

# Bighorn Sheep, Moose, and Mountain Goats - Decision

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## **WACs:**

**220-415-070 2021 Moose seasons, permit quotas, and areas.**

**220-415-120 2021 Bighorn sheep seasons, permit quotas, and areas.**

**220-415-130 2021 Mountain goat seasons, permit quotas, and areas.**

# WAC 220-415-070

## Moose seasons, permit quotas, and areas

### Proposed Change:

1. Exclude Parker Lake from the "49 Degrees North" hunt area
  - Large-scale timber treatment in Parker Lake area that will reduce hunt quality (once-in-a-lifetime hunt). Exclusion will cease with timber operations.
2. Include GMU 139 in the "Hangman" and "Cheney B" hunts
  - Expanded moose distribution warrants inclusion, also assists with occasional human-moose conflict.



# Public comment

## Common themes:

- General agreement over proposed changes
- General disagreement over proposed changes
- Sentiment that the change in the Parker Lake hunt area is unnecessary
- Concern over lost opportunity due to hunt area change
- Concern that the hunt area will not be restored post-timber harvest
- Support for expanding hunt areas/opportunity (Cheney hunt area)

GMAC input: 100% agree with proposed changes



# WAC 220-415-130

## Mountain goat seasons, permit quotas, and areas

### Proposed Change:

1. Suspension of the "Conflict reduction" special permits (Olympic Peninsula)
2. Reduce the "Goat Rocks East" hunt from 2 permits to 1
3. Recommended adjustment: reduce the "North Lake Chelan" hunt permits from 2 to 1



# Public comment

## Common themes:

- General support for the proposed changes
- General disagreement with the proposed changes
- Request for improved monitoring or research
- Request for expanded hunting opportunity
- Disapproval regarding conflict reduction hunt elimination
- Desire to allow hunters to conduct mountain goat depopulation on the Olympic Peninsula
- Concern regarding point accrual and point transfer among categories

GMAC input: 83% (10/12) agree with proposed changes

- Concern regarding de-population of Olympic Peninsula mountain goats



# WAC 220-415-120

## Bighorn sheep seasons, permit quotas, and areas

### Proposed Changes:

1. Reduce "Any Ram" permits in Selah Butte, Umtanum, Cleman Mtn, and Quilomene hunts
2. Eliminate Selah Butte and Umtanum "adult ewe," "juvenile ram," and "youth" permits
3. Suspend the Vulcan Mtn "Any Ram" hunt
4. Include GMU 186 and portions of 181 in the Mountain View – Black Butte "Any Ram" hunt area



# Public comment

## Common themes:

- General support
- Concern over impacts of disease to bighorn
- Opposition to limiting youth opportunities
- Concern about opportunity loss
- Concern about point accrual
- Preference for pausing hunts, rather than eliminating
- Concern over predation impacts to ungulate populations
- Concern regarding tribal hunting
- Desire for archery-only bighorn hunts
- Concern for limiting opportunity for disabled hunters
- Concern about domestic livestock risk to bighorn

GMAC input: 100% agree with proposed changes





# **Motion Language:**

**I move to adopt the recommended rule changes as presented by Department staff.**

**Is there a “second”?**

