



RULE-MAKING ORDER

CR-103P (May 2009)
(Implements RCW 34.05.360)

Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Permanent Rule Only

Effective date of rule:

Permanent Rules 16-182

31 days after filing.

Other (specify) _____ (If less than 31 days after filing, a specific finding under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required and should be stated below)

Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?

Yes No If Yes, explain:

Purpose:

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 hunting opportunity when deer populations allow, and reduces the opportunity when declining deer numbers warrant a change. Current proposed changes will reduce antlerless deer hunting opportunity for archery and muzzleloader hunters in several Game Management Units in northeastern Washington.

Citation of existing rules affected by this order:

Repealed:
Amended: WAC 232-28-357
Suspended:

Statutory authority for adoption: 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, 77.32.155

Other authority :

PERMANENT RULE (Including Expedited Rule Making)

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 16-10-120 on May 4, 2016 (date).

Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version:

See attachment A.

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting:

Name: _____ phone () _____
Address: _____ fax () _____
e-mail _____

Date adopted: June 10, 2016

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)
Brad Smith

SIGNATURE

TITLE
Chair, Fish and Wildlife Commission

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: July 14, 2016

TIME: 1:52 PM

WSR 16-15-045

**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.
No descriptive text.**

**Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.
A section may be counted in more than one category.**

The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:

Federal statute:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Federal rules or standards:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____

The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:

New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
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The number of sections adopted in the agency's own initiative:

New	_____	Amended	<u>1</u>	Repealed	_____
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The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:

New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
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The number of sections adopted using:

Negotiated rule making:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Pilot rule making:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Other alternative rule making:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____

Attachment A – Statement of Changes Deer General Season and Regulations

Existing Rule Amended:

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

General Note: Minor technical changes were made throughout the proposed rules to adjust grammar and formatting concerns.

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

(differences between the text of the proposed rule and the rule as adopted)

Change: Under Early Archery General, Eastern Washington White-tailed Deer, Sept. 1-30, 2016 and Sept. 1-29, 2017, change the Legal Deer in GMUs 101, 105, 108, 111, 113, 117, and 121 from “Any white-tailed deer” to “White-tailed, any buck”.

Under Late Archery General, Eastern Washington White-tailed Deer, change the dates and Legal Deer from “Nov. 23-Dec. 15, 2016 and Nov. 22-Dec. 15, 2017 Any white-tailed deer” to “Nov. 23-Dec. 9, 2016 and Nov. 22-Dec. 9, 2017 White-tailed any buck; and Dec. 10-15, 2016 and Dec. 10- 15, 2017 Any white-tailed deer” in GMUs 105, 108, 117, and 121.

Under Early Muzzleloader, Eastern Washington White-tailed Deer, Oct. 1-9, 2016 and Sept. 30- Oct. 8, 2017, change the Legal Deer in GMUs 101, 105, 108, 111, 113, 117, and 121 from “Any white-tailed deer” to “White-tailed, any buck”.

Rationale: All of these changes are proposed in response to the white-tailed deer population in these GMUs experiencing a hemorrhagic disease outbreak in late summer-early fall. The recommended adjustment is a more conservative season structure directed at antlerless hunting opportunity because the antlerless portion of the population has direct influence over population growth or decline.

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

It is unlawful to fail to comply with the bag, possession, and season limits described below. Violations of this section are punishable under RCW 77.15.410((7)) Unlawful hunting of big game—Penalty.

Bag Limit: One (1) deer per hunter during the license year except where otherwise permitted by department rule.

Hunting Method: Hunters must select one of the hunting methods: Modern firearm, archery, or muzzleloader.

Any Buck Deer Seasons: Open only to the taking of deer with visible antlers (buck fawns illegal).

Antler Point: To qualify as an antler point, the point must be at least one inch long, measured on the longest side.

Antler Restrictions: APPLIES TO ALL HUNTERS DURING ANY GENERAL SEASON AND DESIGNATED SPECIAL PERMIT SEASONS. Buck deer taken in antler restricted game management units (GMUs) must meet minimum antler point requirements. Minimum antler point requirements are antler points on one side only. Eye guards are antler points when they are at least one inch long.

3-point Minimum GMUs: All mule deer in 100, 200, and 300 series GMUs; white-tailed deer in GMUs 127, 130, 133, 136, 139, 142, 145, 149, 154, 162, 163, 166, 169, 172, 175, 178, 181, 186, and black-tailed deer in GMU 578.

Permit-only Units: The following GMUs require a special permit to hunt deer: 157 (Mill Creek Watershed), 290 (Desert), 329 (Quilomene), 371 (Alkali), and 485 (Green River).

GMUs Closed to Deer Hunting: 490 (Cedar River) and 522 (Loo-wit).

Types of deer that a person may legally hunt in Washington:

Black-tailed Deer: Any member of black-tailed/mule deer (species *Odocoileus hemionus*) found west of a line drawn from the Canadian border south on the Pacific Crest Trail and along the Yakama Indian Reservation boundary in Yakima County to the Klickitat River; south down Klickitat River to the Columbia River.

Mule Deer: Any member of black-tailed/mule deer (species *Odocoileus hemionus*) found east of a line drawn from the Canadian border south on the Pacific Crest Trail and along the Yakama Indian Reservation boundary in Yakima County to the Klickitat River; south down Klickitat River to the Columbia River.

White-tailed Deer: Any white-tailed deer (member of the species *Odocoileus virginianus*), except the Columbian whitetail deer (species *Odocoileus virginianus leucurus*).

MODERN FIREARM DEER SEASONS

License Required: A valid big game hunting license, which includes a deer species option.

Tag Required: A valid modern firearm deer tag for the area hunted.

Hunting Method: Modern firearm deer tag hunters may use rifle, hand-gun, shotgun, bow, crossbow, or muzzleloader, but only during modern firearm seasons.

Hunt Season	2015 Dates	2016 Dates	2017 Dates	Game Management Units (GMUs)	Legal Deer
HIGH BUCK HUNTS					
	Sept. 15-25	Sept. 15-25	Sept. 15-25	Alpine Lakes, Mount Baker, Glacier Peak, Pasayten, Olympic Peninsula, and Henry Jackson Wilderness Areas and Lake Chelan Recreation Area	3 pt. min.
GENERAL SEASON					
Western Washington Black-tailed Deer	Oct. 17-31	Oct. 15-31	Oct. 14-31	407, 418, 426, 437, 448, 450, 454, 460, 466, 501 through 520, 524 through 556, 560, 568, 572, 574, 601 through 621, 624 (except Deer Area 6020), 627 through 654, 658 through 699	Any buck
				410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 419, 420, 421, 422, 564, 655, Deer Area 6020	Any deer
				578	3 pt. min.
Eastern Washington White-tailed Deer	Oct. 17-30	Oct. 15-28	Oct. 14-27	101, 105, 108, 111, 113, 124	Any white-tailed buck
	Oct. 17-27	Oct. 15-25	Oct. 14-24	203 through 284	Any white-tailed buck
	Oct. 17-27	Oct. 15-25	Oct. 14-24	127 through 154, 162 through 186 (except Deer Area 1040)	White-tailed, 3 pt. min.
	Oct. 17-27	Oct. 15-25	Oct. 14-24	373, 379, 381	Any white-tailed deer
Eastern Washington White-tailed Deer in GMUs 117 and 121	Oct. 17-30	Oct. 15-28	Oct. 14-27	117, 121	Any white-tailed buck
Eastern Washington Mule Deer	Oct. 17-27	Oct. 15-25	Oct. 14-24	101 through 154, 162 through 169, 172 (except Deer Area 1040), 175 through 186, 203 through 284, 328, 330 through 368, 372, 373, 379, 381, 382, 388	Mule deer, 3 pt. min.
					((Mule deer, 3 pt. min.))
LATE GENERAL SEASON					
Western Washington Black-tailed Deer	Nov. 19-22	Nov. 17-20	Nov. 16-19	407, 454, 466, 501 through 520, 524 through 560, 568, 572, 601 through 621, 624 (except Deer Area 6020), 627 through 654, 658 through 699	Any buck
	Nov. 19-22	Nov. 17-20	Nov. 16-19	410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 419, 420, 421, 422, 564, 655, Deer Area 6020	Any deer
Eastern Washington White-tailed Deer	Nov. 7-19	Nov. 5-19	Nov. 11-19	105, 108, 111, 113, 124	Any white-tailed buck
Eastern Washington White-tailed Deer in GMUs 117 and 121	Nov. 7-19	Nov. 5-19	Nov. 11-19	117, 121	Any white-tailed buck
HUNTERS 65 AND OVER, DISABLED, OR YOUTH GENERAL SEASONS					
Eastern Washington White-tailed Deer	Oct. 17-30	Oct. 15-28	Oct. 14-27	((401, 405, 408, 411, 413,)) 124	Any white-tailed deer
		Oct. 20-23	Oct. 19-22	101, 105, 108, 111, 113, 117, 121	Any white-tailed deer
	Nov. 7-19	Nov. 5-19	Nov. 11-19	Deer Area 1050	Any white-tailed deer
	Nov. 7-19	Nov. 5-19	Nov. 11-19	Deer Areas 1060, 1070, 1080	White-tailed, antlerless only
	Oct. 17-27	Oct. 15-25	Oct. 14-24	127 through 142, 145, 149, 154, Deer Area 1010, and 178	White-tailed, 3 pt. min. or antlerless

Hunt Season	2015 Dates	2016 Dates	2017 Dates	Game Management Units (GMUs)	Legal Deer
((HUNTERS 65 AND OVER AND DISABLED					
Eastern Washington White-tailed Deer	Oct. 17-30	Oct. 15-28	Oct. 14-27	117, 121	Antlerless white-tailed deer
YOUTH GENERAL SEASONS					
Eastern Washington White-tailed Deer in GMUs 117 and 121	Oct. 17-30	Oct. 15-28	Oct. 14-27	117, 121	Any white-tailed deer))

ARCHERY DEER SEASONS

License Required: A valid big game hunting license, which includes a deer species option.

Tag Required: A valid archery deer tag for the area hunted.

Special Notes: Archery tag holders can only hunt during archery seasons with archery equipment (WAC 232-12-054).

Hunt Area	2015 Dates	2016 Dates	2017 Dates	Game Management Units (GMUs)	Legal Deer
EARLY ARCHERY GENERAL DEER SEASONS					
Western Washington Black-tailed Deer	Sept. 1-30	Sept. 1-30	Sept. 1-29	407 through 426, 437, 448, 450, 454, 466, 501, 504, 505, 524, 554, 564, 568, 621 through 636, 648 through 652, 654 through 673, 684	Any deer
				460, 503, 574, 601 through 618, 638, 642, 653, 681 and 699	Any buck
				578	3 pt. min.
	Sept. 1-27	Sept. 1-25	Sept. 1-24	510, 513, 516, 520, 556 506, 530, 550, 560, 572	Any deer Any buck
Eastern Washington Mule Deer	Sept. 1-30	Sept. 1-30	Sept. 1-29	105 through 121, 166, 169, 172 (except Deer Area 1040), 175, 181, 243, 334	3 pt. min.
				124 through 142, 145, 149, 186, 244 through 247, 249, 250, 260, 372, 373, 379, 381, 382, 388, Deer Area 3334	3 pt. min. or antlerless
	Sept. 1-27	Sept. 1-25	Sept. 1-24	154, 162, 163, 178	3 pt. min. or antlerless
	Sept. 1-27	Sept. 1-25	Sept. 1-24	((162, 163,)) 251, 328, 335, 336, 340, 346, 352, 356, 360, 364, 368	3 pt. min.
	Sept. 1-15	Sept. 1-15	Sept. 1-15	101, 204 through 242, 248, 254, 262, 266, 269, 272, 278, 284	3 pt. min.
Sept. 16-30	Sept. 16-30	Sept. 16-29	101, 204 through 242, 248, 254, 262, 266, 269, 272, 278, 284	3 pt. min. or antlerless	
Eastern Washington White-tailed Deer	Sept. 1-30	Sept. 1-30	Sept. 1-29	101, 105, 108, 111, 113, 117, 121	((Any white-tailed deer)) <u>White-tailed, any buck</u>
	Sept. 1-30	Sept. 1-30	Sept. 1-29	124, 204 through 250, 254 through 284, 373, 379, 381	Any white-tailed deer
	Sept. 1-30	Sept. 1-30	Sept. 1-29	127 through 149, 166, 172 (except Deer Area 1040), 181, 186	White-tailed, 3 pt. min. or antlerless
	Sept. 1-27	Sept. 1-25	Sept. 1-24	154, 162, 163, 178	White-tailed, 3 pt. min. or antlerless
	Sept. 1-27	Sept. 1-25	Sept. 1-24	169, 175	White-tailed, 3 pt. min.
((Eastern Washington White-tailed Deer in GMUs 117 and 121	Sept. 1-30	Sept. 1-30	Sept. 1-29	117, 121	Any white-tailed deer))
LATE ARCHERY GENERAL DEER SEASONS					
Western Washington Black-tailed Deer	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Nov. 23 - Dec. 15	Nov. 22 - Dec. 15	437, 466, 510 through 520, 524((-556))	Any deer
	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Nov. 23 - Dec. 15	Nov. 22 - Dec. 15	448, 460, 506, 530, 560, 572, 601, 603 through 618, 638, 642, 681, and 699	Any buck

Hunt Area	2015 Dates	2016 Dates	2017 Dates	Game Management Units (GMUs)	Legal Deer
	Nov. 25 - Dec. 31	Nov. 23 - Dec. 31	Nov. 22 - Dec. 31	407, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 419, 420, 421, 422, 454, 505, 564, 624, 627, 636, 648, 652, 654, 655, 660 through 672	Any deer
Eastern Washington Mule Deer	Nov. 21-30	Nov. 21-30	Nov. 21-30	209, 215, 233, 243, 250	3 pt. min.
	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 23 - Dec. 8	Nov. 22 - Dec. 8	336, 342, 346, 352, 364, 388, Deer Area 3682	3 pt. min.
	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	145, 163, 178, 272, 278, 373, <u>Deer Area 3372</u>	3 pt. min. or antlerless
	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Deer Area 1021	Antlerless only
Eastern Washington White-tailed Deer	Nov. 10 - Dec. 15	Nov. 10 - Dec. 15	Nov. 10 - Dec. 15	101	Any white-tailed deer
		<u>Nov. 21-30</u>	<u>Nov. 21-30</u>	<u>204, 209</u>	<u>Any white-tailed deer</u>
	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	124	Any white-tailed deer
	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	127	White-tailed, 3 pt. min. or antlerless
	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	145, 163, 178, 272, 278	White-tailed, 3 pt. min. or antlerless
	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Nov. 23 - Dec. 15	Nov. 22 - Dec. 15	((105, 108, 204, 209,) 215, 233, 243, 373)	Any white-tailed deer
		<u>Nov. 23 - Dec. 9</u>	<u>Nov. 22 - Dec. 9</u>	<u>105, 108, 117, 121</u>	<u>White-tailed, any buck</u>
	<u>Dec. 10-15</u>	<u>Dec. 10-15</u>	<u>105, 108, 117, 121</u>	<u>Any white-tailed deer</u>	
((Eastern Washington White-tailed Deer in GMUs 117 and 121	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Nov. 23 - Dec. 15	Nov. 22 - Dec. 15	117, 121	Any white-tailed deer))

MUZZLELOADER DEER SEASONS

License Required: A valid big game hunting license, which includes a deer species option.

Tag Required: A valid muzzleloader deer tag for the area hunted.

Hunting Method: Muzzleloader only.

Special Notes: Muzzleloader tag holders can only hunt during muzzleloader seasons and must hunt with muzzleloader equipment (WAC 232-12-051) or archery equipment (WAC 232-12-054).

Hunt Area	2015 Dates	2016 Dates	2017 Dates	Game Management Units (GMUs)	Legal Deer
High Buck Hunts	Sept. 15-25	Sept. 15-25	Sept. 15-25	Alpine Lakes, Glacier Peak, Pasayten, Mount Baker, Olympic Peninsula, and Henry Jackson Wilderness areas, and Lake Chelan Recreation Area	3 pt. min.
EARLY MUZZLELOADER GENERAL DEER SEASONS					
Western Washington Black-tailed Deer	Oct. 3-11	Oct. 1-9	Sept. 30 - Oct. 8	407, 418, 426, 437, 448, 450, 501, 503, 504, 505, 506, 510, 513, 516, 520, 530, 550, 554, ((556,)) 560, 568, 572, 574, 603, 607, 612, 615, 624 (except Deer Area 6020), 636, 638, 642, 648, 660, 663, 672, 673	Any buck
				410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 419, 420, 421, 422, 454, 564, 627, 652, 655, 666, 684, and Deer Area 6020	Any deer
				578	3 pt. min.
Eastern Washington White-tailed Deer	Oct. 3-11	Oct. 1-9	Sept. 30 - Oct. 8	101, 105, 108, 111, 113, 117, 121, 203, 204, 209, 215, 231, 233, 239, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 248, 250, 251, 260, 272, 278, 284	White-tailed, any buck
				((101, 105, 108, 111, 113,)) 124	Any white-tailed deer

Hunt Area	2015 Dates	2016 Dates	2017 Dates	Game Management Units (GMUs)	Legal Deer
				127, 142, 145, 149	White-tailed, 3 pt. min. or antlerless
				130, 133, 136, 139, 175, 181, 186	White-tailed, 3 pt. min.
				373, 379	Any white-tailed(♂) deer
((Eastern Washington White-tailed Deer in GMUs 117 and 121	Oct. 3-11	Oct. 1-9	Sept. 30 - Oct. 8	117, 121	Any white-tailed deer))
Eastern Washington Mule Deer	Oct. 3-11	Oct 1-9	Sept. 30 - Oct. 8	101 through 149, 175, 181, 186, 203, 204, 209, 215, 231, 233, 239, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 248, 250, 251, 254, 260, 262, 266, 269, 272, 278, 284, 328, 330 through 342, 352 through 368, 373, 379	Mule deer, 3 pt. min.
Eastern Washington Mule Deer	Oct. 3-11	Oct. 1-9	Sept. 30 - Oct. 8	Deer Areas 3334 and 3372	3 pt. min. or antlerless
LATE MUZZLELOADER GENERAL DEER SEASONS					
Western Washington Black-tailed Deer	Nov. 25 - Dec. 15	Nov. 23 - Dec. 15	Nov. 22 - Dec. 15	407, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 419, 420, 421, 422, 454, ((501+)) 504, 564, 633, 666, 684, and Deer Area 6020	Any deer
				448, 460, ((550)) 501, 602, 621, 651, 654, 658, 667, and 673	Any buck
Eastern Washington White-tailed Deer	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 23 - Dec. 8	Nov. 22 - Dec. 8	113	Any white-tailed buck
	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	130, 133, 136, 139	White-tailed, 3 pt. min. or antlerless
	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	172 (except Deer Area 1040), 181	White-tailed, 3 pt. min. or antlerless
	Nov. 20-30	Nov. 20-30	Nov. 20-30	379, 381	Any white-tailed deer
Eastern Washington Mule Deer	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	130	Antlerless
	Nov. 20-30	Nov. 20-30	Nov. 20-30	381, Deer Area 3372	3 pt. min. or antlerless
	Nov. 20-30	Nov. 20-30	Nov. 20-30	379, 382	3 pt. min.