

Elk General Seasons and Special Permits - Decision

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Summary Sheet

Meeting dates: April 9-11, 2020

Agenda item: Elk General Seasons and Special Permits

Presenter(s): Brock Hoenes, Ungulate Section Manager

Background summary: The commission will adopt or amend department recommended rule changes for:

- WAC 220-415-050 2018-2020 Elk general seasons and definitions.
- WAC 220-415-060 2019 Elk special permits.

Staff presented several recommendations in March 2020 that were minor or administrative in nature, and the Department does not recommend any changes from what was presented at that time.

Given the current status of the Colockum (~18% below objective) and the Yakima (~14% below objective) elk herds, the Department postponed the development of a final recommendation to the Commission until 2019 harvest data and 2020 survey data become available. Department staff met on March 17 to develop the recommendations as presented below.

Staff recommendation:

Colockum Elk Herd

GMUs: 249, 251, 328, 329, 330, 334, 335
Core Herd Area: GMUs 328 and 329

Population surveys indicate the Colockum elk herd declined by an additional 300-400 elk from spring 2019 to spring 2020 and is currently 18% below objective. Antlerless harvest averaged 327 elk during the 2018 and 2019 hunting seasons. Without a substantial reduction in the harvest of antlerless elk during the 2020 season, the Colockum elk herd is likely to experience further declines. To promote population stability or growth, the Department is proposing the following recommendations with the objective of harvesting no more than 100 antlerless elk, to include elk harvested in association with efforts to mitigate conflict issues:

1. Eliminate opportunities to harvest antlerless elk during early and late general archery seasons in GMUs 328 and 329.
2. Retain opportunities to harvest antlerless elk during general archery seasons in areas where the Department does not manage for large numbers of elk (GMUs 249, 334, and 335).
3. Offset some of the opportunity lost by issuing a limited number of special permits that allow archery hunters to harvest antlerless elk. Special permit season dates will overlap general season dates and will include 75 permits during the early season and 20 permits during the late season.
4. Reduce the number of modern firearm special permits for antlerless elk from 85 to 45.
5. Reduce the number of muzzleloader special permits for antlerless elk from 60 to 30.
6. Eliminate special permits opportunities to harvest antlerless elk for Youth (30), Senior (65+, 15 permits), and Hunters w/ Disabilities (10 permits).

Yakima Elk Herd

GMUs: 336, 340, 342, 346, 352, 356, 360, 364, 368, 371, 372

Core Herd Area: GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346, 352, 356, 360, 364, 368

The Yakima herd was approximately 14% below objective when the Department conducted population surveys in spring 2019. We were not able to conduct a population survey to estimate abundance in 2020 because mild winter conditions prevented elk from concentrating on traditional winter range. However, the Department classified approximately 4,000 elk on feed sites throughout winter and estimated the calf:cow ratio to be 19:100. The only other time calf:cow ratios have been documented this low for the Yakima herd was following the severe winter of 2016/2017. Although the Department was not able to estimate abundance, it is likely the Yakima herd declined again in 2020 with calf:cow ratios this low, or at best, remained stable.

Antlerless harvest averaged 275 elk during the 2018 and 2019 hunting seasons. Without a reduction in the harvest of antlerless elk during the 2020 season, the Yakima herd is likely to experience further declines. To promote population stability or growth, the Department is proposing the following recommendations with the objective of harvesting no more than 150 antlerless elk, to include elk harvested in association with efforts to mitigate conflict issues.

1. Eliminate all opportunities to harvest antlerless elk during early and late general archery seasons in GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346, 352, 356, 364, and Elk Area 3681.
2. Offset some of the opportunity lost by issuing a limited number of special permits that allow archery hunters to harvest antlerless elk. Special permit season dates will overlap general season dates and will include 280 permits during the early season and 110 permits during the late season.
3. Reduce the number of modern firearm special permits for antlerless elk from 170 to 75.
4. Reduce the number of muzzleloader special permits for antlerless elk from 100 to 60.
5. Reduce the number of special permits for Youth hunters to harvest antlerless elk in the core area from 50 to 26 and add 30 Youth permits in GMU 371.
6. Reduce the number of special permits for Senior (65+) hunters to harvest antlerless elk in the core area from 30 to 21.
7. Reduce the number of special permits for Hunters w/ Disabilities to harvest antlerless elk in the core area from 20 to 11.

Policy issue(s) and expected outcome:

- Maximize recreational elk hunting opportunity.
- Continue sustainable hunting seasons for elk
- Clarify language to avoid confusion for hunters.

Fiscal impacts of agency implementation:

None.

Public involvement process used and what you learned:

The department provided public input opportunity on proposed hunting seasons via the department website for a three-week time period. Additionally, these individuals and organizations were informed of the opportunity to provide verbal testimony at the March 13-14, 2020 Commission meeting. Due to COVID-19 measures the public comment period was extended to allow people that could not attend the commission meeting additional opportunity

to comment.

Please see the attached summary of public comment form.

Action requested and/or proposed next steps:

Recommend adoption of these rules as presented.

Draft motion language:

Motion: I move to adopt the recommended rule changes as presented by staff.

Is there a "second"?

Is so, then motion maker discusses basis for motion; other Commissioners discuss views on motion; amendments, if any, proposed and addressed.

Post decision communications plan:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Website
News Release
Hunting Regulation Pamphlet

Form revised 2-15-18

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-20-078, filed 9/27/19, effective 10/28/19)

WAC 220-415-050 2018-2020 Elk general seasons and definitions.

It is unlawful to fail to comply with bag, possession, and season limits described below. A violation of this section is punishable under RCW 77.15.410 Unlawful hunting of big game—Penalty.

Bag Limit: One (1) elk per hunter during the license year, except where otherwise permitted by department rule. Any combination of seasons, tags, and permits set by the department will not exceed a maximum of two (2) elk per hunter during the license year.

Hunting Method: Elk hunters must select only one of the hunting methods: Modern firearm, archery, or muzzleloader.

Elk Tag Areas: Elk hunters must choose either Eastern or Western Washington to hunt in and buy the appropriate tag for that area.

Any Bull Elk Seasons: Open only to the taking of elk with visible antlers; bull calves are illegal.

Antler Point: To qualify as an antler point, the point must be at least one inch long, measured on the longest side.

Branch: A branch is defined as any projection off the main antler beam that is at least one inch long, measured on the longest side, and longer than it is wide.

Spike Bull Antler Restrictions: Bull elk taken in spike-only game management units (GMUs) must have at least one antler with no branches originating more than 4 inches above where the antler attaches to the skull.

Spike-only GMUs: 145-154, 162-186, 249, and 336-368.

True Spike - Bull Antler Restrictions: Neither antler of bull elk taken in GMUs 251, and 328-335 can have branching originating more than 4 inches above where the antlers attach to the skull. Under the true-spike restriction, taking an elk that has two points on one side or antler points within one inch of the definitions regarding length of point, or point of origination, is an infraction under RCW 77.15.160. All other types of violations of the true-spike restriction are subject to current penalties and assessments under RCW 77.15.410 and 77.15.420.

True-spike GMUs: 251, 328-335.

3-point Antler Restrictions: Legal bull elk must have at least 3 antler points on one side. Eye guards are antler points when they are

at least one inch long. Antler restrictions apply to all hunters during any open season.

3-point GMUs: All of Western Washington, except for GMUs 448, 454, 564, 652 for archers, 666, 684, and Elk Area 4941.

Permit-only Units: The following GMUs are closed to elk hunting during general elk seasons: 157, 371, 418, 485, 522, 556, 621, 636, and 653.

GMUs Closed to Elk Hunting: 437 (except for Elk Area 4941) and 490.

Areas with Special Restrictions: There are modern firearm restrictions in GMU 334 and portions of GMU 660. GMU 554 is open only for early archery and muzzleloader seasons. Elk Area 6064 in GMU 638 (Quinault) is open to master hunters only.

Elk Tag Areas

Eastern Washington: All 100, 200, and 300 GMUs.

EA - Eastern Washington Archery Tag

EF - Eastern Washington Modern Firearm General Elk Tag

EM - Eastern Washington Muzzleloader Tag

Western Washington: All 400, 500, and 600 GMUs.

WA - Western Washington Archery Tag

WF - Western Washington Modern Firearm General Elk Tag

WM - Western Washington Muzzleloader Tag

Modern Firearm General Elk Seasons

License Required: A valid big game hunting license with an elk tag option.

Tag Required: A valid modern firearm elk tag as listed below for the area hunted.

Hunting Method: May use modern firearm, bow and arrow, crossbow, or muzzleloader, but only during modern firearm seasons.

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	2018 Dates	2019 Dates	2020 Dates	Legal Elk
Eastern Washington	EF	101, 105, 108, 111, 113, 117, 121, 204	Oct. 27 - Nov. 4	Oct. 26 - Nov. 3	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Any bull
		145 through 154, 162 through 169, 172 (except Elk Area 1040), 175 through 186, 249, 336 through 368	Oct. 27 - Nov. 4	Oct. 26 - Nov. 3	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Spike bull
		251, 328, 329, 334, 335	Oct. 27 - Nov. 4	Oct. 26 - Nov. 3	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	True spike bull
		Elk Area 3722*	Sept. 8-23	Sept. 7-22	Sept. 12-27	Antlerless only
		124 through 142, 372, 382, 388	Oct. 27 - Nov. 4	Oct. 26 - Nov. 3	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Any elk
		203, 209 through 248, 250, 254 through 290, 373, 379, 381	Oct. 27 - Nov. 15	Oct. 26 - Nov. 15	Oct. 31 - Nov. 15	Any elk
		Master Hunters Only: ((374,)) Elk Areas 3911 and 3912. Must wear hunter orange and/or hunter pink.	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2019	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2020	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2021	Antlerless only
		<u>Master Hunters Only: 371. Must wear hunter orange and/or hunter pink.</u>			<u>Aug. 1 - Oct. 15</u>	<u>Antlerless only</u>
		Master Hunters Only: 127, 130	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Antlerless only
*GMU 372 and Elk Area 3722 are mainly private property. Hunters are not advised to try hunting these areas without making prior arrangements for access.						
Western Washington	WF	460, 466, 503, 505 through 520, 524 (except CLOSED in Elk Area 5066), 530, 550, 560, 568, 572, 574, 578, 601 through 618, 624 (except for Elk Area 6071), 627, 633, 638 (except master hunters only in Elk Area 6064 portion of GMU 638), 642 through 651, 652 (except for Elk Area 6014), 654	Nov. 3-14	Nov. 2-13	Nov. 7-18	3 pt. min.

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	2018 Dates	2019 Dates	2020 Dates	Legal Elk
		((through)), 658, 660, 667 through 684.				
		501, 504, 663, Elk Area 6014	Nov. 3-14	Nov. 2-13	Nov. 7-18	3 pt. min. or antlerless
		407, 448, 564, 666	Nov. 3-14	Nov. 2-13	Nov. 7-18	Any elk
		454	Nov. 3-14	Nov. 2-13	Nov. 7-18	Any bull

Archery General Elk Seasons

License Required: A valid big game hunting license with an elk tag option.

Tag Required: A valid archery elk tag as listed below for the area hunted.

Hunting Method: Bow and arrow only, as defined under WAC 220-414-070.

Special Notes: Archery tag holders can hunt only during archery seasons and must hunt with archery equipment (WAC 220-414-070).

Archery elk hunters may apply for special bull permits. Please see permit table for tag eligibility for all elk permits.

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	2018 Dates	2019 Dates	2020 Dates	Legal Elk
Early Archery General Elk Seasons						
Eastern Washington	EA	101 through 142, 204, 243, 247, 249, 250, 373, 379, 381, 388	Sept. 8-20	Sept. 7-19	Sept. 12-24	Any elk
		162, 166, 169, 172 (except Elk Area 1040), 175, 186, 336, 340, 352, 356, 364	Sept. 8-20	Sept. 7-19	Sept. 12-24	Spike bull
		328, 329, 336, 340, 352, 356, 364	Sept. 15-20	Sept. 14-19		Antlerless
		328, 329	Sept. 8-20	Sept. 7-19	Sept. 12-24	True spike bull
		334, 335	Sept. 8-20	Sept. 7-19	Sept. 12-24	True spike bull or antlerless
		145, 149, 154, Elk Area 1010, Elk Area 1013, 163, 178, 181	Sept. 8-20	Sept. 7-19	Sept. 12-24	Spike bull or antlerless
Western Washington	WA	407, 448, 454, 564, 666, 684, Elk Area 6014	Sept. 8-20	Sept. 7-19	Sept. 12-24	Any elk
		501 through 505, 520, 550,	Sept. 8-20	Sept. 7-19	Sept. 12-24	3 pt. min. or

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	2018 Dates	2019 Dates	2020 Dates	Legal Elk
		554, 560, 568, 572, 574, 578, Elk Area 6061, 652 (except Elk Area 6013 closed to antlerless), 654, 660, 663, 667 through 673, 681, 699				antlerless
		460, 466, 506, 510, 513, 516, 524 (except CLOSED in Elk Area 5066), 530, 601 through 618, 624 (except for Elk Area 6071), 627, 633, 638 (except Master Hunters only in Elk Area 6064), 642 through 651, 658	Sept. 8-20	Sept. 7-19	Sept. 12-24	3 pt. min.
Late Archery General Elk Seasons						
Eastern Washington	EA	101, 105, 108, 117, 121, 204	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Any bull
		124, 127, 373, 388	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Any elk
		178	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	Antlerless only
		Elk Area 1010, 163	Dec. 9 - Jan. 30, 2019	Dec. 9 - Jan. 30, 2020	Dec. 9 - Jan. 30, 2021	Antlerless only
		203, 209 through 248, 250, 254 through 290, 379, 381. Must wear hunter orange and/or hunter pink.	Oct. 27 - Nov. 15	Oct. 26 - Nov. 15	Oct. 31 - Nov. 15	Any elk
		Master Hunters Only: (374) Elk Areas 3911 and 3912. Must wear hunter orange and/or hunter pink.	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2019	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2020	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2021	Antlerless only
		<u>Master Hunters Only: 371. Must wear hunter orange and/or hunter pink.</u>			<u>Aug. 1 - Oct. 15</u>	<u>Antlerless only</u>
		Master Hunters Only: 127, 130	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Antlerless only
		328 , 334, 335	Nov. 21 - Dec. 8	Nov. 27 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	True spike bull or antlerless
		336, 342, 346, 352, 364, Elk Area 3681	Nov. 21 - Dec. 8	Nov. 27 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Spike bull or antlerless
Western Washington	WA	Elk Area 4601, 503, 505, 506, 530, 652 (except Elk Area 6013 closed to antlerless), 663, 667, 672, 681, and 699. Master hunters only in Elk Area 6064 portion of GMU 638	Nov. 21 - Dec. 15	Nov. 27 - Dec. 15	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	3 pt. min. or antlerless
		407	Nov. 21 - Jan 20, 2019	Nov. 27 - Jan 20, 2020	Nov. 25 - Jan 20, 2021	Any elk
		448, 454, 564, 666, <u>Elk Area 6014</u>	Nov. 21 - Dec. 15	Nov. 27 - Dec. 15	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Any elk
		603, 612, 615, 638 (except for Elk Area 6064), 648	Nov. 21 - Dec. 15	Nov. 27 - Dec. 15	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	3 pt. min.
		*GMU 372 and Elk Area 3722 are mainly private property. Hunters are not advised to try hunting these areas without making prior arrangements for access.				

Muzzleloader General Elk Seasons

License Required: A valid big game hunting license with an elk tag option.

Tag Required: A valid muzzleloader elk tag as listed below for the area hunted.

Hunting Method: Muzzleloader, as defined under WAC 220-414-060, or bow and arrow, as defined under WAC 220-414-070.

Special Notes: Muzzleloader tag holders can only hunt during the muzzleloader seasons. Only hunters with tags identified in the Special Elk Permits tables may apply for special elk permits.

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	2018 Dates	2019 Dates	2020 Dates	Legal Elk
Early Muzzleloader General Elk Seasons						
Eastern Washington	EM	101 through 121, 204, 247	Oct. 6-12	Oct. 5-11	Oct. 3-9	Any bull
		124 through 142, 245, 250	Oct. 6-12	Oct. 5-11	Oct. 3-9	Any elk
		145, 149, 154, 162, 163, 166, 172 (except Elk Area 1040), 175, 178, 181, 336 through 342, 352 through 368	Oct. 6-12	Oct. 5-11	Oct. 3-9	Spike bull
		328, 329, 334, 335, Elk Area 2051	Oct. 6-12	Oct. 5-11	Oct. 3-9	True spike bull
Western Washington	WM	407, 448, 454, 564, 666, 684	Oct. 6-12	Oct. 5-11	Oct. 3-9	Any elk
		460, 466, 506, 510, 513, 516, 520, 524 (except CLOSED in Elk Area 5066), 530, 550, 554, 560, 568, 572, 574, 578, 602, 603, 607, 612, 615, 624 (except for Elk Area 6071), 627, 633, 638 (except for Elk Area 6064), 642, 648, 660, 672, 673, 681	Oct. 6-12	Oct. 5-11	Oct. 3-9	3 pt. min.
		501, 503, 504, 505, 652 (except Elk Area 6013 closed to antlerless), Elk Area 6014, 654, 663, 667, Elk Area 4601	Oct. 6-12	Oct. 5-11	Oct. 3-9	3 pt. min. or antlerless
Late Muzzleloader General Elk Seasons						
Eastern Washington	EM	130 through 142	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Any elk
		203, 209 through 248, 250, 254 through 290,	Oct. 27 - Nov. 15	Oct. 26 - Nov. 15	Oct. 31 - Nov. 15	Any elk

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	2018 Dates	2019 Dates	2020 Dates	Legal Elk
		373, 379, 381. Must wear hunter orange and/or hunter pink.				
		Master Hunters Only: ((374,)) Elk Areas 3911 and 3912. Must wear hunter orange and/or hunter pink.	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2019	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2020	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2021	Antlerless only
		<u>Master Hunters Only: 371. Must wear hunter orange and/or hunter pink.</u>			<u>Aug. 1 - Oct. 15</u>	<u>Antlerless only</u>
		Master Hunters Only: 127, 130	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Antlerless only
Western Washington	WM	407	Nov. 21 - Jan. 20, 2019	Nov. 27 - Jan. 20, 2020	Nov. 25 - Jan. 20, 2021	Any elk
		501, 503, 504, 505, ((578,)) 652 (except Elk Area 6013 closed to antlerless), 667	Nov. 21 - Dec. 8	Nov. 27 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	3 pt. min. or antlerless
		<u>578</u>			<u>Nov. 25-30</u>	<u>3 pt. min. or antlerless</u>
		<u>578</u>			<u>Dec. 1-8</u>	<u>3 pt. min.</u>
		448, 454, 564, 666, 684, <u>Elk Area 6014</u>	Nov. 21 - Dec. 15	Nov. 27 - Dec. 15	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Any elk
		568, 574	Nov. 21-30	Nov. 27-30	Nov. 25-30	3 pt. min.
		601, 618, 651, 658	Nov. 21 - Dec. 15	Nov. 27 - Dec. 15	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	3 pt. min.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.013, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, and 77.12.020. WSR 19-20-078 (Order 19-245), § 220-415-050, filed 9/27/19, effective 10/28/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.090, 77.04.130, 77.15.568, 77.08.010, 77.65.510, 77.65.515, and 77.65.520. WSR 19-10-011 (Order 19-79), § 220-415-050, filed 4/19/19, effective 5/20/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.013, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, 77.12.020, 77.12.040, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, 77.12.210, 77.12.240, 77.12.320, 77.12.570, 77.12.800, 77.15.245, 77.32.007, 77.32.050, 77.32.070, 77.32.090, 77.32.370, and 77.32.530. WSR 18-11-061 (Order 18-76), § 220-415-050, filed 5/11/18, effective 6/11/18.

Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, 77.12.240, 77.12.800, 77.32.090. WSR 17-10-076 (Order 17-10), amended and recodified as § 220-415-050, filed 5/3/17, effective 6/3/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, 77.12.240, 77.12.800, 77.32.090, and 77.32.155. WSR 16-12-087, § 232-28-358, filed 5/31/16, effective 7/1/16.

Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.055, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, and 77.12.240. WSR 15-10-059 (Order 15-98), § 232-28-358, filed 4/30/15, effective 5/31/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047, 77.12.240, and 77.32.070. WSR 14-10-019 (Order 14-95), § 232-28-358, filed 4/25/14, effective 5/26/14; WSR 13-11-078 (Order 13-94), § 232-28-358, filed 5/16/13, effective 6/16/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047. WSR 12-11-005 (Order 12-70), § 232-28-358, filed 5/2/12, effective 6/2/12.]

RECOMMENDED ADJUSTMENTS

The department recommends the following adjustments since the Code Reviser filed (CR-102). The adjustments are included in your notebooks.

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- Change: Under Early Archery General Elk Seasons, Eastern Washington, eliminate the season where a legal elk is Antlerless for GMUs 328, 329, 336, 340, 352, 356, 364.

Rationale: General season opportunities to harvest antlerless elk in these GMUs are being eliminated to promote recovery of the Colockum and Yakima elk herds.

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- Change: Under Late Archery General Elk Seasons, Eastern Washington, remove GMU 328 from areas that will be open Nov. 25 – Dec. 8 to harvest a true spike bull or antlerless elk

Rationale: General season opportunities to harvest antlerless elk in these GMUs are being eliminated to promote recovery of the Colockum and Yakima elk herds.

- Change: Under Late Archery General Elk Seasons, Eastern Washington, change the Legal Animal from Spike bull or antlerless to Spike bull in GMUs 336, 342, 346, 352, 364, and Elk Area 3681

Rationale: General season opportunities to harvest antlerless elk in these GMUs are being eliminated to promote recovery of the Colockum and Yakima elk herds.

Summary of Public Comments Received During the Official Comment Period and WDFW Response:

WAC 220-415-050 2018-2020 Elk General Seasons and Definitions.

Supporting Comments:

There were sixteen comments in support of the proposal, with most comments being related to proposals for the Colockum and Yakima elk herds. Seven comments expressed an understanding of the need to reduce antlerless harvest and were supportive, but perspectives on how to reduce antlerless harvest differed and included:

- 1) only allowing antlerless harvest through special permit seasons for all user groups.
- 2) reducing antlerless harvest for modern firearm hunters
- 3) reducing antlerless harvest for archery hunters.

Other comments in support of the proposal and related to the Colockum and Yakima elk herds were related to concerns that tribal hunting (2 comments) and predators (2 comments) were factors negatively affecting these herds and should be addressed by the Department. Lastly, one comment supported the reduction of permits in the Mount St. Helens elk herd area and one comment advocated for including GMU 663 (Capitol Peak) to the list of areas open during the late general muzzleloader season in western Washington. Three other comments were unrelated to the proposal.

Opposing, Neutral, and Other Comments:

There were twenty-eight comments in opposition to the proposal, with most comments being related to proposals for the Colockum and Yakima elk herds. Although in opposition of the proposal, seven comments indicated general support for reductions in antlerless harvest, while another four comments advocated for no antlerless harvest or further reductions. Four comments were opposed to reductions in opportunities for archery hunters, three comments advocated for permit only opportunities for antlerless elk, one comment advocated for not reducing special permits for muzzleloader hunters, and one comment advocated for a season that was only for archery hunters using primitive bows. Other comments in opposition of the proposal were related to concerns that tribal hunting (3 comments) and predators (6 comments) were factors negatively affecting these herds. Three comments were related to abolishing spike or true-spike rules, while two other comments were unrelated to the proposal.

There were six neutral comments. Although their stance was neutral, one was generally supportive of reducing antlerless harvest, while three were concerned about the affects of tribal harvest and one advocated for the Department to consider predator management actions. One additional comment was unrelated to the proposal.

The Department also received one email that expressed concern about current status of the Colockum and Yakima elk herds. More specifically, they advocated for removing all antlerless harvest, not having other seasons overlap the Quality bull hunts, eliminating “true-spike”, consider closing both areas to all elk hunting, and better enforcement of the green-dot road system.

Lastly, the Department met with representatives from Washington State Bowhunters, the Washington State Archery Association, and Traditional Bowhunters of Washington to discuss proposals for the Colockum and Yakima elk herds. All three groups expressed strong values associated with providing general season opportunities for archery hunters to harvest antlerless elk.

Fish and Wildlife Commission Hearing, Public Comments:

No public testimony in support of this proposal was received at the March Commission meeting and we only received one letter during the extended open comment period that expressed support.

The Department received one comment during public testimony at the March Commission meeting and two comments during the extended comment period that were in opposition to this proposal because they were opposed to eliminating opportunities to harvest antlerless elk in the Colockum and Yakima elk herd areas during the general archery seasons.

The Department also received one comment during the extended comment period that expressed opposition to changing the dates for Master Hunter seasons in GMU 371, while one other comment advocated for having different seasons for each weapon type during seasons only open to Master Hunters in GMU 371 and Elk Area 3911. Lastly, one additional comment in opposition to the proposal advocated for allowing elk to expand into agricultural areas.

Direction and Rationale:

The Department will move forward with a recommendation to the Fish and Wildlife Commission to eliminate opportunities to harvest antlerless elk during general archery seasons in the Colockum and Yakima elk herd areas. Surveys of the Colockum elk herd indicate it had declined by an additional 10% from spring 2019 to 2020 and is currently 18% below objective. The Yakima elk herd was 14% below objective in 2019 and mild winter conditions prevented the Department from conducting aerial surveys in 2020 to estimate abundance, but calf:cow ratios from more than 4,000 elk observed on the feed sites were only 19:100. With calf:cow ratios this low, it is likely the Yakima elk herd experienced further declines as well, or remained stable at best. Without substantial reductions in antlerless harvest, the Department anticipates both herds will continue to decline. Moreover, the predator-prey guidelines outlined in the Game Management Plan clearly indicate the Department must attempt to address declining trends for an “at-risk” ungulate population through harvest prior to considering predator management actions.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-20-078, filed 9/27/19, effective 10/28/19)

WAC 220-415-060 ((2019)) 2020 Elk special permits. It is unlawful to fail to comply with the bag, possession, and season limits described below. A violation of this section is punishable under RCW 77.15.410 Unlawful hunting of big game—Penalty.

Special Elk Permit Hunting Seasons (Open to Permit Holders Only)

Hunters must purchase an elk hunting license prior to purchasing a permit application. Hunters may only apply for permits consistent with the tag required for the hunt choice; however, Multiple Season Permit holders may apply for Eastern or Western Washington archery, muzzleloader, or modern firearm permit hunts. Applicants must have purchased the proper tag for these hunts. The elk tag prefixes required to apply for each hunt are shown in the following table. Hunters drawn for a special permit hunt must comply with weapon restrictions, dates, and other conditions listed for the hunt. Hunters drawn for a special permit designated "**Any tag**" under the "**Weapon/Tag**" restriction must use equipment consistent with the requirements of their transport tag and license.

Bag Limit: One (1) elk per hunter during the license year except where otherwise permitted by department rule, even if permits are drawn for more than one elk hunt category. Any combination of seasons, tags, and permits set by the department will not exceed a maximum of two (2) elk per hunter during the license year.

Quality						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Turnbull	EA, EF, EM	Any	((Sept. 29 - Oct. 6 and Nov. 16 - Dec. 5)) Oct. 3-12 and Nov. 14 - Dec. 3	Any bull	Elk Area 1015	1
Prescott	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 - Nov. 3)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 8	Any bull	GMU 149	2
Blue Creek	EF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) 21-25	Any bull	GMU 154	1
Blue Creek	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 - Nov. 3)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 8	Any bull	GMU 154	((40)) 98
Watershed	EA, EF, EM	Any	((Oct. 26 - Nov. 3)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	3 pt. min.	GMU 157	((40)) 25
Dayton	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 - Nov. 3)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 8	Any bull	GMU 162	((6)) 32
Ten Ten	EF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) 21-25	Any bull	Elk Area 1010, GMU 163	1
Ten Ten	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 - Nov. 3)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 8	Any bull	Elk Area 1010, GMU 163	((2)) 1
Tucannon	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 - Nov. 3)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 8	Any bull	GMU 166	((43)) 65
Wenaha West	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 - Nov. 3)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 8	Any bull	Elk Area 1008	((6)) 5
Wenaha East	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 - Nov. 3)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 8	Any bull	Elk Area 1009	((6)) 54
Mountain View	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 - Nov. 3)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 8	Any bull	GMU 172, EXCEPT Elk Area 1040	((41)) 5

Quality						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Ten Forty	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 – Nov. 3)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 8	Any bull	Elk Area 1040	2 <u>1</u>
Lick Creek	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 – Nov. 3)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 8	Any bull	GMU 175	2
Peola	EF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) 21-25	Any bull	GMUs 178, 145	1
Peola	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 – Nov. 3)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 8	Any bull	GMUs 178, 145	2
Couse	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 – Nov. 3)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 8	Any bull	GMU 181	((4)) 3 <u>5</u>
Mission	EF	Any	((Sept. 21-29)) Sept. 26 - Oct. 2	Any bull	GMU 251	4
Colockum	EF	Any	((Sept. 23-27)) Sept. 28 - Oct. 2	Any bull	GMUs 328, 329, 334	1
Colockum	EF	Any	Oct. 21 - Nov. 3	Any bull	GMUs 328, 329, 334	24 <u>23</u>
Teanaway	EF	Any	((Sept. 23-27)) Sept. 28 - Oct. 2	Any bull	GMU 335	2
Peaches Ridge	EF	Any	((Sept. 23-27)) Sept. 28 - Oct. 2	Any bull	GMUs 336, 346	((3)) <u>2</u>
Observatory	EF	Any	((Sept. 23-27)) Sept. 28 - Oct. 2	Any bull	GMUs 334, 340, 342	((3)) <u>2</u>
Little Naches	EF	Any	((Sept. 28 – Oct. 6)) Oct. 3-11	Any bull	GMU 346	((4)) <u>3</u>
Goose Prairie	EF	Any	((Sept. 23-27)) Sept. 28 - Oct. 2	Any bull	GMUs 352, 356	((3)) <u>2</u>
Bethel	EF	Any	((Sept. 23-27)) Sept. 28 - Oct. 2	Any bull	GMU 360	((3)) <u>2</u>
Rimrock	EF	Any	((Sept. 23-27)) Sept. 28 - Oct. 2	Any bull	GMU 364	((3)) <u>2</u>
Cowiche	EF	Any	((Sept. 23-27)) Sept. 28 - Oct. 2	Any bull	GMU 368	((3)) <u>2</u>
Nooksack	WF	Any	((Oct. 5-31 and Dec. 16-31)) Oct. 3-29 and Dec. 14-29	Any bull	GMU 418	12 (TBD) <u>13</u>
Green River	WF, WA, WM	Any	((Nov. 2-8)) Oct. 24-30 (TBD) Oct. 17-23	Any bull	GMU 485	10 (TBD) <u>10</u>
Wahkiakum	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) 21-25	Any bull	GMUs 506, 530	1
South Rainier	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) 21-25	Any bull	GMUs 510, 513	1
Packwood	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) 21-25	Any bull	GMU 516	1

Quality						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Winston	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) <u>21-25</u>	Any bull	GMU 520	1
Coweeman	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) <u>21-25</u>	Any bull	GMU 550	1
Toutle	WF	Any	((Sept. 23-27 and Nov. 2-13)) <u>Sept. 21-25 and Nov. 7- 18</u>	Any bull	GMU 556	2
Toutle	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Any bull	GMU 556	((44)) <u>2926</u>
Lewis River	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) <u>21-25</u>	Any bull	GMU 560	2
Siouxon	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) <u>21-25</u>	Any bull	GMU 572	2
Carlton	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) <u>21-25</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5057	5
West Goat Rocks	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) <u>21-25</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5058	5
Upper Smith Creek	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) <u>21-25</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5064	1
Mount Whittier	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) <u>21-25</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5065	1
Norway Pass	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) <u>21-25</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5066	2
Mt. Adams	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) <u>21-25</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5059	5
Mudflow	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	7
Peninsula	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) <u>26-30</u>	3 pt. min.	GMUs 602, 603, 607, 612, 615	4
Matheny	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) <u>26-30</u>	3 pt. min.	GMU 618	3
Quinault	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) <u>26-30</u>	3 pt. min.	GMU 638	5
Wynoochee	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) <u>26-30</u>	3 pt. min.	GMU 648	1
White River	WF	Any	Sept. ((23-27)) <u>26-30</u>	Any bull	GMU 653	2
Prescott	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMU 149	1
Blue Creek	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMU 154	((6)) <u>5</u>
Dayton	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMU 162	((3)) <u>1</u>
Ten Ten	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	Elk Area 1010, GMU 163	((3)) <u>23</u>
Tucannon	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMU 166	((5)) <u>2</u>
Wenaha West	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	Elk Area 1008	2
Wenaha East	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	Elk Area 1009	((3))

Quality						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
						<u>2</u>
Mountain View	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMU 172, EXCEPT Elk Area 1040	((9)) <u>4</u>
Ten Forty	EA	Any	Sept. ((9-22)) <u>9-20</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1040	2
Lick Creek	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMU 175	((3)) <u>2</u>
Peola	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMUs 178, 145	3
Couse	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMU 181	((3)) <u>2</u>
Colockum	EA	Any	Sept. ((7-19)) <u>12-24</u>	Any bull	GMUs 328, 329, 334	17 <u>15</u>
Teanaway	EA	Any	Sept. ((7-19)) <u>12-24</u>	Any bull	GMU 335	2
Peaches Ridge	EA	Any	Sept. ((7-19)) <u>12-24</u>	Any bull	GMUs 336, 346	10
Observatory	EA	Any	Sept. ((7-19)) <u>12-24</u>	Any bull	GMUs 334, 340, 342	20 <u>19</u>
Goose Prairie	EA	Any	Sept. ((7-19)) <u>12-24</u>	Any bull	GMUs 352, 356	7 <u>6</u>
Bethel	EA	Any	Sept. ((7-19)) <u>12-24</u>	Any bull	GMU 360	6 <u>7</u>
Rimrock	EA	Any	Sept. ((7-19)) <u>12-24</u>	Any bull	GMU 364	24 <u>20</u>
Cowiche	EA	Any	Sept. ((7-19)) <u>12-24</u>	Any bull	GMU 368	6
Nooksack	WA	Any	((Aug. 26 – Sept. 14 and Jan. 1-19, 2020)) <u>Aug. 24 - Sept. 12 and Jan. 1-19, 2021</u>	Any bull	GMU 418	7 (TBD) <u>8</u>
Toutle	WA	Any	Sept. ((7-19)) <u>12-24</u> and Dec. 1-15	Any bull	GMU 556	((30)) <u>20</u>
Upper Smith Creek	WA	Any	Sept. ((15-21)) <u>13-19</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5064	1
Norway Pass	WA	Any	Sept. ((7-13)) <u>5-11</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5066	2
Mudflow	WA	Any	((Sept. 14-22 and Nov. 15-20)) <u>Sept. 12-19 and Nov. 19-23</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	7
Peninsula	WA	Any	Sept. ((1-22)) <u>1-24</u>	3 pt. min.	GMUs 602, 603, 607, 612, 615	2
White River	WA	Any	((Sept. 14-25 and Dec. 1-15)) <u>Sept. 12-24 and Nov. 28 - Dec. 13</u>	Any bull	GMU 653	((19)) <u>16</u>
Prescott	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 – Oct. 11)) <u>Sept. 28 - Oct. 9</u>	Any bull	GMU 149	1

Quality						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Blue Creek	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 – Oct. 11)) <u>Sept. 28 - Oct. 9</u>	Any bull	GMU 154	2
Dayton	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 – Oct. 11)) <u>Sept. 28 - Oct. 9</u>	Any bull	GMU 162	((2)) <u>1</u>
Ten Ten	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 – Oct. 11)) <u>Sept. 28 - Oct. 9</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1010, GMU 163	1
Tucannon	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 – Oct. 11)) <u>Sept. 28 - Oct. 9</u>	Any bull	GMU 166	((2)) <u>1</u>
Wenaha West	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 – Oct. 11)) <u>Sept. 28 - Oct. 9</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1008	1
Wenaha East	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 – Oct. 11)) <u>Sept. 28 - Oct. 9</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1009	<u>2</u> <u>1</u>
Mountain View	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 – Oct. 11)) <u>Sept. 28 - Oct. 9</u>	Any bull	GMU 172, EXCEPT Elk Area 1040	((5)) <u>2</u>
Ten Forty	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 – Oct. 11)) <u>Sept. 28 - Oct. 9</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1040	2
Lick Creek	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 – Oct. 11)) <u>Sept. 28 - Oct. 9</u>	Any bull	GMU 175	1
Peola	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 – Oct. 11)) <u>Sept. 28 - Oct. 9</u>	Any bull	GMUs 178, 145	1
Couse	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 – Oct. 11)) <u>Sept. 28 - Oct. 9</u>	Any bull	GMU 181	1
Mission	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 – Oct. 11)) <u>Oct. 3-11</u>	Any bull	GMU 251	4
Colockum	EM	Any	((Sept. 28 – Oct. 6)) <u>Oct. 3-11</u>	Any bull	GMUs 328, 329, 334	<u>6</u> <u>7</u>
Teanaway	EM	Any	((Sept. 28 – Oct. 6)) <u>Oct. 3-11</u>	Any bull	GMU 335	<u>2</u> <u>1</u>
Peaches Ridge	EM	Any	((Sept. 28 – Oct. 6)) <u>Oct. 3-11</u>	Any bull	GMUs 336, 346	4
Observatory	EM	Any	((Sept. 28 – Oct. 6)) <u>Oct. 3-11</u>	Any bull	GMUs 334, 340, 342	6

Quality						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Goose Prairie	EM	Any	((Sept. 28 – Oct. 6)) <u>Oct. 3-11</u>	Any bull	GMUs 352, 356	2
Bethel	EM	Any	((Sept. 28 – Oct. 6)) <u>Oct. 3-11</u>	Any bull	GMU 360	2
Rimrock	EM	Any	((Sept. 28 – Oct. 6)) <u>Oct. 3-11</u>	Any bull	GMU 364	4
Cowiche	EM	Any	((Sept. 28 – Oct. 6)) <u>Oct. 3-11</u>	Any bull	GMU 368	2
Nooksack	WM	Any	((Sept. 18-29 and Nov. 15-24, and Dec. 1-8)) <u>Sept. 19-30 and Nov. 14-23, and Nov. 29 - Dec. 6</u>	Any bull	GMU 418	7 (TBD) 8
Toutle	WM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-9</u>	Any bull	GMU 556	((19)) 139
Mount Whittier	WM	Any	Sept. ((15-21)) <u>13-19</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5065	1
Norway Pass	WM	Any	Sept. ((15-21)) <u>13-19</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5066	2
Mudflow	WM	Any	Oct. ((5-15)) <u>3-13</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	7
Peninsula	WM	Any	((Sept. 28 – Oct. 4)) <u>Sept. 26 - Oct. 2</u>	3 pt. min.	GMUs 602, 603, 607, 612, 615	2

Bulls						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Turnbull	EF	Any	Dec. ((11-16)) <u>8-13</u>	Spike bull only	Elk Area 1015	1
Ten Forty	EF	Any	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 31 - Nov. 8</u>	Spike bull only	Elk Area 1040	2
Grande Ronde	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 – Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 26 - Nov. 8</u>	Any bull	GMU 186	1
Mission	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 – Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 26 - Nov. 8</u>	Any bull	GMU 251	4
Teanaway	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 – Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 26 - Nov. 8</u>	Any bull	GMU 335	5 4
Peaches Ridge	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 – Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 26 - Nov. 8</u>	Any bull	GMUs 336, 346	13 15
Observatory	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 – Nov. 3))	Any bull	GMUs 334, 340, 342	16 14

Bulls						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
			3)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 8			
Goose Prairie	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 - Nov. 3)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 8	Any bull	GMUs 352, 356	87
Bethel	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 - Nov. 3)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 8	Any bull	GMU 360	7
Rimrock	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 - Nov. 3)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 8	Any bull	GMU 364	2833
Cowiche	EF	Any	((Oct. 21 - Nov. 3)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 8	Any bull	GMU 368	5
Alkali	EF	Any	((Oct. 14 - Nov. 4)) Oct. 12-30	Any bull	GMUs 334, 371	15
Skagit River	WF	Any	((Oct. 5 - Nov. 7)) Oct. 3 - Nov. 5	Any bull	Elk Area 4941	5-(FBD)6
Upper Smith Creek	WF	Any	Oct. 17-23	Any bull	Elk Area 5064	((2)) 1
Mount Whittier	WF	Any	Oct. 17-23	Any bull	Elk Area 5065	1
Norway Pass	WF	Any	Oct. 17-23	Any bull	Elk Area 5066	3
Olympic	WF	Any	((Oct. 19 - Nov. 13)) Nov. 1-18	3 pt. min.	GMU 621, EXCEPT for Elk Area 6071	65
Skokomish	WF	Any	((Oct. 19 - Nov. 13)) Nov. 1-18	3 pt. min.	GMU 636	32
White River	WF	Any	((Oct. 19 - Nov. 13)) Oct. 17 - Nov. 11	Any bull	GMU 653	((37)) 35
Turnbull	EA	Any	Sept. ((7-19)) 12-24	Spike bull only	Elk Area 1015	1
Ten Forty	EA	Any	Sept. 1-8	Spike bull only	Elk Area 1040	2
Grande Ronde	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMU 186	1
Alkali	EA	Any	Sept. ((1-2)) 1-20	Any Elk	GMUs 334, 371	10
Skagit River	WA	Any	((Aug. 26 - Sept. 14 and Jan. 1-7, 2020)) Aug. 24 - Sept. 12 and Jan. 1-7, 2021	Any bull	Elk Area 4941	8-(FBD)9
Upper Smith Creek	WA	Any	Oct. 1-7	Any bull	Elk Area 5064	2
Mount Whittier	WA	Any	Oct. 1-7	Any bull	Elk Area 5065	1
Norway Pass	WA	Any	Oct. 1-7	Any bull	Elk Area 5066	3
Lewis River	WA	Any	Nov. ((27)) 25 - Dec. 8	3 pt. min.	GMU 560	5
Siouxon	WA	Any	Nov. ((27)) 25 - Dec. 8	3 pt. min.	GMU 572	5

Bulls						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Olympic	WA	Any	Sept. ((1-22)) <u>1-24</u> and Dec. 1-15	3 pt. min.	GMU 621, EXCEPT Elk Area 6071	3 <u>1</u>
Skokomish	WA	Any	Sept. ((1-22)) <u>1-24</u> and Dec. 1-15	3 pt. min.	GMU 636	2 <u>1</u>
Turnbull	EM	Any	((Oct. 8-13)) <u>Nov. 28 - Dec. 3</u>	Spike bull only	Elk Area 1015	1
Ten Forty	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-9</u>	Spike bull only	Elk Area 1040	2
Grande Ronde	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 - Oct. 11)) <u>Sept. 28 - Oct. 9</u>	Any bull	GMU 186	1
Alkali	EM	Any	((Sept. 23 - Oct. 13)) <u>Sept. 21 - Oct. 11</u>	Any bull	GMUs 334, 371	15
Skagit River	WM	Any	((Sept. 18-29 and Dec. 2-11 and Jan. 8-19, 2020)) <u>Sept. 19-30 and Nov. 30 - Dec. 9 and Jan. 9-20, 2021</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 4941	5 (TBD) <u>6</u>
Upper Smith Creek	WM	Any	Oct. 9-15	Any bull	Elk Area 5064	2
Mount Whittier	WM	Any	Oct. 9-15	Any bull	Elk Area 5065	1
Norway Pass	WM	Any	Oct. 9-15	Any bull	Elk Area 5066	3
Yale	WM	Any	Nov. ((27)) <u>25 - Dec. 15</u>	3 pt. min.	GMU 554	15
Olympic	WM	Any	((Sept. 28 - Oct. 11)) <u>Sept. 26 - Oct. 9</u>	3 pt. min.	GMU 621, EXCEPT for Elk Area 6071	2
Skokomish	WM	Any	((Sept. 28 - Oct. 11)) <u>Sept. 26 - Oct. 9</u>	3 pt. min.	GMU 636	1
White River	WM	Any	((Sept. 28 - Oct. 11)) <u>Sept. 26 - Oct. 9</u>	Any bull	GMU 653	7

Antlerless Elk						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
North Half	EF	Any	((Oct. 26 - Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 31 - Nov. 8</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 101, 105, 204	10
Douglas	EF	Any	((Oct. 26 - Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 31 - Nov. 8</u>	Antlerless	GMU 108	5
Aladdin	EF	Any	((Oct. 26 - Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 31 - Nov. 8</u>	Antlerless	GMU 111	10
Selkirk	EF	Any	((Oct. 26 - Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 31 - Nov. 8</u>	Antlerless	GMU 113	10

Antlerless Elk						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
49 Degrees North	EF	Any	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3 and Dec. 16-31)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8 and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMU 117	10
Huckleberry	EF	Any	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3 and Dec. 16-31)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8 and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMU 121	10
Turnbull	EF	Any	Nov. ((16-21)) 14-19	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	5
Turnbull	EF	Any	Dec. ((11-16)) 8-13	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	5
Mayview-Peola	EF	Any	Oct. ((12-22)) 17-25	Antlerless	GMUs 145, 178	10
Mayview-Peola	EF	Any	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Antlerless	GMUs 145, 178	20
Prescott	EF	Any	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Antlerless	GMU 149	20
Blue Creek	EF	Any	Oct. ((12-22)) 17-25	Antlerless	GMU 154	5
Blue Creek	EF	Any	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Antlerless	GMU 154	5
Marengo ((- Dayton))	EF	Any	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Antlerless	GMU 163	10
Mountain View	EF	Any	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Antlerless	Elk Area 1013	40
((Ten-Forty	EF	Any	Nov. 4-10	Antlerless	Elk Area 1040	5))
Couse	EF	Any	Oct. ((12-22)) 17-25	Antlerless	Elk Area 1081	15
Couse	EF	Any	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 8)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 13	Antlerless	Elk Area 1081	((40)) 30
((George-Creek	EF	Any	Oct. 12 – Nov. 19	Antlerless	Elk Area 1082	5))
Malaga	EF	Any	Sept. ((9-20)) 7-18	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	20
Malaga	EF	Any	Nov. ((4)) 3 - Dec. 31	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	55
Colockum	EF	Any	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 3)) Nov. 4-8	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329	((100)) 5015
West-Bar	EF	Any	((Oct. 26-29)) Oct. 31 – Nov. 3	Antlerless	GMU 330	5
West Bar	EF	Any	((Oct. 30 – Nov.	Antlerless	GMU 330	5

Antlerless Elk						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
			3)) Nov. 4-8			
Teanaway	EF	Any	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 3)) Nov. 4-8	Antlerless	GMU 335	((30)) 25
Taneum	EF	Any	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 3)) Nov. 4-8	Antlerless	GMU 336	((35)) 25 10
Manastash	EF	Any	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 3)) Nov. 4-8	Antlerless	GMU 340	((30)) 25 10
Umtanum	EF	Any	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 3)) Nov. 4-8	Antlerless	GMU 342	25 10
Little Naches	EF	Any	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 3)) Nov. 4-8	Antlerless	GMU 346	((35)) 30 10
Nile	EF	Any	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 3)) Nov. 4-8	Antlerless	GMU 352	10 5
Bumping	EF	Any	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 3)) Nov. 4-8	Antlerless	GMU 356	((20)) 15 5
Bethel	EF	Any	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 3)) Nov. 4-8	Antlerless	GMU 360	10 5
Rimrock	EF	Any	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 3)) Nov. 4-8	Antlerless	GMU 364	15 10
Cowiche	EF	Any	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 3)) Nov. 4-8	Antlerless	GMU 368	15 10
Alkali	EF	Any	((Oct. 14 – Nov. 4)) Oct. 12-30	Antlerless	GMU 371	((20)) 25
North Bend	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) 7-18	Antlerless	Elk Area 4601	5
Green River	WF, WA, WM	Any	((Nov. 2-8)) Oct. 24-30 (TBD) Oct. 17-23	Antlerless	GMU 485	10 (TBD) 12
Mossyrock	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) 7-18	Antlerless	GMU 505	20
Willapa Hills	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) 7-18	Antlerless	GMU 506	((25)) 20
Winston	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) 7-18	Antlerless	GMU 520	((25)) 10
Margaret	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) 7-18	Antlerless	GMU 524 (except CLOSED in Elk Area 5066)	5
Ryderwood	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) 7-18	Antlerless	GMU 530	15

Antlerless Elk						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Coweeman	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Antlerless	GMU 550	((45)) <u>10</u>
Toutle	WF	Any	Nov. 20-30	Antlerless	GMU 556	((45)) <u>5</u>
Lewis River	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Antlerless	GMU 560	((25)) <u>15</u>
Washougal	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Antlerless	GMU 568	((20)) <u>10</u>
Siouxon	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Antlerless	GMU 572	((45)) <u>10</u>
Wind River	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Antlerless	GMU 574	((25)) <u>15</u>
West Klickitat	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Antlerless	GMU 578	((45)) <u>30</u>
((Upper Smith Creek	WF	Any	Oct. 17-23	Antlerless	Elk Area 5064	2
Mount Whittier	WF	Any	Oct. 17-23	Antlerless	Elk Area 5065	4))
Norway Pass	WF	Any	Oct. 17-23	Antlerless	Elk Area 5066	((5)) <u>3</u>
Mudflow	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	((5)) <u>3</u>
Mallis	WF	Any	Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 6010	10
Mallis	WF	Any	Jan. 1-20, ((2020)) <u>2021</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6010	20
Puyallup	WF	Any	((Dec. 28, 2019– Jan. 15, 2020)) Jan. 1-20, 2021	Antlerless	Elk Area 6014	10
Puyallup	WF	Any	((Jan. 16 – Feb. 5, 2020)) Jan. 21 - Feb. 10, 2021	Antlerless	Elk Area 6014	10
Puyallup	WF	Any	((Feb. 6-23, 2020)) Feb. 11-28, 2021	Antlerless	Elk Area 6014	10
Hanaford	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6069	5
Williams Creek	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Antlerless	GMU 673	50
Long Beach	WF	Any	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Antlerless	GMU 684	6
Turnbull	EA	Any	Sept. ((7-19)) <u>12-24</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	12
Malaga	EA	Any	((Sept. 1-7)) <u>Aug. 30 - Sept. 5</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	20
Colockum	EA	Any	Sept. 12-24	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329	75
Colockum	EA	Any	Nov. 25 – Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 328	20
Taneum	EA	Any	Sept. 12-24	Antlerless	GMU 336	60
Manastash	EA	Any	Sept. 12-24	Antlerless	GMU 340	60
Umtanum	EA	Any	Nov. 25 – Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 342	60
Nile	EA	Any	Sept. 12-24	Antlerless	GMU 352	50
Bumping	EA	Any	Sept. 12-24	Antlerless	GMU 356	50

Antlerless Elk						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Rimrock	EA	Any	Sept. 12-24	Antlerless	GMU 364	60
Cowiche	EA	Any	Nov. 25 – Dec. 8	Antlerless	Elk Area 3681	50
Margaret	WA	Any	Sept. ((7-19)) 12-24 and Dec. 1-15	Antlerless	GMU 524 (except CLOSED in Elk Area 5066)	5
Toutle	WA	Any	Sept. ((7-19)) 12-24 and Dec. 1-15	Antlerless	GMU 556	((45)) 10
((Upper-Smith Creek	WA	Any	Oct. 1-7	Antlerless	Elk Area 5064	2))
Norway Pass	WA	Any	Oct. 1-7	Antlerless	Elk Area 5066	3
Mudflow	WA	Any	((Sept. 7-13 and Nov. 15-20)) Sept. 5-11 and Nov. 19-23	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	((7)) 5
Lewis River	WA	Any	Nov. ((27)) 25 - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 560	5
Siouxon	WA	Any	Nov. ((27)) 25 - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 572	3
Wynoochee	WA	Any	Nov. ((27)) 25 - Dec. 15	Antlerless	GMU 648	((110)) 100
North Half	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) 3-9	Antlerless	GMUs 101, 105, 204	10
Douglas	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) 3-9	Antlerless	GMU 108	5
Aladdin	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) 3-9	Antlerless	GMU 111	10
Selkirk	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) 3-9	Antlerless	GMU 113	10
49 Degrees North	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) 3-9 and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMU 117	20
Huckleberry	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) 3-9	Antlerless	GMU 121	10
Turnbull	EM	Any	((Oct. 8-13)) Nov. 28 - Dec. 3	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	8
Turnbull	EM	Any	((Nov. 30 – Dec. 5)) Dec. 15-20	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	8
Blue Creek	EM	Any	((Dec. 9, 2019 – Jan. 20, 2020)) Dec. 9, 2020 - Jan. 20, 2021	Antlerless	GMU 154	15
Mountain View	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) 3-9	Antlerless	Elk Area 1013	20
Mayview-Peola	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) 3-9	Antlerless	GMUs 145, 178	20
Couse	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) 3-9	Antlerless	Elk Area 1081	((20)) 10
Couse	EM	Any	((Dec. 1, 2019 – Jan. 20, 2020)) Dec. 1, 2020 - Jan. 20, 2021	Antlerless	Elk Area 1081 and Elk Area 1075	35
((George Creek	EM	Any	Sept. 28 – Oct. 11 and Nov. 20 – Dec. 31	Antlerless	Elk Area 1082	5))
Malaga	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) 3-9	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	45

Antlerless Elk						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Colockum	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-11</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329	((50)) <u>3510</u>
West-Bar	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 330	5
Teanaway	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 335	((40)) <u>20</u>
Taneum	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 336	((25)) <u>2010</u>
Manastash	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 340	((25)) <u>2010</u>
Umtanum	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 342	<u>2010</u>
Nile	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 352	10
Bumping	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 356	<u>405</u>
Bethel	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 360	<u>405</u>
Cowiche	EM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 368	10
Alkali	EM	Any	((Sept. 23 - Oct. 13)) <u>Sept. 21 - Oct. 11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 371	((40)) <u>20</u>
Willapa Hills	WM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-9</u>	Antlerless	GMU 506	15
Mudflow	WM	Any	Oct. ((5-15)) <u>3-13</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	4
Winston	WM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-9</u>	Antlerless	GMU 520	((45)) <u>5</u>
Margaret	WM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-9</u>	Antlerless	GMU 524 (except CLOSED in Elk Area 5066)	5
Ryderwood	WM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-9</u>	Antlerless	GMU 530	10
Coweeman	WM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-9</u>	Antlerless	GMU 550	((45)) <u>10</u>
Yale	WM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-9</u>	Antlerless	GMU 554	((20)) <u>10</u>
Yale	WM	Any	Nov. ((27)) <u>25</u> - Dec. 15	Antlerless	GMU 554	((45)) <u>10</u>
Toutle	WM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-9</u>	Antlerless	GMU 556	((45)) <u>10</u>
Lewis River	WM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-9</u>	Antlerless	GMU 560	((40)) <u>5</u>
Washougal	WM	Any	Nov. ((27)) <u>25</u> - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 568	((20)) <u>10</u>
Siouxon	WM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-9</u>	Antlerless	GMU 572	5
Wind River	WM	Any	Nov. ((27)) <u>25</u> - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 574	((30)) <u>20</u>
((Upper Smith Creek	WM	Any	Oct. 9-15	Antlerless	Elk Area 5064	2))
Mount Whittier	WM	Any	Oct. 9-15	Antlerless	Elk Area 5065	1
Norway Pass	WM	Any	Oct. 9-15	Antlerless	Elk Area 5066	2
Mallis	WM	Any	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-9</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6010	10

Antlerless Elk						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Mashel	WM	Any	((Dec. 28, 2019– Jan. 11, 2020)) Jan. 1-15, 2021	Antlerless	Elk Area 6054	20
North River	WM	Any	Nov. ((17)) 19 - Dec. 15	Antlerless	GMU 658	20
Forks ^Y	WF, WM, WA	Any	Jan. 1-31, ((2020)) 2021	Antlerless	Elk Area 6612	20

Youth - Only youth hunters may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt.

Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Turnbull	EF	Youth	Nov. ((23-28)) <u>21-</u> <u>26</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	5
Turnbull	EF	Youth	Nov. ((23-28)) <u>21-</u> <u>26</u>	Spike bull only	Elk Area 1015	1
Aladdin	EF	Youth	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Antlerless	GMU 111	5
Selkirk	EF	Youth	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Antlerless	GMU 113	5
49 Degrees North	EF	Youth	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8 and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMU 117	5
Mayview-Peola	EF	Youth	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Antlerless	GMUs 145, 178	5
Blue Creek	EF	Youth	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Antlerless	GMU 154	3
((Dayton	EF	Youth	Oct. 26 – Nov. 3	Antlerless	GMU 162	3))
TenTen	EF	Youth	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Antlerless	Elk Area 1010	<u>3</u>
Ten Forty	EF	Youth	Oct. ((12-20)) <u>17-</u> <u>25</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1040	((5)) <u>3</u>
Couse	EF	Youth	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Antlerless	Elk Area 1081	10
Malaga	EF	Youth	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	10
Coloekum	EF	Youth	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 11)) <u>Nov. 4-11</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329, 335	((25)) <u>20</u>
Yakima North	EF	Youth	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 11)) <u>Nov. 4-11</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346	((15)) <u>105</u>
Yakima Central	EF	Youth	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 11)) <u>Nov. 4-11</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 352, 356, 360	<u>53</u>
Yakima South	EF	Youth	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 11))	Antlerless	GMUs 364, 368	<u>53</u>

Youth - Only youth hunters may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt.						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
			<u>Nov. 4-11</u>			
<u>Alkali</u>	<u>EF</u>	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Dec. 14, 2020 - Jan. 3, 2021</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMU 371</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>Coloekum</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Youth</u>	((Sept. 28 - Oct. 6)) <u>Oct. 3-11</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMUs 328, 329, 335</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Yakima North</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Youth</u>	((Sept. 28 - Oct. 6)) <u>Oct. 3-11</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346</u>	<u>105</u>
<u>Yakima Central</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Youth</u>	((Sept. 28 - Oct. 6)) <u>Oct. 3-11</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMUs 352, 356, 360</u>	<u>105</u>
<u>Yakima South</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Youth</u>	((Sept. 28 - Oct. 6)) <u>Oct. 3-11</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMUs 364, 368</u>	<u>105</u>
<u>Alkali</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Nov. 21 - Dec. 13</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMU 371</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>North Bend</u>	<u>WF, WM, WA</u>	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Nov. ((2-13)) 7-18</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>Elk Area 4601</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Skagit River</u>	<u>WF, WM, WA</u>	<u>Youth</u>	((Nov. 9 - Dec. 1 and Dec. 16-31)) <u>Nov. 7-29 and Dec. 14-29</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>Elk Area 4941</u>	<u>5 (TBD) 5</u>
<u>Mudflow</u>	<u>WF, WM, WA</u>	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Nov. 21-30</u>	<u>Any bull</u>	<u>Elk Area 5099</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Mudflow</u>	<u>WF, WM, WA</u>	<u>Youth</u>	((Oct. 26 - Nov. 1 and Nov. 25-30)) <u>Oct. 24 - Nov. 1</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>Elk Area 5099</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Coweeman</u>	<u>WF</u>	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Nov. ((2-13)) 7-18</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMU 550</u>	((45)) <u>10</u>
<u>Toutle</u>	<u>WF</u>	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Nov. 20-30</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMU 556</u>	((20)) <u>10</u>
<u>Lewis River</u>	<u>WF</u>	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Nov. ((2-13)) 7-18</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMU 560</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Wind River</u>	<u>WF</u>	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Nov. ((2-13)) 7-18</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMU 574</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>West Klickitat</u>	<u>WF</u>	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Nov. ((2-13)) 7-18</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMU 578</u>	((45)) <u>10</u>
<u>Region 5</u>	<u>WF, WM ((; WA))</u>	<u>Youth with mentor</u>	((Aug. 1, 2019 - Mar. 31, 2020)) <u>Aug. 1, 2020 - Mar. 31, 2021</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>Designated Areas in Region 5</u>	<u>10^{HC}</u>
<u>Peninsula</u>	<u>WF</u>	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Nov. ((2-13)) 7-18</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Clearwater</u>	<u>WF</u>	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Nov. ((2-13)) 7-18</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMU 615</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Matheny</u>	<u>WF</u>	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Nov. ((2-13)) 7-18</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMU 618</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Wynoochee</u>	<u>WF</u>	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Nov. ((2-13)) 7-18</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMU 648</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>North River</u>	<u>WF</u>	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Nov. ((2-13)) 7-18</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMU 658</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Williams Creek</u>	<u>WF</u>	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Nov. ((2-13)) 7-18</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMU 673</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Mallis</u>	<u>WF</u>	<u>Youth</u>	((Dec. 16, 2019 - Jan. 20, 2020)) <u>Dec. 16, 2020 - Jan. 20, 2021</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>Elk Area 6010</u>	<u>10</u>

Youth - Only youth hunters may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt.						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Peninsula	WA	Youth	Sept. ((7-19)) <u>12-24</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615	2
Peninsula	WM	Youth	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-9</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615	2
Forks ^v	WF, WM, WA	Youth	Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 6612	10
Region 6	WF	Youth with mentor	((Aug. 1, 2019 – Mar. 31, 2020)) <u>Aug. 1, 2020 - Mar. 31, 2021</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 6	((§ ^{HE})) <u>7^{HC}</u>

65+ Senior - Only hunters 65 and older may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt.						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Northeast	EF	65+	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 31 - Nov. 8</u> and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMUs 113, 117	10
Prescott	EF	65+	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 31 - Nov. 8</u>	Antlerless	GMU 149	3
Blue Creek	EF	65+	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 31 - Nov. 8</u>	Antlerless	GMU 154	1
((Dayton	EF	65+	<u>Oct. 26 – Nov. 3</u>	Antlerless	GMU 163	4))
<u>Marengo</u>	EF	65+	<u>Oct. 31 - Nov. 8</u>	Antlerless	GMU 163	<u>1</u>
Peola	EF	65+	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 31 - Nov. 8</u>	Antlerless	GMU 178	3
Malaga	EF	65+	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	10
Colockum	EF	65+	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 11)) Nov. 4-11	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329, 335	10
Yakima North	EF	65+	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 11)) <u>Nov. 4-11</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346	10 <u>5</u>
Yakima Central	EF	65+	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 11)) <u>Nov. 4-11</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 352, 356, 360	5 <u>3</u>
Yakima South	EF	65+	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 11)) <u>Nov. 4-11</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 364, 368	5 <u>3</u>
Alkali	EF	65+	((Oct. 14 – Nov. 4)) <u>Oct. 11-30</u>	Antlerless	GMU 371	10
North Bend	WF, WM, WA	65+	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 4601	5
Colockum	EM	65+	((Sept. 28 – Oct. 6)) Oct. 3-11	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329, 335	5
Yakima North	EM	65+	((Sept. 28 – Oct. 6)) <u>Oct. 3-11</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346	5

65+ Senior - Only hunters 65 and older may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt.						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Yakima Central	EM	65+	((Sept. 28 – Oct. 6)) <u>Oct. 3-11</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 352, 356, 360	5
Ryderwood	WF	65+	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Antlerless	GMU 530	((40)) <u>5</u>
Willapa Hills	WF	65+	Nov. <u>7-18</u>	Antlerless	GMU 506	<u>5</u>
Skagit River	WF, WM, WA	65+	((Nov. 9 – Dec. 1 and Dec. 16-31)) <u>Nov. 7-29 and Dec. 14-29</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 4941	5 (TBD) <u>5</u>
Peninsula	WF	65+	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615	3
Centralia Mine	WF	65+	Sept. ((7-8)) <u>5-6</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6011	5
Hanaford	WF, WM, WA	65+	((Dec. 28, 2019 – Jan. 11, 2020)) <u>Jan. 1-15, 2021</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6069	5
Hanaford	WF, WM, WA	65+	Jan. ((12-26, 2020)) <u>16-31, 2021</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6069	5
Peninsula	WA	65+	Sept. ((7-19)) <u>12-24</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615	1
Peninsula	WM	65+	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-9</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615	1
Forks ^v	WF, WM, WA	65+	Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 6612	10

Hunters with Disabilities - Only hunters with disabilities may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt.						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Northeast	EF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 31 - Nov. 8</u> and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMUs 113, 117	4
Turnbull	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((1-6)) <u>7-12</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	5
Prescott	EF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 31 - Nov. 8</u>	Antlerless	GMU 149	3
Blue Creek	EF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 31 - Nov. 8</u>	Antlerless	GMU 154	1
Dayton	EF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 31 - Nov. 8</u>	Antlerless	GMU 163	1
Peola	EF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Oct. 26 – Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 31 - Nov. 8</u>	Antlerless	GMU 178	3
Observatory	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Oct. 21 – Nov. 3)) <u>Oct. 26 - Nov. 8</u>	Any bull	GMUs 334, 340, 342	((4)) <u>3</u>
Little Naches	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Sept. 28 – Oct. 6)) <u>Oct. 3-11</u>	Any bull	GMU 346	((4)) <u>3</u>
Malaga	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/	Sept. ((9-20)) <u>7-</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	10

Hunters with Disabilities - Only hunters with disabilities may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt.						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
		Disabilities	<u>18</u>			
Coloekum	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 11)) <u>Nov. 4-11</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329, 335	10
Yakima North	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 11)) <u>Nov. 4-11</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346	10 <u>5</u>
Yakima Central	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 11)) <u>Nov. 4-11</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 352, 356, 360	5 <u>3</u>
Yakima South	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Oct. 30 – Nov. 11)) <u>Nov. 4-11</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 364, 368	5 <u>3</u>
Alkali	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Oct. 14 – Nov. 4)) <u>Oct. 11-30</u>	Any bull	GMUs 334, 371	5
Corral Canyon	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Sept. 22-29	Any elk	Elk Area 3721	2
North Bend	WF, WM, WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 4601	5
Skagit River	WF, WM, WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Nov. 9 – Dec. 1 and Dec. 16-31)) <u>Nov. 7-29 and Dec. 14-29</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 4941	5-(TBD) <u>5</u>
Mudflow	WF, WM, WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((18-24)) <u>14-20</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	5
Mudflow	WF, WM, WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Sept. ((24-30)) <u>22-28</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	5
Washougal	WF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Antlerless	GMU 568	((10)) <u>5</u>
Region 5	WF, WM ((7 WA))	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Aug. 1, 2019 – Mar. 31, 2020)) <u>Aug. 1, 2020 - Mar. 31, 2021</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 5	((10 ^{HC})) <u>5^{HC}</u>
Centralia Mine	WF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((5-6)) <u>10-11</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Elk Area 6011	5
Peninsula	WF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Nov. ((2-13)) <u>7-18</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615	3
Peninsula	WM	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((5-11)) <u>3-9</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615	1
Peninsula	WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Sept. ((7-19)) <u>12-24</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615	1

Master Hunter - Only master hunters may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt. Additional weapon restrictions may be conditioned by the hunt coordinator for each hunt. For those hunts requiring the purchase of a master hunter second tag, one elk may be killed in the unit under the authorization of the special permit.							
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Requirements	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Turnbull	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Dec. ((19-31)) <u>22-31</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	5
Region 1	EF, EA, EM/ 2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	((Aug. 1, 2019 – Mar. 31, 2020))	Antlerless	Region 1	20 ^{HC}

Master Hunter - Only master hunters may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt. Additional weapon restrictions may be conditioned by the hunt coordinator for each hunt. For those hunts requiring the purchase of a master hunter second tag, one elk may be killed in the unit under the authorization of the special permit.

Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Requirements	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
				<u>Aug. 1, 2020 - Mar. 31, 2021</u>			
Region 2	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	((Aug. 1, 2019– Mar. 31, 2020)) <u>Aug. 1, 2020 - Mar. 31, 2021</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 2	10 ^{HC}
Fairview	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	((Oct. 26, 2019– Mar. 31, 2020)) <u>Oct. 26, 2020 - Mar. 31, 2021</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in GMUs 328-368	((30^{HC})) 20 ^{HC}
Region 3	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	((Aug. 1, 2019– Mar. 31, 2020)) <u>Aug. 1, 2020 - Mar. 31, 2021</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 3	((25^{HC})) 20 ^{HC}
Rattlesnake Hills	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	((Aug. 1, 2019– Mar. 31, 2020)) <u>Aug. 1, 2020 - Mar. 31, 2021</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in GMU 372	20 ^{HC}
Region 4 North	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	((July 1, 2019– Mar. 31, 2020)) <u>July 1, 2020 - Mar. 31, 2021</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Whatcom and Skagit counties	13 ^{HC} (TBD)
Region 4 South	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	((July 1, 2019– Mar. 31, 2020)) <u>July 1, 2020 - Mar. 31, 2021</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in King and Snohomish counties	10 ^{HC}
Pumice Plains	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Oct. 9-15	Antlerless	Elk Area 5063	2
Pumice Plains	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Oct. 17-23	Antlerless	Elk Area 5063	((5)) 3
((Pumice Plains))	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Nov. 2-13	Antlerless	Elk Area 5063	2))
Trout Lake**	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Dec. 15-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 5062	5
Trout Lake**	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Jan. 1-15, ((2020)) 2021	Antlerless	Elk Area 5062	5
Trout Lake**	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Jan. 16-30, ((2020)) 2021	Antlerless	Elk Area 5062	5
((JBH*))	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Nov. 1–Dec. 31	Antlerless	Elk Area 5090	5 ^{HC}))
Region 5	Any western elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	((Aug. 1, 2019– Mar. 31, 2020)) <u>Aug. 1, 2020 - Mar. 31, 2021</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 5	((30^{HC})) 20 ^{HC}
Long Beach	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	((July 1, 2019– Mar. 31, 2020)) <u>July 1, 2020 - Mar. 31, 2021</u>	Antlerless	GMU 684	5
Region 6	WF, WA, WM/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	((July 1, 2019– Mar. 31, 2020))	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 6	30 ^{HC}

Master Hunter - Only master hunters may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt. Additional weapon restrictions may be conditioned by the hunt coordinator for each hunt. For those hunts requiring the purchase of a master hunter second tag, one elk may be killed in the unit under the authorization of the special permit.

Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Requirements	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
				July 1, 2020 - Mar. 31, 2021			

* Muzzleloader only, scopes allowed.

** May only hunt on privately owned lands. Must use only archery or legal shotgun (10 or 12 gauge; slugs only).

¥ Must use only archery, muzzleloader, or legal shotgun (10 or 12 gauge; slugs only).

^{HC} This is a damage hunt administered by a WDFW designated hunt coordinator. Successful applicants will be contacted on an as-needed basis to help with specific sites of elk damage on designated landowner's property. Not all successful applicants will be contacted in any given year, depending on elk damage activity for that year.

Hunter Education Instructor Incentive Permits				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Special elk permits will be allocated through a random drawing to those hunter education instructors who qualify. - Permit hunters must use archery equipment during archery seasons, muzzleloader equipment or archery equipment during muzzleloader seasons, and any legal weapon during modern firearm seasons. Hunter orange and/or hunter pink is required during modern firearm seasons. - Except for online class incentive permits and chief instructor incentive permits, qualifying hunter education instructors must be certified and have been in active status for a minimum of three consecutive years, inclusive of the year prior to the permit drawing. - Permittees may purchase a second license for use with the permit hunt only. - Qualified hunter education instructors may only receive one incentive permit each year. 				
Area	Dates	Restrictions	GMUs	Permits
Region 3	All general season and permit seasons established for GMUs included with the permit. Not eligible for seasons and permits for auction hunts; raffle hunts; and hunts for master hunters, youth hunters, hunters with disabilities, or hunters 65 years and older, unless the hunter education instructor legally qualifies for such hunts.	Any bull	GMUs ((336-346)) 336-368	1
((Region 3))		((Any bull	GMUs 352-360	4))
((Region 3))		((Any bull	GMUs 364-368	4))
Region 5		Any elk	382, 388 and all 500 series GMUs EXCEPT GMU 522	2
Region 6		Any elk	GMUs 618, 638-648, 654, 658, 663, 672, 699	1

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.013, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, and 77.12.020. WSR 19-20-078 (Order 19-245), § 220-415-060, filed 9/27/19, effective 10/28/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.090, 77.04.130, 77.15.568, 77.08.010, 77.65.510, 77.65.515, and 77.65.520. WSR 19-10-011 (Order 19-79), § 220-415-060, filed 4/19/19, effective 5/20/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.013, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, 77.12.020, 77.12.040, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, 77.12.210, 77.12.240, 77.12.320, 77.12.570, 77.12.800, 77.15.245, 77.32.007,

77.32.050, 77.32.070, 77.32.090, 77.32.370, and 77.32.530. WSR 18-11-061 (Order 18-76), § 220-415-060, filed 5/11/18, effective 6/11/18.

Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, 77.12.240, 77.12.800, 77.32.090. WSR 17-10-076 (Order 17-10), amended and recodified as § 220-415-060, filed 5/3/17, effective 6/3/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, 77.12.240, 77.12.800, 77.32.090, and 77.32.155.

WSR 16-12-087, § 232-28-360, filed 5/31/16, effective 7/1/16.

Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.055, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, and 77.12.240. WSR 15-10-059 (Order 15-98), § 232-28-360, filed 4/30/15, effective 5/31/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047, 77.12.240, and 77.32.070. WSR 14-10-019 (Order 14-95), § 232-28-360, filed 4/25/14, effective 5/26/14; WSR 13-11-078 (Order 13-94), § 232-28-360, filed 5/16/13, effective 6/16/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047. WSR 12-11-005 (Order 12-70), § 232-28-360, filed 5/2/12, effective 6/2/12.]

RECOMMENDED ADJUSTMENTS

The department recommends the following adjustments since the Code Reviser filed (CR-102). The adjustments are included in your notebooks.

Page 18

- Change: For Blue Creek, change permits from 9 to 8.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Dayton, change permits from 3 to 2.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Tucannon, change permits from 6 to 5.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Wenaha East, change permits from 5 to 4.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

Page 19

- Change: For Ten Forty, change permits from 2 to 1.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Couse, change permits from 3 to 5.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Colockum (Oct. 21-Nov. 3), change permits from 24 to 23.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Nooksack, change permits from TBD to 13.

Rationale: Permit numbers were developed in collaboration with Treaty Tribes after the filing of the CR-102.

- Change: For Green River, change season dates from TBD to Oct. 17-23 and permits from TBD to 10.

Rationale: Permit numbers were developed in collaboration with Treaty Tribes after the filing of the CR-102.

Page 20

- Change: For Toutle, change permits from 29 to 26.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Ten Ten, change permits from 2 to 3.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

Page 21

- Change: For Colockum, change permits from 17 to 15.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Observatory, change permits from 20 to 19.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Goose Prairie, change permits from 7 to 6.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Bethel, change permits from 6 to 7.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Rimrock, change permits from 21 to 20.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Nooksack, change permits from TBD to 8.

Rationale: Permit numbers were developed in collaboration with Treaty Tribes after the filing of the CR-102.

Page 22

- Change: For Wenaha East, change permits from 2 to 1.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Colockum, change permits from 6 to 7.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Teanaway, change permits from 2 to 1.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

Page 23

- Change: For Nooksack, change permits from TBD to 8.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Toutle, change permits from 13 to 9.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Teanaway, change permits from 5 to 4.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Peaches Ridge, change permits from 13 to 15.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Observatory, change permits from 16 to 14.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

Page 24

- Change: For Goose Prairie, change permits from 8 to 7.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Rimrock, change permits from 28 to 33.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Skagit River, WF, change permits from TBD to 6.

Rationale: Permit numbers were developed in collaboration with Treaty Tribes after the filing of the CR-102.

- Change: For Olympic, change permits from 6 to 5.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Skokomish, change permits from 3 to 2.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Skagit River, WA, change permits from TBD to 9.

Rationale: Permit numbers were developed in collaboration with Treaty Tribes after the filing of the CR-102.

Page 25

- Change: For Olympic, change permits from 3 to 1.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Skokomish, change permits from 2 to 1.

Rationale: Harvest estimates from 2019 became available and were used to make final allocation adjustments.

- Change: For Skagit River, change permits from TBD to 6.

Rationale: Permit numbers were developed in collaboration with Treaty Tribes after the filing of the CR-102.

Page 26

- Change: For Colockum, change permits from 50 to 15.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Colockum elk herd.

- Change: Eliminate the West Bar season in GMU 330 that occurs Oct. 31-Nov. 3.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Colockum elk herd.

Page 27

- Change: For Taneum, change permits from 25 to 10.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.

- Change: For Manastash, change permits from 25 to 10.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.

- Change: For Umtanum, change permits from 25 to 10.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.

- Change: For Little Naches, change permits from 30 to 10.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.

- Change: For Nile, change permits from 10 to 5.
Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.
- Change: For Bumping, change permits from 15 to 5.
Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.
- Change: For Bethel, change permits from 10 to 5.
Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.
- Change: For Rimrock, change permits from 15 to 10.
Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.
- Change: For Cowiche, change permits from 15 to 10.
Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.
- Change: For Green River, change season dates from TBD to Oct. 17-23 and permits from TBD to 12.
Rationale: Permit numbers were developed in collaboration with Treaty Tribes after the filing of the CR-102.

Page 28

- Change: Add Colockum, EA, Sept. 12-24, Antlerless, 75 Permits.
Rationale: Special permit opportunities for archery hunters to harvest antlerless elk are being added to offset some of the opportunity lost with the elimination of general season opportunities to harvest antlerless elk.
- Change: Add Colockum, EA, Nov. 25-Dec. 8, Antlerless, 20 Permits.
Rationale: Special permit opportunities for archery hunters to harvest antlerless elk are being added to offset some of the opportunity lost with the elimination of general season opportunities to harvest antlerless elk.
- Change: Add Taneum, EA, Antlerless, 60 Permits.
Rationale: Special permit opportunities for archery hunters to harvest antlerless elk are being added to offset some of the opportunity lost with the elimination of general season opportunities to harvest antlerless elk.

- Change: Add Manastash, EA, Antlerless, 60 Permits.

Rationale: Special permit opportunities for archery hunters to harvest antlerless elk are being added to offset some of the opportunity lost with the elimination of general season opportunities to harvest antlerless elk.

- Change: Add Umtanum, EA, Antlerless, 60 Permits.

Rationale: Special permit opportunities for archery hunters to harvest antlerless elk are being added to offset some of the opportunity lost with the elimination of general season opportunities to harvest antlerless elk.

- Change: Add Nile, EA, Antlerless, 50 Permits.

Rationale: Special permit opportunities for archery hunters to harvest antlerless elk are being added to offset some of the opportunity lost with the elimination of general season opportunities to harvest antlerless elk.

- Change: Add Bumping, EA, Antlerless, 50 Permits.

Rationale: Special permit opportunities for archery hunters to harvest antlerless elk are being added to offset some of the opportunity lost with the elimination of general season opportunities to harvest antlerless elk.

Page 29

- Change: Add Rimrock, EA, Antlerless, 60 Permits.

Rationale: Special permit opportunities for archery hunters to harvest antlerless elk are being added to offset some of the opportunity lost with the elimination of general season opportunities to harvest antlerless elk.

- Change: Add Cowiche, EA, Antlerless, 50 Permits.

Rationale: Special permit opportunities for archery hunters to harvest antlerless elk are being added to offset some of the opportunity lost with the elimination of general season opportunities to harvest antlerless elk.

Page 30

- Change: For Colockum, change permits from 35 to 10.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Colockum elk herd.

- Change: Eliminate the West Bar season in GMU 330 that occurs Oct. 3-11.
Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Colockum elk herd.
- Change: For Taneum, change permits from 20 to 10.
Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.
- Change: For Manastash, change permits from 20 to 10.
Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.
- Change: For Umtanum, change permits from 20 to 10.
Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.
- Change: For Bumping, change permits from 10 to 5.
Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.
- Change: For Bethel, change permits from 10 to 5.
Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.

Page 31

- Change: Eliminate the Colockum, EF season.
Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Colockum elk herd.
- Change: For Yakima North, change permits from 10 to 5.
Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.
- Change: For Yakima Central, change permits from 5 to 3.
Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.
- Change: For Yakima South, change permits from 5 to 3.
Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.

Page 32

- Change: Eliminate the Colockum, EM season.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Colockum elk herd.

- Change: For Yakima North, change permits from 10 to 5.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.

- Change: For Yakima Central, change permits from 10 to 5.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.

- Change: For Yakima South, change permits from 10 to 5.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.

- Change: For Skagit River, change permits from TBD to 5.

Rationale: Permit numbers were developed in collaboration with Treaty Tribes after the filing of the CR-102.

Page 33

- Change: Eliminate the Colockum, EF season.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Colockum elk herd.

- Change: For Yakima North, change permits from 10 to 5.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.

- Change: For Yakima Central, change permits from 5 to 3.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.

- Change: For Yakima South, change permits from 5 to 3.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.

- Change: Eliminate the Colockum, EM season.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Colockum elk herd.

Page 34

- Change: For Skagit River, change permits from TBD to 5.

Rationale: Permit numbers were developed in collaboration with Treaty Tribes after the filing of the CR-102.

Page 35

- Change: Eliminate the Colockum season.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Colockum elk herd.

- Change: For Yakima North, change permits from 10 to 5.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.

- Change: For Yakima Central, change permits from 5 to 3.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.

- Change: For Yakima South, change permits from 5 to 3.

Rationale: Antlerless permits are being reduced to promote recovery of the Yakima elk herd.

- Change: For Skagit River, change permits from TBD to 5.

Rationale: Permit numbers were developed in collaboration with Treaty Tribes after the filing of the CR-102.

Page 36

- Change: For Region 4 North, delete TBD.

Rationale: Permit numbers were developed in collaboration with Treaty Tribes after the filing of the CR-102.

Summary of Public Comments Received During the Official Comment Period and WDFW Response:

WAC 220-415-060 2020 Elk Special Permits.

Supporting Comments:

The Department received ten comments in support of the proposal. Two comments expressed general support, two advocated for replacing archery general seasons with special permits, one advocated for longer youth seasons in the Yakima herd, one advocated for more opportunity for senior hunters in GMU 560, one advocated for less tribal harvest, one advocated for predator management, and one advocated for less archery opportunity. One additional comment was unrelated to the proposal.

Opposing, Neutral, and Other Comments:

The Department received twenty-three comments in opposition to the proposal. Five comments advocated for predator management, five expressed opposition to a reduction in permit numbers, three advocated for a reduction in tribal harvest, two advocated against a reduction of bull permits in the Blue Mountains, two expressed general support for the proposal, two were opposed to reductions in opportunities for archery hunters, one advocated for removing all special permits, one advocated for more youth permits, one expressed opposition to reducing special permits for senior hunters, one supported further reductions in antlerless opportunities, one advocated for more opportunity for archery hunters that use traditional equipment, one advocated for more antlerless permits in GMUs 513 and 516, and one thought there were too many special permits for antlerless elk in GMU 648.

The Department received five neutral comments. Two comments advocated for predator management, one comment advocated for more youth permits, and two comments were not related to the proposal.

The Department also received one email that expressed concern about current status of the Colockum and Yakima elk herds. More specifically, they advocated for removing all antlerless harvest, not having other seasons overlap the Quality bull hunts, eliminating “true-spike”, consider closing both areas to all elk hunting, and better enforcement of the green-dot road system.

Lastly, the Department met with representatives from Washington State Bowhunters, the Washington State Archery Association, and Traditional Bowhunters of Washington to discuss proposals for the Colockum and Yakima elk herds. All three groups expressed strong values associated with providing general season opportunities for archery hunters to harvest antlerless elk.

Fish and Wildlife Commission Hearing, Public Comments:

No public testimony in support of this proposal was received at the March Commission meeting, while we received two comments during the extended open comment period that expressed support. One comment expressed general support, while the other comment expressed support for youth permits in GMU 371.

The Department received no additional opposing comments during public testimony at the March Commission meeting. We received one comment during the extended comment period that advocated for antlerless permits in GMU 653, but the constituent did not indicate whether they were supportive of or opposed to the proposal.

Direction and Rationale:

The Department will move forward with the recommendation to the Fish and Wildlife Commission as originally proposed, but will also include a recommended adjustment that will add special permit opportunities for archery hunters to harvest antlerless elk in the Colockum and Yakima elk herd areas to offset some of the opportunity that was lost with the elimination of general archery seasons. The most common themes from comments received included advocating for predator management, opposition to reductions in opportunity, and reducing tribal harvest. The Department has already liberalized bear seasons in eastern Washington and is proposing options to recreational cougar seasons that could increase opportunities to harvest cougars. Although the Department attempts to work collaboratively with the 24 tribes that have off-reservation hunting rights, they set their own hunting regulations for their tribal members. Although opposition to a reduction in opportunities was a central theme, those reductions are necessary given the current status of the Colockum (18% below objective), Yakima (14% below objective), Blue Mountains (16% below objective), and Mount St. Helens (30-35% decline in 2019) elk herds.



PROPOSED RULE MAKING

CR-102 (December 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.320)

Do NOT use for expedited rule making

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: February 05, 2020

TIME: 9:19 AM

WSR 20-04-091

Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

Original Notice

Supplemental Notice to WSR _____

Continuance of WSR _____

Preproposal Statement of Inquiry was filed as WSR 20-01-123 on December 16, 2019 ; or

Expedited Rule Making--Proposed notice was filed as WSR _____; or

Proposal is exempt under RCW 34.05.310(4) or 34.05.330(1); or

Proposal is exempt under RCW _____.

Title of rule and other identifying information: (describe subject) The department seeks to adopt rules concerning the 2020-2021 season setting.

WAC 220-410-050 Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions—Region five.

WAC 220-410-060 Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions—Region six.

WAC 220-412-050 Landowner raffle hunts.

WAC 220-412-070 Big game and wild turkey auction, raffle, and special incentive permits.

WAC 220-412-090 Multiple season big game permits.

WAC 220-412-100 Landowner hunting permits.

WAC 220-413-180 Special closures and firearm restriction areas.

WAC 220-413-200 Reducing the spread of hoof disease—Unlawful transport of elk hooves.

WAC 220-415-020 2018-2020 Deer general seasons and definitions.

WAC 220-415-030 2019 Deer special permits.

WAC 220-415-040 Elk area descriptions.

WAC 220-415-050 2018-2020 Elk general seasons and definitions.

WAC 220-415-060 2019 Elk special permits.

WAC 220-415-070 2019 Moose seasons, permit quotas, and areas.

WAC 220-415-100 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 Cougar.

WAC 220-415-120 2019 Bighorn sheep seasons and permit quotas.

WAC 220-415-130 2019 Mountain goat seasons and permit quotas.

WAC 220-416-010 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021 Small game and other wildlife seasons and regulations.

WAC 220-416-040 Hunting predatory birds.

WAC 220-416-060 2019-2020 Migratory waterfowl seasons and regulations.

WAC 220-440-060 Killing wildlife causing private property damage.

Hearing location(s):

Date: **Time:** **Location:** (be specific) **Comment:**

March 13-14, 2020	8:00 a.m.	Red Lion Columbia Center 1101 N. Columbia Center Blvd. Kennewick, Washington 99336	
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Date of intended adoption: April 10-11, 2020 (Note: This is **NOT** the effective date)

Submit written comments to:

Name: Wildlife Program

Address: PO Box 43200, Olympia, WA. 98504

Email: wildthing@dfw.wa.gov

Fax: (360) 902-2162

Other: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/regulations/season-setting>

By (date) February 26, 2020

Assistance for persons with disabilities:

Contact Dolores Noyes

Phone: (360) 902-2349

Fax:

TTY: (800) 833-6388

Email: dolores.noyes@dfw.wa.gov

Other:

By (date) March 6, 2020

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

WAC 220-410-050 Game management unit (GMU) boundary descriptions—Region five.

The purpose of this proposal is to correct any errors in the boundary descriptions for game management unit 506.

WAC 220-410-060 Game management unit (GMU) boundary descriptions—Region six.

The purpose of this proposal is to correct any errors in the boundary descriptions for game management unit 673.

WAC 220-412-050 Landowner raffle hunts.

The purpose of this proposal is to alter the adjustment of annual report submission date requirements from December 31 to May 1, to coincide with WAC 220-412-100. This also allows enrolled landowners to submit all required reports at the same time.

WAC 220-412-070 Big game and wild turkey auction, raffle, and special incentive permits.

This proposal adds game management units (GMUs) 186 and portions of GMU 181 (south of the line made by starting at Montgomery Ridge Road and Highway 129, to the Sherry Grade Road, to the Couse Creek Road, to the Snake River) to the legal hunt area for the Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep Raffle Permit.

WAC 220-412-090 Multiple season big game permits.

The purpose of this proposal is to clarify language.

WAC 220-412-100 Landowner hunting permits.

The purpose of this proposal is to further develop the standard operating procedure for the Landowner Hunting Permit (LHP) Program. The Landowner Hunting Permit WAC has been adjusted to reflect the new proposed requirements for the LHP program, as outlined in the standard operating procedure. The revised standard operating procedure anticipates better management, monitoring, and an improved experience for the general public, while recreating on properties enrolled in the Landowner Hunting Permit.

WAC 220-413-180 Special closures and firearm restriction areas.

The proposed administrative changes remove the reference to “wooden towers” from the description for the Columbia River Restricted Hunting Area. Corrections are made to the spelling of Newberry (from Newbury) Hill Road for the Firearm Restriction Area in Kitsap County.

WAC 220-413-200 Reducing the spread of hoof disease—Unlawful transport of elk hooves.

The purpose of this proposal is to abolish the rule.

WAC 220-415-020 2018-2020 Deer general seasons and definitions.

The purpose of this proposal is to retain general season deer hunting opportunities for 2020. It also aims to balance the hunting opportunities between user groups. The proposal also increases opportunities when deer populations allow and reduces opportunities when declining deer numbers warrant a change.

WAC 220-415-030 2019 Deer special permits.

The purpose of this proposal is to retain special permit for deer hunting opportunities for 2020. It also balances hunting opportunities between user groups, increases opportunities when deer populations allow, and reduces opportunities when declining deer numbers warrant a change. Lastly, it adds language that clarifies the bag limit is one deer, except where otherwise permitted by department rule, even if permits are drawn for more than one deer hunt category.

WAC 220-415-040 Elk area descriptions.

The purpose of the proposed changes would eliminate Elk Area No. 1011 (Columbia County), Elk Area No. 1012 (Asotin County), and Elk Area No. 1082 (Asotin County).

WAC 220-415-050 2018-2020 Elk general seasons and definitions.

The purpose of the proposed change is to retain general season elk hunting opportunities for 2020. It also balances hunting opportunities between user groups, increases opportunities when elk populations allow, and reduces opportunities when declining elk numbers warrant a change.

The department will not develop specific recommendations regarding opportunities to harvest antlerless elk during the early archery general elk seasons in the Colockum (GMUs 328, 329) and Yakima (GMUs 336, 340, 352, 356, 364) elk herd areas until population surveys are completed in February and/or March. If population surveys indicate it is warranted, the department may also consider reducing opportunities for archery hunters to harvest antlerless elk during the late archery general elk seasons, and reducing modern firearm, and muzzleloader special permit opportunities. A general overview of the recommendations that may be considered dependent of herd status are provided below. Recommendations developed in response to surveys indicating a population decline will also depend on the severity of the decline.

Colockum Elk Herd: (GMUs 249, 251, 328, 329, 330, 334, 335)

<u>Herd Status</u>	<u>General Overview of Recommendation</u>
Decline	Significantly reduce or eliminate general season opportunities to harvest antlerless elk during archery seasons, except for those associated with addressing damage issues, and in areas where the department does not manage for large numbers of elk (e.g., GMU 334, 335). Also, reduce opportunities to harvest antlerless elk during modern firearm and muzzleloader permit seasons.
Stable	Significantly reduce or eliminate general season opportunities to harvest antlerless elk during archery seasons, except for those associated with addressing damage issues and in areas where the department does not manage for large numbers of elk (e.g., GMU 334, 335). Replace some of the lost opportunities with a limited number of permits to harvest antlerless elk. Retain opportunities to harvest antlerless elk during modern firearm and muzzleloader permit seasons.
Increase	Retain current general and special permit seasons.

Yakima Elk Herd: (GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346, 352, 356, 360, 364, 368, 371, 372)

<u>Herd Status</u>	<u>General Overview of Recommendation</u>
Decline	Significantly reduce or eliminate general season opportunities to harvest antlerless elk, except for those associated with addressing damage issues and in areas where the department does not manage for large numbers of elk (e.g., GMUs 371 and 372). Replace some of the lost opportunities with a limited number of permits to harvest antlerless elk. If warranted, also reduce opportunities during modern firearm and muzzleloader permit seasons.
Stable	Significantly reduce or eliminate general season opportunities to harvest antlerless elk, except for those associated with addressing damage issues and in areas where the department does not manage for large numbers of elk (e.g., GMU 371 and 372). Replace some of the lost opportunities with a limited number of permits to harvest antlerless elk. Retain current opportunities during modern firearm and muzzleloader permit seasons.
Increase	Retain current general and special permit seasons.

WAC 220-415-060 2019 Elk special permits.

The purpose of this proposal is to retain elk special permit hunting opportunities for 2020. It also balances elk hunting opportunities between user groups, increases elk hunting opportunities when elk populations allow, and reduces opportunities when declining elk numbers warrant a change. Lastly, it adds language that clarifies the bag limit is one elk, except where otherwise allowed by department rule, even if permits are drawn for more than one elk hunt category.

WAC 220-415-070 2019 Moose seasons, permit quotas, and areas.

This proposal adds language that clarifies the bag limit is one moose, except where otherwise allowed by department rule, even if permits are drawn for more than one moose hunt category. It also adjusts moose hunt permit limits to reflect population changes and recent harvest.

WAC 220-415-100 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 Cougar.

The proposed changes are designed to give the Commission four options to choose from relating to recreational cougar harvest guidelines. The non-status quo options are intended to extend seasons in areas where harvest has been historically high, and where cougar human conflict is also high. The intended result of the longer season is to shift a proportion of the cougar removal, currently carried out by agency personnel, to hunters:

- The first option is status quo with one caveat, the density we used to set the guideline is the median of five research projects that were conducted in Washington. The median is a better measure because it is not affected by outliers in the data. In the past we used the mean.

- The second option also uses a median density that is calculated using only adult cougars that are 24 months or older. This option reduces the guideline slightly, but sub-adult cougars harvested under this option would not count toward the guideline for season closure.
- The third option adjusts the guideline upward for units that exceeded the guideline by December 31 at least once in the past five years. The new guideline is based on the highest harvest in the past five years. In this option there is the assumption that density is higher in these areas. In two PMUs, the guidelines in this option were adjusted, so they did not exceed an assumed density 4.15 cougars per 100 square kilometers. This was intended to keep the density within an acceptable range based on research conducted in the western United States. This guideline includes adults and sub-adults.
- The fourth option is like option three, but only uses a density based on adult cougars and only counts adult cougars towards the guideline.

WAC 220-415-120 2019 Bighorn sheep seasons and permit quotas.

This proposal adds language that clarifies the bag limit is one bighorn sheep, except where otherwise permitted by department rule, even if permits are drawn for more than one bighorn sheep category. It also adjusts bighorn sheep hunt permit limits to reflect population changes and recent harvest. Lastly, this proposal creates separate permit opportunities for adult ewes and juvenile rams in the Selah Butte, Mount Baldy, and Umtanum hunt areas (collectively referred to as the Yakima Canyon herd).

WAC 220-415-130 2019 Mountain goat seasons and permit quotas.

This proposal adds language that clarifies the bag limit is one mountain goat, except where otherwise permitted by department rule, even if permits are drawn for more than one goat hunt category. It also adjusts mountain goat hunt permit limits to reflect population changes and recent harvest.

WAC 220-416-010 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021 Small game and other wildlife seasons and regulations.

The purpose of this proposal is to increase the number of hunter education incentive turkey permits from two to four.

WAC 220-416-040 Hunting predatory birds.

Removes the depredation part of the rule because it already exists in WAC 220-440-060.

WAC 220-416-060 2019-2020 Migratory gamebird seasons and regulations.

The proposal amends the rule to specify legal season dates, and bag limits for the 2020-2021 season.

Changes include:

- Adjusting season dates relative to 2020-2021 calendar dates.
- Maintain one-pintail per day bag-limit and associated possession limit per the USFWS Northern Pintail Harvest Strategy.
- Lowering scaup bag-limit to two-scaup per day and associated possession limits, while keeping an 86-day season length by the optimal regulatory alternative described in the Adaptive Harvest Management protocol.
- Shifting seven-days from the beginning of the first season segment to the end of the third season segment for white geese in Goose Management Area 4 (Columbia Basin).

WAC 220-440-060 Killing wildlife causing private property damage.

The proposed amendment to the rule intends to make our rule consistent with federal rules that pertain to crows and magpies.

Reasons supporting proposal:

WAC 220-410-050 Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions—Region five.

The proposed change will make the boundaries more discernable for hunters.

WAC 220-410-060 Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions—Region six.

The proposed change will make the boundaries more discernable for hunters.

WAC 220-412-050 Landowner raffle hunts.

This proposal simplifies the requirements for landowners that operate raffle drawings. It also aligns annual report submission dates with WAC 220-412-100.

WAC 220-412-070 Big game and wild turkey auction, raffle, and special incentive permits.

Bighorn sheep populations have increased in these areas, which warrants an expansion of the hunt area.

WAC 220-412-090 Multiple season big game permits.

The proposal clarifies the language and reduces hunter confusion regarding this rule.

WAC 220-412-100 Landowner hunting permits.

Over the past year, the department has held public meetings and active stakeholder/landowner meetings to assess the current views of the program. These comments have been taken into consideration as well as input from Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) staff which has resulted in the development of the new standard operating procedure for the landowner hunting permit (LHP) program. The proposed changes reflect the comments received from the public, WDFW staff and landowners. Historically, there haven't been many changes to the LHP program. However, due to the lack of consistency and the expansive variation in management styles across the state, this program has proven to be difficult to manage at a program level. These reasons were the main driving factor behind taking the appropriate steps to revise and make changes to the program.

WAC 220-413-180 Special closures and firearm restriction areas.

The "wooden towers" referenced in the Columbia River Restricted Hunting Area boundary description were torn down recently. As such, they could no longer be used as a discernable landmark to describe the boundary. Correcting the spelling of Newberry Hill Road will eliminate confusion for hunters.

WAC 220-413-200 Reducing the spread of hoof disease—Unlawful transport of elk hooves.

This rule, originally adopted in 2014, attempted to reduce the risk of inadvertently spreading the causative agents of treponeme associated hoof disease (TAHD) in elk. Since that time, however, TAHD has been confirmed throughout western Washington, east of the Cascade Mountains near the town of Trout Lake, and in the Blue Mountains of southeast Washington. The continued expansion of this disease appears to indicate this rule was ineffective at preventing disease expansion. Other reasons for supporting this rule are:

1. For surveillance purposes, we want to encourage elk hunters in eastern Washington to submit suspicious hooves.
2. The current rule is not being enforced, but rather used by Enforcement Officers as an educational opportunity.
3. We have no scientific findings that support the implementation of this rule.
4. The Department is working on developing management strategies that will be proposed during the next 3-year season cycle, which would incentivize elk hunters in western Washington to target limping elk but would also require them to submit their hooves to the Department for inspection.
5. Neighboring states (Idaho and Oregon), where TAHD has been detected, do not have a similar rule.

Although the Department is proposing to abolish this rule, we would still encourage hunters to leave hooves from the elk they harvest on site.

WAC 220-415-020 2018-2020 Deer general seasons and definitions.

This proposal provides recreational deer hunting opportunities and protects deer from overharvest. The proposal would also maintain sustainable general deer hunting season opportunities for 2020. The proposal helps address deer agricultural damage problems and provides for deer population control when needed.

WAC 220-415-030 2019 Deer special permits.

This proposal provides recreational deer hunting opportunities and protects deer from overharvest. The proposal would also maintain sustainable deer special permit hunting season opportunities for 2020. The proposal helps address deer agricultural damage problems and provides for deer population control when needed.

Situations have occurred in the past that involved hunters who successfully drew a permit in more than one hunt category for the same species. Because the current language does not specify a bag limit, some hunters interpret this to mean they can shoot one deer per permit or one deer in addition to their general season harvest, which is incorrect. Amending this rule as proposed, would clarify the rule and avoid confusion in the future.

WAC 220-415-040 Elk area descriptions.

All three elk areas were created to address issues related to elk causing damage to agricultural crops. Damage issues in all three areas have declined following the substantial declines in elk numbers. As such, these elk areas are no longer needed and there is not an anticipated need in the foreseeable future.

WAC 220-415-050 2018-2020 Elk general seasons and definitions.

Overall, the proposal provides recreational elk hunting opportunities, helps address elk agricultural damage problems, and provides elk population control when needed. The department is postponing the development of specific recommendations for the Colockum and Yakima elk herds. These two herds have experienced substantial declines since 2015, with late-winter surveys in 2019 showing the Yakima herd was approximately 13% below objective and the Colockum herd approximately 8% below. Declines have been the result of increased antlerless harvest, severe drought and winter conditions, and depressed recruitment of calves. Moreover, preliminary counts of elk on feed sites for the Yakima elk herd in January 2020, show calf recruitment rates are likely to be lower than normal for the fourth consecutive year. The department is concerned about the status of both herds and plans to develop recommendations that are likely to promote population growth.

WAC 220-415-060 2019 Elk special permits.

This proposal provides recreational elk hunting opportunities and protects elk from overharvest. The proposal would maintain sustainable elk special permit hunting opportunities for 2020. The proposal helps address elk agricultural damage problems and provides for elk population control when needed.

Situations have occurred in the past that involved hunters who successfully drew a permit in more than one hunt category for the same species. Because the current language does not specify a bag limit, some hunters interpret this to mean they can shoot one elk per permit or one elk in addition to their general season harvest, which is incorrect. Amending this rule as proposed, would clarify the rule and avoid confusion in the future.

WAC 220-415-070 2019 Moose seasons, permit quotas, and areas.

Situations have occurred in the past that involved hunters who successfully drew a permit in more than one hunt category for the same species. Because the current language shows the bag limit is one moose, some hunters interpret this to mean one moose per permit, which is incorrect. Amending this rule as proposed, would clarify the rule and avoid confusion in the future.

Permits for 'Any Antlered Bull Moose' in Spokane West A were increased because surveys showed a good bull to cow ratio. Permits for 'Antlerless Only' were reduced in Mt Spokane South B, Mt Spokane North B, and Mica Peak because surveys showed calf recruitment rates and the overall number of moose biologists observed were lower than normal.

WAC 220-415-100 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 Cougar.

The proposal gives the Commission biologically sustainable options for the cougar hunting seasons.

WAC 220-415-120 2019 Bighorn sheep seasons and permit quotas.

Situations have occurred in the past that involved hunters who successfully drew a permit in more than one hunt category for the same species. Because the current language indicates the bag limit is one bighorn ram, except in designated adult ewe hunts the limit is one bighorn adult ewe, some hunters interpret this to mean one sheep per permit, which is incorrect. Amending this rule as proposed, would clarify the rule and avoid confusion in the future.

The department is proposing to develop unique permit opportunities for adult ewes and juvenile rams for the Yakima Canyon herd. This proposal is in association with our efforts to reduce the size of the herd and eliminate *Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae* (M. Ovi.) from this herd. The department first implemented these permits during the 2019 season with special restriction identified as an Adult Ewe or Juvenile Ram, but most resulting harvest consisted of rams, including rams that were not juveniles. As such, very few ewes were harvested as intended, which calls for the proposed change.

WAC 220-415-130 2019 Mountain goat seasons and permit quotas.

Situations have occurred in the past that involved hunters who successfully drew a permit in more than one hunt category for the same species. Because the current language shows the bag limit is one adult goat of either sex with horns four inches or longer, some hunters interpret this to mean one adult goat per permit, which is incorrect. Amending this rule as proposed, would clarify the rule and avoid confusion in the future.

WAC 220-416-010 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021 Small game and other wildlife seasons and regulations.

This change increases the incentive for hunter education instructors without harm to turkey populations.

WAC 220-416-040 Hunting predatory birds.

Reduces redundancy and simplifies the rule.

WAC 220-416-060 2019-2020 Migratory gamebird seasons and regulations.

Migratory waterfowl and other gamebird (coot, dove, band-tailed pigeon, and snipe) seasons and regulations are developed based on cooperative management programs among states of the Pacific Flyway and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, considering population status and other biological parameters. The rule establishes waterfowl seasons and regulations to provide recreational opportunity, control waterfowl damage, and conserve the migratory waterfowl resources of Washington.

WAC 220-440-060 Killing wildlife causing private property damage.

This proposal makes our rule consistent with federal rule.

Statutory authority for adoption: RCWs 77.04.012, 77.04.055, 77.12.047, and 77.12.240

Statute being implemented: RCWs 77.04.012, 77.04.055, 77.12.047, and 77.12.240

Is rule necessary because of a:

Federal Law?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Federal Court Decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
State Court Decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

If yes, CITATION:

Agency comments or recommendations, if any, as to statutory language, implementation, enforcement, and fiscal matters:

Name of proponent: (person or organization) Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Private
 Public
 Governmental

Name of agency personnel responsible for:

	Name	Office Location	Phone
Drafting:	Eric Gardner	1111 Washington St. SE Olympia, WA. 98501	(360) 902-2515
Implementation:	Eric Gardner	1111 Washington St. SE Olympia, WA. 98501	(360) 902-2515
Enforcement:	Steve Bear	1111 Washington St. SE Olympia, WA. 98501	(360) 902-2373

Is a school district fiscal impact statement required under RCW 28A.305.135? Yes No

If yes, insert statement here:

The public may obtain a copy of the school district fiscal impact statement by contacting:

Name:
Address:
Phone:
Fax:
TTY:
Email:
Other:

Is a cost-benefit analysis required under RCW 34.05.328?

Yes: A preliminary cost-benefit analysis may be obtained by contacting:

Name:
Address:
Phone:
Fax:
TTY:
Email:
Other:

No: Please explain:

Regulatory Fairness Act Cost Considerations for a Small Business Economic Impact Statement:

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, **may be exempt** from requirements of the Regulatory Fairness Act (see chapter 19.85 RCW). Please check the box for any applicable exemption(s):

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under RCW 19.85.061 because this rule making is being adopted solely to conform and/or comply with federal statute or regulations. Please cite the specific federal statute or regulation this rule is being adopted to conform or comply with, and describe the consequences to the state if the rule is not adopted.

Citation and description:

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt because the agency has completed the pilot rule process defined by RCW 34.05.313 before filing the notice of this proposed rule.

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under the provisions of RCW 15.65.570(2) because it was adopted by a referendum.

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under RCW 19.85.025(3). Check all that apply:

RCW 34.05.310 (4)(b)
(Internal government operations)

RCW 34.05.310 (4)(c)
(Incorporation by reference)

RCW 34.05.310 (4)(d)
(Correct or clarify language)

RCW 34.05.310 (4)(e)
(Dictated by statute)

RCW 34.05.310 (4)(f)
(Set or adjust fees)

RCW 34.05.310 (4)(g)
((i) Relating to agency hearings; or (ii) process requirements for applying to an agency for a license or permit)

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under RCW 19.85.025 (4).

Explanation of exemptions, if necessary:

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONLY IF NO EXEMPTION APPLIES

If the proposed rule is **not exempt**, does it impose more-than-minor costs (as defined by RCW 19.85.020(2)) on businesses?

No Briefly summarize the agency's analysis showing how costs were calculated. _____

Yes Calculations show the rule proposal likely imposes more-than-minor cost to businesses, and a small business economic impact statement is required. Insert statement here:

The public may obtain a copy of the small business economic impact statement or the detailed cost calculations by contacting:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

TTY:

Email:

Other:

Date: February 5, 2020

Name: Jacalyn Hursey

Title: Rules Coordinator

Signature:

