Elk General and Special Permit Seasons and Regulations

232-28-358 and 232-28-360

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Summary Sheet	1
WAC 232-28-358	2
Recommended Adjustments	10
Summary of Public Comment	11
WAC 232-28-360	12
Recommended Adjustments	24
Summary of Public Comment	31
CR102	32

Summary

Meeting dates: April 8-9, 2016

Agenda item: Elk General Seasons and Elk Special Permit Seasons and Regulations

- Rule Decision

Presenter: Jerry Nelson, Ph.D., Deer and Elk Section Manager, Wildlife Program

Background summary:

The elk hunting seasons for fall of 2016 represents the 2nd year of the 2015-2017 three-year package. Staff will propose amendments to WAC 232-28-358 2015-2017 Elk General Seasons and Definitions; and WAC 232-28-360 2015 Elk Special Permits. Updates were provided on recent elk harvest and the status of elk populations at the March 18-19, Commission meeting in Moses Lake.

Policy issue(s) you are bringing to the Commission for consideration:

- Maximizing recreational hunting opportunity.
- Continue sustainable hunting seasons for elk, consistent with achieving management objectives.
- Address and prevent wildlife conflict issues utilizing hunters.

Public involvement process used and what you learned:

The Department conducted an extensive public involvement process to develop the 2015-2017 hunting season recommendations last year. For 2016, notification was made to approximately 28,000 individuals and organizations informing them of the opportunity to provide comment on the proposed regulations. Additionally, these individuals and organizations were given the opportunity to provide verbal testimony at the March 18-19, 2016 Commission Meeting in Moses Lake.

Action requested:

Amend WAC 232-28-358 and WAC 232-28-360 as proposed.

Draft motion language:

I move to amend WAC 232-28-358 and WAC 232-28-360 as proposed.

Justification for Commission action:

- Recommendations proposed will maintain sustainable elk hunting.
- Recommendations proposed will provide hunting opportunity consistent with management objectives.
- Recommendations proposed will help prevent wildlife conflict problems.

Communications Plan:

WDFW Website News Releases Hunting Pamphlet

Form revised 12/5/12

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-10-059, filed 4/30/15, effective 5/31/15)

WAC 232-28-358 2015-2017 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((-7)) 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 truespike 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, with at least 2 antler points above the ear.

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)	2015 Dates	2016 Dates	2017 Dates	Legal Elk		
Eastern Washington	EF	101, 105, 108, 111, 113, 117, 121, 204	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Oct. 29 - Nov. 6	Oct. 28 - Nov. 5	Any bull		
		145 through 154, 162 through 169, 172 (except Elk Area 1040), 175 through 186, 249, 336 through 368	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Oct. 29 - Nov. 6	Oct. 28 - Nov. 5	Spike bull		
		251, 328, 329, 334, 335	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Oct. 29 - Nov. 6	Oct. 28 - Nov. 5	True spike bull		
		Elk Area 3722*	Sept. 8-23	Sept. 7-22	Sept. 6-21	Antlerless only		
		124 through 142, 372, 382, 388	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Oct. 29 - Nov. 6	Oct. 28 - Nov. 5	Any elk		
		203, 209 through 248, 250, 254 through 290, 373, 379, 381	Oct. 31 - Nov. 15	Oct. 29 - Nov. 15	Oct. 28 - Nov. 15	Any elk		
		Master Hunters Only: 371, Elk Area 3912	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2016	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2017	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2018	Antlerless only		
		Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911**	Nov. 14 - Dec. 15	Nov. 12 - Dec. 15	Nov. 11 - Dec. 15	Antlerless only		
		Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911** 2nd tag.	Aug. 1 - Oct. 30	Aug. 1 - Oct. 28	Aug. 1 - Oct. 27	Antlerless only		
		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 witho making prior arrangements for access.						
		**Master hunters who hunt is master hunter, Elk Area 3911 tag. Elk Area 3911 second el August 1 - October 28, 2016, 3911, unless drawn for an an November to December late use an Elk Area 3911, master hunter Elk Area 3911 hunt. A	l, second elk transport ta k transport tags will be and August I - Octobe tlerless elk special perm master hunter season m hunter, second elk tran	ag. Only master hunters valid only for Elk Area and it. 2017. Only one and it. Master hunters who lay use their unused genes sport tag. Any legal were sport tag. Any legal were	with an eastside elk tag of 3911 from August 1 - Octlerless elk may be taken unt in Elk Area 3911 du tral season elk tag, but an apon may be used during	can purchase this stober 30, 2015, from Elk Area uring the re not eligible to either master		
Western Washington	WF	460, 466, 503, 505 through 520, 524 (except Elk Area 5066), 530, 550, 560, 568, 572, 574, 578, 601 through 618, 624 (except for Elk Area 6071), 627, 633, 638 through 651, 652 (except for Elk Area 6014), 654 through 684. Except master hunters only in Elk Area 6064 portion of GMU 638.	Nov. 7-18	Nov. 5-16	Nov. 4-15	3 pt. min.		
		501, 504, Elk Area 6014	Nov. 7-18	Nov. 5-16	Nov. 4-15	3 pt. min. or antlerless		
		407, 448, 564, 666	Nov. 7-18	Nov. 5-16	Nov. 4-15	Any elk		
		454	Nov. 7-18	Nov. 5-16	Nov. 4-15	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 232-12-054.

Special Notes: Archery tag holders can hunt only during archery seasons and must hunt with archery equipment (WAC 232-12-054). 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)	2015 Dates	2016 Dates	2017 Dates	Legal Elk
Early Archery G	eneral Elk Sea	asons				
Eastern Washington	EA	101 through 142, <u>204</u> , 243, 247, 249, 250, 373, 379, 381, 388	Sept. 12-24	Sept. 10-22	Sept. 9-21	Any elk
		162, 166, 169, 172 (except Elk Area 1040), 186	Sept. 12-24	Sept. 10-22	Sept. 9-21	Spike bull
		328, 329, 335	Sept. 12-24	Sept. 10-22	Sept. 9-21	True spike bull or antlerless
		145, 149, 154, Elk Area 1010, Elk Area 1013, 163, 175, 178, 181, 334, 336, 340, 352, 356, 364	Sept. 12-24	Sept. 10-22	Sept. 9-21	Spike bull or antlerless
Western Washington	WA	448, 454, 564, 652 (except Elk area 6013), 666, 684	Sept. 12-24	Sept. 10-22	Sept. 9-21	Any elk
		407	Sept. 12-24	Sept. 10-22	Sept. 9-21	Any elk
		501 through 505, 520, 550, 554, 560, 568, 572, 574, 578, 624 (except for Elk Area 6071), Elk Area 6061, 654, 660, 667 through 673, 681, 699	Sept. 12-24	Sept. 10-22	Sept. 9-21	3 pt. min. or antlerless
		460, 466, 506, 510, 513, 516, 524 (except Elk Area 5066), 530, 601 through 618, 627, 633, 638 (except Master Hunters only in Elk Area 6064), 642 through 651, 658, 663	Sept. 12-24	Sept. 10-22	Sept. 9-21	3 pt. min.
Late Archery Ge	neral Elk Seas	sons				
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

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	2015 Dates	2016 Dates	2017 Dates	Legal Elk		
		Elk Area 1010, 163	Dec. 9 - Jan. 30, 2016	Dec. 9 - Jan. 30, 2017	Dec. 9 - Jan. 30, 2018	Antlerless only		
		203, 209 through 248, 250, 254 through 290, 379, 381. Must wear hunter orange.	Oct. 31 - Nov. 15	Oct. 29 - Nov. 15	Oct. 28 - Nov. 15	Any elk		
		Master Hunters Only: 371, Elk Area 3912. Must wear hunter orange.	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2016	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2017	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2018	Antlerless only		
		Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911**. Must wear hunter orange.	Nov. 14 - Dec. 15	Nov. 12 - Dec. 15	Nov. 11 - Dec. 15	Antlerless only		
		Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911** 2nd tag. Must wear hunter orange.	Aug. 1 - Oct. 30	Aug. 1 - Oct. 28	Aug. 1 - Oct. 27	Antlerless only		
		Master Hunters Only: 127, 130	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Antlerless only		
		328, 334, 335	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 23 - Dec. 8	Nov. 22 - Dec. 8	True spike bull or antlerless		
		336, 342, 346, 352, 364, Elk Area 3681	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 23 - Dec. 8	Nov. 22 - Dec. 8	Spike bull or antlerless		
Western Washington	WA	Elk Area 4601, 503, 505, 652 (except Elk Area 6013), 667, 672, 681, and 699. Master hunters only in Elk Area 6064 portion of GMU 638.	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Nov. 23 - Dec. 15	Nov. 22 - Dec. 15	3 pt. min. or antlerless		
		407, 448, 454, 564, 666	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Nov. 23 - Dec. 15	Nov. 22 - Dec. 15	Any elk		
		603, 612, 615, 638 (except for Elk Area 6064), 648	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Nov. 23 - Dec. 15	Nov. 22 - Dec. 15	3 pt. min.		
		506, 520, 530	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Nov. 23 - Dec. 15	Nov. 22 - Dec. 15	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. **Master hunters who hunt in Elk Area 3911 during the August to October early master hunter season must purchase a master hunter, Elk Area 3911, second elk transport tag. Only master hunters with an eastside elk tag can purchase this tag. Elk Area 3911 second elk transport tags will be valid only for Elk Area 3911 from August 1 - October 30, 2015, August 1 - October 28, 2016, and August 1 - October 27, 2017. Only one antlerless elk may be taken from Elk Area 3911, unless drawn for an antlerless elk special permit. Master hunters who hunt in Elk Area 3911 during the						
		November to December late use an Elk Area 3911, master hunter Elk Area 3911 hunt. A	master hunter season ma hunter, second elk tran	ay use their unused gener sport tag. Any legal wear	ral season elk tag, but are pon may be used during	e not eligible to either master		

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 232-12-051, or bow and arrow, as defined under WAC 232-12-054.

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)	2015 Dates	2016 Dates	2017 Dates	Legal Elk
Early Muzzleloa	der General E	lk Seasons				
Eastern Washington	EM	101 through 121, <u>204,</u> 247	Oct. 3-9	Oct. 1-7	Oct. 7-13	Any bull
		124 through 142, 245, 250	Oct. 3-9	Oct. 1-7	Oct. 7-13	Any elk
		145, 149, 154, 162, 163, 166, 172 (except Elk Area 1040), 175, 178, <u>181</u> , 336 through 342, 352 through 368	Oct. 3-9	Oct. 1-7	Oct. 7-13	Spike bull
		328, 329, 335, Elk Area 2051	Oct. 3-9	Oct. 1-7	Oct. 7-13	True spike bull
Western	WM	407	Oct. 3-9	Oct. 1-7	Oct. 7-13	Any elk
Washington		Elk Area 4601	Oct. 3-9	Oct. 1-7	Oct. 7-13	3 pt. min. or antlerless
		448, 454, 564, 666, 684	Oct. 3-9	Oct. 1-7	Oct. 7-13	Any elk
		460, 466, 505, 506, 510, 513, 516, 520, 524 (except 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, 663, 672, 673, 681	Oct. 3-9	Oct. 1-7	Oct. 7-13	3 pt. min.
		501, 503, 504, 652 (except Elk Area 6013 closed to antlerless), 654, 667	Oct. 3-9	Oct. 1-7	Oct. 7-13	3 pt. min. or antlerless
Late Muzzleload	ler General Ell	Seasons				
Eastern Washington	EM	130 through 142	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Any elk
		204. Must wear hunter orange.	Oct. 31 - Nov. 15	Oct. 29 - Nov. 15	Oct. 28 - Nov. 15	Any bull
		203, 209 through 248, 250, 254 through 290, 373, 379, 381. Must wear hunter orange.	Oct. 31 - Nov. 15	Oct. 29 - Nov. 15	Oct. 28 - Nov. 15	Any elk
		Master Hunters Only: 371, Elk Area 3912. Must wear hunter orange.	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2016	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2017	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2018	Antlerless only
		Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911**. Must wear hunter orange.	Nov. 14 - Dec. 15	Nov. 12 - Dec. 15	Nov. 11 - Dec. 15	Antlerless only
		Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911** 2nd tag. Must wear hunter orange.	Aug. 1 - Oct. 30	Aug. 1 - Oct. 28	Aug. 1 - Oct. 27	Antlerless only
		Master Hunters Only: 127, 130	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Antlerless only
Western Washington	WM	407	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Nov. 23 - Dec. 15	Nov. 22 - Dec. 15	3 pt. min. or antlerless
		501, 503, 504, 505, 652 (except Elk Area 6013 closed to antlerless).	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 23 - Dec. 8	Nov. 22 - Dec. 8	3 pt. min. or antlerless
		448, 454, 564, 666, 684	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Nov. 23 - Dec. 15	Nov. 22 - Dec. 15	Any elk
		568, 574, 578	Nov. 25-30	Nov. 23-30	Nov. 22-30	3 pt. min.
		601, 618, 651, 658, 667	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Nov. 23 - Dec. 15	Nov. 22 - Dec. 15	3 pt. min.

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	2015 Dates	2016 Dates	2017 Dates	Legal Elk
		**Master hunters who hunt in master hunter, Elk Area 3911 tag. Elk Area 3911 second ell August 1 - October 28, 2016, 3911, unless drawn for an ant November to December late i use an Elk Area 3911, master hunter Elk Area 3911 hunt. A	, second elk transport ta k transport tags will be v and August I - October lerless elk special permi- master hunter season ma hunter, second elk trans	g. Only master hunters walid only for Elk Area 39, 27, 2017. Only one anti ti. Master hunters who hu ty use their unused gener sport tag. Any legal wear	vith an eastside elk tag ca 911 from August 1 - Octo erless elk may be taken f unt in Elk Area 3911 dur al season elk tag, but are son may be used during o	n purchase this ober 30, 2015, rom Elk Area ing the not eligible to either master

[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.]

WAC 232-28-358 2015-2017 Elk general seasons and definitions.

RECOMMENDED ADJUSTMENTS

Page 8

Under the Late Muzzleloader General Elk Seasons, Eastern Washington, the any bull hunt from Oct. 29-Nov. 15 in GMU 204 was removed. The intent is to manage elk in GMUs 101 and 204 consistently and under similar strategies. This recommendation addresses the concerns expressed by a landowner in GMU 204. The recommendation also addresses the desire of muzzleloaders to hunt during a better time period (early rather than late) while maintaining a sustainable elk hunting opportunity. The change corrects an omission in the CR 102 filing.

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

WAC 232-28-358 Elk General Seasons and Definitions

Supporting Comments:

About 18% of the 162 comments received supported the proposed rule change. There was support for the general season elk hunts being proposed.

Opposing and Other Comments:

Twenty-eight percent of the comments received opposed the proposed rule change. Most were concerned with the timing and length proposed for their favorite hunt. They were also concerned about which types of animals were legal during general season: antlerless, spikes, branch-antlered bulls, etc. Other opposing comments suggested new hunts that don't currently fit with the management strategies being employed. Still others were of the opinion that their particular user group (modern firearm, archery, muzzleloader, youth, senior, disabled, master hunter, hunter education instructor) was not getting enough opportunity via the general season hunts or they were opposed to other user groups getting the opportunity that was proposed.

There were 54% of the 162 comments that fell under the "other" category. Those comments expressed concerns about issues that were not part of this public process. Those included: suggestions that were outside the authority of the Department and the Fish and Wildlife Commission, suggestions that asked for something that already existed, suggestions that are illegal under Washington Administrative Code, and suggestions that were under the purview of federal treaties. Additional suggestions called for substantial changes in general season hunting season structures which are typically done through an extensive public process every 3 years. That next public process will take place in 2017 in preparation for the 2018-2020 hunting seasons.

Direction and Rationale:

The minimal changes being proposed are intended to provide sustainable hunting season opportunities without having a negative impact on the wildlife resource. The opposing comments were typically recommending changes that would undo management actions that are necessary for sustaining general hunting seasons and maintaining healthy elk populations. None of the comments received on this WAC required changes to the recommendations being made to the Fish and Wildlife Commission.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-10-059, filed 4/30/15, effective 5/31/15)

WAC 232-28-360 ((2015)) 2016 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((7)) 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, muzzle-loader, 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.

Quality						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Turnbull	EA, EF, EM	Any	Oct. ((20)) <u>17</u> - Nov. 24	Any bull	Elk Area 1015	1

Quality Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Prescott	EF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u>	Any bull	GMU 149	1
Prescott	EF	Any	30 Oct. ((26)) 24 - Nov.	Any bull	GMU 149	2
Blue Creek	EF	Any	((8)) <u>6</u> Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> 30	Any bull	GMU 154	((2))
Blue Creek	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	GMU 154	6
Watershed	EA, EF, EM	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) 6	3 pt. min.	GMU 157	((35)) 40
Dayton	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) 6	Any bull	GMU 162	14
Ten Ten	EF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> <u>30</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1010, GMU 163	1
Ten Ten	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1010, GMU 163	5 <u>4</u>
Tucannon	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	GMU 166	42 <u>14</u>
Wenaha West	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1008	10
Wenaha East	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1009	12 11
Mountain View	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	GMU 172, EXCEPT Elk Area 1040	14 16
Ten Forty	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1040	2
Lick Creek	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	GMU 175	7
Peola	EF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> <u>30</u>	Any bull	GMU 178	1
Peola	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	GMU 178	1
Couse	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	GMU 181	<u>23</u>
Mission	EF	Any	Sept. ((16-20)) <u>23-30</u>	Any bull	GMU 251	1
Colockum	EF	Any	Sept. ((25 - Oct. 2)) <u>23-</u> <u>30</u>	Any bull	GMUs 328, 329((, 335))	1
Colockum	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	GMUs 328, 329((, 335))	623
Teanaway	EF	Any	Sept. ((25 - Oct. 2)) <u>23-</u> <u>30</u>	Any bull	GMU 335	((3)) <u>42</u>
Peaches Ridge	EF	Any	Sept. ((25 - Oct. 2)) <u>23-</u> <u>30</u>	Any bull	GMUs 336, 346	3
Observatory	EF	Any	Sept. ((25 - Oct. 2)) <u>23-</u> <u>30</u>	Any bull	GMUs 340, 342	5
Little Naches	EF	Any	Oct. ((3-11)) 1-10	Any bull	GMU 346	15
Goose Prairie	EF	Any	Sept. ((25 - Oct. 2)) <u>23-</u> <u>30</u>	Any bull	GMUs 352, 356	5
Bethel	EF	Any	Sept. ((25 - Oct. 2)) <u>23-</u> <u>30</u>	Any bull	GMU 360	3
Rimrock	EF	Any	Sept. ((25 - Oct. 2)) <u>23-</u> <u>30</u>	Any bull	GMU 364	3
Cowiche	EF	Any	Sept. ((25 - Oct. 2)) <u>23-</u> <u>30</u>	Any bull	GMU 368	3
Nooksack	WF	Any	Oct. ((10)) <u>8</u> - Nov. ((15)) <u>18</u>	Any bull	GMU 418 and Elk Area 4941	((5)) <u>10</u>
Green River	WF	Any	((Nov. 7-13)) Oct. 22-28	Any bull	GMU 485	<u>68</u>
Wahkiakum	WF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> <u>30</u>	Any bull	GMUs 506, 530	1
South Rainier	WF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> <u>30</u>	Any bull	GMUs 510, 513	1
Packwood	WF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> <u>30</u>	Any bull	GMU 516	1
Winston	WF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> <u>30</u>	Any bull	GMU 520	1
Coweeman	WF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u>	Any bull	GMU 550	1

Quality	***	T **	TT 180			n :
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Toutle	WF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> <u>30</u> and Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-</u>	Any bull	GMU 556	3
Toutle	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Any bull	GMU 556	((66)) <u>5049</u>
Lewis River	WF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> <u>30</u>	Any bull	GMU 560	2
Siouxon	WF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> 30	Any bull	GMU 572	2
Carlton	WF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> 30	Any bull	Elk Area 5057	5
West Goat Rocks	WF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> 30	Any bull	Elk Area 5058	5
Mt. Adams	WF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> 30	Any bull	Elk Area 5059	5
Mudflow	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	5
Peninsula	WF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> 30	3 pt. min.	GMUs 602, 607, 612	1
Clearwater	WF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> 30	3 pt. min.	GMU 615	2
Matheny	WF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> 30	3 pt. min.	GMU 618	3
Quinault	WF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> <u>30</u>	3 pt. min.	GMU 638	5
Wynoochee	WF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> <u>30</u>	3 pt. min.	GMU 648	1
White River	WF	Any	Sept. ((28 - Oct. 2)) <u>26-</u> <u>30</u>	Any bull	GMU 653	2
Prescott	EA	Any	Sept. ((5-24)) <u>5-22</u>	Any bull	GMU 149	1
Blue Creek	EA	Any	Sept. ((5-24)) <u>5-22</u>	Any bull	GMU 154	4 <u>5</u>
Dayton	EA	Any	Sept. ((5-24)) <u>5-22</u>	Any bull	GMU 162	7
Ten Ten	EA	Any	Sept. ((5-24)) <u>5-22</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1010, GMU 163	3
Tucannon	EA	Any	Sept. ((5-24)) <u>5-22</u>	Any bull	GMU 166	7
Wenaha West	EA	Any	Sept. ((5-24)) <u>5-22</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1008	3
Wenaha East	EA	Any	Sept. ((5-24)) <u>5-22</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1009	6
Mountain View	EA	Any	Sept. ((5–24)) <u>5-22</u>	Any bull	GMU 172, EXCEPT Elk Area 1040	10 13
Ten Forty	EA	Any	Sept. ((12-25)) <u>10-23</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1040	((1)) 2
Lick Creek	EA	Any	Sept. ((5-24)) <u>5-22</u>	Any bull	GMU 175	12 13
Peola	EA	Any	Sept. ((5-24)) <u>5-22</u>	Any bull	GMU 178	<u>32</u>
Couse	EA	Any	Sept. ((5-24)) <u>5-22</u>	Any bull	GMU 181	4 <u>3</u>
Colockum	EA	Any	Sept. ((12-24)) <u>10-22</u>	Any bull	GMUs 328, 329((, 335))	<u>817</u>
Teanaway	<u>EA</u>	Any	<u>Sept. 10-22</u>	Any bull	<u>GMU 335</u>	<u>46</u>
Peaches Ridge	EA	Any	Sept. ((12-24)) <u>10-22</u>	Any bull	GMUs 336, 346	126 134
Observatory	EA	Any	Sept. ((12-24)) <u>10-22</u>	Any bull	GMUs 340, 342	133 134
Goose Prairie	EA	Any	Sept. ((12-24)) <u>10-22</u>	Any bull	GMUs 352, 356	68 93
Bethel	EA	Any	Sept. ((12-24)) <u>10-22</u>	Any bull	GMU 360	<u>3846</u>
Rimrock	EA	Any	Sept. ((12-24)) <u>10-22</u>	Any bull	GMU 364	105 71
Cowiche	EA	Any	Sept. ((12-24)) <u>10-22</u>	Any bull	GMU 368	<u>3121</u>
Nooksack	WA	Any	Aug. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Sept. ((20)) <u>17</u> and Dec. 1-31	Any bull	GMU 418 and Elk Area 4941	((<u>3</u>)) <u>5</u>
Toutle	WA	Any	Sept. ((12-24)) <u>10-22</u> and Dec. 1-15	Any bull	GMU 556	((41)) 3037
Mudflow	WA	Any	Sept. ((12-18)) <u>10-16</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	5
White River	WA	Any	Sept. ((12-24)) <u>10-22</u>	Any bull	GMU 653	<u>3124</u>
Prescott	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-11)) 1-10	Any bull	GMU 149	1
	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-11)) <u>1-10</u>	Any bull	GMU 154	2
Blue Creek	73.6					
Blue Creek Dayton	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-11)) 1-10	Any bull	GMU 162	4
Blue Creek	EM EM EM	Any Any Any	Oct. ((3-11)) 1-10 Oct. ((3-11)) 1-10 Oct. ((3-11)) 1-10	Any bull Any bull Any bull	GMU 162 Elk Area 1010, GMU 163 GMU 166	1 3

Quality						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Wenaha East	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-11)) <u>1-10</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1009	3
Mountain View	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-11)) <u>1-10</u>	Any bull	GMU 172, EXCEPT Elk Area 1040	5
Ten Forty	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 - Oct. 9)) Oct. 1-10	Any bull	Elk Area 1040	((1)) 2
Lick Creek	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-11)) 1-10	Any bull	GMU 175	2
Peola	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-11)) <u>1-10</u>	Any bull	GMU 178	1
Couse	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-11)) <u>1-10</u>	Any bull	GMU 181	1
Mission	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 - Oct. 9)) Oct. 1-10	Any bull	GMU 251	1
Colockum	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-11)) <u>1-10</u>	Any bull	GMUs 328, 329((, 335))	2 9
Teanaway	<u>EM</u>	Any	Oct. 1-10	Any bull	GMU 335	<u>43</u>
Peaches Ridge	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-11)) <u>1-10</u>	Any bull	GMUs 336, 346	29 <u>34</u>
Observatory	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-11)) <u>1-10</u>	Any bull	GMUs 340, 342	25 31
Goose Prairie	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-11)) <u>1-10</u>	Any bull	GMUs 352, 356	12 16
Bethel	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-11)) <u>1-10</u>	Any bull	GMU 360	13 14
Rimrock	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-11)) <u>1-10</u>	Any bull	GMU 364	13 9
Cowiche	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-11)) <u>1-10</u>	Any bull	GMU 368	10 9
Nooksack	WM	Any	Sept. ((23)) 21 - Oct. ((4)) 2 and Nov. ((21- 29)) 19-30	Any bull	GMU 418 and Elk Area4941	((3)) <u>5</u>
Toutle	WM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u>	Any bull	GMU 556	((14)) <u>1012</u>
Mudflow	WM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	5

Bulls Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
	EF. EM			•	GMU 149	2
Prescott	,	Any	Nov. ((9-18)) <u>7-18</u>	Any bull		
Prescott	EF, EM	Any	Nov. 19-30	Any bull	GMU 149	2
Prescott	EF	Any	Dec. 1-15	Any bull	GMU 149	2
Prescott	EF	Any	Dec. 16-31	Any bull	GMU 149	2
Ten Forty	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Spike bull only	Elk Area 1040	2
Grande Ronde	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	GMU 186	1
Mission	EF	Any	Oct. ((20)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((2)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	GMU 251	1
Teanaway	EF	Any	((Dec. 17-31)) Oct. 24 - Nov. 6	Any bull	GMU 335	12 3
Peaches Ridge	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	GMUs 336, 346	120 118
Observatory	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	GMUs 340, 342	<u>8886</u>
Goose Prairie	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	GMUs 352, 356	77 <u>84</u>
Bethel	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	GMU 360	60 <u>64</u>
Rimrock	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	GMU 364	124 <u>83</u>
Cowiche	EF	Any	Oct. ((26)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	GMU 368	26 13
Alkali	EF	Any	Oct. ((12-31)) <u>10-30</u>	Any bull	GMU 371	15
NooksackSkagit River	WF	Any	Oct. ((10)) <u>8</u> - Nov. ((17)) <u>18</u>	Spike bull only Any bull	GMU 418 and Elk Area 4941	((6)) <u>2</u>
Upper Smith Creek	WF	Any	Oct. 17-23	Any bull	Elk Area 5064	2
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	((Nov. 7-18)) Oct. 22 - Nov. 16	3 pt. min.	GMU 621, EXCEPT for Elk Area 6071	((17)) <u>8</u>
Skokomish	WF	Any	((Nov. 7-18)) Oct. 22 - Nov. 16	3 pt. min.	GMU 636	3
White River	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) 5-16	Any bull	GMU 653	33 34

	Bulls						
	Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
	Ten Forty	EA	Any	Sept. 5-13	Spike bull only	Elk Area 1040	2
	Grande Ronde	EA	Any	Sept. 5-24	Any bull	GMU 186	1
	((Teanaway	EA	Any	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Any bull	GMU 335	11))
	Alkali	EA	Any	Sept. ((1-24)) <u>1-23</u>	Any bull	GMU 371	10
	NooksackSkagit River	WA	Any	Aug. ((31)) 29 - Sept. ((20)) 17 and Dec. 1-31	Spike bull only Any bull	GMU 418 and Elk Area 4941	$\frac{((3))}{2}$
	Upper Smith Creek	WA	WA	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. ((25)) 23 - Dec. 8	3 pt. min.	GMU 560	5
	Siouxon	WA	Any	Nov. ((25)) 23 - Dec. 8	3 pt. min.	GMU 572	5
	Olympic	WA	Any	Sept. ((12-24)) <u>1-22 and</u> <u>Dec. 1-15</u>	3 pt. min.	GMU 621, EXCEPT Elk Area 6071	((8)) <u>46</u>
	Skokomish	WA	Any	Sept. ((12-24)) <u>1-22 and</u> <u>Dec. 1-15</u>	3 pt. min.	GMU 636	5
	Ten Forty	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 - Oct. 9)) Oct. 1-10	Spike bull only	Elk Area 1040	1
	Grande Ronde	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-11)) 1-10	Any bull	GMU 186	1
	((Teanaway	EM	Any	Dec. 9-16	Any bull	GMU 335	11))
	Alkali	EM	Any	Sept. ((25)) <u>24</u> - Oct. ((11)) <u>9</u>	Any bull	GMU 371	15
	NooksackSkagit River	WM	Any	Sept. ((23)) <u>21</u> - Oct. ((4)) <u>2</u> and Nov. ((21 - 29)) <u>19-30</u>	Spike bull only Any bull	GMU 418 and Elk Area 4941	$\frac{((3))}{2}$
	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. ((25)) 23 - Dec. 15	3 pt. min.	GMU 554	15
	Olympic	WM	Any	((Oct. 3-9)) Sept. 24 - Oct. 7	3 pt. min.	GMU 621, EXCEPT for Elk Area 6071	((4)) <u>2</u>
1	Skokomish	WM	Any	((Oct. 3-9)) <u>Sept. 24 - Oct. 7</u>	3 pt. min.	GMU 636	<u>32</u>
	White River	WM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) 1-7	Any bull	GMU 653	<u>87</u>

Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
North Half	EF	Any	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Antlerless	GMUs 101, 105, 204	10
Stevens	EF	Any	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Antlerless	GMUs 108, 121	10
Aladdin	EF	Any	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Antlerless	GMU 111	10
Selkirk	EF	Any	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Antlerless	GMU 113	10
49 Degrees North	EF	Any	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8 and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMU 117	10
Turnbull	EF	Any	Oct. ((27 - Nov. 1)) <u>25-</u> <u>30</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	6
Turnbull	EF	Any	Nov. ((3-8)) <u>1-6</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	6
Mayview-Peola	EF	Any	Oct. ((17-25)) <u>15-23</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 145, 178	10
Mayview-Peola	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 145, 178	35
Prescott	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	GMU 149	20
Blue Creek	EF	Any	Oct. ((17-25)) <u>15-23</u>	Antlerless	GMU 154	10
Blue Creek	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	GMU 154	10
Marengo-Dayton	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	GMU 163 and Elk Area 1010	100
Mountain View	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1013	40
Dayton	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1016	25
Lick Creek	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) 6	Antlerless	GMU 175	15

Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Couse	EF EF	Any	Aug. ((22-30)) <u>20-28</u>	Antlerless	((GMU 181)) Elk Area 1081	30
Couse	EF	Any	Oct. ((1-10)) 15-23	Antlerless	((GMU 181)) Elk Area 1081	((35)) <u>5</u>
Couse	EF	Any	Oct. 29 - Nov. 6	Antlerless	Elk Area 1081	30
Malaga	EF	Any	Sept. ((11-21)) <u>10-22</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	((10)) 20
Malaga	EF	Any	Nov. ((4)) <u>7</u> - Dec. 31	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	((30)) 55
Colockum	EF	Any	Nov. 4-8	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329	590 510
West Bar	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((3)) 1	Antlerless	GMU 330	5
West Bar	EF	Any	Nov. ((4-8)) 2-6	Antlerless	GMU 330	5
Teanaway	EF	Any	Aug. 1 - Sept. ((11)) 9	Antlerless	GMU 335	30
Taneum	EF	Any	Nov. ((4-8)) 2-6	Antlerless	GMU 336	340 350
Manastash	EF	Any	Nov. ((4-8)) 2-6	Antlerless	GMU 340	340 300
Umtanum	EF	Any	Nov. ((4-8)) 2-6	Antlerless	GMU 342	300250
Little Naches	EF	Any	Nov. ((4-8)) 2-6	Antlerless	GMU 346	425 350
Nile	EF	Any	Nov. ((4-8)) 2-6	Antlerless	GMU 352	4 0 100
Bumping	EF	Any	Nov. ((4-8)) 2-6	Antlerless	GMU 356	60 200
Bethel	EF	Any	Nov. ((4-8)) 2-6	Antlerless	GMU 360	25 100
Rimrock	EF	Any	Nov. ((4-8)) 2-6	Antlerless	GMU 364	210 110
Cowiche	EF	Any	Nov. ((4-8)) 2-6	Antlerless	GMU 368	210 110
Alkali	EF	Any	Oct. ((12-31)) 10-30	Antlerless	GMU 371	20
North Bend	WF	Any	Nov. ((1-12)) 6-17	Antlerless	Elk Area 4601	5
Green River	WF	Any	((Nov. 7-13)) Oct. 22-28	Antlerless	GMU 485	<u>24</u>
Mossyrock	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) 5-16	Antlerless	GMU 505	50
Willapa Hills	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) 5-16	Antlerless	GMU 506	25
Winston	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) 5-16	Antlerless	GMU 520	40
Margaret	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	GMU 524 (except for Elk Area 5066)	40
Ryderwood	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	GMU 530	35
Coweeman	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	GMU 550	75
Toutle	WF	Any	Nov. ((23-30)) 21-30	Antlerless	GMU 556	35
Lewis River	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) 5-16	Antlerless	GMU 560	60
Washougal	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) 5-16	Antlerless	GMU 568	35
Siouxon	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	GMU 572	20
Wind River	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	GMU 574	40
West Klickitat	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) 5-16	Antlerless	GMU 578	75
((Grays River	WF	Any	Nov. 7-18	Antlerless	Elk Area 5056	10))
Upper Smith Creek	WF	Any	Oct. 17-23	Antlerless	Elk Area 5064	4
Mount Whittier	WF	Any	Oct. 17-23	Antlerless	Elk Area 5065	2
Norway Pass	WF	Any	Oct. 17-23	Antlerless	Elk Area 5066	5
Mudflow	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	10
Mallis	WF	Any	Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 6010	10
Mallis	WF	Any	Jan. 1-20, ((2016)) <u>2017</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6010	20
Puyallup	WF	Any	((Jan. 1-20, 2016)) Dec. 30, 2016 - Jan. 18, 2017	Antlerless	Elk Area 6014	10
Puyallup	WF	Any	((Jan. 21 - Feb. 10)) Jan. 19 - Feb. 8, 2017	Antlerless	Elk Area 6014	10
Puyallup	WF	Any	Feb. ((11-28)) <u>9-26,</u> 2017	Antlerless	Elk Area 6014	10
Hanaford	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6069	5
((Deschutes	₩F	Any	Jan. 10-20, 2016	Antlerless	GMU 666	10))
Williams Creek	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	GMU 673	45
Long Beach	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	GMU 684	((20)) <u>6</u>
Turnbull	EA	Any	Sept. ((12-24)) 10-22	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	14

Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Dayton	EA	Any	Sept. ((12-24)) 10-22	Antlerless	Elk Area 1016	15
Malaga	EA	Any	((Aug. 31 - Sept. 6)) Sept. 1-9	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	((15)) 20
Alkali	EA	Any	Sept. ((1-24)) 1-23	Antlerless	GMU 371	5
Margaret	WA	Any	Sept. ((12-24)) 10-22 and Dec. 1-15	Antlerless	GMU 524 (except for Elk Area 5066)	30
Toutle	WA	Any	Sept. ((12-24)) 10-22 and Dec. 1-15	Antlerless	GMU 556	50
Upper Smith Creek	WA	Any	Oct. 1-7	Antlerless	Elk Area 5064	4
Norway Pass	WA	Any	Oct. 1-7	Antlerless	Elk Area 5066	3
Mudflow	WA	Any	Sept. ((19-24)) 17-22	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	10
Lewis River	WA	Any	Nov. ((25)) 23 - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 560	10
Siouxon	WA	Any	Nov. ((25)) 23 - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 572	5
Wynoochee	WA	Any	Nov. ((25)) 23 - Dec. 15	Antlerless	GMU 648	((135)) 125
((Willapa NWR	WA	Any	Sept. 2-8	Antlerless	Designated areas on Willapa Natl. Wildlife Refuge	3
Willapa NWR	WA	Any	Sept. 9-15	Antlerless	Designated areas on Willapa Natl. Wildlife Refuge	3))
North Half	EM	Any	Oct. 3-9	Antlerless	GMUs 101, 105, 204	10
Stevens	EM	Any	Oct. 3-9	Antlerless	GMUs 108, 121	10
Aladdin	EM	Any	Oct. 3-9	Antlerless	GMU 111	10
Selkirk	EM	Any	Oct. 3-9	Antlerless	GMU 113	10
49 Degrees North	EM	Any	Oct. 3-9 and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMU 117	20
Turnbull	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	9
Turnbull	EM	Any	Nov. ((21)) <u>19</u> - Dec. ((4)) <u>2</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	9
Dayton	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) 1-7	Antlerless	Elk Area 1016	25
Blue Creek	EM	Any	Dec. 9 <u>. 2016</u> - Jan. 20, ((2016)) <u>2017</u>	Antlerless	GMU 154	25
Mountain View	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1013	5
Lick Creek	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) 1-7	Antlerless	GMU 175	10
Mayview-Peola	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) 1-7	Antlerless	GMUs 145, 178	20
Couse	EM	Any	Oct. 1-7	Antlerless	Elk Area 1081	10
Couse	EM	Any	Dec. 1-31	Antlerless	((GMU 181))	((30))
Malaga	EM	Any	Oct. ((12-25)) 1-10	Antlerless	Elk Area 1081 Elk Area 2032	((35)) ((35))
Managa	Livi	7 my	Oct. ((12 23)) <u>1 10</u>	7 Hitteriess	Elk Hed 2032	45
Colockum	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329	130 140
West Bar	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u>	Antlerless	GMU 330	5
Teanaway	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u>	Antlerless	GMU 335	10
Taneum	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u>	Antlerless	GMU 336	340 270
Manastash	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) 1-7	Antlerless	GMU 340	340250
Umtanum	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) 1-7	Antlerless	GMU 342	340215
Nile	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) 1-7	Antlerless	GMU 352	15 75
Bumping	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) 1-7	Antlerless	GMU 356	25 55
Bethel	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) 1-7	Antlerless	GMU 360	20 40
Cowiche	EM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) 1-7	Antlerless	GMU 368	10080
Alkali	EM	Any	Sept. ((25)) <u>24</u> - Oct. ((11)) <u>9</u>	Antlerless	GMU 371	10
Stella	WM	Any	Jan. 1-15, ((2016)) <u>2017</u>	Antlerless	GMU 504	75
Willapa Hills	WM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) 1-7	Antlerless	GMU 506	15
Mudflow	WM		Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u> Oct. ((10-16)) <u>8-14</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	10
		Any				20
Winston Margaret	WM WM	Any Any	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u> Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u>	Antlerless Antlerless	GMU 520 GMU 524 (except for Elk	20
Drydowyyos d	WM	Amri	Oat ((2.0)) 1.7	Antlerless	Area 5066)	30
Ryderwood	WM WM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u> Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u>	Antierless Antierless	GMU 530 GMU 550	40

Antlerless Elk						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Yale	WM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u>	Antlerless	GMU 554	40
Yale	WM	Any	Nov. ((25)) 23 - Dec. 15	Antlerless	GMU 554	35
Toutle	WM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u>	Antlerless	GMU 556	40
Lewis River	WM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u>	Antlerless	GMU 560	20
Washougal	WM	Any	Nov. ((25)) 23 - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 568	35
Siouxon	WM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u>	Antlerless	GMU 572	10
Wind River	WM	Any	Nov. ((25)) 23 - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 574	50
West Klickitat	WM	Any	Nov. ((25)) 23 - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 578	75
Upper Smith Creek	WM	Any	Oct. 9-15	Antlerless	Elk Area 5064	4
Mount Whittier	WM	Any	Oct. 9-15	Antlerless	Elk Area 5065	2
Norway Pass	WM	Any	Oct. 9-15	Antlerless	Elk Area 5066	2
Mallis	WM	Any	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>1-7</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6010	20
Mashel	WM	Any	((Jan. 1-15, 2016)) Dec. 30, 2016 - Jan. 13, 2017	Antlerless	Elk Area 6054	25
((Willapa NWR	WM	Any	Sept. 20-25	Antlerless	Designated areas on Willapa Natl. Wildlife Refuge	2
Willapa NWR	WM	Any	Oct. 23-28	Antlerless	Designated areas on Willapa Natl. Wildlife Refuge	2))
North River	WM	Any	Nov. ((25)) 23 - Dec. 15	Antlerless	GMU 658	20

Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Turnbull	EF	Youth	Oct. ((20-25)) <u>18-23</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	6
Aladdin	EF	Youth	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Antlerless	GMU 111	5
Selkirk	EF	Youth	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Antlerless	GMU 113	5
49 Degrees North	EF	Youth	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8 and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMU 117	5
Mayview-Peola	EF	Youth	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 145, 178	5
Blue Creek	EF	Youth	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	GMU 154	2
Dayton	EF	Youth	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	GMU 162	10
Ten Forty	EF	Youth	Oct. ((10-18)) <u>15-23</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1040	5
Lick Creek	EF	Youth	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	GMU 175	5
Couse	EF	Youth	Aug. ((22-30)) <u>20-28</u>	Antlerless	((GMU 181)) Elk Area 1081	5
Couse	EF	Youth	Oct. ((1–10)) <u>29 - Nov.</u> <u>6</u>	Antlerless	((GMU 181)) Elk Area 1081	5
Malaga	EF	Youth	Nov. 7-15	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	<u>10</u>
Colockum	EF	Youth	Nov. ((4-15)) 2-13	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329, 335	70 <u>60</u>
Yakima North	EF	Youth	Nov. ((4-15)) 2-13	Antlerless	GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346	165 145
Yakima Central	EF	Youth	Nov. ((4-15)) 2-13	Antlerless	GMUs 352, 356, 360	15 50
Yakima South	EF	Youth	Nov. ((4-15)) 2-13	Antlerless	GMUs 364, 368	50 30
Colockum	EM	Youth	Oct. ((3-11)) <u>1-10</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329, 335	20
Yakima North	EM	Youth	Oct. ((3-11)) 1-10	Antlerless	GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346	90
Yakima Central	<u>EM</u>	Youth	Oct. 1-10	Antlerless	GMUs 352, 356, 360	<u>20</u>
Yakima South	EM	Youth	Oct. ((3-11)) 1-10	Antlerless	GMUs 364, 368	20 10
North Bend	WF, WM, WA	Youth	Nov. ((1-12)) <u>6-17</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 4601	5
((Nooksack)) <u>Skagit River</u>	WF, WM, WA	Youth	Sept. ((21-23)) <u>18-20</u> , Oct. ((5-9)) <u>3-7</u> , and Oct. ((18-31)) <u>16-30</u>	Any elk	Elk Area 4941	((5)) <u>4</u>
Grays River	WF	Youth	Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 5056	5
Mudflow	WF	Youth	Nov. ((24-30)) 23-30	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	3
Mudflow	WF	Youth	Oct. ((28)) <u>26</u> - Nov. ((3)) <u>1</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	4
Coweeman	WF	Youth	Nov. ((7-18)) 5-16	Antlerless	GMU 550	25

Youth - Only yout	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				
Toutle	WF	Youth	Nov. ((23-30)) <u>21-30</u>	Antlerless	GMU 556	40				
Lewis River	WF	Youth	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	GMU 560	15				
Wind River	WF	Youth	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	GMU 574	10				
West Klickitat	WF	Youth	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	GMU 578	25				
Region 5	WF	Youth with mentor	Aug. 1, ((2015)) <u>2016</u> - Mar. 31, ((2016)) <u>2017</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 5	((5^{HC})) <u>7^{HC}</u>				
Clearwater	WF	Youth	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	GMU 615	5				
Matheny	WF	Youth	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	GMU 618	5				
Wynoochee	WF	Youth	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	GMU 648	10				
North River	WF	Youth	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	GMU 658	5				
Williams Creek	WF	Youth	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	GMU 673	10				
Mallis	WF	Youth	Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 6010	10				

65+ Senior - Only	hunters 65 and older	may apply. W	eapon must be consistent w	ith weapon/tag restrictio	n noted for hunt.	
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Northeast	EF	65+	Oct. 31 - Nov. 8 and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMUs 113, 117	10
Prescott	EF	65+	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	GMU 149	3
Blue Creek	EF	65+	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	GMU 154	3
Dayton	EF	65+	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 162, 163	3
Peola	EF	65+	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	GMU 178	3
Malaga	<u>EF</u>	<u>65+</u>	Nov. 7-15	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	<u>10</u>
Colockum	EF	65+	Nov. ((4-15)) 2-13	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329, 335	20 15
Yakima North	EF	65+	Nov. ((4-15)) 2-13	Antlerless	GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346	40
Yakima Central	EF	65+	Nov. ((4-15)) 2-13	Antlerless	GMUs 352, 356, 360	<u>510</u>
Yakima South	EF	65+	Nov. ((4-15)) 2-13	Antlerless	GMUs 364, 368	15 <u>10</u>
Alkali	EF	65+	Oct. ((11-31)) <u>10-30</u>	Antlerless	GMU 371	10
North Bend	WF, WM, WA	65+	Nov. ((1-12)) <u>6-17</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 4601	5
Colockum	EM	65+	Oct. ((3-11)) 1-10	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329, 335	5
Yakima North	EM	65+	Oct. ((3-11)) <u>1-10</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346	25
Yakima Central	<u>EM</u>	<u>65+</u>	Oct. 1-10	Antlerless	GMUs 352, 356, 360	<u>15</u>
Yakima South	EM	65+	Oct. ((3-11)) <u>1-10</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 364, 368	5
Ryderwood	WF	65+	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	GMU 530	15
West Klickitat	WM	65+	Nov. ((25)) 23 - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 578	15
((Nooksack)) Skagit River	WF, WM, WA	65+	Sept. ((21-23)) <u>18-20</u> , Oct. ((5-9)) <u>3-7</u> , and Oct ((18-31)). <u>16-30</u>	Any elk	Elk Area 4941	((5)) <u>4</u>
Grays River	WF, WM, WA	65+	Jan. 16-31, ((2016)) 2017	Antlerless	Elk Area 5056	5
Centralia Mine	WF	65+	Jan. ((2-3, 2016)) <u>7-8.</u> 2017	Antlerless	Elk Area 6011	5
Centralia Mine	WF	65+	Jan. ((9-10, 2016)) <u>14-</u> <u>15, 2017</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6011	5
Hanaford	WF, WM, WA	65+	((Jan. 1-15, 2016)) <u>Dec. 30, 2016 - Jan. 13, 2017</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6069	5
Hanaford	WF, WM, WA	65+	Jan. ((16-30, 2016)) <u>14-</u> 29, 2017	Antlerless	Elk Area 6069	5

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. 31 - Nov. 8 and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMUs 113, 117	4			
Turnbull	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((11-18)) <u>9-16</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	6			

Hunters with Disa	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		
Prescott	EF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	GMU 149	3		
Blue Creek	EF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	GMU 154	3		
Dayton	EF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 162, 163	3		
Peola	EF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((31)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((8)) <u>6</u>	Antlerless	GMU 178	3		
Observatory	EF, EM	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((20)) <u>24</u> - Nov. ((2)) <u>6</u>	Any bull	GMUs 340, 342	5		
Little Naches	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((3-11)) <u>1-10</u>	Any bull	GMU 346	5		
Malaga	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Sept. 10-22	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	<u>10</u>		
Colockum	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329, 335	<u> 2015</u>		
Yakima North	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Nov. ((4-15)) 2-13	Antlerless	GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346	65 40		
Yakima Central	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 352, 356, 360	5 <u>20</u>		
Yakima South	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Nov. ((4-15)) 2-13	Antlerless	GMUs 364, 368	20 10		
Alkali	EF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((12-31)) <u>10-30</u>	Any bull	GMU 371	5		
Corral Canyon	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Sept. 22-29	Any bull	Elk Area 3721	2		
North Bend	WF, WM, WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Nov. ((1-12)) <u>6-17</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 4601	5		
((Nooksack)) Skagit River	WF, WM, WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Sept. ((21-23)) 18-20, Oct. ((5-9)) 3-7, and Oct. ((18-31)) 16-30	Any elk	Elk Area 4941	((5)) <u>4</u>		
Grays River	WF, WM, WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Feb. 15-28, ((2016)) 2017	Antlerless	Elk Area 5056	5		
Mudflow	WF, WM, WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((18-24)) <u>16-22</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	4		
Mudflow	WF, WM, WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Sept. ((25 - Oct. 1)) <u>23-</u> <u>29</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	4		
Washougal	WF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Nov. ((7-18)) <u>5-16</u>	Antlerless	GMU 568	15		
Centralia Mine	WF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((3 -4)) <u>1-2</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Elk Area 6011	5		
Centralia Mine	WF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((10-11)) <u>8-9</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Elk Area 6011	5		
Region 5	WF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Aug. 1, ((2015)) <u>2016</u> - Mar. 31, ((2016)) <u>2017</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 5	((5 нс)) <u>7 нс</u>		

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. 10-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	6
Region 1	EF, EA, EM/ 2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2015)) 2016 - Mar. 31, ((2016)) 2017	Antlerless	Region 1	20 ^{HC}
Region 2	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2015)) <u>2016</u> - Mar. 31, ((2016)) <u>2017</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 2	50 ^{HC}
Fairview	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Nov. ((1, 2015)) <u>7,</u> <u>2016</u> - Mar. 31, ((2016)) <u>2017</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in GMUs 328-368	40 ^{HC}
Region 3	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2015)) 2016 - Mar. 31, ((2016)) 2017	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 3	25 ^{HC}
Rattlesnake Hills	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2015)) <u>2016</u> - Feb. 28, ((2016)) <u>2017</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in GMU 372	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
North Bend	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	((Aug. 1, 2015)) <u>July</u> <u>1, 2016</u> - Mar. 31, ((2016)) <u>2017</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Elk Area 4601	15 ^{HC}
Region 4 North	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	((Aug. 1, 2015)) <u>July</u> <u>1, 2016</u> - Mar. 31, ((2016)) <u>2017</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Whatcom and Skagit counties	10 ^{HC}
Region 4 South	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	((Aug. 1, 2015)) <u>July</u> <u>1, 2016</u> - Mar. 31, ((2016)) <u>2017</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
Trout Lake**	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Dec. 15-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 5062	5
Grays River	WF, WM, WA/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 16-30	Antlerless	Elk Area 5056	5
Trout Lake**	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Jan. 1-15, ((2016)) 2017	Antlerless	Elk Area 5062	5
Trout Lake**	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Jan. 16-30, ((2016)) 2017	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	<u>5</u> HC
Region 5	Any western elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2015)) 2016 - Mar. 31, ((2016)) 2017	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 5	40 ^{HC}
Long Beach	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 1 - Sept. 9 and Oct. 8 - Nov. 22	Antlerless	GMU 684	<u>5</u>
Long Beach	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Dec. 16, 2016 - Mar. 31, 2017	Antlerless	GMU 684	<u>5</u>
Region 6	WF, WA, WM/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	((Aug. 1, 2015)) <u>July</u> 1, 2016 - Mar. 31, ((2016)) 2017	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 6	60 ^{HC}

Muzzleloader only, scopes allowed.

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

- 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 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	Any elk	GMUs 336-368	2
Region 5	for GMUs included with the permit. Not eligible for seasons and permits for auction hunts; raffle hunts; and hunts for master hunters, youth	Any elk	All 500 series GMUs except GMU 522	((4)) <u>24</u>
Region 6	hunters, hunters with disabilities, or hunters 65 years and older, unless the hunter education instructor legally qualifies for such hunts.	Any elk	GMUs 654, 660, 672, 673, 681	1

[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

Page 13

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Ten Ten, EF, any bull hunt from Oct. 24-Nov.6 was changed from 5 to 4 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Tucannon, EF, any bull hunt from Oct. 24-Nov. 6 was changed from 12 to 14 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Wenaha East, EF, any bull hunt from Oct. 24-Nov. 6 was changed from 12 to 11 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Mountain View, EF, any bull hunt from Oct. 24-Nov. 6 was changed from 14 to 16 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Couse, EF, any bull hunt from Oct. 24-Nov. 6 was changed from 2 to 3 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Colockum, EF, any bull hunt from Oct. 24-Nov. 6 was changed from 6 to 23 permits due to an increase in the harvest target and special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Teanaway, EF, any bull hunt from Sept. 23-30 was changed from 1 to 2 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Green River, WF, any bull hunt from Oct. 22-28 was changed from 6 to 8 permits. The permit levels changed through a negotiated process between Tacoma Water, Muckleshoot Tribe, and WDFW.

Page 14

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Toutle, WF, any bull hunt from Nov. 5-16 was changed from 50 to 49 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Blue Creek, EA, any bull hunt from Sept. 5-22 was changed from 4 to 5 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Mountain View, EA, any bull hunt from Sept. 5-22 was changed from 10 to 13 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Lick Creek, EA, any bull hunt from Sept. 5-22 was changed from 12 to 13 permits due to

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Peola, EA, any bull hunt from Sept. 5-22 was changed from 3 to 2 permits due to

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Couse, EA, any bull hunt from Sept. 5-22 was changed from 1 to 3 permits.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Colockum, EA, any bull hunt from Sept. 10-22 was changed from 8 to 17 permits due to an increase in harvest target and special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Teanaway, EA, any bull hunt from Sept. 10-22 was changed from 1 to 6 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Peaches Ridge, EA, any bull hunt from Sept. 10-22 was changed from 126 to 134 permits due to

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Observatory, EA, any bull hunt from Sept. 10-22 was changed from 133 to 134 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Goose Prairie, EA, any bull hunt from Sept. 10-22 was changed from 68 to 93 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Bethel, EA, any bull hunt from Sept. 10-22 was changed from 38 to 46 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Rimrock, EA, any bull from Sept. 10-22 was changed from 105 to 71 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Cowiche, EA, any bull from Sept. 10-22 was changed from 31 to 21 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Toutle, WA, any bull from Sept. 10-22 and Dec. 1-15 was changed from 30 to 37 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the White River, WA, any bull hunt from Sept. 10-22 was changed from 31 to 24 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Page 15

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Colockum, EM, any bull hunt from Oct. 1-10 was changed from 2 to 9 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Teanaway, EM, any bull hunt from Oct. 1-10 was changed from 1 to 3 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Peaches Ridge, EM, any bull hunt from Oct. 1-10 was changed from 29 to 34 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Observatory, EM, any bull hunt from Oct. 1-10 was changed from 25 to 31 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Goose Prairie, EM, any bull hunt from Oct. 1-10 was changed from 12 to 16 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Bethel, EM, any bull hunt from Oct. 1-10 was changed from 13 to 14 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Rimrock, EM, any bull hunt from Oct. 1-10 was changed from 13 to 9 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Cowiche, EM, any bull hunt from Oct. 1-10 was changed from 10 to 9 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Quality category, "and Elk Area 4941" was added to the boundary designation for the Nooksack, WM, any bull hunt from Sept. 21-Oct. 2 and Nov. 19-30. This change makes the hunt consistent with the other Quality hunts for modern firearm and archery that already have this boundary designation.

Under the Quality category, the permit level for the Toutle, WM, any bull hunt from Oct. 1-7 was changed from 10 to 12 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Bulls category, the permit level for the Teanaway, EF, any bull hunt from Oct. 24-Nov. 6 was changed from 12 to 3 due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Bulls category, the permit level for the Peaches Ridge, EF, any bull hunt from Oct. 24-Nov. 6 was changed from 120 to 118 due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Bulls category, the permit level for the Observatory, EF, any bull hunt from Oct. 24-Nov. 6 was changed from 88 to 86 due to

Under the Bulls category, the permit level for the Goose Prairie, EF, any bull hunt from Oct. 24-Nov. 6 was changed from 77 to 84 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Bulls category, the permit level for the Bethel, EF, any bull hunt from Oct. 24-Nov. 6 was changed from 60 to 64 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Bulls category, the permit level for the Rimrock, EF, any bull hunt from Oct. 24-Nov. 6 was changed from 124 to 83 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Bulls category, the permit level for the Cowiche, EF, any bull hunt from Oct. 24-Nov.6 was changed from 26 to 13 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Bulls category, the Nooksack, WF, spike bull only hunt from Oct. 8-Nov. 18 in GMU 418 and Elk Area 4941 was changed to a Skagit River, WF, any bull hunt from Oct. 8-Nov. 18 in Elk Area 4941. The intent of the change is to focus more effort on the elk area to help address damage.

Under the Bulls category, the permit level for the White River, WF, any bull hunt from Nov. 5-16 was changed from 33 to 34 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Page 16

Under the Bulls category, the Nooksack, WA, spike bull only hunt from Aug. 29-Sept. 17 and Dec. 1-31 in GMU 418 and Elk Area 4941 was changed to a Skagit River, WA, any bull hunt, from Aug. 29-Sept. 17 and Dec. 1-31 in Elk Area 4941. The intent of the change is to focus more effort on the elk area to help address damage.

Under the Bulls category, the permit level for the Olympic, WA, 3 pt. min. hunt from Sept. 1-22 and Dec. 1-15 was changed from 4 to 6 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Bulls category, the Nooksack, WM, spike bull only hunt from Sept. 21-Oct. 2 and Nov. 19-30 in GMU 418 and Elk Area 4941 was changed to a Skagit River, WM, any bull hunt from Sept. 21-Oct. 2 and Nov. 19-30 in Elk Area 4941. The intent of the change is to focus more effort on the elk area to help address damage.

Under the Bulls category, the permit level for the Skokomish, WM, 3 pt. min. hunt from Sept. 24-Oct. 7 was changed from 3 to 2 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Under the Bulls category, the permit level for the White River, WM, any bull hunt from Oct. 1-7 was changed from 8 to 7 permits due to special permit allocation formula calculation providing different special permit numbers from the previous year.

Page 17

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Colockum, EF hunt from Nov. 4-8 was changed from 590 to 510. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Taneum, EF hunt from Nov. 2-6 was changed from 340 to 350. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Manastash, EF hunt from Nov. 2-6 was changed from 340 to 300. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Umtanum, EF hunt from Nov. 2-6 was changed from 300 to 250. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Little Naches, EF hunt from Nov. 2-6 was changed from 425 to 350. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Nile, EF hunt from Nov. 2-6 was changed from 40 to 100. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Bumping, EF hunt from Nov. 2-6 was changed from 60 to 200. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Bethel, EF hunt from Nov. 2-6 was changed from 25 to 100. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Rimrock, EF hunt from Nov. 2-6 was changed from 210 to 110. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Cowiche, EF hunt from Nov. 2-6 was changed from 210 to 110. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Green River, WF hunt from Oct. 22-28 was changed from 2 to 4 permits. The permit levels changed through a negotiated process between Tacoma Water, Muckleshoot Tribe, and WDFW.

<u>Page 18</u>

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Colockum, EM hunt from Oct. 1-7 was changed from 130 to 140. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Taneum, EM hunt from Oct. 1-7 was changed from 340 to 270. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Manastash, EM hunt from Oct. 1-7 was changed from 340 to 250. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Umtanum, EM hunt from Oct. 1-7 was changed from 340 to 215. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Nile, EM hunt from Oct. 1-7 was changed from 15 to 75. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Bumping, EM hunt from Oct. 1-7 was changed from 25 to 55. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Bethel, EM hunt from Oct. 1-7 was changed from 20 to 40. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Antlerless category, the permit level for the Cowiche, EM hunt from Oct. 1-7 was changed from 100 to 80. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Page 19

Under the Youth category, the permit level for the Colockum, EF hunt from Nov. 2-13 was changed from 70 to 60. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Youth category, the permit level for the Yakima North, EF hunt from Nov. 2-13 was changed from 165 to 145. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Youth category, the permit level for the Yakima Central, EF hunt from Nov. 2-13 was changed from 15 to 50. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Youth category, the permit level for the Yakima South, EF hunt from Nov. 2-13 was changed from 50 to 30. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Youth category, a new Yakima Central, EM hunt was added for Oct. 1-10 with 20 permits. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Youth category, the permit level for the Yakima South, EM hunt from Nov. 2-13 was changed from 20 to 10. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Page 20

Under the 65+Senior category, the permit level for the Colockum, EF hunt from Nov. 2-13 was changed from 20 to 15. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the 65+Senior category, the permit level for the Yakima Central, EF hunt from Nov. 2-13 was changed from 5 to 10. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the 65+Senior category, the permit level for the Yakima South, EF hunt from Nov. 2-13 was changed from 15 to 10. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the 65+ Senior category, a new Yakima Central, EM hunt was added for Oct. 1-10 with 15 permits. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the 65+ Senior category, the Yakima South, EM hunt was. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Page 21

Under the Hunters with Disabilities category, the Colockum EF, EM, EA hunt from Nov. 2-13 was changed from 20 to 15 permits. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Hunters with Disabilities category, the Yakima North EF, EM, EA hunt from Nov. 2-13 was changed from 65 to 40 permits. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Hunters with Disabilities category, the Yakima Central EF, EM, EA hunt from Nov. 2-13 was changed from 5 to 20 permits. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Under the Hunters with Disabilities category, the Yakima South EF, EM, EA hunt from Nov. 2-13 was changed from 20 to 10 permits. The change is a result of additional data collected after the filing of the CR 102.

Page 22

Under the Hunter Education Instructor Incentive Permits category, the permit level for the Region 5 any elk hunt was changed from 2 back to the original 4 permits. Additional internal discussions will have to take place between the Regions and Hunter Education to come to an agreement on the level of permits to offer. Therefore no changes are being proposed for 2016.

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

WAC 232-28-360 Elk Special Permits

Supporting Comments:

About 16% of the 195 comments received supported the proposed rule change. There was support for the special permit elk hunts being proposed.

Opposing and Other Comments:

Forty-three percent of the comments received opposed the proposed rule change. Most were concerned that the number of permits were either too high or too low for their favorite hunt. Other opposing comments suggested new hunts that don't currently fit with the management strategies being employed or were of the opinion that their particular user group (modern firearm, archery, muzzleloader, youth, senior, disabled, master hunter, hunter education instructor) was not getting enough opportunity via the special permit hunts.

There were approximately 41% of the 195 comments that fell under the "other" category. Those comments expressed concerns about issues that were not part of this public process. Those included: suggestions that were outside the authority of the Department and the Fish and Wildlife Commission, suggestions that asked for something that already existed, and suggestions that were under the purview of federal treaties. Additional suggestions called for substantial changes in special permit hunting season structures which are typically done through an extensive public process every 3 years. That next public process will take place in 2017 in preparation for the 2018-2020 hunting seasons.

Direction and Rationale:

The minimal changes being proposed are intended to provide sustainable hunting season opportunities without having a negative impact on the wildlife resource. The opposing comments were typically recommending changes that would undo management actions that are necessary for sustaining special permit hunting seasons and maintaining healthy elk populations. The comments received on this WAC that inspired changes to the recommendations pertained to the desire to have more special permit Quality opportunities in the Colockum hunts. None of the other comments received on this WAC required changes to the recommendations being made to the Fish and Wildlife Commission.



PROPOSED RULE MAKING

CR-102 (June 2012)

(Implements RCW 34.05.320)

Do NOT use for expedited rule making

Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Preproposal Statement of Inquiry was filed as WSR 15-24-136 on 12/2/15 Original Notice and WSR 15-22-107 on 11/4/15; or Supplemental Notice to WSR ____ Expedited Rule Making--Proposed notice was filed as WSR Continuance of WSR ___ ; or Proposal is exempt under RCW 34.05.310(4) or 34.05.330(1). Title of rule and other identifying information: (Describe Subject) The subject of this proposed rule-making effort is the development and/or amendment of deer and elk seasons and permits; baiting regulations for deer and elk; deer and elk area boundaries; special closures and firearm restriction areas; importation of dead wildlife; possession of dead wildlife; reducing the spread of elk hoof disease; cougar seasons and regulations; spring black bear seasons and regulations; bighorn sheep seasons and permits; special hunting season permits; auction, raffle, and special incentive permits; landowner hunting permit program; hunting by persons with a disability; migratory waterfowl seasons, regulations, and closures; upland game bird and other small game seasons and regulations; hunter education deferrals; and other hunting regulations. Hearing location(s): Submit written comments to: Moses Lake Civic Center Online: http://wdfw.wa.gov/about/regulations/hunting_regulations 401 S. Balsam Name: Wildlife Program Commission Meeting Public Comments Moses Lake, Washington 98837 Address: 600 Capitol Way North Olympia, WA 98501-1091 e-mail: Wildthing@dfw.wa.gov (360) 902-2162 by (date) February 25, 2016 Date: March 18-19, 2016 Time: 8:30 a.m. Assistance for persons with disabilities: Contact Tami Lininger by February 26, 2016 Date of intended adoption: on or after April 8, 2016 TTY (800) 833-6388 or (360) 902-2267 (Note: This is **NOT** the **effective** date) Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: See Attachment A Reasons supporting proposal: See Attachment A Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, Statute being implemented: 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, 77.04.055, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, 77.12.240, 77.12.800, 77.32.155. 77.32.090, 77.32.155. Is rule necessary because of a: CODE REVISER USE ONLY Federal Law? Federal Court Decision? Yes No OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER State Court Decision? Yes No STATE OF WASHINGTON If yes, CITATION: Yes No FILED CFR Title 50, Part 20, Migratory Bird Treaty Act DATE: February 03, 2016 DATE TIME: 9:33 AM February 3, 2016 NAME (type or print) Jacalyn Hursey WSR 16-04-126 gacely m. Hursey **SIGNATURE** TITLE Acting Rules Coordinator

Agency commatters: None.	mments or recommendations, if a	any, as to statutory language, implementation, enforce	ment, and fiscal
Name of pr	roponent: (person or organization)	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	☐ Private
	,	6I	Public Governmental
Name of ag	gency personnel responsible for:		D .
D 60	Name	Office Location	Phone
	Nate Pamplin	Natural Resources Building, Olympia	(360) 902-2515
	ionNate Pamplin		(360) 902-2515
	Steven Crown	Natural Resources Building, Olympia	(360) 902-2936
		ement been prepared under chapter 19.85 RCW or has er section 1, chapter 210, Laws of 2012?	a school district
Yes. Attach copy of small business economic impact statement or school district fiscal impact statement.			
,	A copy of the statement may be obt Name: Address:	tained by contacting:	
M No. 1	phone () fax () e-mail	-	
⊠ No. Explain why no statement was prepared.			
These rules apply to recreational hunting and do not affect small business.			
Is a cost-benefit analysis required under RCW 34.05.328?			
☐ Yes	A preliminary cost-benefit analysi Name: Address:	is may be obtained by contacting:	
	phone () fax () e-mail	-	
⊠ No:	Please explain: This proposal does	not involve hydraulics.	

ATTACHMENT A

Existing Rules Proposed for Amendment

- WAC 232-12-021 Importation and retention of dead nonresident wildlife.
- WAC 232-12-228 Hunter education deferral.
- WAC 232-12-286 Reducing the spread of hoof disease—Unlawful transport of elk hooves.
- WAC 232-12-287 Possession of dead wildlife.
- WAC 232-12-828 Hunting of game birds and animals by persons with a disability.
- WAC 232-16-740 Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River waterfowl, coot, and snipe closures.
- WAC 232-28-248 Special closures and firearm restriction areas.
- WAC 232-28-283 Big game and wild turkey auction, raffle, and special incentive permits.
- WAC 232-28-286 2016, 2017, and 2018 Spring black bear seasons and regulations.
- WAC 232-28-296 Landowner hunting permits.
- WAC 232-28-297 2015-2016, 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 Cougar hunting seasons and regulations.
- WAC 232-28-337 Elk area descriptions.
- WAC 232-28-342 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 Small game and other wildlife seasons and regulations.
- WAC 232-28-358 2015-2017 Elk general seasons and definitions.
- WAC 232-28-357 2015-2017 Deer general seasons and definitions.
- WAC 232-28-359 2015 Deer special permits.
- WAC 232-28-360 2016 Elk special permits.
- WAC 232-28-436 2015-2016 Migratory waterfowl seasons and regulations.
- WAC 232-28-622 2015-2017 Bighorn sheep seasons and permit quotas.
- WAC 232-28-624 Deer area descriptions.

New Rule(s) Proposed for Adoption

Department staff is requesting the Fish and Wildlife Commission to adopt one of the following three proposed rules.

- WAC 232-12-239 Baiting for the purposes of hunting deer or elk.
- WAC 232-12-245 Baiting for the purposes of hunting deer or elk.
- WAC 232-12-246 Bait volume limits for the purpose of hunting deer or elk.

WAC 232-12-021 Importation and retention of dead nonresident wildlife.

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

The purpose of the proposal is to add Michigan to the list of states and provinces requiring additional processing of deer, elk, and moose carcasses before they can be brought into Washington. The states and provinces listed in the WAC have confirmed chronic wasting disease (CWD) in their wild, free-ranging populations of cervids.

Reasons supporting proposal:

The proposal reduces the risk of CWD being imported into Washington State via carcasses of animals harvested in other states. Reducing disease risk helps in sustaining deer, elk, and moose populations and hunting opportunities in Washington.

WAC 232-12-228 Hunter education deferral.

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

The proposed rule changes will remove language pertaining to outdated practices, clarify language, and allow the department (Hunter Education and Licensing Divisions) to provide improved customer service.

Reasons supporting proposal:

The existing rules contain outdated elements that are no longer implemented. The proposal will also enable a much higher level of customer service, including: additional payment methods for the hunter education deferral; reduction or elimination of mail costs and delays; elimination of original and replacement deferral cards; opportunity for immediate hunting license purchase; and minor rule clarifications. Department cost savings will be realized via a reduction in staff time to process deferral applications and fees and the reduction or elimination of mailing and printing costs.

WAC 232-12-239 Baiting for the purposes of hunting deer or elk.

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

The purpose of this proposal is to further the public discussion regarding hunting deer and elk using bait. If adopted the rule would make it unlawful to use bait to hunt deer or elk for all hunters.

Reasons supporting proposal:

In the last three years the Department has been approached by hunters and landowners that do not approve of the practice of baiting for the purposes of hunting deer or elk. Additional input was received as part of the 3-year hunting season package, public process in 2015.

The non-random input the Department received via the website during the 3-year package process indicated that 23% of hunters wanted a ban on baiting with an exception for food plots and agricultural operations. Fourteen percent (14%) of hunters wanted to disallow the use of bait by hunting guides and restrict the manner and volume of baiting by hunters not using guides. A 63% majority of the hunters commenting wanted no change to the rules pertaining to baiting deer and elk.

In a random telephone survey of deer hunters conducted as part of the 2015-17 3-year package, 59% either opposed or strongly opposed baiting for deer. Deer hunters that supported or strongly supported baiting for deer made up 21% of the respondents. Eleven percent (11%) of those surveyed were neutral and 9% didn't know.

In the same random telephone survey, 68% of elk hunters either opposed or strongly opposed baiting for elk. Elk hunters that supported or strongly supported using bait to hunt elk were 14%. Eleven percent (11%) of those surveyed were neutral and 8% didn't know.

Although some potential exists, the Department has no data at this time to suggest that the practice of baiting for deer and elk hunting has a negative population or natural resource effect.

The Fish and Wildlife Commission discussed this issue in March and April 2015 and decided to not make changes to the existing rule (baiting for deer and elk hunting is allowed). Since then, the Department has facilitated further discussion with a group of hunters interested in the issue. That group met several times over the past year. Through that process, and input received from the Game Management Advisory Council in 2015, it is clear that there is no consensus on this issue other than scents and natural agricultural practices should not be considered baiting. Members expressed several points of view ranging from banning all baiting for deer and elk hunting to retaining the ability to bait using any quantity. The committee discussed alternatives to the "all or none" scenario, which resulted in several options that will be presented to the Commission for discussion and possible decision. The Commission will consider options that range from banning all baiting to retaining all baiting, including two specific options that consider a volume limit on the amount of bait allowed.

WAC 232-12-245 Baiting for the purposes of hunting deer or elk.

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

The purpose of this proposal is to further the public discussion regarding hunting deer and elk using bait. If adopted the rule would make it unlawful to hunt deer or elk using bait in excess of 10 gallons and bait located closer than 200 yards from another bait site.

Reasons supporting proposal:

In the last three years the Department has been approached by hunters and landowners that do not approve of the practice of baiting for the purposes of hunting deer or elk. Additional input was received as part of the 3-year hunting season package, public process in 2015.

The non-random input the Department received via the website during the 3-year package process indicated that 23% of hunters wanted a ban on baiting with an exception for food plots and agricultural operations. Fourteen percent (14%) of hunters wanted to disallow the use of bait by hunting guides and restrict the manner and volume of baiting by hunters not using guides. A 63% majority of the hunters commenting wanted no change to the rules pertaining to baiting deer and elk.

In a random telephone survey of deer hunters conducted as part of the 2015-17 3-year package, 59% either opposed or strongly opposed baiting for deer. Deer hunters that supported or strongly supported baiting for deer made up 21% of the respondents. Eleven percent (11%) of those surveyed were neutral and 9% didn't know.

In the same random telephone survey, 68% of elk hunters either opposed or strongly opposed baiting for elk. Elk hunters that supported or strongly supported using bait to hunt elk were 14%. Eleven percent (11%) of those surveyed were neutral and 8% didn't know.

Although some potential exists, the Department has no data at this time to suggest that the practice of baiting for deer and elk hunting has a negative population or natural resource effect.

The Fish and Wildlife Commission discussed this issue in March and April 2015 and decided to not make changes to the existing rule (baiting for deer and elk hunting is allowed). Since then, the Department has facilitated further discussion with a group of hunters interested in the issue. That group met several times over the past year. Through that process, and input received from the Game Management Advisory Council in 2015, it is clear that there is no consensus on this issue other than scents and natural agricultural practices should not be considered baiting. Members expressed several points of view ranging from banning all baiting for deer and elk hunting to retaining the ability to bait using any quantity. The committee discussed alternatives to the "all or none" scenario, which resulted in several options that will be presented to the Commission for discussion and possible decision. The Commission will consider

options that range from banning all baiting to retaining all baiting, including two specific options that consider a volume limit on the amount of bait allowed.

WAC 232-12-246 Bait volume limits for the purpose of hunting deer or elk.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: The purpose of this proposal is to further the public discussion regarding hunting deer and elk using bait. If adopted the rule would make it unlawful to hunt deer or elk using bait in excess of 10 gallons.

Reasons supporting proposal:

In the last three years the Department has been approached by hunters and landowners that do not approve of the practice of baiting for the purposes of hunting deer or elk. Additional input was received as part of the 3-year hunting season package, public process in 2015.

The non-random input the Department received via the website during the 3-year package process indicated that 23% of hunters wanted a ban on baiting with an exception for food plots and agricultural operations. Fourteen percent (14%) of hunters wanted to disallow the use of bait by hunting guides and restrict the manner and volume of baiting by hunters not using guides. A 63% majority of the hunters commenting wanted no change to the rules pertaining to baiting deer and elk.

In a random telephone survey of deer hunters conducted as part of the 2015-17 3-year package, 59% either opposed or strongly opposed baiting for deer. Deer hunters that supported or strongly supported baiting for deer made up 21% of the respondents. Eleven percent (11%) of those surveyed were neutral and 9% didn't know.

In the same random telephone survey, 68% of elk hunters either opposed or strongly opposed baiting for elk. Elk hunters that supported or strongly supported using bait to hunt elk were 14%. Eleven percent (11%) of those surveyed were neutral and 8% didn't know.

Although some potential exists, the Department has no data at this time to suggest that the practice of baiting for deer and elk hunting has a negative population or natural resource effect.

The Fish and Wildlife Commission discussed this issue in March and April 2015 and decided to not make changes to the existing rule (baiting for deer and elk hunting is allowed). Since then, the Department has facilitated further discussion with a group of hunters interested in the issue. That group met several times over the past year. Through that process, and input received from the Game Management Advisory Council in 2015, it is clear that there is no consensus on this issue other than scents and natural agricultural practices should not be considered baiting. Members expressed several points of view ranging from banning all baiting for deer and elk hunting to retaining the ability to bait using any quantity. The committee discussed alternatives to the "all or none" scenario, which resulted in several options that will be presented to the Commission for discussion and possible decision. The Commission will consider options that range from banning all baiting to retaining all baiting, including two specific options that consider a volume limit on the amount of bait allowed.

WAC 232-12-286 Reducing the spread of hoof disease—Unlawful transport of elk hooves.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: The purpose of this proposal is to allow, under certain circumstances, the legal transport of elk hooves coming from GMUs with treponeme associated hoof disease. The amendment would help facilitate current research on treponeme associated hoof disease and make the emergency rule permanent.

Reasons supporting proposal: This proposal helps facilitate research on treponeme associated hoof disease in elk while also helping reduce the probability of the disease spreading.

WAC 232-12-287 Possession of dead wildlife.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: Currently there is no legal way to salvage and possess deer, elk, or moose that have been killed by a motor vehicle. Per a request by the Fish and Wildlife Commission, the Department has investigated a strategy that would allow salvage and possession of those animals. The proposed amendments to WAC 232-12-287 would facilitate the legal salvage of road-killed deer and elk.

Reasons supporting proposal: This proposal would allow citizens to salvage meat from a deer or elk that has been killed in a vehicle collision.

WAC 232-12-828 Hunting of game birds and animals by persons with a disability.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: The proposal is intended to reinstitute a rule that was deleted in 2014 related to shooting firearms from vehicles. The anticipated effects would be greater clarity for hunters and enforcement officers.

Reasons supporting proposal:

Currently, all hunters with disabilities are permitted to shoot from their vehicles under RCW 77.32.238. In 2014, WAC 232-12-828 provided language that described how hunters with disabilities can shoot from a vehicle. This language was removed in preparation for an RCW change that was anticipated in 2015. That RCW change never occurred. Hunters with disabilities currently do not have defined guidance for shooting from a vehicle. Recommended language addition reinstitutes how, when, and where hunters with disabilities may shoot from their vehicles. WDFW Enforcement staff and county prosecutors have requested more defined language. The proposed rule change is recommended to stay in rule until the RCW is changed.

WAC 232-16-740 Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River waterfowl, coot, and snipe closures.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: The proposal amends WAC 232-16-740, Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River waterfowl, coot, and snipe closures, to correct an inaccurate boundary description for the closure on the Snake River contained in subsection 6.

Reasons supporting proposal:

Need to provide a clear, accurate description of the boundary for effective enforcement and conservation of migratory bird resources.

WAC 232-28-248 Special closures and firearm restriction areas.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: The purpose of the proposal is to change the Special Closures and Firearm Restriction Areas rule to clarify a restriction in Grays Harbor County. The restriction in question should only apply during modern firearm deer and elk seasons. The restriction is unnecessary during other times of the year. The restriction still allows hunting to be used as a management tool.

Reasons supporting proposal:

Special closures and firearm restriction areas allow the Fish and Wildlife Commission to restrict or close hunting activity in certain areas and during certain time periods to optimize safety, discourage trespass on restricted lands, and protect sensitive species.

WAC 232-28-283 Big game and wild turkey auction, raffle, and special incentive permits.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: We are recommending a few minor changes to big game and wild turkey auction, raffle, and special incentive permits hunting for 2016: 1) A new "Three-deer auction permit", valid September 1 - December 31. 2) Allow the Department to extend the areas open to the holder of the single, statewide moose auction permit beyond those open to holders of moose draw permits. 3) Remove GMU 175 from areas available to the holder of the Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep raffle permit.

Reasons supporting proposal:

- 1) Increase hunter interest in deer hunting and provide additional revenue for the deer/elk section. This was suggested by a citizen group as likely to be attractive to hunters, and will help raise revenue and interest in deer hunting without adverse effects to the resource. This will complement the existing, three-deer raffle permit, which contains similar stipulations.
- 2) Increase revenue available to monitor moose populations. This was suggested by involved citizens as a way to enhance interest in moose and increase available revenue for moose. For the past 3 years, the Department has documented an expanding front of moose colonization to the west and south of the primary moose areas. We have not had resources to formally survey these areas, but know that there are a few large bull moose that could safely be harvested without interrupting this expansion. We recommend beginning with the auction permit, because hunters bidding for this generally do their own scouting, and thus can actually help us understand moose distribution in these areas.
- 3) GMU 175 represents the area typically used by the Asotin bighorn sheep herd. Although the herd appears to be slowly rebounding from a disease-related reduction, the number of mature rams has become sufficiently low to generate a biological concern. There are currently an insufficient number of rams in this herd to justify a ram hunt for 2016.

WAC 232-28-286 2016, 2017, and 2018 Spring black bear seasons and regulations.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: The proposal is intended to establish harvest guidelines for 22 spring bear hunts around the state. The anticipated effects include timber damage or public safety mitigation and providing for hunting recreation within harvest levels described in the 2015-21 Game Management Plan.

Reasons supporting proposal:

Proposed harvest is anticipated to be consistent with the Game Management Plan. In addition, these proposals provide additional tools for landowners to deal with timber damage. Some proposals may help the agency address concerns over public safety.

WAC 232-28-296 Landowner hunting permits.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: This proposal modifies hunt dates on properties enrolled in WDFW's Landowner Hunting Permit (LHP) program for the 2016 hunting seasons. These sites offer special hunting opportunities to the public through permits issued by WDFW, raffles, or selection by the landowner.

Reasons supporting proposal:

Several years ago, the Fish and Wildlife Commission developed a policy to expand the private lands available to the general public for hunting. One of the programs that was authorized was the Landowner Hunting Permit Program. This program encourages landowners to provide opportunity to the general hunter in exchange for customized hunting seasons and the ability to generate funding to offset the cost of providing public access.

<u>WAC 232-28-297 2015-2016, 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 Cougar hunting seasons and regulations.</u>

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

This proposal includes three alternative options for modifying existing rules. The proposal establishes harvest guidelines for 50 cougar units around the state. Cougar guidelines are designed to provide a long season and hunting opportunity for hunters without the use of dogs (i.e., spot and stalking in snow and/or calling). The anticipated effects are harvest levels consistent with the game management plan, balancing hunting opportunity with sustainable cougar populations.

Reasons supporting proposal:

To provide early and late season hunting opportunity for hunters without the use of dogs (i.e., spot and stalking in snow and/or calling), while maintaining sustainable cougar populations.

WAC 232-28-337 Elk area descriptions.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: One new Elk Area is being proposed for Asotin County. The proposed addition is intended to reduce agricultural damage.

A change to Elk Area 6054 in Pierce County is proposed. The purpose is to make the boundary more discernable and make hunts held in the Elk Area more effective at mitigating elk damage.

The proposed change to Elk Area 6064 in Grays Harbor and Jefferson Counties removes some public land that was unnecessarily included. The Elk Area was established due to safety concerns but the original boundary included some USFS lands where this concern does not exist.

The proposal removes one Elk Area (EA 6063) in Grays Harbor and Jefferson Counties that is no longer needed.

Reasons supporting proposal:

Elk Areas allow the Fish and Wildlife Commission to adopt hunting seasons that can be conducted at a smaller scale than the Game Management Unit. Setting seasons at this scale allows for more strategic wildlife management using hunting as a tool to control populations and mitigate wildlife conflict.

<u>WAC 232-28-342 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 Small game and other wildlife seasons and regulations.</u>

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

The proposal amends WAC 232-28-342, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 Small game and other wildlife seasons and regulations, to specify legal season dates, bag limits, and open areas to hunt small game and other wildlife for the 2016-17 and 2017-18 hunting seasons. In this proposal HIP requirements are removed from WAC 232-28-342 and are included in WAC 232-28-436.

Reasons supporting proposal:

Minor modifications to WAC 232-28-342 are needed to provide additional recreational hunting opportunities for disabled hunters, and consolidate migratory game bird regulations due to changes in the federal regulatory process.

WAC 232-28-358 2015-2017 Elk general seasons and definitions.

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

The purpose of this proposal is to retain general season elk hunting opportunity for 2016. The purpose is also to balance the elk hunting opportunity between user groups. The proposal also increases elk hunting opportunity when elk populations allow.

Reasons supporting proposal: This proposal provides for recreational elk hunting opportunity and protects elk from overharvest. The proposal would maintain sustainable general elk hunting season opportunities for 2016. The proposal helps address elk agricultural damage problems and provides for elk population control when needed.

WAC 232-28-357 2015-2017 Deer general seasons and definitions.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: The purpose of this proposal is to retain general season deer hunting opportunity for 2016. In addition, the purpose of the proposal is to balance the hunting opportunity between user groups. The proposal also increases the opportunity when deer populations allow, and reduces the opportunity when declining deer numbers warrant a change.

Reasons supporting proposal: These proposals provide for recreational deer hunting opportunity and protects deer from overharvest. The proposal would maintain sustainable general deer hunting season opportunities for 2016. The proposal helps address deer agricultural damage problems and provides for deer population control when needed.

WAC 232-28-359 2015 Deer special permits.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: The purpose of this proposal is to retain special permit deer hunting opportunity for 2016. In addition, the purpose of the proposal is to balance the hunting opportunity between user groups. The proposal also increases the opportunity when deer populations allow, and reduces the opportunity when declining deer numbers warrant a change.

Reasons supporting proposal: These proposals provide for recreational deer hunting opportunity and protects deer from overharvest. The proposal would also maintain sustainable deer special permit hunting season opportunities for 2016. The proposal helps address deer agricultural damage problems and provides for deer population control when needed.

WAC 232-28-360 2015 Elk special permits.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: The purpose of this proposal is to retain elk special permit hunting opportunity for 2016. The purpose is also to balance the elk hunting opportunity between user groups. The proposal also increases elk hunting opportunity when elk populations allow, and reduces elk hunting opportunity when declining elk numbers warrant a change. The proposal makes minor adjustments to season dates.

Reasons supporting proposal: This proposal provides for recreational elk hunting opportunity and protects elk from overharvest. The proposal would maintain sustainable elk special permit hunting opportunity for 2016. The proposal helps address elk agricultural damage problems and provides for elk population control when needed.

WAC 232-28-436 2015-2016 Migratory waterfowl seasons and regulations.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: The proposal amends WAC 232-28-436, 2015-16 Migratory waterfowl seasons and regulations, to specify legal season dates, bag limits, and open areas to hunt waterfowl, coot, snipe, band-tailed pigeon, and mourning dove for the 2016-17 hunting season. In this proposal HIP requirements are removed from WAC 232-28-342 and are included in WAC 232-28-436.

Reasons supporting proposal:

Migratory game bird 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 migratory game bird seasons and regulations to provide recreational opportunity, control waterfowl damage, and conserve the migratory game bird resources of Washington.

WAC 232-28-622 2015-2017 Bighorn sheep seasons and permit quotas.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: We are recommending a few minor changes to bighorn hunting for 2016: 1) Discontinuing ewe permits for the Selah Butte herd (which is declining); 2) Adding ewe permits for the Cleman Mountain herd (which is over-abundant); 3) Adding ram permit opportunity for the Swakane and Chelan Butte herds; 4) Adding ewe permits for disabled hunters, as well as a new category of "immature ram" for disabled hunters, both in the Chelan Butte bighorn sheep herd; and 5) making minor adjustments to season dates.

Reasons supporting proposal:

Maintain population size and hunter opportunity and reduce the risk of bacterial infection from domestic sheep/goats by reducing the tendency of animals in over-abundant herds to foray from their core ranges.

WAC 232-28-624 Deer area descriptions.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: The proposed changes to the Deer Area Descriptions rule will create three new Deer Areas: one each in Chelan, Kittitas, and Yakima Counties. The proposed additions will accommodate using hunting as a management tool and are intended to reduce agricultural damage in these locations.

Reasons supporting proposal:

Deer Areas allow the Fish and Wildlife Commission to adopt hunting seasons that can be conducted at a smaller scale than the Game Management Unit. Setting seasons at this scale allows for more strategic wildlife management, using hunting as a tool to control populations and mitigate wildlife conflict.