

**2018 Spring black bear seasons and regulations**

220-415-080

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary Sheet ..... 1

WAC 220-415-080 2017 and 2018 Spring black bear seasons and regulations ..... 2

Recommended Adjustments ..... 5

CR-102 ..... 6

## Summary

---

**Meeting dates:** August 4-5, 2017

**Agenda item:** 2018 Spring black bear seasons and regulations – **Briefing and Public Hearing**

**Presenter:** Stephanie Simek, Carnivore Section Manager, Wildlife Program

---

**Background summary:**

Department staff will brief the Commission on proposed amendments to the following WAC 220-415-080 2017 and 2018 Spring black bear seasons and regulations.

Amendments are needed to mitigate damage, distribute harvests, and minimize confusion by participants, while maintaining sustainable bear populations statewide.

---

**Policy issue(s) you are bringing to the Commission for consideration:**

- Remove the 2017 season from the current rule as the 2017 season will have ended.
  - Extend the season ending date to June 15 for GMUs 154, 162, 166, 169, 172, 175, 181, and 186 to mitigate damage, improve distribution of harvest, and minimize confusion for permitted participants within Region 1.
  - Remove the Monroe hunt area as the Department has determined past damage mitigation efforts have been successful in diminishing damage occurrences.
  - Reduce the number of permits for GMU 684 from 20 permits to 12 permits.
  - Add GMUs 638 and 648 (excluding US Forest Service lands) to the Copalis hunt.
- 

**Public involvement process used and what you learned:**

The Department posted draft proposed rules on the WDFW website for a 30-day review and comment periods. The comment period was prior to the August Fish and Wildlife Commission meeting. The Department will collect public testimony at the August 4-5, 2017 Commission meeting and public hearing. The Department met with and/or received written input from key stakeholders.

---

**Action requested:**

Briefing and public hearing only.

---

**Draft motion language:**

Briefing and public hearing only.

---

**Justification for Commission action:**

This proposal amends the spring black bear seasons and regulations to align the rules with management needs where and when most needed and provide guidance to the Department and the public.

---

**Communications Plan:**

WDFW Website  
News Releases  
Hunting Pamphlet

---

*Form revised 12/5/12*

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 17-05-112, filed 2/15/17, effective 3/18/17)

**WAC 220-415-080 ((2017 and)) 2018 Spring black bear seasons and regulations.** It is unlawful to fail to comply with the provisions of this section. A violation of this section is punishable under RCW 77.15.410, 77.15.245, or 77.15.280, depending on the circumstances of the violation.

**Who May Apply:** Anyone with a valid Washington big game license, which includes black bear as a species option.

**Hunt Areas, Permit Levels, and Season Dates for Each License Year:**

Hunt Name	Hunt Area	Permits	Season Dates
Sherman	GMU 101	50	April 1 - June 15
Kelly Hill	GMU 105	50	April 1 - June 15
Douglas	GMU 108	40	April 1 - June 15
Aladdin	GMU 111	50	April 1 - June 15
49 Degrees North	GMU 117	100	April 1 - June 15
Huckleberry	GMU 121	100	April 1 - June 15
Blue Creek	GMU 154	15	April 15 - ( <del>May 31</del> ) June 15
Dayton	GMU 162	15	April 15 - ( <del>May 31</del> ) June 15
Tucannon	GMU 166	5	April 15 - ( <del>May 31</del> ) June 15
Wenaha	GMU 169	45	April 15 - June 15
Mt. View	GMU 172	15	April 15 - ( <del>May 31</del> ) June 15
Lick Creek	GMU 175	15	April 15 - ( <del>May 31</del> ) June 15
Couse	GMU 181	4	April 15 - ( <del>May 31</del> ) June 15
Grande Ronde	GMU 186	5	April 15 - ( <del>May 31</del> ) June 15
Kitsap	GMU 627	5	April 15 - May 31
Mason	GMU 633	5	April 15 - May 31
Bear River	GMU 681	20	April 15 - May 31
Long Beach	GMU 684	<del>20</del> 12	April 15 - May 31

Hunt Name	Hunt Area	Permits	Season Dates
North Skagit	That portion of GMU 418 that is designated as the hunt area by DNR, Sierra Pacific, Weyerhaeuser-Columbia Timber Lands, and Grandy Lake Timber company.	30	April 15 - June 15
<del>(Monroe</del>	<del>That portion of GMU 448 that is designated as the hunt area by DNR and Campbell Global.</del>	<del>25</del>	<del>April 15 - June 15))</del>
Copalis	GMU 642, <u>638, and 648 (excluding US Forest Service lands).</u>	50	April 15 - June 15
Kapowsin	That portion of GMUs 653 and/or 654 that is designated as the hunt area by Hancock Forest Management and International Forestry.	150	April 15 - June 15

**Bag Limit:** One black bear per black bear special permit season.

**License Required:** A valid big game hunting license, which includes black bear as a species option, is required to hunt black bear. One black bear transport tag is included with a big game hunting license that has black bear as a species option.

**Hunting Method:** Hunters may use any lawful big game modern firearm, archery, or muzzleloader equipment for hunting black bear. The use of dogs or bait to hunt black bear is prohibited statewide.

**Submitting Bear Teeth:** Successful bear hunters must submit the black bear premolar located behind the canine tooth of the upper jaw.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.013, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, and 77.12.047. WSR 17-05-112 (Order 17-04), recodified as § 220-415-080, filed 2/15/17, effective 3/18/17. Statutory Authority: 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, and 77.32.155. WSR 16-12-087, § 232-28-286, filed 5/31/16, effective 7/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012,

77.04.055, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, and 77.12.240. WSR 15-10-066 (Order 15-99), § 232-28-286, filed 5/1/15, effective 6/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047, 77.12.240, and 77.32.070. WSR 13-11-078 (Order 13-94), § 232-28-286, filed 5/16/13, effective 6/16/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047. WSR 12-12-006 (Order 12-90), § 232-28-286, filed 5/23/12, effective 6/23/12; WSR 11-16-015 (Order 11-167), § 232-28-286, filed 7/22/11, effective 8/22/11. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047, 77.12.020, 77.12.570, 77.12.210, 77.12.150, 77.12.240, 77.32.070, and 77.32.530. WSR 10-10-061 and 11-02-044 (Orders 10-94 and 10-94A), § 232-28-286, filed 4/30/10 and 12/30/10, effective 5/31/10 and 1/30/11. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047, 77.12.020. WSR 09-09-082 (Order 09-52), § 232-28-286, filed 4/15/09, effective 6/16/09; WSR 08-01-052 (Order 07-292), § 232-28-286, filed 12/13/07, effective 1/13/08. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047. WSR 07-01-049 (Order 06-300), § 232-28-286, filed 12/14/06, effective 1/14/07; WSR 06-11-030 (Order 06-90), § 232-28-286, filed 5/8/06, effective 6/16/06.]

**WAC 220-415-080 2017 and 2018 Spring black bear seasons and regulations.**

**RECOMMENDED ADJUSTMENTS**

The following adjustments are proposed since the Code Reviser (CR 102) filing and are shown in colored type within the WAC text contained in your notebook.

**Page 2**

- Change: Reduce the number of permits offered in the Long Beach Hunt, GMU 684, from 20 permits to 12 permits.

Rationale:

The Department has determined that damage occurrences have diminished and thereby hunting pressure can be reduced in this hunt area.

**Page 3**

- Change: Add GMUs 638 and 648 (excluding US Forest Service lands) to the Copalis Hunt.

Rationale:

This adjustment will distribute hunting pressure across areas where damage mitigation and distribution of harvest is needed.



# PROPOSED RULE MAKING

## CR-102 (June 2012)

(Implements RCW 34.05.320)

Do NOT use for expedited rule making

**Agency:** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

- Preproposal Statement of Inquiry was filed as WSR 17-10-070 on May 3, 2017**
- Expedited Rule Making--Proposed notice was filed as WSR \_\_\_\_\_; or**
- Proposal is exempt under RCW 34.05.310(4) or 34.05.330(1).**

- Original Notice**
- Supplemental Notice to WSR \_\_\_\_\_**
- Continuance of WSR \_\_\_\_\_**

**Title of rule and other identifying information:** (Describe Subject)

WAC 220-412-070 Big game and wild turkey auction, raffle, and special incentive permits.  
WAC 220-413-200 Reducing the spread of hoof disease-Unlawful transport of elk hooves.  
WAC 220-415-080 2017 and 2018 Spring black bear seasons and regulations.

**Hearing location(s):**  
Natural Resources Building, Room 172  
1111 Washington Street Southeast  
Olympia, Washington 98501

Date: Friday, August 4-5, 2017 Time: 8:00 a.m.

**Submit written comments to:**  
Online: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KQXJQTS>  
Name: Wildlife Program  
Attn: Commission Meeting Public Comments  
Address: 600 Capitol Way North  
Olympia, WA 98501-1091  
Fax: (360) 902-2162 by July 12, 2017

**Assistance for persons with disabilities:** Contact  
Tami Lininger by July 28, 2017  
TTY (800) 833-6388 or (360) 902-2267

**Date of intended adoption:** on or after August 4, 2017  
(Note: This is **NOT** the **effective** date)

**Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:**

See Attachment A.

**Reasons supporting proposal:**

See Attachment A.

**Statutory authority for adoption:** RCW 77.04.012, 77.12.240, 77.04.055, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, 77.32.090, and 77.32.530.

**Statute being implemented:** RCW 77.04.012, 77.12.240, 77.04.055, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, 77.32.090, and 77.32.530.

- Is rule necessary because of a:**
- Federal Law?  Yes  No
  - Federal Court Decision?  Yes  No
  - State Court Decision?  Yes  No
- If yes, CITATION:

### CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

**DATE: June 21, 2017**

**TIME: 11:38 AM**

**WSR 17-13-132**

**DATE**  
June 21, 2017

**NAME** (type or print)  
Scott Bird

**SIGNATURE**

**TITLE**  
Rules Coordinator

(COMPLETE REVERSE SIDE)

**Agency comments or recommendations, if any, as to statutory language, implementation, enforcement, and fiscal matters:**

None.

**Name of proponent:** (person or organization) Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

- Private
- Public
- Governmental

**Name of agency personnel responsible for:**

	Name	Office Location	Phone
Drafting.....	Eric Gardner	Natural Resources Building	(360) 902-2515
Implementation....	Eric Gardner	Natural Resources Building	(360) 902-2515
Enforcement.....	Chris Anderson	Natural Resources Building	(360) 902-2373

**Has a small business economic impact statement been prepared under chapter 19.85 RCW or has a school district fiscal impact statement been prepared under section 1, chapter 210, Laws of 2012?**

Yes. Attach copy of small business economic impact statement or school district fiscal impact statement.

A copy of the statement may be obtained by contacting:

Name:

Address:

phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

fax ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

No. Explain why no statement was prepared.

These rule changes does not impact small businesses.

**Is a cost-benefit analysis required under RCW 34.05.328?**

Yes A preliminary cost-benefit analysis may be obtained by contacting:

Name:

Address:

phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

fax ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

No: Please explain: These rule proposals do not affect hydraulics.



# ATTACHMENT A

## **220-412-070 Big game and wild turkey auction, raffle, and special incentive permits.**

### **Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:**

This rule codifies the locations, restrictions, and legal bag limit for auction, raffle and special incentive permits.

The proposal clarifies language on those auction and raffle tags that include elk hunting. The proposed language clarifies where the auction, raffle, and incentive permits can be used and which animals are legal for harvest.

### **Reasons supporting proposal:**

This proposed clarifies where and how auction, raffle, and special incentive permits can be used which make them easier to understand for the users and also provides clarity to law enforcement.

## **220-413-200 Reducing the spread of hoof disease-Unlawful transport of elk hooves.**

### **Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:**

This rule is an attempt to reduce the potential risk of inadvertently spreading the causative agents of treponeme associated hoof disease (TAHD) in elk.

New Game Management Units (GMUs) are being proposed in which transport of elk hooves from harvested elk would be restricted. These new GMUs include 407, 418, 437, 633, and 636. The rule does allow, under certain circumstances, the legal transport of elk hooves coming from GMUs with TAHD to facilitate research by the Department.

### **Reasons supporting proposal:**

This proposal adds GMUs where transport of elk hooves will be restricted in order to reduce the potential risk of the disease spreading.

## **220-415-080 2017 and 2018 Spring black bear seasons and regulations.**

### **Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:**

The proposal is intended to establish harvest guidelines for 21 spring bear hunts around the state during 2018. The proposal will: 1) remove the 2017 season from the current rule, 2) extend the season ending date to June 15 for GMUs 154, 162, 166, 169, 172, 175, 181, and 186, and 3) remove the Monroe hunt area. The anticipated effects include mitigation of nuisance and damage activity while providing distributed recreational hunting opportunities within harvest management levels described in the 2015-2021 Game Management Plan.

### **Reasons supporting proposal:**

Spring bear seasons are typically used to address specific management needs such as nuisance and damage to property, and improve distribution of harvest. These amendments will remove a hunt area where the Department no longer requires removals to mitigate damage because damage occurrences have diminished. Additionally, the amendments will extend season dates by 15 days in areas where the Department has determined there is a need to use hunting pressure to mitigate damage and improve distribution of harvest and further minimize confusion for those who are permitted to participate in WDFW's Region 1.