

2018

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Washington  
Department of  
**FISH and  
WILDLIFE**



Pheasant hunting – Photo courtesy of Michelle Groesbeck

# DISTRICT 9 HUNTING PROSPECTS

Skamania, Clark, and Klickitat counties

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## DISTRICT 9 GENERAL OVERVIEW

District 9 is located in the southwest/central part of Washington and is the only district in the state that includes significant amounts of both west and eastside habitats. Game management units (GMUs) in District 9 include 554 (Yale), 564 (Battle Ground), 568 (Washougal), 560 (Lewis River), 572 (Siouxon), 574 (Wind River), 578 (West Klickitat), 388 (Grayback), and 382 (East Klickitat). Hunters can choose a variety of habitats, including areas covered by west and eastside season dates and permit regulations.

The geography of District 9 is dominated by the Cascade Mountain Range, which divides the district into west and eastside zones. Topography varies from near sea level along the Columbia River and its lower tributaries to alpine habitats associated with Mount St. Helens and Mt. Adams in the Cascade Range.

Dominant westside river drainages include the Lewis, Washougal, and Wind rivers. Major eastside watersheds include the White Salmon and Klickitat rivers. Rock Creek in eastern Klickitat County is the primary watershed in ponderosa pine/oak and shrubsteppe portions of the district. The southern border of the district is bounded by the Columbia River.

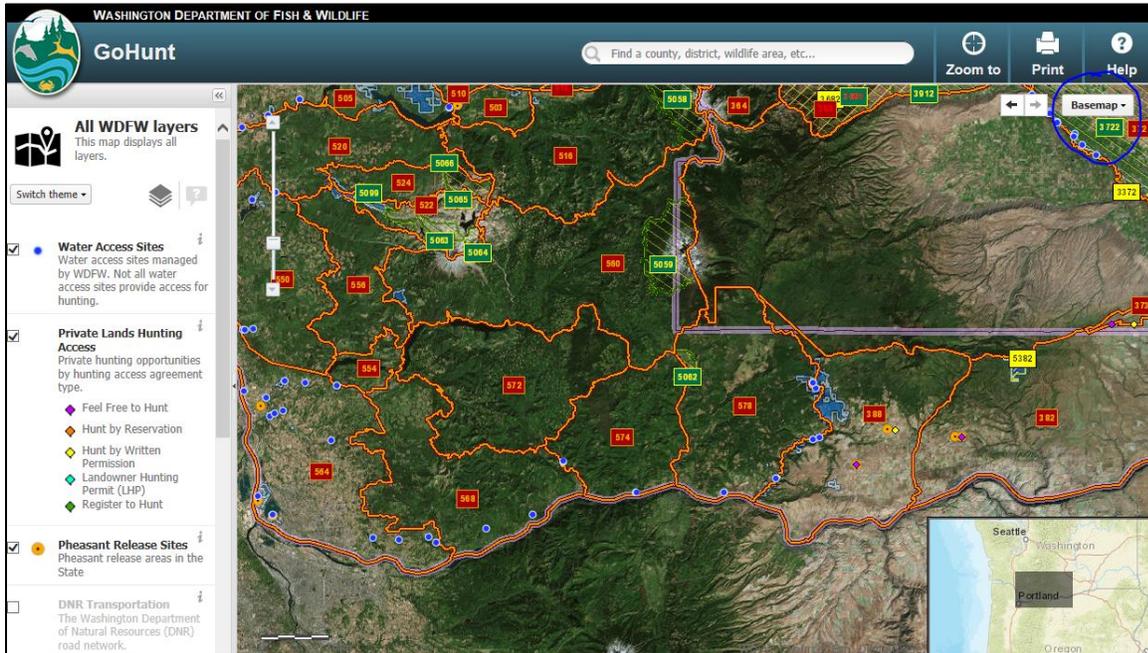
District 9 is one of the most diverse habitat areas of the state and includes westside west side coniferous forests dominated by Douglas fir and western hemlock. These forests give way to Oregon white oak and ponderosa pine as you travel to the east side of the Cascade Mountains. In eastern Klickitat County, pine and oak habitat transition into shrubsteppe dominated by grassland and sagebrush.

The majority of the westside forestland is dominated by the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and state land managed by the Department of Natural Resources. These are public lands open to public access. Weyerhaeuser owns a block of land in GMU 568 (Washougal) and scattered lands throughout GMU 578 (West Klickitat). Permits or leases are required for access to this land and information about recreation on Weyerhaeuser property can be found [here](#).

Eastside forest and shrubsteppe/grassland habitat is primarily privately owned with limited public access. Most industrial timber company lands are open to public hunting, but are generally not open to private motorized vehicles. Access to these lands may be restricted during the months of August, September, and in some cases, October, due to high fire danger. Most timber companies maintain recreational access hotlines where hunters can find out if the land is closed prior to hunting. You can find a list of recreational access websites and hotlines maintained by private industrial timber companies at the end of this document.

Hancock timberlands in GMU 578 (West Klickitat) are popular for hunting deer, elk, and turkey. More information about hunting on Hancock Klickitat timberlands can be found at the end of this document. Stevenson Land Company also owns scattered timberlands throughout GMU 578,

and information about recreation on their land can be found [here](#). The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has a Feel Free to Hunt access agreement with Western Pacific Timber in GMU 388 (Grayback). This land is popular for deer hunting. More information about hunting on Western Pacific Land can be found at the end of this document. More information about hunting opportunities on private land can be found on [WDFW's Private Lands webpage](#) or the [GoHunt mapping](#) site. The GoHunt mapping program has useful layers like GMU and elk/deer area boundaries, roads, wildlife areas, and different basemaps (public land, aerial photos, topography).



Clark County deer – Photo courtesy of Andrew Gaylor

## ELK



Lewis River elk – Photo courtesy of Jacob Cox

Elk in District 9 are managed as part of the Mount St. Helens Herd, which is described in the [St. Helens Elk Herd Plan](#) on the WDFW website. Also, see both the [Game Harvest Statistics](#) and [Game Status and Trend Reports](#) on the hunting page of the WDFW website for much more information on elk management in District 9.

Elk hunting within District 9 is managed under a variety of seasons, so check regulations closely before going afield. Hunters should be aware that GMUs 388 (Grayback) and 382 (East Klickitat) require eastern Washington elk tags, while the remainder of District 9 is within the western Washington elk tag area. Additionally, GMU 564 (Battle Ground) and 554 (Yale) are Firearm Restriction GMUs.

GMU 560 (Lewis River) offers the most opportunity for elk hunting in District 9. The majority of this area is public land within the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Access during the modern firearm season and hunter success can be dependent upon early season snow levels. GMUs 574 (Wind River), 572 (Siouxon), and 578 (West Klickitat) are all good elk units. GMUs 574 and

572 are primarily public U.S. Forest Service lands, while GMU 578 is primarily private land, so make sure you have good maps for identifying ownership in this area.

GMUs 388 and 382 in Klickitat County have very few elk and are generally considered better for deer hunting. GMU 564 in Clark County only has elk in the northern and eastern portions of the GMU. This area has a mix of public and private lands, and knowledge of ownership is important before planning your hunt in this area.

This fall's elk hunting will likely be affected by drought conditions. Some areas may be closed to both motorized and non-motorized access. Even in familiar areas, extra scouting is recommended because elk distribution may have changed and normal hunting lands may be closed due to fire danger.

### **ELK POPULATION INFORMATION**

Elk populations in the game management units comprising the Mount St. Helens elk herd area are down from historic high levels reached during the mid-2000s. This population reduction was implemented per the objectives of the [St. Helens Elk Herd Plan](#). Liberal antlerless elk hunting opportunity, combined with some years of late winter and spring storms, have reduced the elk population in these GMUs. Most recently, the winter of 2016-17 was unusually severe, with early snowfall and persistent cold, wet conditions throughout the winter. Severe winters have a larger impact when animals are in relatively poor condition entering the winter. Elk within the St. Helens herd typically lack large fat reserves to help with long, hard winters.

Reflecting these challenging conditions, the 2017 spring survey of elk in the monitored portions of the St. Helens herd showed a 30-35 percent reduction from 2016 numbers and antlerless hunting opportunity was reduced accordingly. As predicted, the 2017 hunt had low success. The winter of 2017-18 was much less severe, so elk populations should be increasing.

### **ELK HOOF DISEASE (TREPONEME BACTERIA)**

Since 2008, reports of elk with deformed, broken, or missing hooves have increased dramatically in southwest Washington, with sporadic observations in other areas west of the Cascade Range. While elk have long suffered from "hoof rot," a relatively common livestock disease, the rapid spread and severity of this new affliction was something completely different.

Scientific tests commissioned by WDFW in 2013 found that these abnormalities were strongly associated with treponeme bacteria, known to cause digital dermatitis in cattle, sheep and goats. Although this disease has plagued the dairy industry for decades, the treponeme bacteria had never been documented in elk or any other wildlife species until 2013.

Since then, WDFW has continued to work with scientists, veterinarians, outdoor organizations and others to develop management strategies for elk infected by treponeme-associated hoof disease (TAHD).

Several aspects of TAHD in elk are clear:

- **Vulnerability:** The disease appears to be highly infectious among elk, but there is no evidence that it affects humans. TAHD can affect any hoof in any elk, young or old, male or female.
- **Hooves only:** Tests show the disease is limited to animals' hooves, and does not affect their meat or organs. If the meat looks normal and if hunters harvest, process and cook it practicing good hygiene, it is probably safe to eat.
- **No treatment:** Currently, there is no vaccine to prevent the disease, nor are there any proven options for treating it in the field. Similar diseases in livestock are treated by cleaning and bandaging their hooves and giving them foot baths, but that is not a realistic option for free-ranging elk.

### **Counties with confirmed cases of TAHD**

As of July 2018, WDFW had confirmed cases of elk afflicted with TAHD in Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Lewis, Pacific, Pierce, Thurston, Mason, King, Skamania, Klickitat and Wahkiakum counties. The April 2018 discovery of TAHD in the Trout Lake Valley in western Klickitat County was the first documented east of the Cascades in Washington. Since 2015, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has also confirmed TAHD in elk populations in both western and eastern Oregon.

### **How hunters can help**

- **Leave hooves:** Scientists believe that treponeme bacteria are associated with moist soil and spread to new areas on the hooves of infected elk. For that reason, WDFW requires hunters to remove the hooves of any elk taken in affected areas and leave them onsite. During the 2018-19 hunting season, this rule applies to GMUs 407, 418, 437, 454, 501-578, 633, 636 and 642-699.
- **Report elk:** Hunters can help WDFW track TAHD by reporting observations of both affected and unaffected elk on the department's [online reporting form](#).
- **Clean shoes and tires:** Anyone who hikes or drives off-road in a known affected area can help minimize the risk of spreading the disease to new areas by removing all mud from their shoes and tires before leaving the area.

WDFW is currently studying the effects of the disease on Washington elk populations and has partnered with Washington State University to monitor and research the disease. For more

information on TAHD please see pages 66-68 of the [Big Game Hunting pamphlet](#) and the [WDFW hoof disease webpage](#).



Example of elk hooves deformed by TAHD

## DEER



Deer in GMU 568 – Photo courtesy of Eric Holman

Deer populations are generally stable in lower elevation units such as Washougal (568) and Battle Ground (564), as well as the West Klickitat (578) GMU. Deer harvest in Grayback (388) and East Klickitat (382) was lower in 2016 than in recent years, but post-season buck numbers improved in 2016. Deer populations are generally low in the Cascade Mountain GMUs,

including Lewis River (560), Wind River (574), and Siouxon (572). The extreme winter of 2016-17 undoubtedly had an effect on deer populations throughout District 9. December 2017 surveys indicated a decrease in the population, but spring 2018 surveys showed that fawn survival during the winter of 2017-18 was back to its historic average. Success rates in fall 2017 were very low, but should start to increase in fall 2018.

Deer harvest and success is remarkably consistent within District 9, where hunters are expected to harvest approximately 2,500 bucks during the 2018 general season. That would represent a success rate of 15-20 percent. Historical information on deer harvest trends in District 9 is available on the WDFW website under [Game Harvest Statistics](#) and [Game Status and Trend Reports](#).

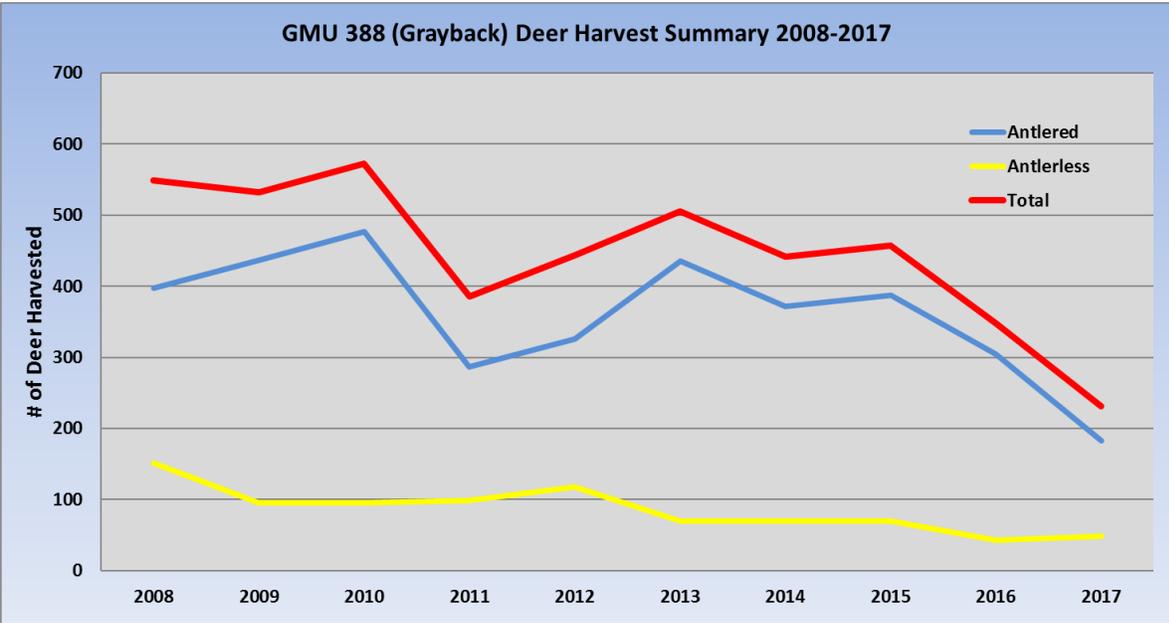
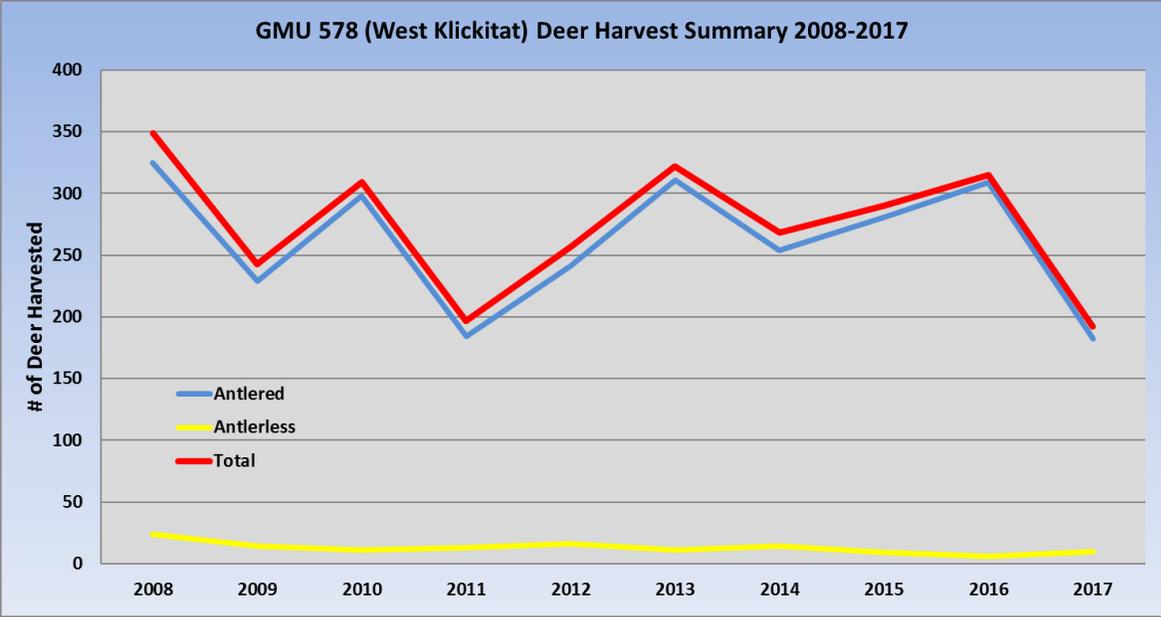
Successful hunting for black-tailed deer is primarily a function of the effort that hunters put into the hunt. Black-tailed deer thrive in heavily vegetated habitats and are often very nocturnal. This means that successful black-tailed deer hunters must be in position early in the morning and carefully hunt near sources of food and in secure cover.

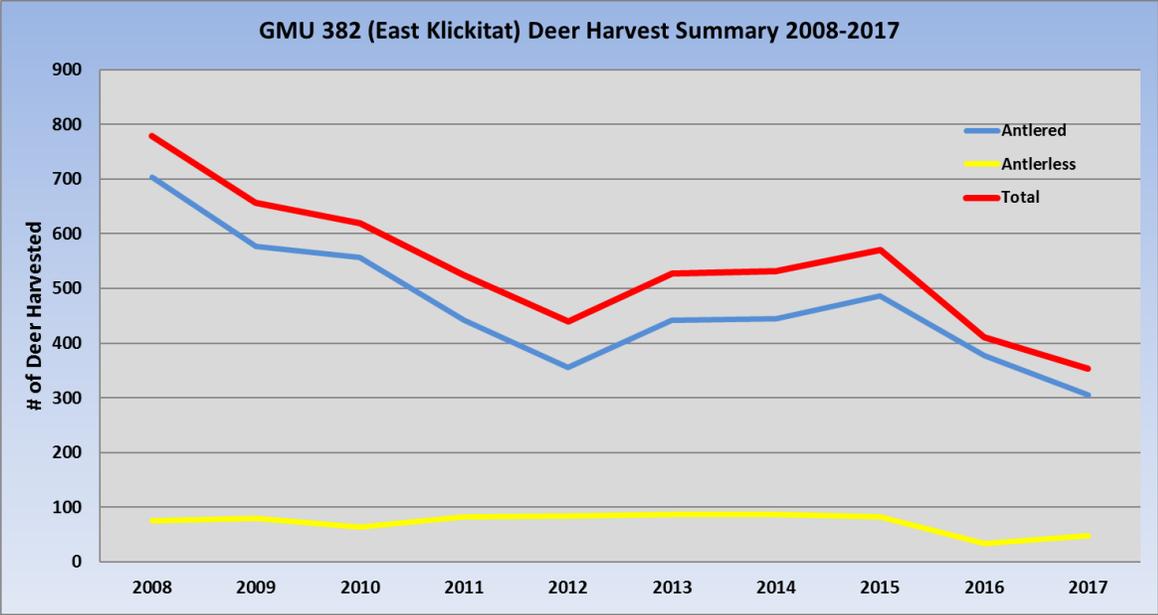
Bucks travel more during the rut, covering large amounts of territory searching for does in estrus. This makes bucks more vulnerable, as they spend less time hiding and are sometimes found in open habitats such as clear-cuts and meadows. Not surprisingly, approximately one-third of the annual buck harvest in Region 5 occurs during the four-day late buck hunt held each November.

Within District 9, GMUs 554 (Yale), 560 (Lewis River), 564 (Battle Ground), 568 (Washougal), and 572 (Siouxon) offer an attractive general season hunting opportunity. Hunters should note, however, the firearm restrictions in GMUs 554 and 564 (see page 90 of the [2018 Big Game Hunting Seasons and Regulations](#)).

Those interested in trophy hunting opportunities for deer might consider any of the Klickitat County units. GMU 578 (West Klickitat), GMU 388 (Grayback), and GMU 382 (East Klickitat) are all managed under a 3-point or larger antler restriction. Collectively, the Klickitat GMUs support an annual harvest of over a thousand 3-point or larger bucks. Hunters are advised to carefully review the regulations before going afield, as the rules differ in each unit and none of the Klickitat GMUs allow general season late buck hunting.

This fall's deer hunting seasons are likely to be affected by drought conditions. Some areas may be closed to both motorized and non-motorized access. Hunters are advised to do extra scouting even in familiar areas because deer distribution may have changed and normal hunting lands may be closed for fire danger.





## BEAR



District 9 is split between two black bear hunt zones for the fall bear hunting season. The South Cascades zone (GMUs 574, 572, 568, 564, and 560) is open to bear hunting from August 15-November 15, while the season in the East Cascades (GMUs 578, 388, and 382) runs from August 1-November 15. In 2017, hunters harvested 125 bears in the South Cascades (4.1 percent success rate) and 242 in the East Cascades zone (5.4 percent success rate). These success ratios are below the statewide average (6.4 percent).

All successful bear hunters must submit the premolar tooth in a tooth envelope. See page 70 of the [Big Game Hunting](#) pamphlet for details.

## COUGAR

Cougars are difficult to hunt and are typically harvested opportunistically by deer and elk hunters. The early cougar hunting season runs from September 1 to December 31. A season harvest guideline system was initiated in 2012, which closes hunt areas after January 1 if the harvest guidelines have been met or exceeded. For more information on these new guidelines and to check if the area you are interested in hunting is closed, see the [cougar webpage](#). All successful cougar hunters must report their harvest to the hotline (1-866-364-4868) within 72 hours and all cougar pelts must be sealed by WDFW within five days of harvest. Contact a [WDFW office](#) to make an appointment to have a cougar pelt sealed.

## WATERFOWL



Goose Hunting in Clark County – Photo courtesy of Brad Cady

### GOOSE HUNTING

Hunters in Goose Management Area 2 (Clark County in District 9) are reminded of the complex goose hunting regulations designed to protect wintering populations of the dusky Canada goose. New hunters and those whose hunting authorization was invalidated for Area 2 during the previous year need to pass an exam with a minimum of 80 percent to receive authorization for the current year.

Very little goose hunting is available in Skamania County. Goose hunting in Klickitat County is limited and primarily associated with private lands. Permission is always necessary for access to these sites. Check the [waterfowl pamphlet](#) for more information on season length and bag limits. Like last year, in the daily goose limit to 20 geese per day as shown below.

### New daily goose limits

Hunters may take the number of geese indicated for each group each day during the 2017-18 hunting season.

- **Canada geese** (4 per day): Includes Cackling, Taverner's, Aleutian, Western, Vancouver, and Lesser Canada geese.
- **White geese** (6 per day): Includes Snow and Ross's geese.
- **Pacific white-fronted geese** (10 per day): A single population that nests on the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta south to Bristol Bay.

### RECENT SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO AREA 2 GOOSE HUNTING

Goose hunting in Clark, Cowlitz, and Wahkiakum counties is subject to the additional restrictions of Goose Management Area 2 Inland, which are in place to protect the dusky subspecies of the Canada goose. Goose hunters are encouraged to review the different subspecies of Canada geese in southwest Washington and are reminded that the ability to identify the different subspecies is the key to productive and enjoyable goose hunting.

The Fish and Wildlife Commission has approved the following regulations for the 2018-19 southwest Washington goose season in cooperation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the states of Oregon and Alaska:

- The season for dusky Canada geese is **closed** and hunters will be cited for taking a dusky Canada goose.
- Goose hunting hours extended to 30 minutes after the start of official waterfowl hunting hours to 30 minutes before the end of official waterfowl hunting hours (same as other goose hunting areas of the state).
- Hunters are now required to record harvest on a harvest card that will be printed out when they purchase their license.
- Area 2 is now split between the Coast (Pacific and portion of Grays Harbor west of Highway 101) and Inland (Clark, Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, portion of Grays Harbor east of Highway 101).
- General season ending dates are extended to March (late season discontinued). All hunters can now participate in the February-March season, but hunting will not be allowed on National Wildlife Refuges or WDFW wildlife areas during this season.
- The goose hunting season will be open every day from September 1-9 as well as October 13-28, 2018.

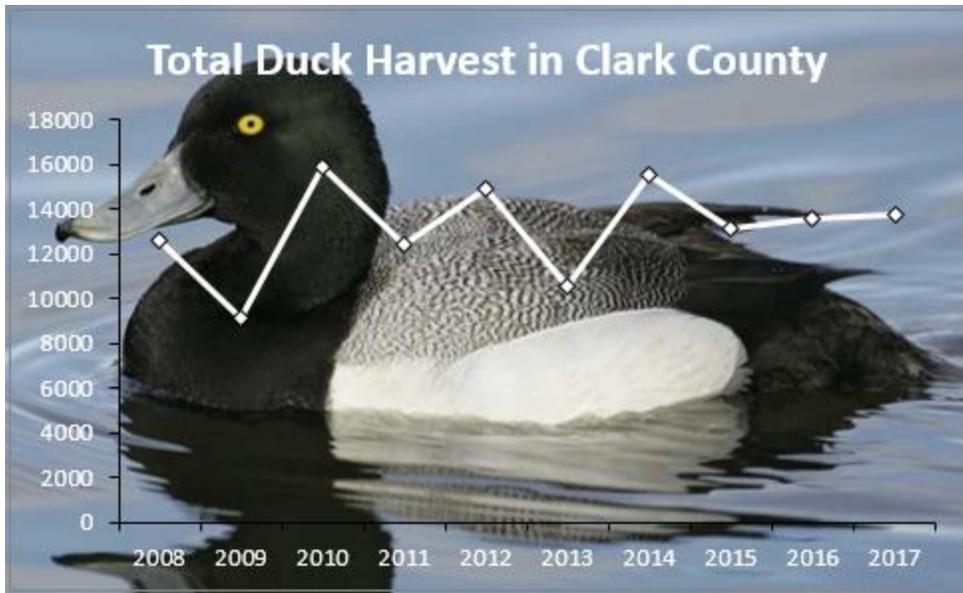
Hunters are advised to review the revised goose identification [training program](#) prior to hunting this season and check the 2018-19 WDFW Migratory Waterfowl and Upland Game Seasons pamphlet for more information. Wildlife managers are relying on southwest goose hunters to make this new season format successful, so goose hunting can remain open in permit zones.

Most public goose hunting in Clark County is located in the Vancouver lowlands and Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge. Hunter access to Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge is by reservation.



## **DUCK HUNTING**

Duck hunting this fall should be good, based on breeding season reports from British Columbia and Alaska. The Fish and Wildlife Commission has approved a liberal season of 107 days (two-day youth hunt, 105-day general hunt) and a daily bag limit of seven ducks. Like Canada goose hunting, most public access for duck hunting in Clark County is limited to the Vancouver lowlands and Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge.



The following sources provide excellent information on North American waterfowl populations:

<http://flyways.us/>

<http://flyways.us/duck-identification-resources>

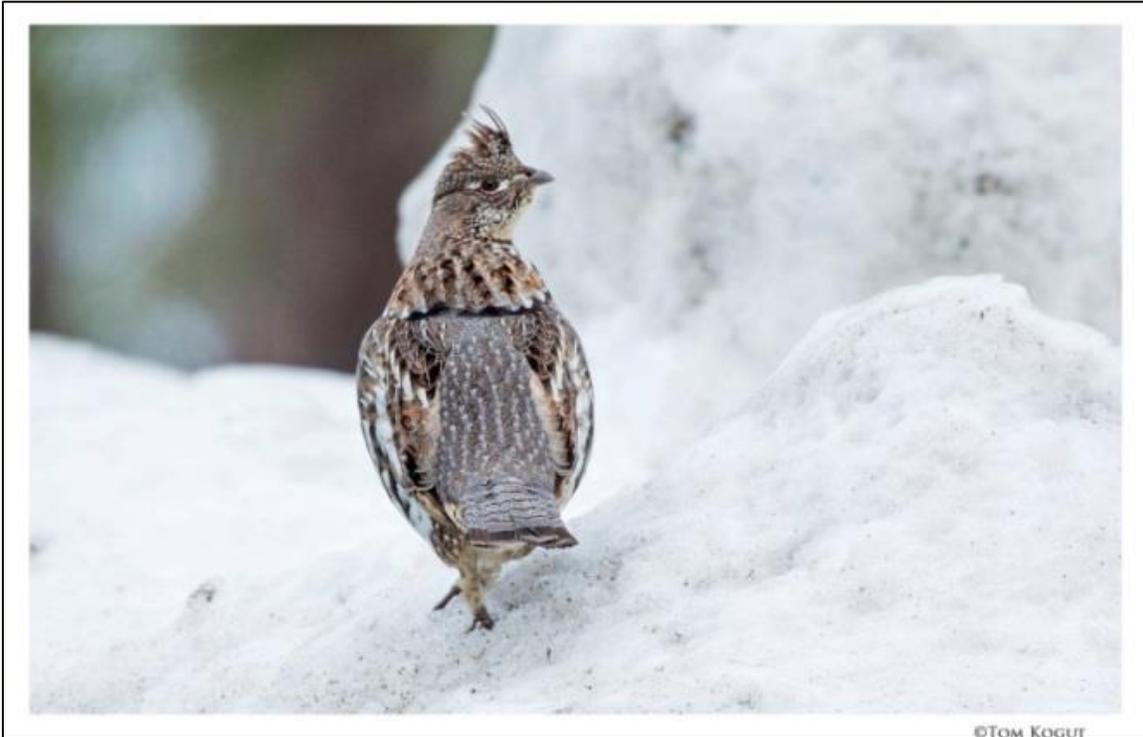
<https://www.fws.gov/birds/surveys-and-data/reports-and-publications/population-status.php>

<http://www.flyways.us/status-of-waterfowl/pilot-reports>

## DOVE

Dove hunting in District 9 is primarily associated with Clark and Klickitat counties. Dove harvest in Clark County was down in 2017. Dove hunting opportunity exists on WDFW lands in the Vancouver lowlands, including the Shillapoo Wildlife Area. Most hunting opportunity in Klickitat County is limited to private hunt clubs in the eastern part of the county. Opportunity is limited because little quality public land exists for dove hunting in Klickitat County unless one has access to private lands.

## FOREST GROUSE



Grouse numbers are expected to be average in select forested areas for the 2018 hunting season. The winter of 2017-18 was about average and the spring of 2018 was relatively mild. Grouse harvest throughout District 9 in 2017 generally decreased, although participation was about average. Skamania County, which is predominately public ownership, provides hunters with the most opportunity in the district. In District 9, the predominance of quality grouse habitat is located on USFS lands in Skamania County and selected areas of the Simcoe Mountains west of Highway 97 in Klickitat County.

Most grouse harvest in District 9 is associated with general deer and elk hunting seasons, as birds are hunted opportunistically. Prospective hunters should focus hunting efforts on brushy riparian zones or overgrown abandoned logging roads for the best chance at success, especially for ruffed grouse. Hunters interested in forest grouse will improve their chances by scouting areas prior to their hunt.



Young hunter in Skamania County – Photo courtesy of Pete Nelson

## PHEASANT



Pheasant hunting in Clark County – Photo courtesy of Brad Cady

District 9 has very little wild production of pheasants, especially compared to other areas of eastern Washington. In the western Washington portion of the district in Clark County, most pheasant hunting is associated with the Vancouver Lake and Shillapoo release areas. Essentially all hunting opportunities are associated with pen-raised birds and the formalized release sites in Klickitat County (Eastern Washington Pheasant Release Sites) and Clark County (Western

Washington Pheasant Release Sites). Additional information about these sites, as well as others in the state of Washington, can be found [online](#).

Details about each of the pheasant hunting sites are listed below.

## **CLARK COUNTY PHEASANT RELEASE SITES**

### **Shillapoo Wildlife Area**

The Vancouver Lake and Shillapoo release sites are on WDFW-owned land and comprise approximately 1,450 acres. To reach both the Vancouver Lake and Shillapoo release sites, take the Fourth Plain Blvd. exit (exit #1D) off I-5. Go west on Fourth Plain Blvd. For the Vancouver Lake release site, head north on Fruit Valley Road, then west on La Frombois Road to the site. For the Shillapoo release site, stay on Lower River Road to the site. Keep in mind that these areas are extremely popular on Saturdays, with typically more than 100 vehicles using the Shillapoo release sites.

## **KLICKITAT COUNTY PHEASANT RELEASE SITES**

Approximately 400 pheasants are released at three sites in Klickitat County each year. One is located on department-owned land, and the others are on land owned by a private individual. Please treat the properties respectfully so future visitors may enjoy these sites as well. All sites are for day-use only, and no overnight camping is allowed. These sites are relatively undeveloped, with primitive road access. Roads may become slippery when wet, and soil will become extremely soft with fall rains and snow. Be cautious in selecting parking places next to roads in order to avoid becoming stuck. Driving off-road across fields is never allowed, regardless of season.

### **Goldendale Hatchery Pheasant Release Site**

This 240-acre site is owned by WDFW. It is bounded by Hill Road on the west side and Fish Hatchery Road on the north side.

From Goldendale, drive west on Highway 142 approximately four miles to the intersection with Hill Road. Drive about one half mile north on Hill Road, across the bridge over Spring Creek, then turn east on a dirt road onto WDFW property. This road goes into the center of the property.

Note: The hatchery facilities are located along the east boundary of the parcel. Please stay away from the immediate vicinity of the buildings to protect worker safety.

### **Gun Club Property**

This 480-acre site is privately owned. It is bounded by Rogers Road on the north and Fenton Lane to the east.

From the intersection with Broadway Street in Goldendale, drive east on the Bickleton Highway 5.6 miles to the intersection with Purvine Road. Turn right (south) on Purvine Road and drive 0.9 miles to the T intersection with Rogers Road. Go either left or right on Rogers Road and look for wire gates accessing the property. There are two gates. Both are marked with signs exhibiting the WDFW logo. Park along Rogers Road, outside the fence, and walk in. Purvine Road may be impassible when wet. For an alternative access, go east another mile on the Bickleton Highway, and turn right (south) on Fenton Lane. Follow Fenton Lane south one mile to its intersection with Rogers Road. Turn right (west) onto Rogers Road, and drive about 0.1 mile west to a gate and parking area.

### **Finn Ridge Road Property**

This 80-acre site is privately owned. It is bounded by the Finn Ridge Road along the south property line and Ahola Road to the west.

From Centerville, drive two miles west on the Centerville Highway to a 90-degree bend in the highway to the south. Turn right (north) on Erickson Road. Drive one mile to the intersection with the Finn Ridge Road. Turn left (west) onto Finn Ridge Road and follow it about 1.5 miles to the first sign marking the corner of the site, on the right. It is marked with green Feel Free to Hunt signs.



Pheasant release in Klickitat County – Photo by Susan Van Leuven

## QUAIL, GRAY PARTRIDGE, AND CHUKAR



Conditions in the spring of 2018 have been more favorable than last year, with higher temperatures and lower precipitation levels in District 9. Expect upland bird hunting in GMUs 388 and 382 to be average or above average for 2018. Most access for upland bird hunting is restricted to private lands and hunt clubs in eastern Klickitat County. Hunters interested in hunting this area should seek access permission in advance of the season. Most hunt clubs have waiting lists for new members, so access is difficult without membership for those lands.

## TURKEY



Klickitat Spring Turkey Hunt – Photo courtesy of Sally McKerney

Wild turkey populations in Klickitat County continue to be healthy, so hunting conditions for the fall of 2018 should be typical for this area. The 2018 fall season in Klickitat County is open to

general season hunting, so no permit is required. Fall hunt dates are Sept. 22 to Oct. 12, 2018, and the bag limit is one either sex turkey.

The majority of quality hunting areas in Klickitat County are below 1,500 feet. Popular hunting areas are generally associated with the Big White Salmon and Klickitat River drainages. East of the Klickitat River, small turkey populations are found in the Simcoe Mountains north and west of the town of Goldendale. Numerous landowners have issues with turkey damage on private property in the lower Klickitat River drainage, from the town of Klickitat south. WDFW periodically receives reports from landowners in the White Salmon area that are having issues with turkeys on their lands. Private landowners may be willing to provide access to turkey hunters that ask for permission and practice good hunter ethics.

Outside of Klickitat County, there is little opportunity for turkey hunting within the district. In Skamania County, turkey populations are located primarily to the east between the Wind River and Underwood. Most turkeys are found below 1,000 feet in elevation. In most cases, hunters interested in this area will need to contact private landowners. Clark County offers little to no turkey hunting opportunity.



Turkeys in the Klickitat River drainage

## PUBLIC LAND RESOURCES

### **DNR-Pacific Cascades Office (SW WA)**

601 Bond Road  
PO Box 280  
Castle Rock, WA 98611-0280  
Phone: 360-577-2025  
[pacific-cascade.region@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:pacific-cascade.region@dnr.wa.gov)

### **DNR-Southeast Region Office (Klickitat County)**

713 Bowers Road  
Ellensburg, WA 98926-9301  
Phone: 509-925-8510  
[southeast.region@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:southeast.region@dnr.wa.gov)

Link to purchase DNR quad maps:

[http://www.dnr.wa.gov/BusinessPermits/Topics/Maps/Pages/public\\_land\\_quadrangle\\_maps.aspx](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/BusinessPermits/Topics/Maps/Pages/public_land_quadrangle_maps.aspx)  
[x](#)

### **Gifford Pinchot National Forest**

Link to purchase ranger district maps:

[http://www.nationalforeststore.com/merchant.mvc?Screen=CTGY&Store\\_Code=NFS&Category\\_Code=R6WA](http://www.nationalforeststore.com/merchant.mvc?Screen=CTGY&Store_Code=NFS&Category_Code=R6WA)

## PRIVATE LANDS

There are private lands of various sizes that are open to hunting for different game species. Private Lands Access is available through different types of access:

- [Feel Free to Hunt](#)
- [Register to Hunt](#)
- [Hunt by Written Permission](#)
- [Hunt by Reservation](#)

You can search for lands by GMU or county here:

[https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/hunting\\_access/private\\_land\\_search.php](https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/hunting_access/private_land_search.php)

## PRIVATE INDUSTRIAL FORESTLANDS

### **Hancock Forest Management (HFM)**

#### HFM Klickitat Timberlands

- Generally open to walk-in access with motorized access through property via county roads
- Access hotline (509) 364-3331

### **SDS (Stevenson Land Company or Broughton)**

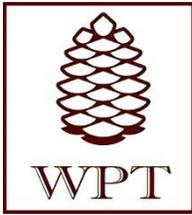
- Generally open to walk-in access. More information at <http://stevensonlandcompany.com/recreation-opportunities/>

### **Weyerhaeuser**

- Recreational access hotline-866-636-6531, recreation webpage at <https://wyrecreationnw.com/permits>
- Access varies by tree farm
  - St. Helens Tree Farm
    - Access is by permit only and permits can be purchased on the website above. Please see website for details, including maps.
  - Yacolt (Columbia River East) – Washougal GMU 568
    - Access is by permit only and permits can be purchased on the website above. Please see website for details, including maps.
  - Skamania/Klickitat Counties
    - Access is by Recreational Lease only. Please see website for details, including maps.

### **Western Pacific Timber**

- The majority of these lands are enrolled in WDFW's Feel Free to Hunt Program. The lands are open to walk-in access only, with the exception of county roads that run through the property and remain open for motorized access.
- Contact the WPT Boise office (208) 343-6074 for closure updates.



## Western Pacific Timber



Western Pacific Timber (WPT) maintains over 65,000 acres of private land open to the public, in cooperation with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Help us all maintain access to these lands by being a respectful and courteous visitor. Public access to WPT's land is a privilege, not a right. Please treat their lands with respect so this privilege can continue.

### Western Pacific Timber, LLC Rules & Recreation Policy

- All WPT lands in Klickitat County east of Highway 97 are closed to public entry.
- WPT land in Klickitat County, west of Highway 97 is open to non-motorized recreation and snowmobiling. Vehicles are permitted on roads outside of the gated area unless otherwise posted.
- From time to time it is necessary to close areas to public entry due to forest operations; this is for the safety of the public and their contractors/employees. Please respect these temporary closures.
- During periods of extreme fire danger, WPT will close their lands to all public entry. Closures are listed on their website, posted at all gates, and notification is given to the local newspapers. For 2018, this closure will begin on July 28.
- Motorized vehicles are not allowed behind any gate, **whether it is open or closed**.
- Do not block gates.
- Camping is allowed for a maximum of 14 consecutive days.
- Please pack out all trash.
- **The following are strictly prohibited:**
  - Fires of any kind
  - Incendiary devices i.e. fireworks, exploding targets, etc.
  - Dumping
  - Commercial gathering of forest products
  - Firewood cutting
  - Damage of any kind to standing timber, existing structures, or roads
  - Mudding

## **Violators will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law**

Help us by reporting vandalism or other violations. The misdeeds of a few may mean loss of access for everyone! For non-emergency poaching/violations call 1-877-933-9847. For poaching in progress and other emergencies, dial 911.