

RUTH MILNER, District Wildlife Biologist MATT HAMER, Assistant District Wildlife Biologist



Washington Department of FISH and WILDLIFE



Happy hunters in District 13 – Photo by William Reynolds

2019 DISTRICT 13 HUNTING PROSPECTS

Snohomish, San Juan, and Island counties; Skagit County Islands

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DISTRICT 13 GENERAL OVERVIEW

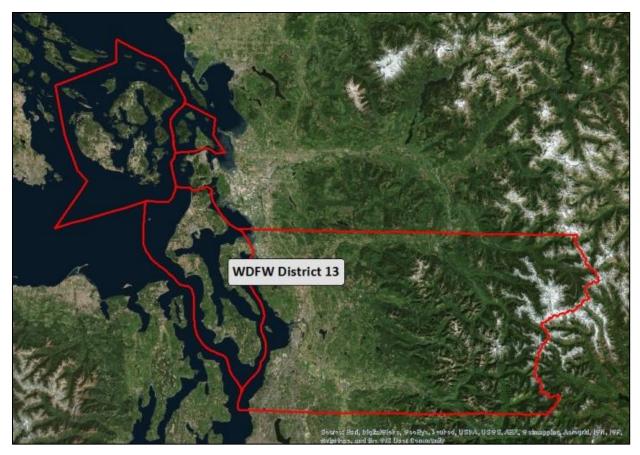
District 13 contains all of Snohomish, Island, and San Juan counties, along with the islands of Skagit County. This includes Game Management Unit (GMU) 448 (Stillaguamish), the southern section of GMU 450 (Cascade), and the southern section of GMU 407 (North Sound) in Snohomish County. The islands of the San Juan Archipelago and Island County are divided into several GMUs, including GMUs 410 (Islands-primarily Henry and Stuart Islands), 411 (Orcas), 412 (Shaw), 413 (San Juan), 414 (Lopez), 415 (Blakely), 416 (Decatur), 417 (Cypress), 419 (Guemes), 420 (Whidbey), and 421(Camano).

Weather predictions for the coming fall call for continued warm, dry weather. Hunters will want to pay close attention to all rules on public lands and watch for any closures that might be implemented at the last minute if fire dangers get too high.

Remember to be a good hunting and outdoor recreation steward. Be respectful of others. Don't hunt areas where there is heavy, regular recreation use. Please pick up after yourself and don't leave a gut pile out in the open – cover, bury, or hike it out and dispose of properly.

Annual harvest reports and harvest statistics based on hunter reporting for various species and game management units are available at <u>Game Harvest Reports</u>.

WDFW's Private Lands Access Program partners with landowners to provide the public hunting access on private property. District 13 Private Lands Access Program sites are focused on providing waterfowl hunting opportunity through the Waterfowl Habitat and Access Program, and WDFW is also working on providing deer hunting access in District 13. We are negotiating deer hunting access to some private properties in San Juan and Island counties. WDFW will post sites as they become available <u>online</u>. Hunters interested in waterfowl and deer hunting access should check the website regularly for updates.



Map of District 13 in Washington state

SNOHOMISH COUNTY

In Snohomish County, a great online mapping tool called <u>SCOPI</u> can help hunters determine property ownership and boundaries.

Much of the eastern part of District 13 is public land, managed by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. Two USFS ranger districts will have information on road and trail conditions for GMUs 448 and 450: the Darrington Ranger District (360-436-1155 – north county) and the Skykomish Ranger District (360-677-2414 – south county). Many roads were decommissioned or damaged by floods in recent years. Trail conditions also vary, and information on specific trails, as well as many useful maps, are on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Recreation webpage.

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Northwest Region (360-856-3500) manages the rest of the public land open for hunting in Snohomish County. Hunters should be aware that many access roads to DNR lands have gates, and they should contact DNR to get the latest information about gates, available access routes, and road conditions. DNR ownership at Ebey Hill near the Jim Creek Naval Station is surrounded by private property, and therefore for all practical purposes it is not accessible to the public. Additional contact information is on the <u>DNR Recreation webpage</u>.

Designated camping sites on DNR land in District 13 are hike-in facilities that are not accessible by car. Hot and dry summer conditions may result in some campfire restrictions on state-owned lands. Contact DNR or USFS for updated fire information.

Several private industrial timberland owners also manage land in GMU 448 (Stillaguamish). Their ownerships are shown on the Snohomish County Assessor's maps (SCOPI). Many of their roads are closed to motorized vehicle traffic, but some allow free walk-in or bike-in access. Hunters should scout their areas early and be aware that parking at access gates may be very limited. Never block gates or drive beyond any open gate unless certain the gate will stay open when you return. Active logging is happening in some areas, so gates may be open in the morning, but closed and locked later in the day. Some access gates on private industrial timber lands will have signs that specify ownership and the rules that apply to the property. Hunters should follow No Parking signs, as local landowners will tow vehicles found on their property.

Weyerhaeuser Corporation charges a fee for access through individual permit sales. Walk-in and drive-in permits are sold, as well as maps of ownership, are available on their <u>recreational</u> <u>website</u>.

Early scouting is always important, particularly in District 13. If fire danger is extraordinarily high, access may close to the public for all activities. If this happens, notices will be posted at property gates.



Typical no parking and no trespassing signs in rural areas of District 13.

Much of the Snohomish County portion of GMU 407 (North Sound) is dominated by homes on small acreages or farms. Hunters should obtain permission from landowners to hunt on private

land and should be very mindful of where houses, livestock, and outbuildings are in relation to where hunting will take place. Portions of the GMU west of Highway 9 and Highway 203 are under firearm restrictions. Hunters should research land ownership and understand firearm limitations prior to hunting. A complete description of firearm restricted areas is on page 96 of Washington's 2019 <u>Big Game Hunting Seasons and Regulations pamphlet</u>. A map showing no shooting areas and shotgun only areas within Snohomish County is <u>online</u>.

SAN JUAN AND ISLAND COUNTIES; SKAGIT COUNTY ISLANDS

Very little public land exists within San Juan or Island counties or the islands of Skagit County, and firearm restrictions are in place in each jurisdiction. Ownership maps for San Juan County are available through the <u>county assessor's office</u>.

Hunting within San Juan County requires written permission from the landowner, by county ordinance. In the San Juan Archipelago, access to islands not served by the Washington State Department of Transportation ferry system is by private boat or commercial water taxi. Private boat owners should check in advance on ownership and rules that may apply to docks and landings within the San Juan Archipelago, as most are privately owned. San Juan County owns and maintains eight docks with floats and eight boat ramps, and leases two outer island moorage docks. The San Juan County Public Works Department provides a variety of road and dock maps online.

Small groups of feral mouflon sheep have moved to Stuart Island. Mouflon are classified as harmful exotic wildlife (WAC 220-640-020). European rabbits are on Orcas, San Juan, and Lopez islands, and are feral domestic mammals and thus are not under the authority of WDFW. WDFW does not regulate hunting mouflon or European rabbits. If people get written landowner permission and follow all local ordinances, these species may be hunted at any time, and there is no bag limit; however, firearm restrictions still apply.

Ownership maps for Island County are available through the Island County assessor's office.

Ownership maps for Skagit County islands are available online.

ELK

District 13 does not have an established elk herd within GMU 448 (Stillaguamish) or GMU 450 (Cascade) boundaries. Individual elk are occasionally in the eastern part of Snohomish County. Small bands occur infrequently along Highway 2 at the south end of GMU 448. These groups typically range between the towns of Baring and Grotto, but sometimes move west as far as Sultan.

Elk also sometimes come south of GMU 437 (Sauk) onto the Sauk Prairie and areas west of Darrington and east of Highway 9 in the north end of GMU 448. Their presence is occasional and unpredictable.

Hunters harvested four elk from GMU 448 in 2018, and 60 hunters reported hunting the unit. Hunters planning to hunt in GMU 448 should plan on careful scouting and be aware that elk in the unit are presumed to be tied to the Nooksack groups to the north and the North Bend groups to the south, and are thus only present sporadically in GMU 448.

GMU 450 is not open for elk hunting, although small groups may spend some time at the higher elevations found in the GMU.

DEER

BLACK-TAILED DEER GMU 448

District 13 includes GMU 448 (Stillaguamish) and portions of GMU 450 (Cascade) and 407 (North Sound). In 2018, 1,277 hunters reported hunting during the general deer seasons in GMU 448. They had a 15% success rate and harvested 210 animals. Among the 12 late buck permit hunters, 11 permit holders reported, eight said they hunted during the permit season, and five deer were harvested. Hunters who take the time to scout and learn the area will increase their likelihood of success. Hunters should plan and familiarize themselves with local conditions well in advance of hunting season.

Much of GMU 448 is forest, with trees in a 30 to 60-year age class on federal public lands. This results in tightly stocked stands where seeing deer may be challenging. On private timberlands and some DNR properties, clear cutting created forest openings. However, food may be limited in clear cuts, so deer may be harder to find. For hunters who enjoy walking or hiking in uncrowded conditions, GMU 448 offers a very rewarding opportunity to get outside and enjoy the season.

Parking and walk-in access to DNR and private forest land is available at the intersection of Menzel Lake Road and the P-5000 Road. This gate is 4.6 miles south of the intersection of Alder Place and Menzel Lake Road in Granite Falls. Parking may be limited at other gated access areas in this general area. Hunters need to obey No Parking signs, as these signs say private property and owners may tow vehicles found on their property.



P-5000 Road access gate

At the south end of GMU 448, walk-in access is off the Sultan Basin Road. This area has mixed public and private ownership, and hunters should pay close attention to signs showing areas where it is not allowed to shoot firearms. Access to DNR lands requires a Discover Pass, as noted on signs. DNR properties are gated, and shooting is allowed only during legal hunting seasons.

Vehicle access is available on USFS roads around Snohomish County, but hunters should consult the <u>USFS website</u> for information on road conditions and closures.



Typical DNR signs

GMU 450 includes portions of Districts 13 and 14. In 2018, 64 hunters reported hunting in the unit, and five deer were harvested. GMU 407 includes portions of Districts 12, 13, and 14. In 2018, 2,160 hunters harvested 571 deer from GMU 407 resulting in a 28% success rate. Most of the unit is private land and some areas are firearm restricted. In Snohomish County, hunters

should consult page 96 of Washington's 2019 <u>Big Game Hunting Seasons and Regulations</u>. <u>The</u> <u>Snohomish County map</u> shows county ordinance no shooting areas and shotgun-only areas.

BLACK-TAILED DEER ISLAND UNITS

Beginning in 2013, WDFW divided GMU 410 into several new units assigned to individual islands to provide more accurate harvest information and assist with the development of management strategies for individual islands. GMU 410 is made up of those remaining islands that were not assigned to a specific number, such as Stuart and Henry islands. Islands in GMU 410 are not accessible by ferry, and some do not have deer or are privately owned and prohibit hunting. The correct GMU numbers for each individual island are as follows:

GMU 411	Orcas Island	GMU 412	Shaw Island
GMU 413	San Juan Island	GMU 414	Lopez Island
GMU 415	Blakely Island	GMU 416	Decatur Island
GMU 417	Cypress Island	GMU 419	Guemes Island
GMU 420	Whidbey Island	GMU 421	Camano Island

Although accurate reporting for the island GMUs is improving, we believe some hunters misreport their hunt unit. We ask that hunters carefully review their harvest reports prior to submitting. Accurately reporting the correct island GMU will advance our understanding of harvest on each island so that we can improve deer management.



Photo by Doug Harms

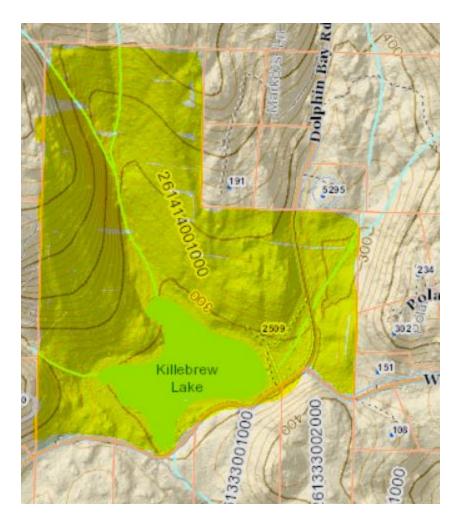
GMUS 410-419

Public access on islands within the San Juan Archipelago (San Juan and Skagit counties) is extremely limited. Deer on the islands are plentiful, but typically smaller than their mainland cousins. Most hunting occurs on private property. In San Juan County, by county ordinance, written landowner permission is needed to hunt on private property. WDFW is negotiating hunting access on some islands, and will post properties as they are enrolled <u>online</u>.

Small parcels of public land are open to hunting on Lopez Island (GMU 414) and Stuart Island (GMU 410) on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands within the San Juan Islands National Monument. Hunters should call Nick Teague (360) 468-3754 or Marcia deChadenedes (360) 468-3051 for information or go <u>online</u>.

The San Juan County Land Bank manages Lopez Hill on Lopez Island, which continues to allow limited hunting. Lopez Hill will be open for hunting from Sept. 1 through Oct. 31. More information is on the Lopez Hill website and the San Juan County Land Bank website. For questions, contact Lopez Steward Amanda Wedow at amandaw@sjclandbank.org.

WDFW owns about 157 acres around, and including, Killebrew Lake on Orcas Island (GMU 411). Much of the ownership is made up of the lake itself or associated wetlands. Hunting is allowed on this property, but hunters should be aware of property boundaries and stay within WDFW ownership. Parking is limited to a small pull-off area on Killebrew Lake Road.



WDFW Killebrew Lake Ownership Highlighted in Yellow

Overnight camping is not allowed in the National Monument or at Lopez Hill or Killebrew Lake. Please check <u>Washington State Parks</u> and <u>San Juan County Parks</u> for camping information.

Cypress Island (GMU 417) is mostly owned by the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR), but some parcels are privately owned. Deer hunting is permitted on the DNR-owned land. Maps, trails, and access rules are <u>online</u>.

GMU 420 (WHIDBEY ISLAND) AND 421 (CAMANO ISLAND)

Deer are abundant, but very little public land is available for hunting on either Whidbey or Camano islands. Hunters should get permission from landowners before hunting on private property. <u>The Island County Public Works Department</u> owns a few small parcels that make up most of public hunting lands on Whidbey and Camano islands. Hunters should contact them directly for maps and restrictions at (360) 679-7331.

WDFW has partnered with Whidbey Camano Land Trust to allow deer hunting on the Trillium Community Forest property. The Trillium Community Forest is open to hunting for the modern firearm season, late modern firearm season, late archery season, and late muzzleloader season. The Trillium Community Forest is closed to other recreational activities when it is open to hunting. Hunters should contact the <u>Whidbey Camano Land Trust</u> for additional information regarding maps and more information. Hunting on this property is for habitat improvement, thus hunting is limited to a few specific days during deer season.

Deer hunting at Naval Air Station Whidbey (WNAS) is open for archery only to military personnel and their guests. All hunters (military and civilian) need to buy the installation hunting permit (\$13). This is the required authorization for access and to carry a firearm. Deer hunters access the area by entering the Sea Plane Base (SPB) gate, and non-military guests must be in the same vehicle as the military hunter. For more information, contact WNAS Biologist Michael Bianchi at (360) 257-4024.

BEAR

In fall, bears typically key into huckleberry fields as a primary food source and move to lower elevations as weather cools or snow arrives. This year, berries will likely be plentiful but may be patchily distributed. Thus, bears may stay at higher elevations in search of high calorie berries in the fall but may move often as they search for food. About 8% of hunters in GMUs 448 and 7% of hunters in GMU 407 were successful last year, taking 46 animals from GMU 448 and 25 from GMU 407. Eight percent of hunters were successful in GMU 450, with four bears harvested.

In Region 4 (Island, King, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties), WDFW gives special spring black bear permit hunts to help timber land managers lessen tree damage caused by bears peeling tree bark. In the past, District 13 provided a spring bear hunt in the Monroe area north of State Highway 2. However, bear tree damage has declined so a special permit hunt will not occur in that area in 2020.

COUGAR

GMUs 448 and 450 are hunt areas with a harvest guideline of nine to 13 animals. In these GMUs, the Director may close the cougar late hunting season after Jan. 1 if cougar harvest meets or exceeds the guideline. Cougar hunters may hunt from Jan. 1 until the hunt area harvest guideline is reached and the GMU is closed by the Director, or until April 30, whichever occurs

first. Each cougar hunter must verify if the cougar late hunting season is open or closed in GMUs 448 and 450 by calling the toll free cougar hunting hotline at 1-866-364-4868 or visiting the <u>website</u>. The hotline and website will be updated weekly beginning Jan. 1, 2020. Last year, the cougar harvest did not exceed the guideline and the units remained open throughout the season. Hunters need a 2020 cougar tag to hunt cougars in April 2020.

MOUNTAIN GOAT

One mountain goat special permit is available in the Boulder River North goat hunt area, which is within the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. Terrain in this unit is steep and rugged. Prospective hunters should contact the trail and recreation specialist at the Darrington Ranger District office at (360) 436-1155 to get the most current information on trail conditions and access routes. We recommend consulting with the U.S. Forest Service prior to applying for this hunt to discuss trail and road conditions and alternative access routes. Trails within the Boulder River Wilderness are on the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie website.

All goat WDFW permit holders in the five years the unit has been open have been successful. Permit holders may legally take a nanny (female) goat, but mountain goat populations are very sensitive to the removal of adult females. Therefore, we ask that hunters avoid shooting nannies. Permit holders will receive materials that describe ways to tell the difference between male and female goats. Hunters should review these materials before scouting and hunting and focus their efforts on harvesting a male goat. Several excellent guides to distinguish between sexes are available online, including <u>this one from Montana</u>. In 2018 and 2019, mountain goats were moved from Olympic National Park and released into the North Cascades. These goats are wearing radio collars, and some may move into the Boulder River North unit. We ask hunters to not shoot a collared animal.

Permittees may receive a request to help WDFW with biological sampling, in which case directions and sampling kits will be sent via mail. Successful hunters must present the head with horns attached for inspection within 10 days to a WDFW regional or district office, or a location chosen by a department representative. Contact information for WDFW regional offices are on page 3 of the 2019 <u>Big Game Hunting Seasons and Regulations</u> and on the <u>WDFW website</u>. Hunters should be prepared to give their Wild ID number and location and date of kill at the inspection. After inspection, the head and horns of a lawfully-harvested mountain goat in Washington may be kept for personal use.



Mountain goats in the Boulder River North goat hunt unit

PHEASANT

Game farm produced pheasants will be released this fall on release sites, which are mapped in the <u>Western Washington Pheasant Program booklet</u>.

In Snohomish County, public pheasant and waterfowl hunting is available on the Ebey Island and Crescent Lake units of the Snoqualmie Wildlife Area. There are three access sites on the east side of the Ebey Island Unit. The first access site is under State Highway 2 on the northeast side of the property. The second access site is off Home Acres Road just off Highway 2. Access will be open on the west side of the property in the WDFW parking lot near the intersection of Home Acres Road and 43rd Street SE. Pheasants will be released on both the west and east parcels of the unit. The Crescent Lake Unit has two parking areas along Crescent Lake Road. The Ebey Island and Crescent Lake units will each get 35-45 birds. They will be released on Friday and Saturday evenings, and on a varied schedule for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings. All pheasant release sites on the Snoqualmie Wildlife Area will be open and follow the 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. hunting hours.



Parking and pheasant release areas available at Ebey Island

The Leque Island (Smith Farm site) will be closed to pheasant hunting due to the <u>Leque Island</u> <u>Tidal Restoration Project</u>.

In Island County, pheasant release sites on Whidbey Island include Bayview, Outlying Field (OLF) Coupeville, and Sea Plane Base (SPB) sites. WDFW partners with private landowners to provide pheasant release sites at Arnold Farm and Zylstra Road. Hunters should check <u>online</u> for the location of specific sites. Fifteen to 20 birds will be released on Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday mornings, except for Bayview, where releases will be Saturday and Sunday mornings. The Bayview pheasant release site is only open to public access on Saturdays and Sundays.

The SPB (Upper and Lower Game Ranges) and OLF Coupeville on the Whidbey Island Naval Air Station will be open this year. Access to the SPB pheasant release site is open to all hunters. All hunters (military and civilian) need to buy the installation hunting permit (\$13). This is the required authorization for access and to carry a firearm. Check in at the Torpedo Road gate and sign in and out of the logbook for the Sea Plane Base and at the logbook in the parking lot for OLF Coupeville. Civilian hunters will need to submit to a background check before hunting Navy property. As a result, hunts should plan well in advance and all hunters should check with WNAS Biologist Michael Bianchi at (360) 257-4024 for updated rules and requirements and to be sure that no sites are closed for safety and security reasons during the pheasant season.

BAND-TAILED PIGEON

Hunters can harvest band-tailed pigeons in late September. A migratory bird authorization card is required, and the daily bag limit is two birds. The birds are in managed forest lands with mixed conifer age classes that provide feeding areas next to roosting areas. These types of habitat are often on private timber lands or DNR lands, so expect the same gated conditions described above. Band-tailed pigeons have strong affinities for the same areas, so scouting before your hunt is important.

GROUSE

Ruffed grouse is the most common grouse species in District 13, with sooty (blue) grouse found at higher elevations. Ruffed grouse are found at elevations below 2,500 feet. Both species favor mixed timber habitats, often near water. Hunters should look for mixed conifer and hardwood areas, especially in riparian areas, to find grouse. Abandoned or low use logging roads are good places to look for grouse as well.

WATERFOWL

For an excellent introduction to waterfowl hunting, see Let's Go Waterfowl Hunting.

Strong spring and summer reproduction numbers in British Columbia and Washington suggest a strong 2019-20 season for the number of birds potentially migrating into the region. As always, weather conditions will influence where birds congregate.

Waterfowl hunting in District 13 should be productive if weather conditions are favorable. Typically, we see a slow start to the hunting season. During mild winters, ducks tend to stay in more northerly areas of British Columbia. However, as colder fronts move in and conditions become colder and wetter, hunters can expect increasing numbers of waterfowl to arrive in District 13.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Public waterfowl hunting is available on the Ebey Island and Crescent Lake units of the Snoqualmie Wildlife Area. There are two access sites on the east side of the Ebey Island Unit. The first access site is under State Highway 2 on the northeast side of the property. The second access site is off Home Acres Road near Highway 2. Access will be open on the west side of the property in the WDFW parking lot near the intersection of Home Acres Road and 43rd Street SE. During pheasant hunting season, waterfowl hunters may only enter and hunt the Ebey Island Unit from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Crescent Lake Unit has two parking areas along Crescent Lake Road that provide access.

The Spencer Island Unit of the Snoqualmie Wildlife Area will provide boat and walk-in access this year. Parking for the Spencer Island Unit will be a quarter mile back from the bridge to the island near the sewage treatment facility buildings.

Leque Island Unit may be open for waterfowl hunting this year, if Phase Two of the Leque Island Tidal Restoration project is completed. Hunters should call the Skagit Wildlife Area staff at (360) 445-4441 for updates on the project.

At this time, we have tentative agreements with landowners for 15 Waterfowl Habitat and Access Program units, located primarily in the Stillaguamish Delta. These sites are all found on private lands enrolled in the Private Lands Access Program. Three waterfowl quality hunt units will be Hunt by Reservation and three of these units were planted with barley. More units may be added in the fall. More information about individual sites as they are finalized, including maps and access rules, are on the <u>WDFW Hunting Access website</u>. Waterfowl Habitat and Access units on private lands will open as crop harvests are completed and other conditions are met, so not every unit will be available on opening day. We expect all units will be open by mid-November. For questions about the Private Lands Access Program (PLAP), contact Rob Wingard, WDFW Private Lands Access Program biologist, at (360) 466-4345, extension 240.



The Hunt by Reservation program offers a quality hunt experience by limiting the number of days a site is hunted while guaranteeing the site will be available to the reservation holder. To make a reservation, visit the <u>WDFW hunting access link</u>, create an account, choose a hunting site that is in the Hunt by Reservation category, and book the reservation. Reservations become available two weeks prior to the hunt day at 8:00 a.m. A fast internet connection improves chances of securing a reservation.

Robust numbers of snow geese coming into Washington are likely this winter. In addition to the traditional high concentrations in the Stanwood area, snow geese are expanding in Snohomish County and we expect that at least 5,000-10,000 birds will spend some time in the Snohomish

River system. The 2019-2020 snow goose season is Oct. 12 – Dec. 1; Dec. 14 – Jan. 26; and Feb. 8-18. However, Leque Island and that portion of Snohomish County east of Interstate 5 will be closed Feb. 8-18, 2020. Hunters should consult page 20 of the <u>Washington State Migratory</u> <u>Waterfowl and Upland Game pamphlet</u> for additional closures on state-owned lands and should check the <u>WDFW Hunting Access website</u> for potential additions to snow goose sites that may be added to the Private Lands Access Program.

The Port Susan Game Reserve, which restricted Canada goose hunting, was eliminated in 2016.

PORT SUSAN BAY

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) allows hunting over tidelands under their ownership at Port Susan Bay. However, the restored area, which used to be diked, and a 150-yard buffer around it is off limits to hunting, and there is no hunting access from TNC property (see map below). For further information regarding hunting TNC ownership, contact the TNC Puget Sound Stewardship Coordinator at (360) 419-3140 or washington@tnc.org.



Map of restricted hunting area owned by The Nature Conservancy

WHIDBEY ISLAND

Access to public lands on Whidbey Island is extremely limited. Hunters should be aware that Deer Lagoon is closed to hunting by a county ordinance that restricts the discharge of firearms. The Whidbey Camano Land Trust owns parcels at Crocket Lake and Dugualla Bay, and their ownerships are closed to hunting. Land Trust Dugualla Bay parcels are shown below. Hunters should contact the <u>Whidbey Camano Land Trust</u> with any questions about boundaries and ownership at Crockett Lake.



Whidbey Camano Land Trust parcels (in blue and green) at Dugualla Bay

Waterfowl hunting on Naval Air Station Whidbey Island is open to military personnel and their guests. All hunters (military and civilian) need to buy the installation hunting permit (\$13). This is the required authorization for access and to carry a firearm. Access the duck blinds by entering the Sea Plane Base (SPB) gate. Non-military guests must be in the same vehicle as the military hunter. For more information, contact WNAS Biologist Michael Bianchi at (360) 257-4024.

CAMANO ISLAND

Iverson Spit Preserve is managed by Island County Parks, within the Island County Public Works Department. Hunting is allowed at Iverson Spit outside of the dike in the intertidal area. Questions about the preserve should be directed to the Island County Public Works Department at (360) 679-7331.



Iverson Spit Preserve park boundaries

The tidelands near English Boom County Park on the north end of Camano Island include some privately-owned parcels. Hunters wanting to access tidelands in this area must obey all signs showing private ownership, no trespassing, or no hunting. These signs are legitimate and legal and show which parcels are privately owned and therefore not open to the public.