

Elk General Seasons and Special Permits

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WACs:

220-415-040 Elk Area Descriptions.

220-415-050 2021-2023 Elk general seasons and definitions.

220-415-060 2022 Elk special permits.

Elk Area Descriptions – WAC 220-415-040

Proposed Changes

1. Create an Elk Area (1054) in GMU 154
 - Allows WDFW staff to concentrate harvest pressure where agricultural conflict is most prevalent, while preventing harvest of elk in other areas of GMU 154 where population growth is the objective

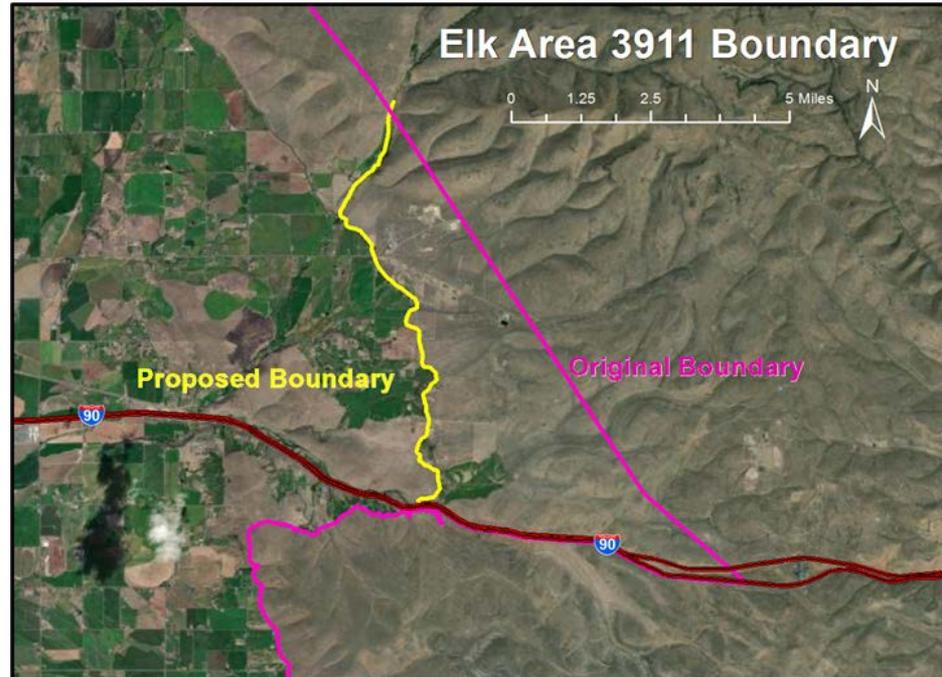


Elk Area Descriptions – WAC 220-415-040

Proposed Changes

Modify Elk Area 3911 boundary

- Change is requested to mitigate elk being pressured from WDFW lands onto private cropland, creating conflict

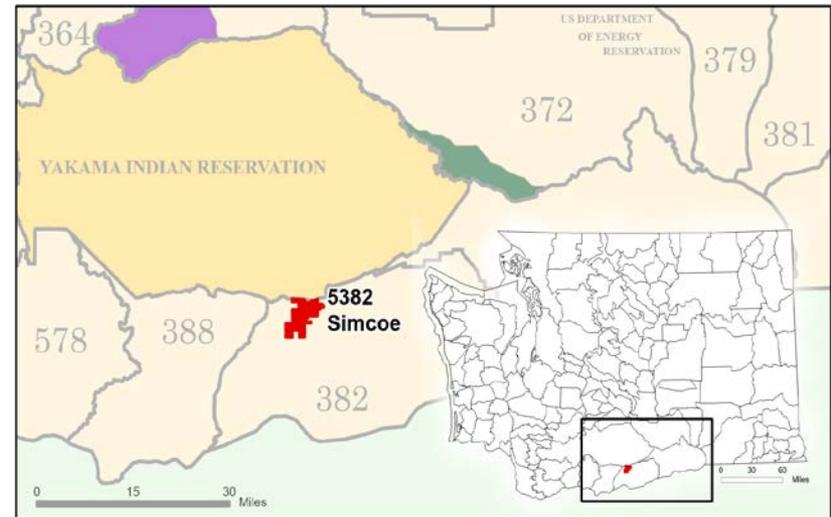


Elk General Seasons – WAC 220-415-050

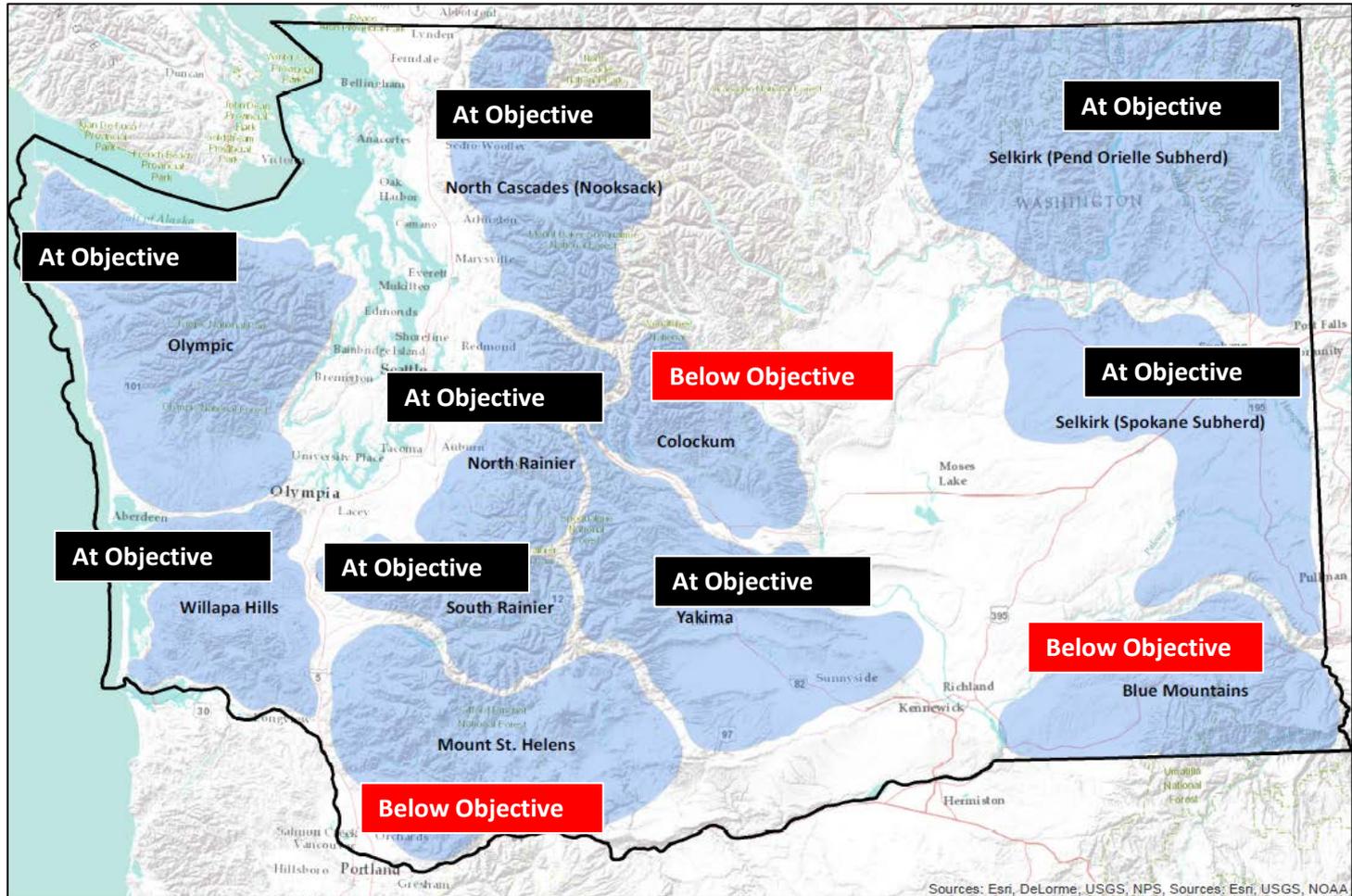
Proposed changes

1. Modify elk eastern Washington archery early and late seasons in GMU 382 to exclude Deer Area 5382
 - This change eliminates overlap between elk general season hunters and deer special permit hunters in Deer Area 5382
 - Ensures hunt quality for deer special permit holders

Season	Game Management Units (GMUs)
Early Archery General Elk Seasons	101 through 142, 204, 243, 247, 249, 250, 272, 278, 284, 290, 373, 379, 381, 382 (except <u>CLOSED in Deer Area 5382</u>), 388
Late Archery General Elk Seasons	124, 127, 373, 382 (except <u>CLOSED in Deer Area 5382</u>), 388



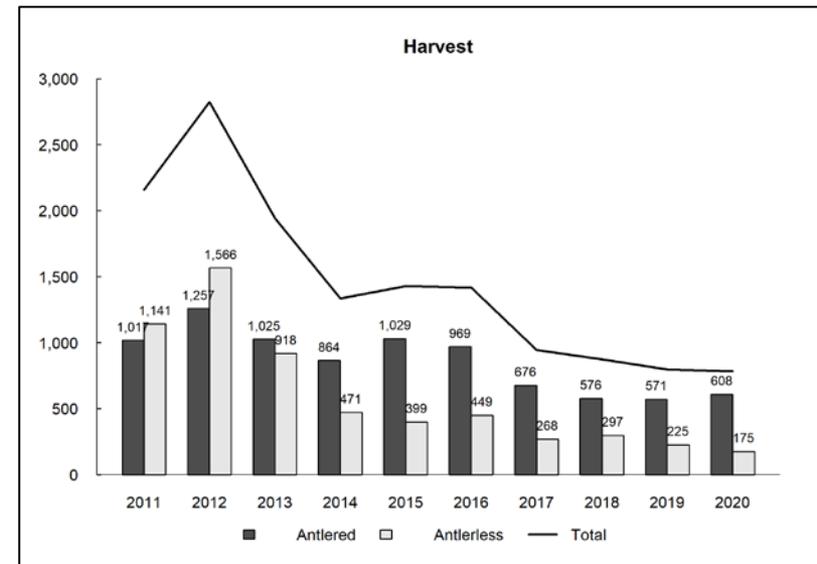
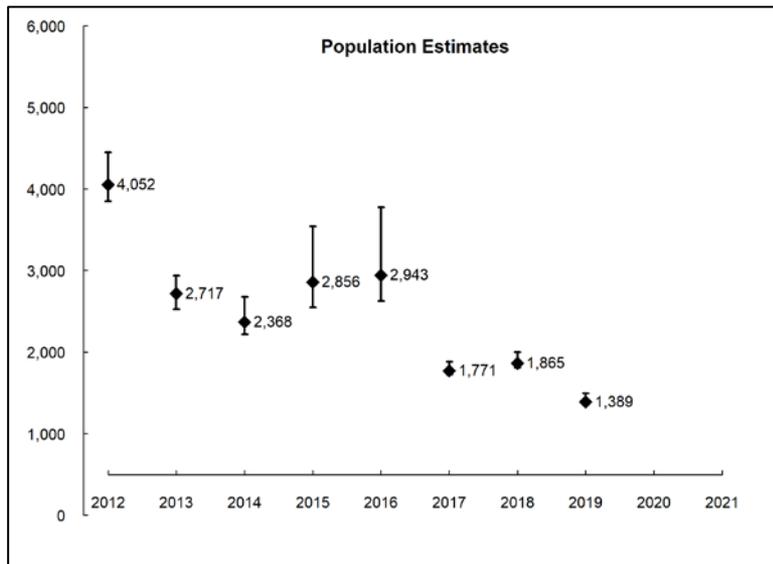
Elk Population Status



Elk Special Permits – WAC 220-415-060

Proposed changes – Mount St Helens

1. Population is below objective, ~1/3 its abundance 10 years prior
2. Management focus is on rebuilding population:
 - Maximize adult female survival
 - Manage treponeme-associated hoof disease



Elk Special Permits – WAC 220-415-060

Proposed changes – Mount St Helens

1. Reduction of permit levels in the “Antlerless” category in the Mount St Helens elk herd area due to below-objective status

Category	Hunt name	Weapon/Tag	2021 Permits	2022 Proposed Permits	Change	Species/Restriction
Antlerless	Winston	W. Modern	10	5	-5	Antlerless
Antlerless	Coweeman	W. Modern	10	5	-5	Antlerless
Antlerless	Lewis River	W. Modern	15	10	-5	Antlerless
Antlerless	Washougal	W. Modern	10	5	-5	Antlerless
Antlerless	Siouxon	W. Modern	10	5	-5	Antlerless
Antlerless	Wind River	W. Modern	15	5	-10	Antlerless
Antlerless	West Klickitat	W. Modern	30	5	-25	Antlerless
Antlerless	Coweeman	W. Muzzleloader	10	5	-5	Antlerless
Antlerless	Toutle	W. Muzzleloader	10	5	-5	Antlerless
Antlerless	Washougal	W. Muzzleloader	10	5	-5	Antlerless
Antlerless	Wind River	W. Muzzleloader	20	5	-15	Antlerless
Antlerless	West Klickitat	W. Muzzleloader	75	25	-50	Antlerless
Overall change:					-140	



Elk Special Permits – WAC 220-415-060

Proposed changes – Mount St Helens

2. Elimination of the Mt. Adams “Quality” elk special permit hunt
 - This permit has declined in quality (i.e., hunter success, satisfaction) and occasionally overlapped with a season of different weapon type

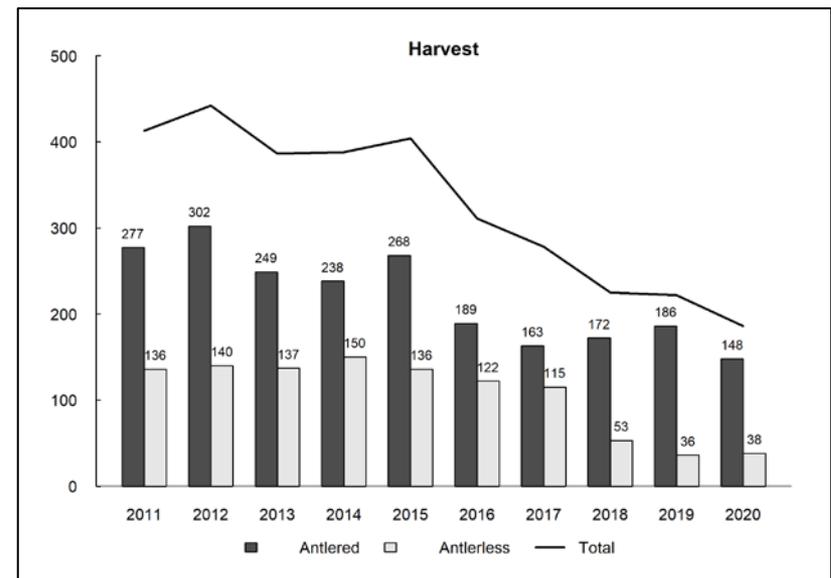
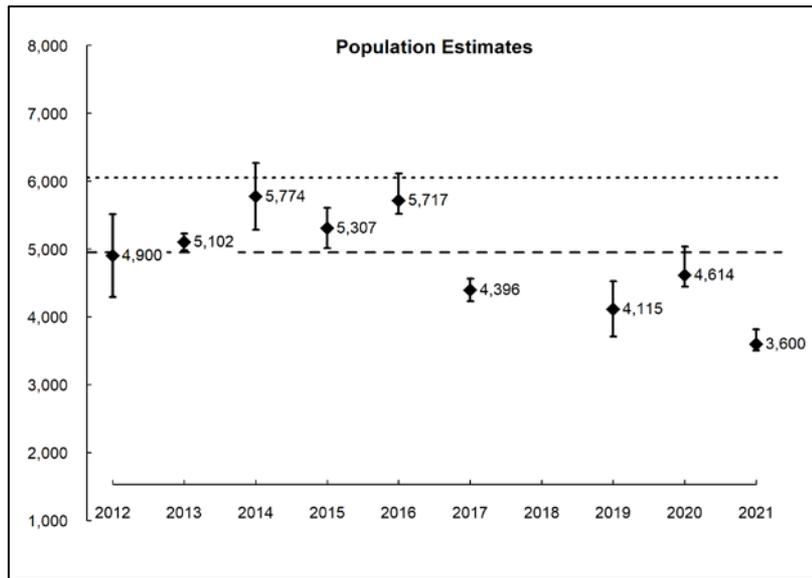
3. Elimination of the Carlton and West Goat Rocks “Quality” special permit hunts (n=10)
 - This permit has declined in quality (i.e., hunter success, satisfaction) and is sensitive to land closures (e.g., fires)
 - Opportunity loss is offset by increased permits (2 each) in the Packwood and South Rainier hunts



Elk Special Permits – WAC 220-415-060

Proposed changes – Blue Mountains

1. Population is below objective, considered “at-risk” ungulate population
2. Management focus is on rebuilding population:
 - Maximize adult female survival through harvest management (recent reductions)



Elk Special Permits – WAC 220-415-060

Proposed changes – Blue Mountains

1. Reduction of antlerless elk special permit levels
2. Reduction of “Quality” bull permit levels

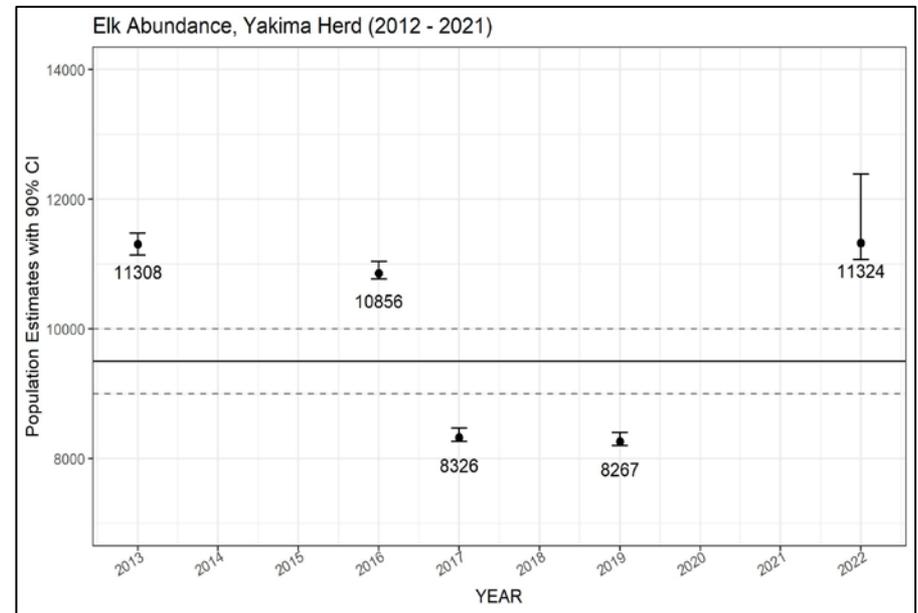
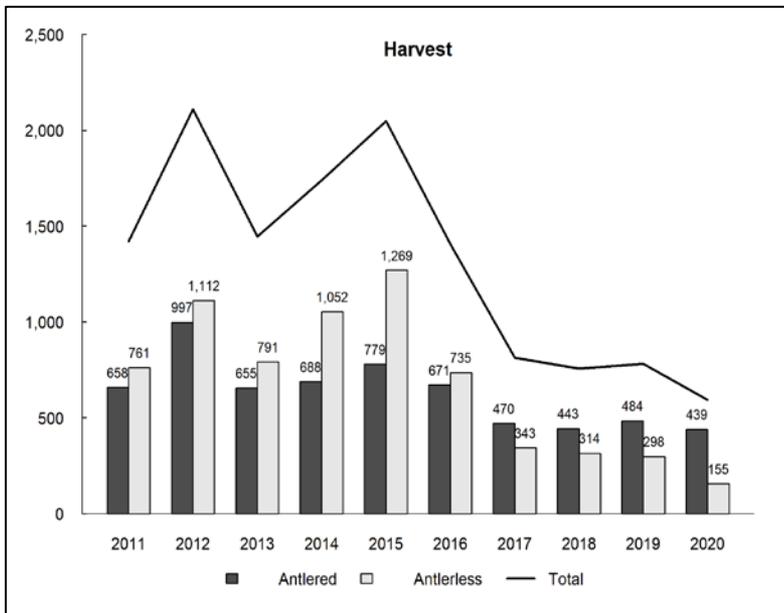
Category	Hunt name	Weapon/Tag	2021 Permits	2022 Proposed Permits	Change	Species/Restriction
Antlerless	Couse (EA 1081/1075)	E. Muzzleloader	35	30	-5	Antlerless
Youth	Couse (EA 1081)	E. Modern	10	5	-5	Antlerless
Hunters with Disabilities	Peola-Mayview	E. Modern	2	1	-1	Antlerless
Quality	Mountain View	E. Muzzleloader	4	3	-1	Any Bull
Quality	Peola	E. Archery	3	1	-2	Any Bull
Quality	Lick Creek	E. Archery	2	1	-1	Any Bull
Quality	Mountain View	E. Archery	7	6	-1	Any Bull
Quality	Blue Creek	E. Archery	4	3	-1	Any Bull
Quality	Blue Creek	E. Modern	9	6	-3	Any Bull
Quality	Tucannon	E. Modern	5	4	-1	Any Bull
Quality	Wenaha East	E. Modern	5	4	-1	Any Bull
Quality	Mountain View	E. Modern	9	7	-2	Any Bull
Overall change:					-24	



Elk Special Permits – WAC 220-415-060

Proposed changes – Yakima

1. Population had been below objective in 2017, 2019 surveys, prompting previous reductions in harvest
2. Above objective in Feb 2022 survey



Elk Special Permits – WAC 220-415-060

Proposed changes – Yakima

1. Increase antlerless special permits – all recommended changes

Category	Hunt name	Weapon/Tag	2021 Permits	2022 Proposed Permits	Change	Species/Restriction
Antlerless	Taneum	E. Firearm	20	180	160	Antlerless
Antlerless	Manastash	E. Firearm	20	130	110	Antlerless
Antlerless	Umtanum	E. Firearm	20	125	105	Antlerless
Antlerless	Little Naches	E. Firearm	20	125	105	Antlerless
Antlerless	Rimrock	E. Firearm	15	145	130	Antlerless
Antlerless	Cowiche	E. Firearm	15	80	65	Antlerless
Antlerless	Taneum	E. Archery	60	100	40	Antlerless
Antlerless	Taneum	E. Archery	NA	100	New Hunt	Antlerless
Antlerless	Manastash	E. Archery	60	140	80	Antlerless
Antlerless	Umtanum	E. Archery	60	175	115	Antlerless
Antlerless	Nile	E. Archery	50	30	-20	Antlerless
Antlerless	Nile	E. Archery	NA	30	New Hunt	Antlerless
Antlerless	Rimrock	E. Archery	60	100	40	Antlerless
Antlerless	Cowiche	E. Archery	50	100	50	Antlerless
Antlerless	Taneum	E. Muzzleloader	20	100	80	Antlerless
Antlerless	Manastash	E. Muzzleloader	20	100	80	Antlerless
Antlerless	Umtanum	E. Muzzleloader	20	85	65	Antlerless
Antlerless	Cowiche	E. Muzzleloader	10	60	50	Antlerless
Youth	Yakima North	E. Firearm	10	35	25	Antlerless
Youth	Yakima South	E. Firearm	5	25	20	Antlerless
Youth	Yakima Early	E. Archery	20	55	35	Antlerless
Youth	Yakima Late	E. Archery	20	40	20	Antlerless
Youth	Yakima North	E. Muzzleloader	10	25	15	Antlerless
Youth	Yakima South	E. Muzzleloader	10	15	5	Antlerless
65+ Senior	Yakima Early	E. Archery	10	15	5	Antlerless
Hunters w Disabilities	Yakima North	Any	10	15	5	Antlerless
Overall change:					1,515	



Elk Special Permits – WAC 220-415-060

Other proposed changes

Category	Hunt name	Weapon/Tag	2022 Proposed			Species/Restriction	Zones Affected
			2021 Permits	Permits	Change		
Quality	Mission	E. Firearm	4	2	-2	Any Bull	Colockum
Quality	Mission	E. Muzzleloader	4	2	-2	Any Bull	Colockum
Bull	Mission	E. Firearm	4	2	-2	Any Bull	Colockum
*Antlerless	Green River	Any	12	10	-2	Antlerless	N. Rainier
*Youth	Green River	Any	NA	2	2	Antlerless	N. Rainier
65+ Senior	Forks	Any	10	0	-10	Antlerless	Olympic
Quality	Matheny	W. Firearm	3	1	-2	Any Bull	Olympic
Quality	Quinault	W. Firearm	4	3	-1	Any Bull	Olympic
Antlerless	N. River	W. Muzzleloader	20	25	5	Antlerless	Willapa Hills
Antlerless	N. River	W. Firearm	5	6	1	Antlerless	Willapa Hills
Antlerless	Wynoochee	W. Archery	95	90	-5	Antlerless	Willapa Hills
Overall change:					-18		

*Recommended change

Category	Hunt name	Weapon/Tag	Recommended Change	Species/Restriction	Zones Affected
Antlerless	Peshastin	E. Firearm	Dec. 15, 2021 – Feb. 8, 2022 ; Dec. 15, 2022 - Feb. 8, 2023	Antlerless	Colockum
Youth	Alkali	E. Firearm	Dec. 17, 2021 – Jan 2, 2022 ; Dec. 17, 2022 - Jan 2, 2023	Antlerless	Yakima
Master Hunter	Region 2 MH	Any	Aug. 1, 2021 – Mar. 31, 2022 ; Aug. 1, 2022 - Mar. 31, 2023	Antlerless	Colockum



Elk Special Permits – WAC 220-415-060

Other proposed changes

Creation of new “incentive” special permits

- Associated with the Department’s 2021 pilot program to incentivize the harvest of elk that display signs of treponeme-associated hoof disease

Area	Dates	Restrictions	GMUs	Permits
Mount St. Helens		Any Bull	GMUs: 505, 520, 550, 554, 556, 560, 564, 568, 572, 574, 578, 382, 388	5
South Rainier		Any Bull	GMUs: 503, 510, 513, 516	2
Willapa Hills	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31	Any Bull	GMUs: 501, 504, 506, 530, 658, 660, 663, 672, 673, 681, 684	5
North Rainier		Any Bull	GMU's 652, 653, 654	2
Olympic		Any Bull	GMUs: 601, 602, 603, 607, 612, 615, 618, 624, 633, 638, 642, 648, 651, excludes Elk Area 6064	5





Questions?

