

# 11. Moose, Bighorn Sheep, and Mountain Goat Seasons and Permit Quotas

Rich Harris

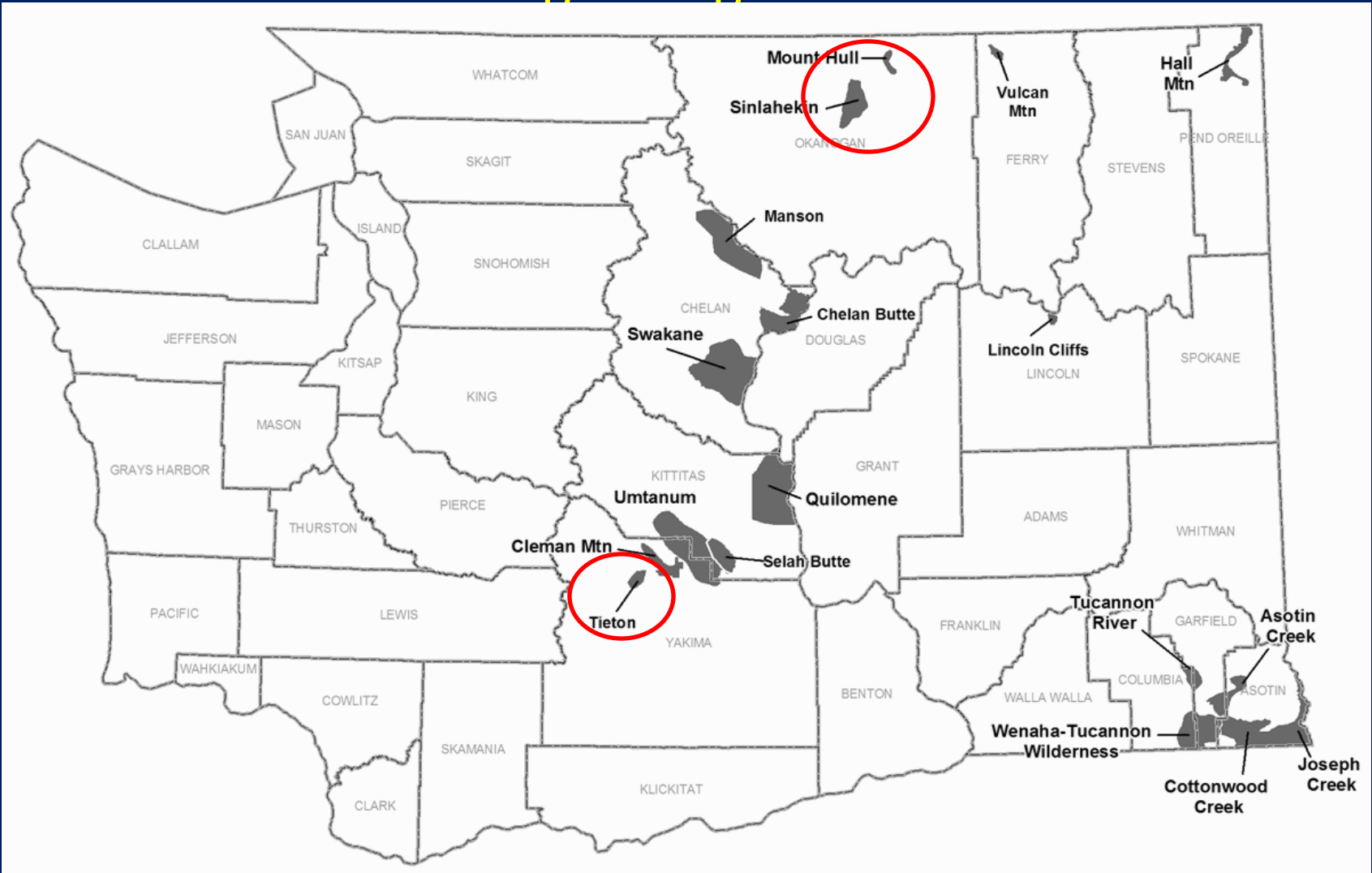
Special Species Section Manager

April 12, 2013

# Summary from March 1, 2013

- Old WAC 232-28-273 split into 3 (Moose: 232-28-273; Bighorn sheep: 232-28-622; Mountain goats: 232-28-623).
- Language changes to clarify that exceptions to once/lifetime permits for sheep/goat/moose work symmetrically
- Reduce moose master hunter permits (20 → 10) due to lack of need
- Suspend 1 special draw bighorn permit in Asotin (resource concern)
- Reduce bighorn ram permits in Cleman Mtn (near Naches) (12 → 10) because rams now closer to being in balance with ewes
- Revise and clarify hunt mountain goat unit boundaries in Mt. Baker area

# Washington bighorn herds



Information is subject to changes and amendments over time

# 232-28-622

## *New Recommendation Region 3, District 8 Justification:*

- Eliminate permits in the **Tieton** bighorn herd

Sadly, Washington has experienced the 2<sup>nd</sup> large-scale pneumonia-related die-off of bighorn sheep in 4 years. The disease affecting the Tieton herd appears, if anything, more virulent and aggressive than that which affected the Umtanum/Selah herd in 2009-10.



**232-28-622**

***New Recommendation  
Region 3, District 8  
Justification:***



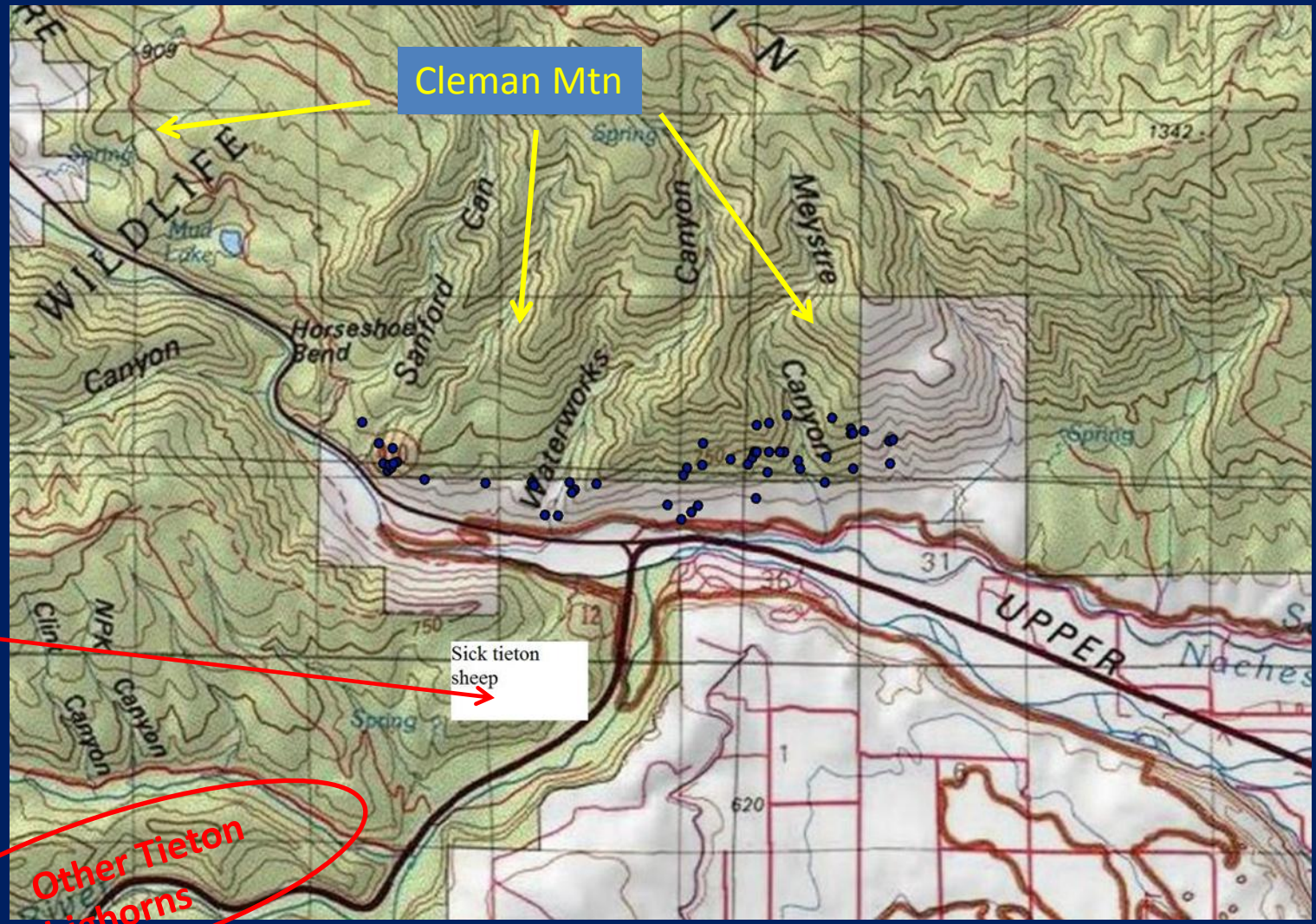
Because of the proximity of the Tieton herd to the (large and healthy) Cleman Mtn. herd, and because the disease appeared to be highly infectious and have high mortality, we elected to prophylactically euthanize the remaining Tieton animals. This was done to reduce risk to the Cleman Mtn. herd.

*As of April 11, 2013, we've removed 38 animals, and estimate only a handful remain.*

232-28-622  
New Recommendation  
Region 3, District 8

Justification ■

Here is why we were so concerned:  
The blue dots represent typical locations of Cleman herd animals. Some of the sick Tieton animals (arrow) were quite close.



# 232-28-622

## ***New Recommendation Region 2, District 6 Justification:***

- Replace ram permit in Sinlahekin herd with additional permit in Mt Hull herd
- Apparent decline in Sinlahekin herd, from ~ 82 (2012) to only 16 observed (2013)
- Survey was late this year because of fog
- Increase in (habitat-limited) Mt Hull herd

