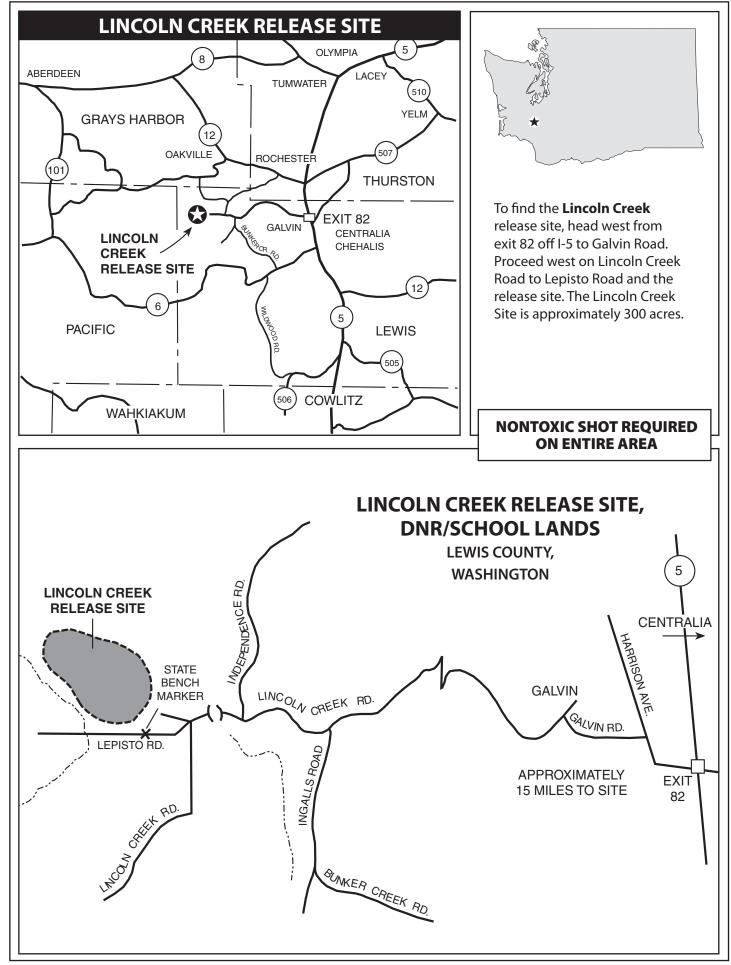
## **REGION FIVE**

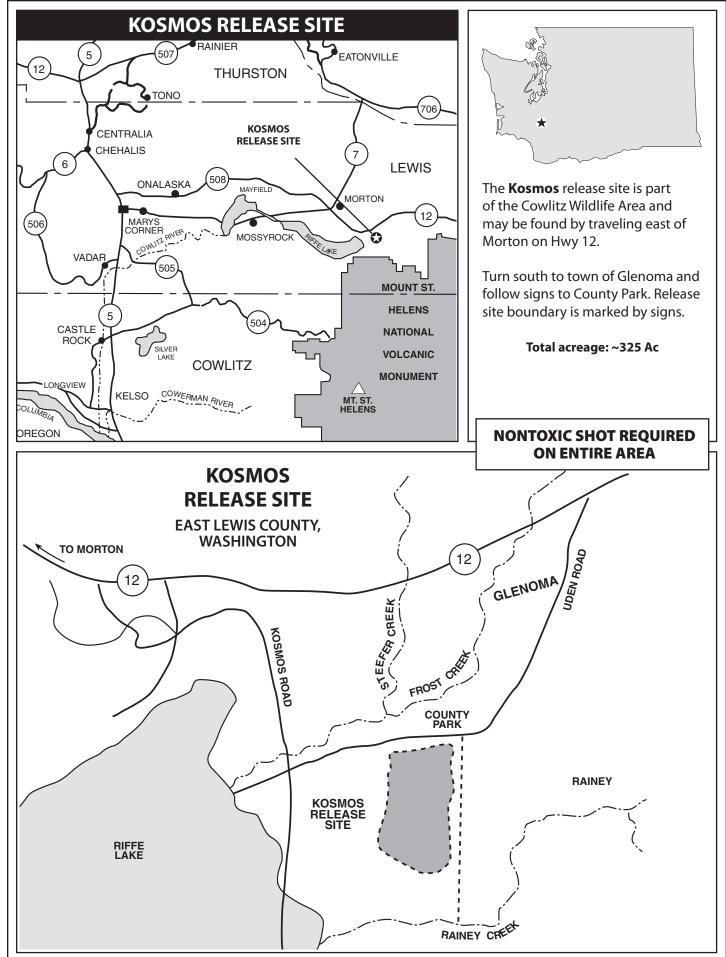


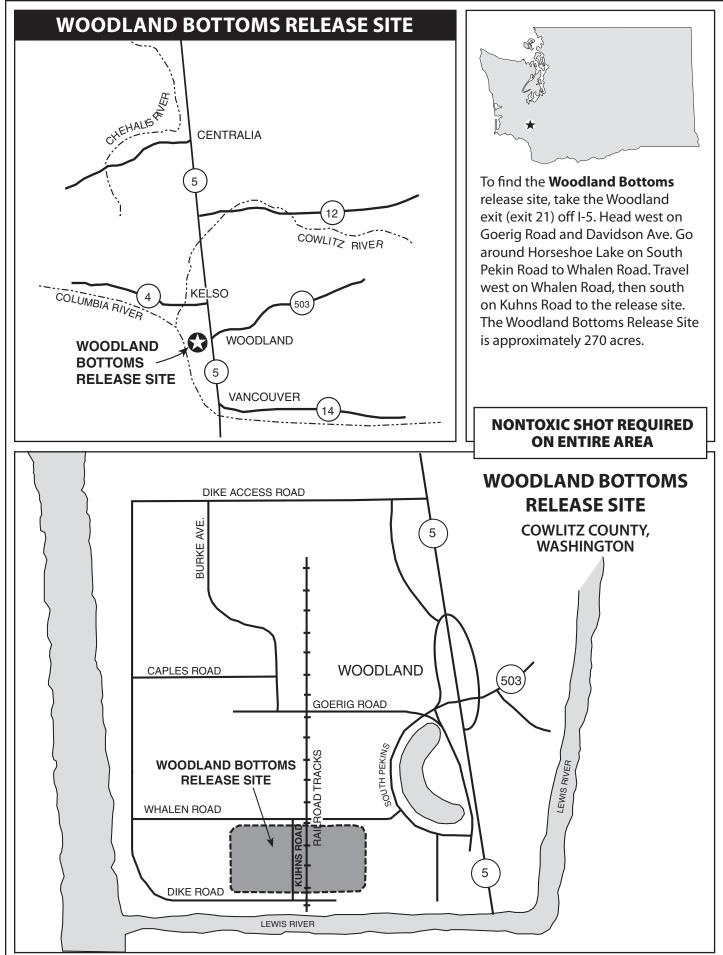
Several of the pheasant release sites in Region Five have been adopted by volunteers. One of the most active groups is the Vancouver Wildlife League. They are associated with many wildlife projects in the Vancouver area and handle much of the pheasant release program on the Shillapoo and Vancouver Lake sites. These sites receive very high use because of their popularity and proximity to Vancouver.

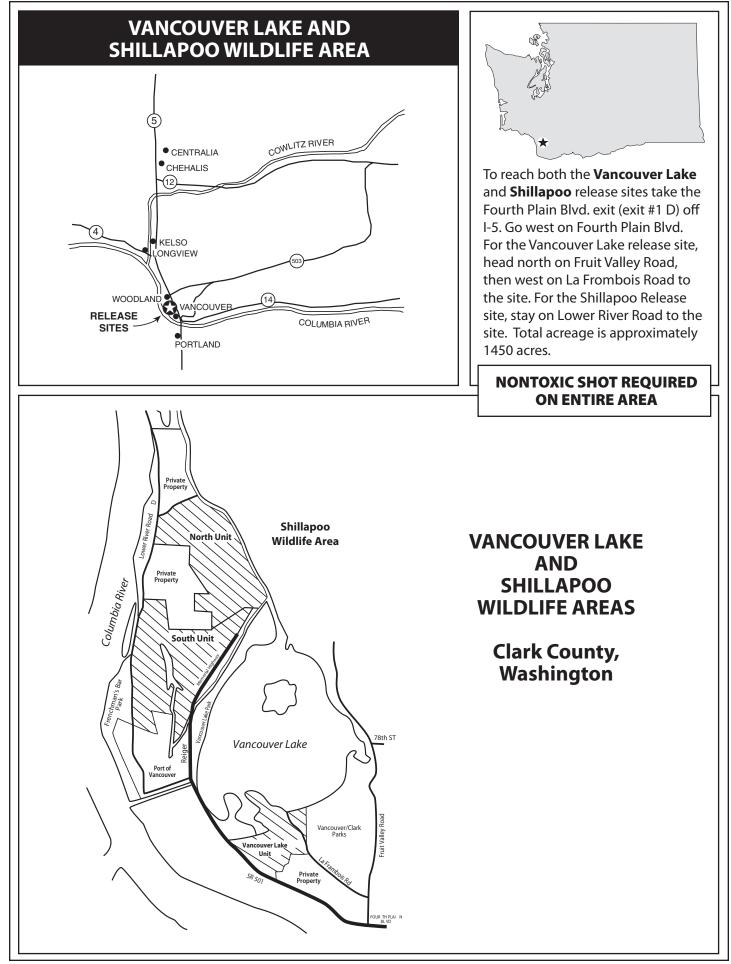
Such sites as Lincoln Creek and Woodland Bottoms receive lighter pressure, but still receive some mid-week releases early in the hunting season. The remaining sites are used by fewer hunters overall and releases mainly occur for weekend hunting.

Administratively, Klickitat County's fish and wildlife programs are managed through WDFW's Region 5 office in Vancouver. However, for the pheasant enhancement program, Klickitat County is considered an eastern Washington county, and license requirements are the same as the other eastern Washington counties. For Klickitat County, refer to Eastern Washington Pheasant Release Program pamphlet. Region 5 Office: (360) 696-6211 2108 Grand Blvd. Vancouver, WA 98661









# **REGION SIX PHEASANT HUNTING INFORMATION**

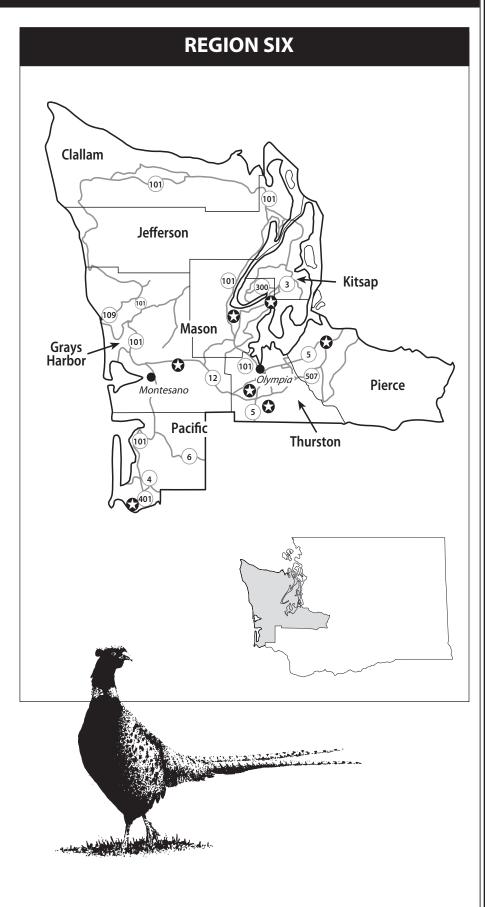
Volunteers play a significant role in the pheasant release program in Region Six. The Peninsula Bird Hunters handle the Belfair sites and individual volunteers release birds on the Dungeness Recreation Area, Hunter Farms (private property), Raymond, Skookumchuck, and Chinook sites.

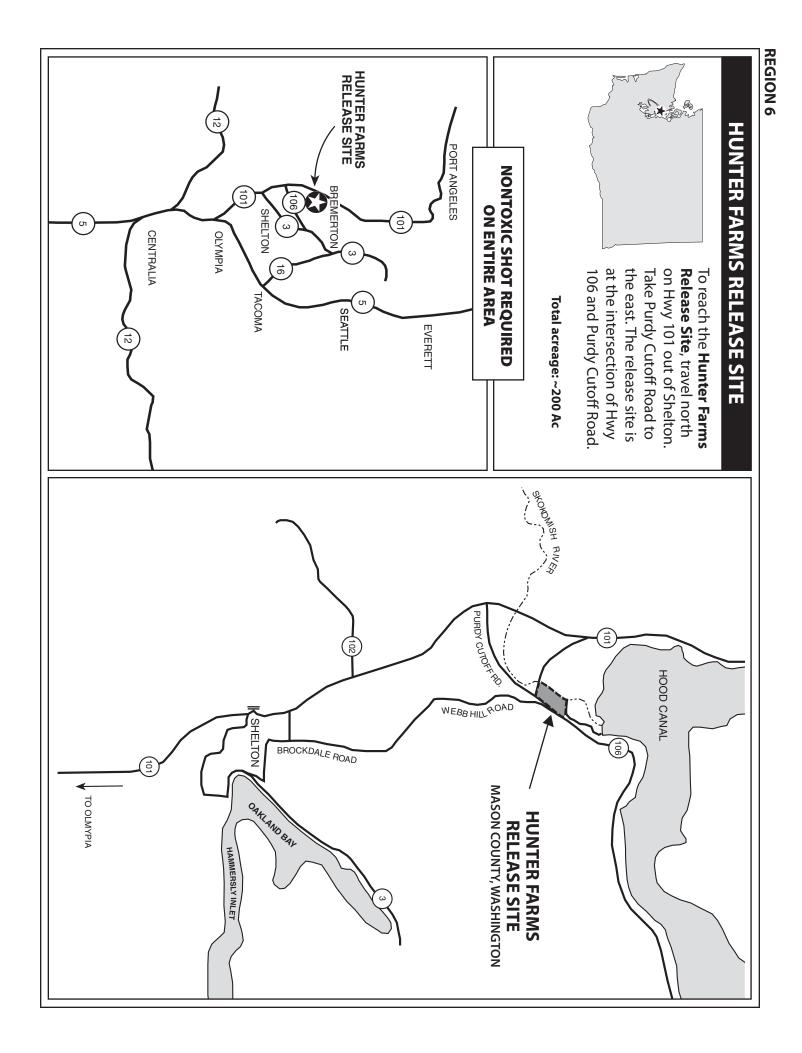
Fort Lewis, Scatter Creek, Skookumchuck, and Belfair receive the most hunting pressure and the highest number of released pheasants. Pheasants are released during the middle of the week on these areas.

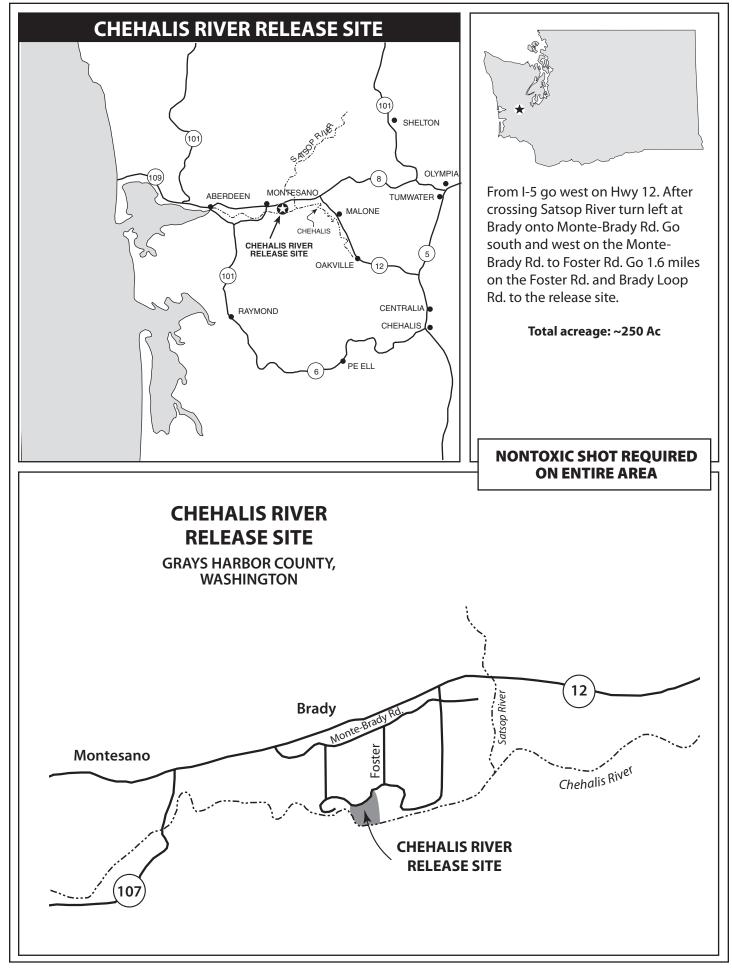
Nontoxic shot is required on all release sites statewide.

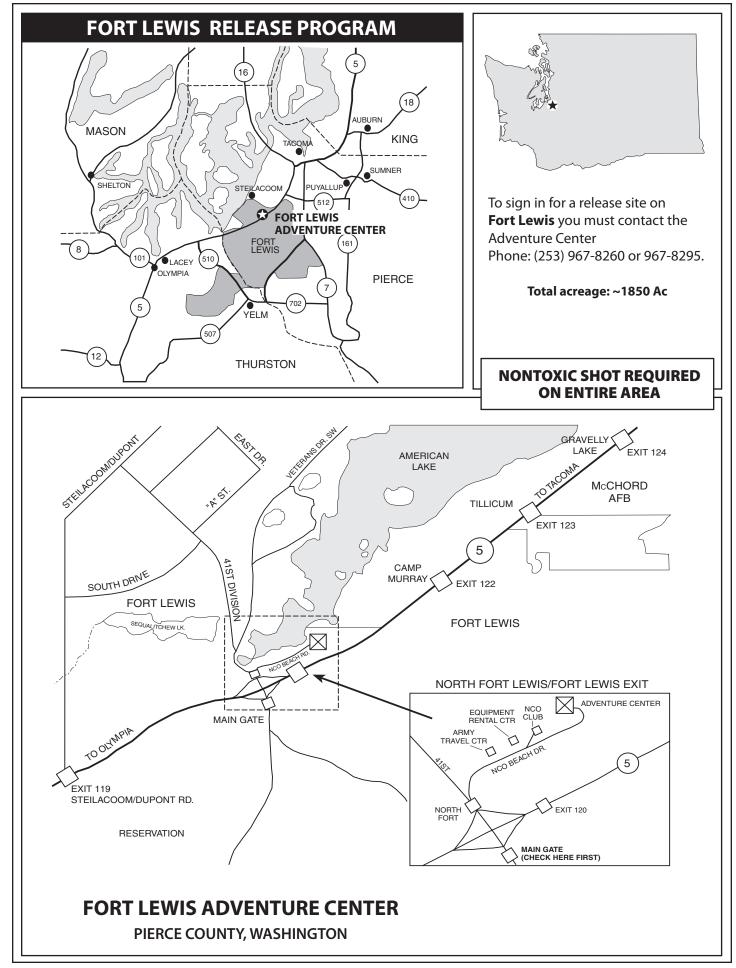
At the Scatter Creek release site, hunters must choose to hunt on either odd numbered or even numbered weekend days from 8:00 am - 10:00 am. Youth and senior hunters may hunt on either day.

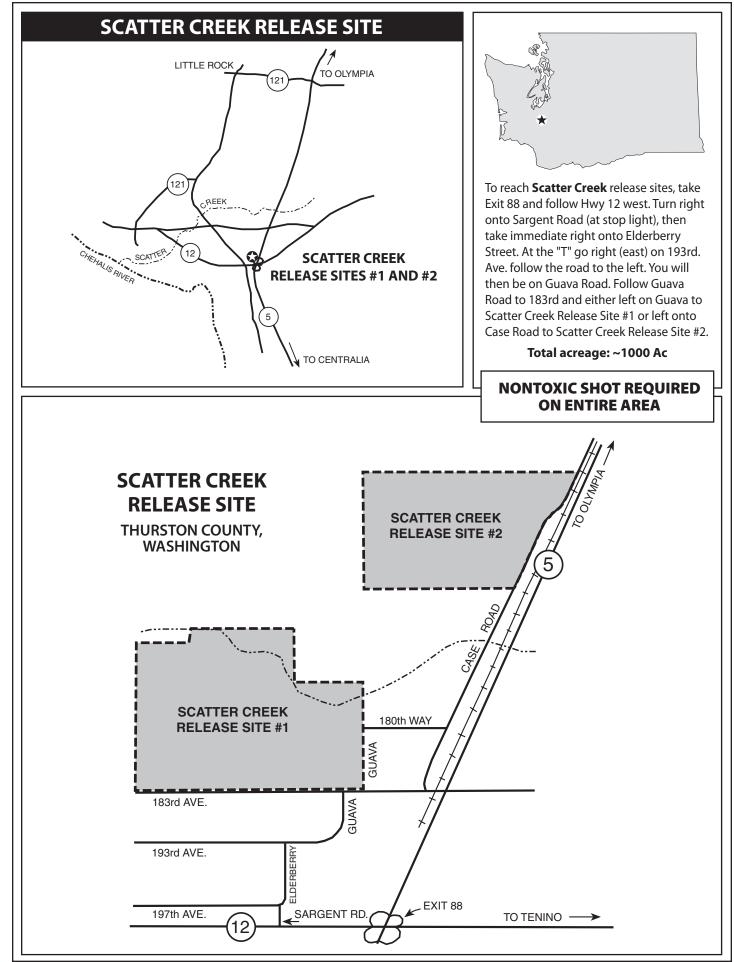
> Region 6 Office: (360) 249-4628 48 Devonshire Road Montesano, WA 98563

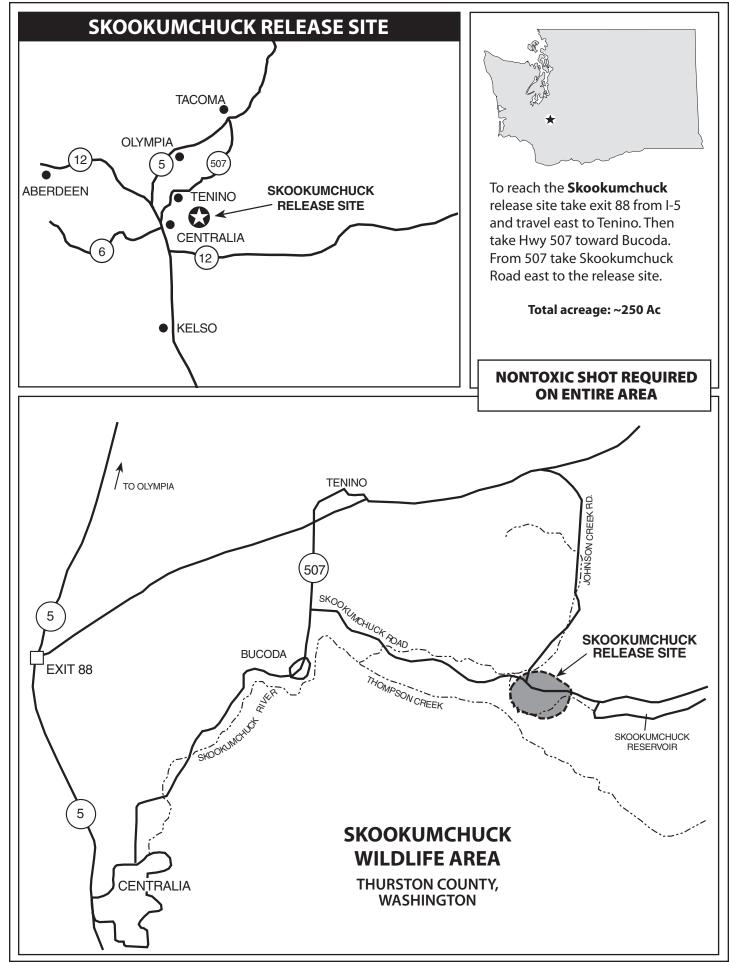


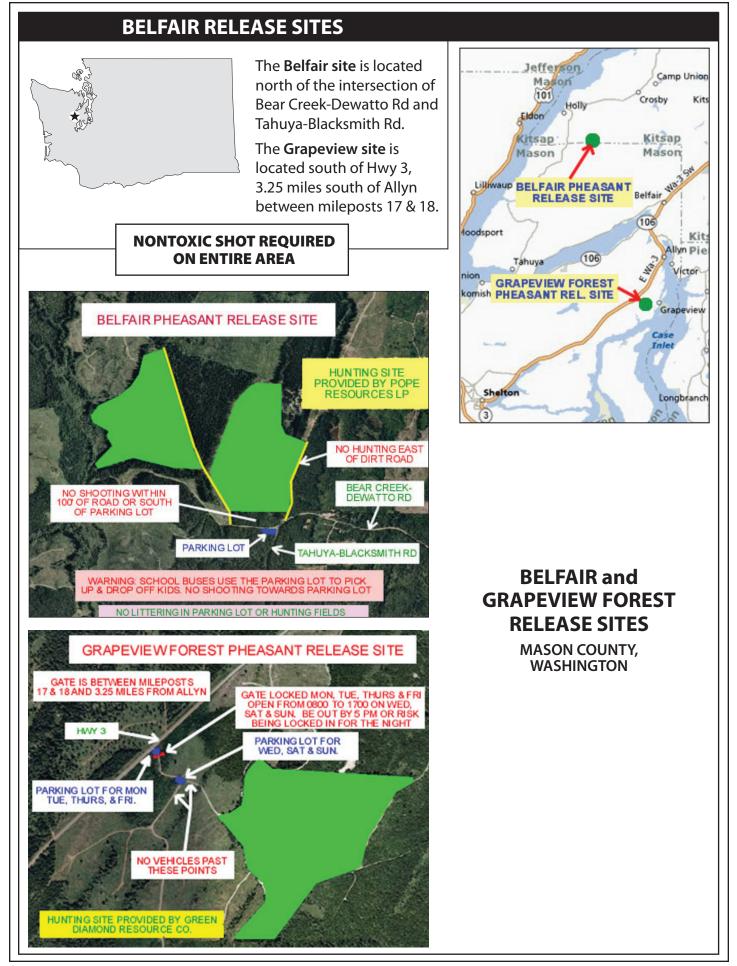


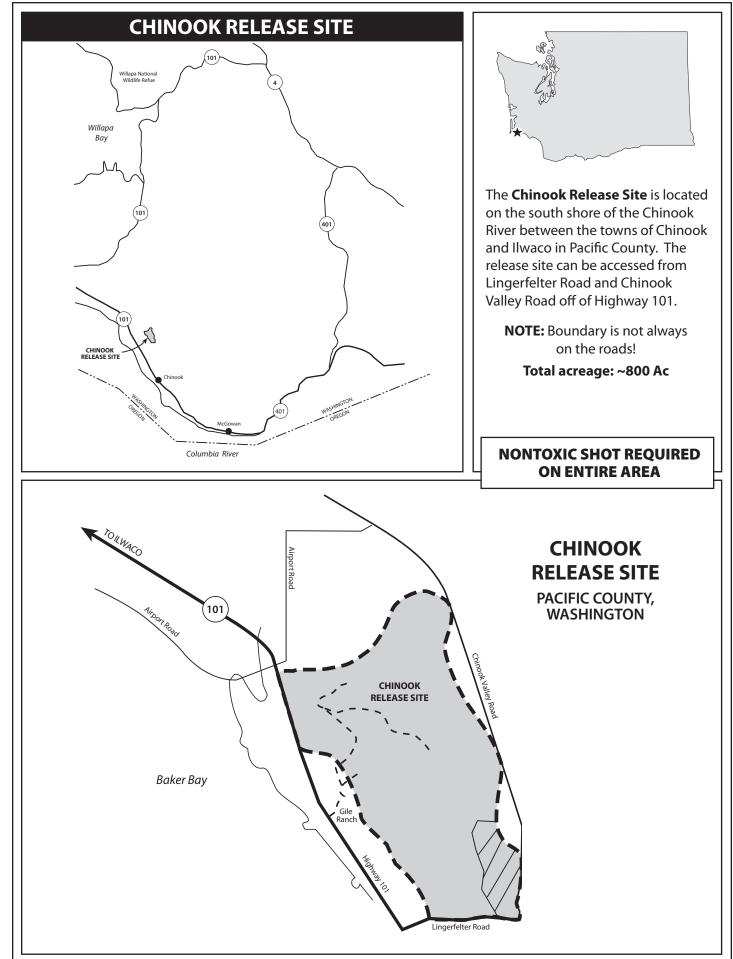












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Phil Anderson, Director, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Miranda Wecker, Chair, Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission.

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