## Klickitat County Update

## Kessina Lee Southwest Washington Regional Director





### Wildlife Committee, June 24

## **Guiding Principles**



Conservation of cougars, provide recreational opportunity, timely response to depredation and public safety calls.

We provide expertise, outreach and response to attain the best possible outcomes for people and cougars.

Our goal is to be the primary responders to dangerous wildlife calls, in coordination with local law enforcement.

## Background

**August 2019:** Klickitat County Sheriff Office (KCSO) issued Dangerous Wildlife Policy and Procedures

Time Period	Cougars Removed by KCSO	Bear/Bobcat Removed
8/01/2019 - 3/31/2020	15	
4/1/2020 - 1/1/2021	4	1 bear, 2 bobcat
2021 to date	5	

#### Focus Areas

## Improve/increase outreach

- Coordinate with community partners
- Targeted outreach to affected communities
- Focus on prevention, support of good husbandry practices and uses of deterrents.

# Coordination and information sharing

- Consistent follow-up with KCSO to improve reporting.
- Regular meetings with Klickitat County citizens group.



## Focus Areas, continued

Continue to prioritize response and service, coordination between Enforcement and Wildlife Program.

Connection between removals and harvest/hunt structure:

- District bios can consider other sources of mortality when recommending PMU closure if harvest level is within the guideline.
- Game Mgt. Plan could consider changes/updates to the hunt structure. This includes robust public process to incorporate stakeholder/community values.



## Questions?

