

# Agenda Item 4

## Small Game Seasons WAC 232-28-342



# Small Game Seasons

- Brief Overview
- Game Mgmt Plan
- History of Participation Rates
- 2012 Proposals

# Small Game Seasons

- Summary of Changes
  - Cleanup /Consistency with licensing changes
  - Calendar date adjustments
  - Reporting penalties
  - Crow season
  - Senior pheasant season
  - Sept Goose Season
  - Fall Turkey Season Expansion



# Crow Season

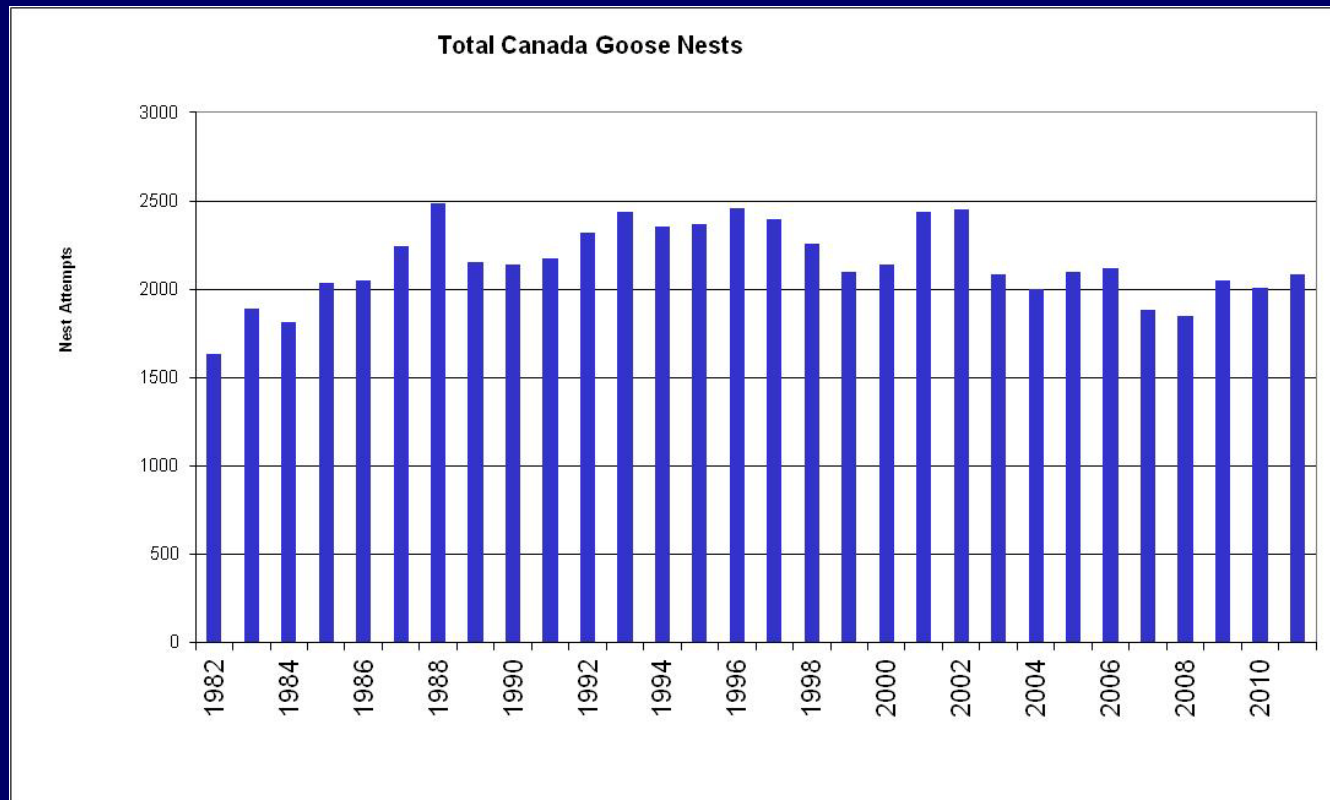
- Recommendation:
  - Shift the season one month earlier as requested by the Waterfowl Advisory Group
  - The shift is designed to take advantage of the timing of migration of crows and better hunting opportunity



# Senior Pheasant Season

- The Commission received an informal petition to expand the current western Wash senior season into eastern Wash.
- This proposal facilitates that expansion for hunters 65 and older immediately following the Sept youth season.

# E. WA September Goose Season



# E. WA September Goose Season

- When the season was first established in 1997, its continuation was based on a three year survey average of 2000 nests
- This criterion was included in:
  - Pacific Flyway Council's Western Canada Goose Mgmt Plan
  - WDFW Game Mgmt Plan 2009-15

# September Goose Season

- The nest index was below 2000 during 2008-10 so the Sept season in eastern Wash was closed for 3 years
- The three year average nest index increased to 2044 in 2011, so the two day season is recommended again for 2012-14



# Fall Turkey Seasons

- Turkey populations continue to do very well in eastern Wash
- Previous expansions of fall seasons have not adequately reduced complaints
- Therefore the department is recommending expanding:
  - the fall general season extent and dates
  - and a permit season in central Wash



# Coyote Regulations

- Title: Small Game Seasons
- Floor Changes:
  - Page 1; Change the Title of the WAC 232-38-342 to: “2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 Small game and other wildlife seasons and regulations.”
  - Page 2: reinstate the language referencing the coyote hunting regulations.

A close-up photograph of a turkey's head and neck. The turkey has a bright red head and neck, and its beak is open. The feathers on its neck and chest are dark with iridescent colors. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

**Questions???**