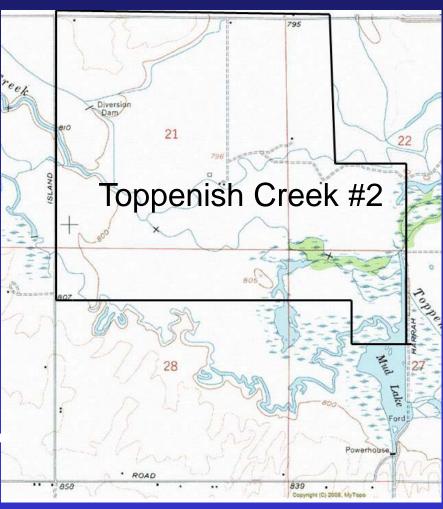
Agenda Item 8 GAME RESERVES AND WATERFOWL CLOSURES

Rule Briefing, Public Hearing and Rule Action

WAC 232-16-400





- Game Reserves: closed areas where hunting for all wild animals and wild birds is prohibited (RCW 77.08.010)
- Currently 28 reserves, periodically reviewed
- Toppenish Game Reserve established in 1960
- 2 parcels, mostly on Yakama Nation lands
- Established to improve waterfowl distribution

- Hydrologic changes in western parcel (#2) have resulted in much lower waterfowl use
- Department working with Toppenish NWR to expand upland bird hunting opportunities
- Elimination of reserve would allow hunting on USFWS and private land parcels in NE area
- Action supported by USFWS, YN, private landowner
- Most of WDFW reserve will remain in reserve status through YN

