



WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Master Hunter Permit Program Renewal



Non-Refundable Renewal Fee: \$25.00

NOTE: Individuals who do not meet the requirements set forth in WAC 220-412-030(8) - Master Hunter Permit Program, may not renew their Master Hunter Permit.

WILD ID # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Form fields for personal information: Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial, Date Of Birth, Gender (Male/Female), Mailing Address, City, State, Zip Code, County, Home Phone, Cell Phone, E-Mail.

Chapter 77.32.570 RCW provides authority to conduct criminal background checks for Master Hunters Permit Program renewals. By signing this form and submitting your non-refundable renewal fee you specifically authorize the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to conduct your criminal background check.

The criminal background check requirement and renewal fee apply to every certified Master Hunter for renewal.

Accountability standards and criteria to determine suspensions for certified Master Hunters were established by the state legislature. These criteria will be applied in the criminal background checks and during the period of validity for Master Hunter permits.

I understand that WDFW will conduct a criminal background check applying the accountability standards outlined above and will apply the same standards during the period of validity of my Master Hunter Permit. I further certify under penalty of perjury that I have not violated any of the above standards during the time frames in which they will be applied, and understand that any misrepresentation or concealment of material fact will be sufficient grounds for rejection of my renewal request for a Master Hunter permit.

I hereby authorize WDFW to conduct the necessary criminal background check by my signature below.

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

Master Hunter Permit Number \_\_\_\_\_

Retain a copy for your records. Return completed application, renewal fee (check or money order payable to WDFW Master Hunter), and all approved Proof of Service form(s) to:

WDFW, Master Hunter Section, Wildlife Program, PO Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98501-1091

**WAC 220-412-030 -Master hunter permit program** (partial WAC that pertains to renewals)

(1) In order to effectively manage wildlife in areas or at times when a higher proficiency and demonstrated skill level are needed for resource protection or public safety, the department establishes the master hunter permit program.

(2) The master hunter permit program emphasizes safe, ethical, responsible, and lawful hunting practices. Program goals include improving the public's perception of hunting and perpetuating the highest hunting standards. A master hunter permit is required to participate in controlled hunts to eliminate problem animals that damage property or threaten public safety.

- a) The cost of initially applying for a master hunter permit shall be fifty dollars. The cost of renewing a master hunter permit shall be twenty-five dollars.
- b) The department shall determine the program's requirements and curriculum. The director shall establish an advisory group to assist agency staff in developing and managing the program.

(6) Master hunters renewing their permit shall authorize the department to conduct a criminal background check each time they renew. The criminal background check will go back five years from the master hunter's anniversary date or back to the date this rule amendment was adopted, whichever period of time is shorter. The department's approval will be determined by compliance with this section.

(7) Persons who successfully complete the master hunter permit program and maintain the requirements developed by the department may participate in special hunts. These master hunters must possess a valid master hunter permit while participating in the hunts.

(8) The department shall suspend a master hunter's permit for life if the master hunter:

- a) Pays the required fine or is convicted of a chapter 77.15 RCW misdemeanor, gross misdemeanor, or felony;
- b) Pays the required fine or is convicted of criminal trespass, reckless endangerment, criminal conspiracy, or making a false statement to law enforcement, while hunting, fishing, or engaging in any activity regulated by the department;
- c) Pays the required fine or is convicted of a felony prohibiting the possession of firearms, unless firearm possession is reinstated;
- d) Has his or her hunting or fishing license revoked, or hunting or fishing license privileges suspended in Washington or in another state; or
- e) Submitted fraudulent information to the department.

(9) A master hunter who pays the required fine or is found to have committed an infraction under chapter 77.15 RCW or the department's rules shall have his or her master hunter permit suspended for a period of two years.

(10) If a master hunter is cited, or charged by complaint, for a chapter 77.15 RCW offense; or for trespass, reckless endangerment, criminal conspiracy, or making a false statement to law enforcement, while hunting, fishing, or engaging in any activity regulated by the department, the department may immediately suspend the person's master hunter permit until the offense has been adjudicated.

(11) The department's master hunter coordinator will maintain open communications with landowners and the community. The department will investigate written accusations about master hunters and determine whether such complaints have merit and warrant enforcement action.

(12) Except under subsection (10) of this section, if a master hunter has his or her initial or renewal master hunter permit suspended for less than life, and the person wants to become a master hunter again, he or she must repeat the entire master hunter permit application process once the suspension period is over.

(13) Any person who has been denied initial admission into the master hunter permit program, renewal of his or her master hunter permit, or has had his or her master hunter permit suspended, has the right to an administrative hearing to contest the agency action. Such hearing will be held pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW, the Administrative Procedure Act. Initial master hunter permit applicants who fail to submit the application fee or who submit an incomplete application will have their application returned. Denial of admission on these grounds does not trigger the right to an administrative hearing.