

Deer General Seasons

WAC 232-28-357

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Overview

- Rationale for Supplemental Rule Proposal
- Proposed Rule
- Public Input
- Steps Forward



Why a Supplemental Rule Proposal?

- Discussion with NE Washington sportsmen
 - Concerns for deer population – bluetongue
 - Similar to 2014 seasons
- April Proposal – reduced modern firearm antlerless harvest for youth, senior, and hunters with disabilities
- Intended to propose additional reductions

Why a Supplemental Rule Proposal?

- Supplemental proposal – significant change
 - Public Notice
 - Opportunity to Comment
 - Presentation
 - Public Hearing



Proposed Changes Antlerless White-tailed Deer

	2016-17 and 2017-18	
	April Proposal	June Proposal
Early Archery (GMUs 101-121)	Sep. 1 – 30 (any deer)	Sep. 1 – 30 (any buck)
Late Archery (GMUs 105-121)	Nov. 23 - Dec. 15 (any deer)	Nov. 23 – Dec. 9 (any buck)* Dec. 10 - Dec. 15 (any deer)

* Calendar date shifts for 2017-18

Proposed Changes

White-tailed Deer (GMUs 101 – 121)

	2016-17 and 2017-18	
	April Proposal	June Proposal
Muzzleloader	Oct. 1 – 9 (any deer)	Oct. 1 - 9 (buck only)*
Youth, Senior, Hunters With Disabilities	Oct. 20 - 23 (any deer)	Oct. 20 - 23 * (no change)

* Calendar date shifts for 2017-18

Rationale

- Fixes our mistake
 - Establishes a hunting season framework similar to 2014
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- Conservative management action
 - Increased doe population

Public Input

28 public comments on proposed changes

– Majority in support –

- Conservation

– Minority opposed –

- Notice of rule change
- Loss of opportunity



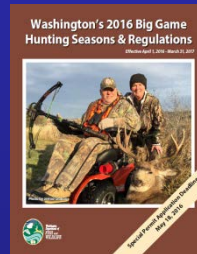
Communications Plan

- WDFW website and social media



WDFW Facebook

- Pamphlet Update



- Media contacts (June and August)

WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
NEWS RELEASE

- Email hunters



Process Improvements

- Project Plan
- Additional cross-checks with field staff



Questions?

