

# WAC 220-415-080 and WAC 220-415-090

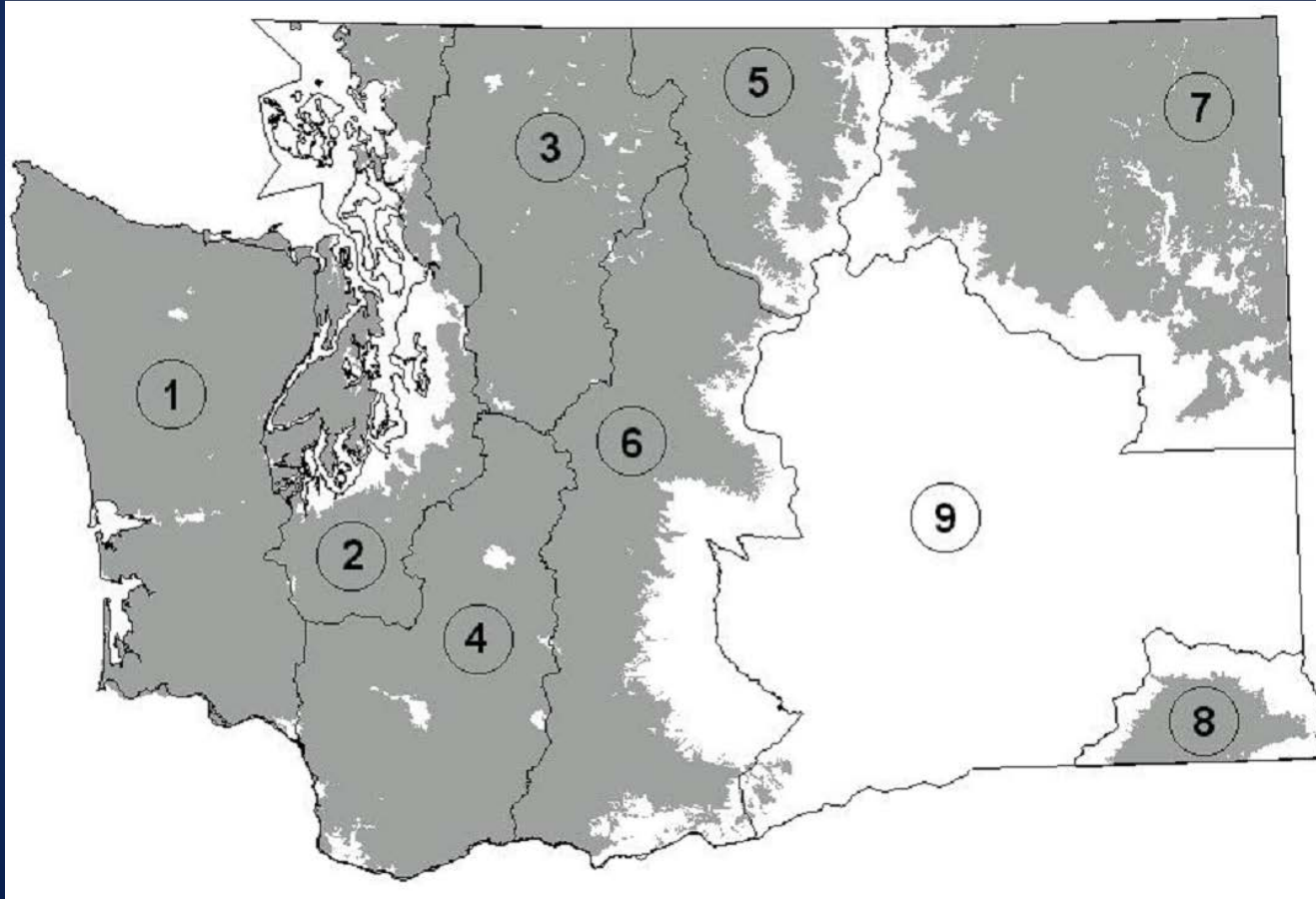
## Black Bear Seasons



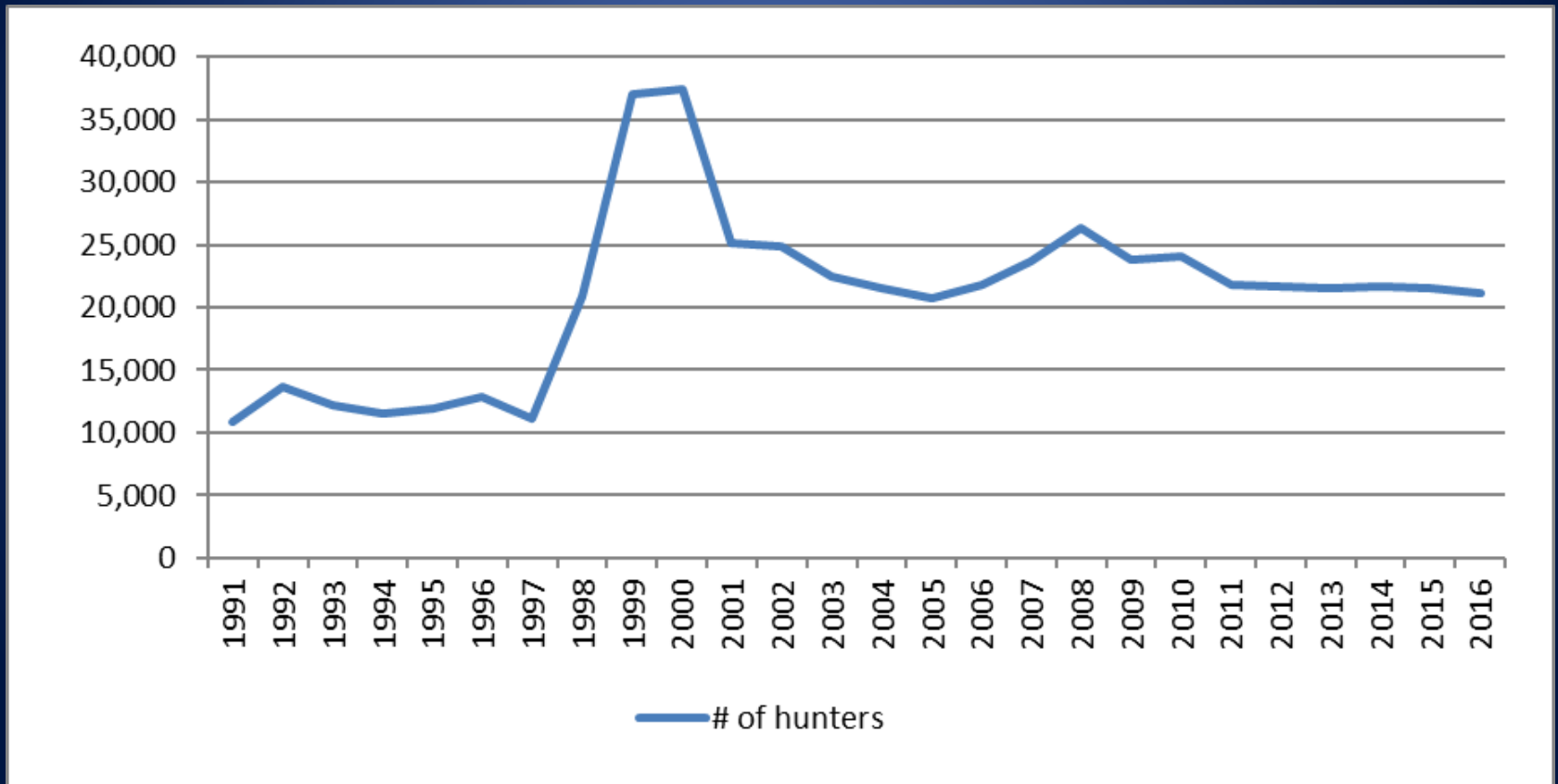
Washington Department of  
**FISH and WILDLIFE**

Stephanie Simek  
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Game Division, Wildlife Program

# Black Bear Management Units



# Statewide Bear Hunters



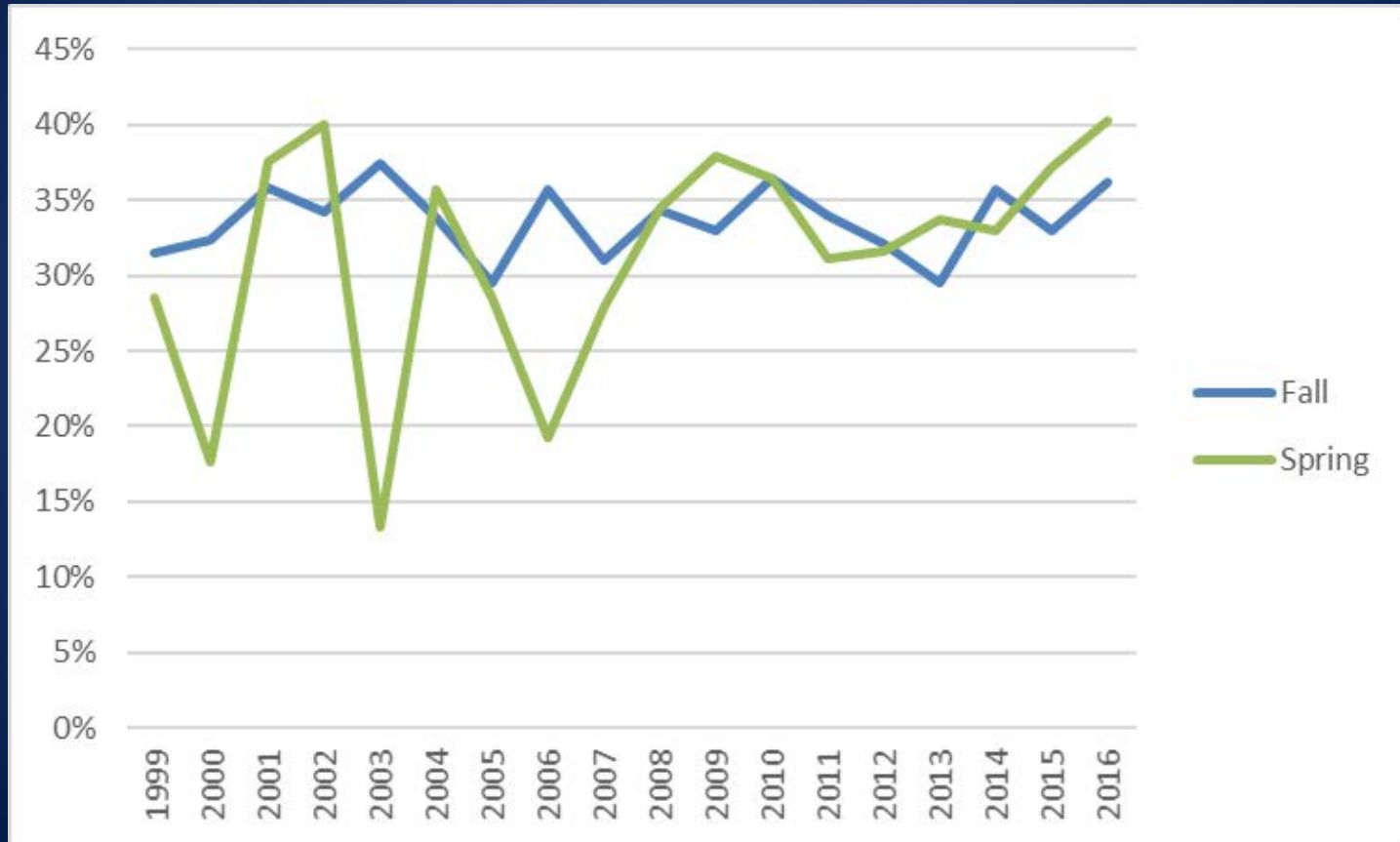
# Game Management Plan

## Objective 88

- Provide recreational hunting while maintaining sustainable bear populations in each black bear management unit.

Parameter	Harvest		
	Liberalize	Acceptable	Restrict
% Females in harvest	< 35%	35-39%	> 39%
Median age of harvested females	> 6 years	5-6 years	< 5 years
Median age of harvested males	> 4 years	2-4 years	< 2 years

# Percent Female in Harvest



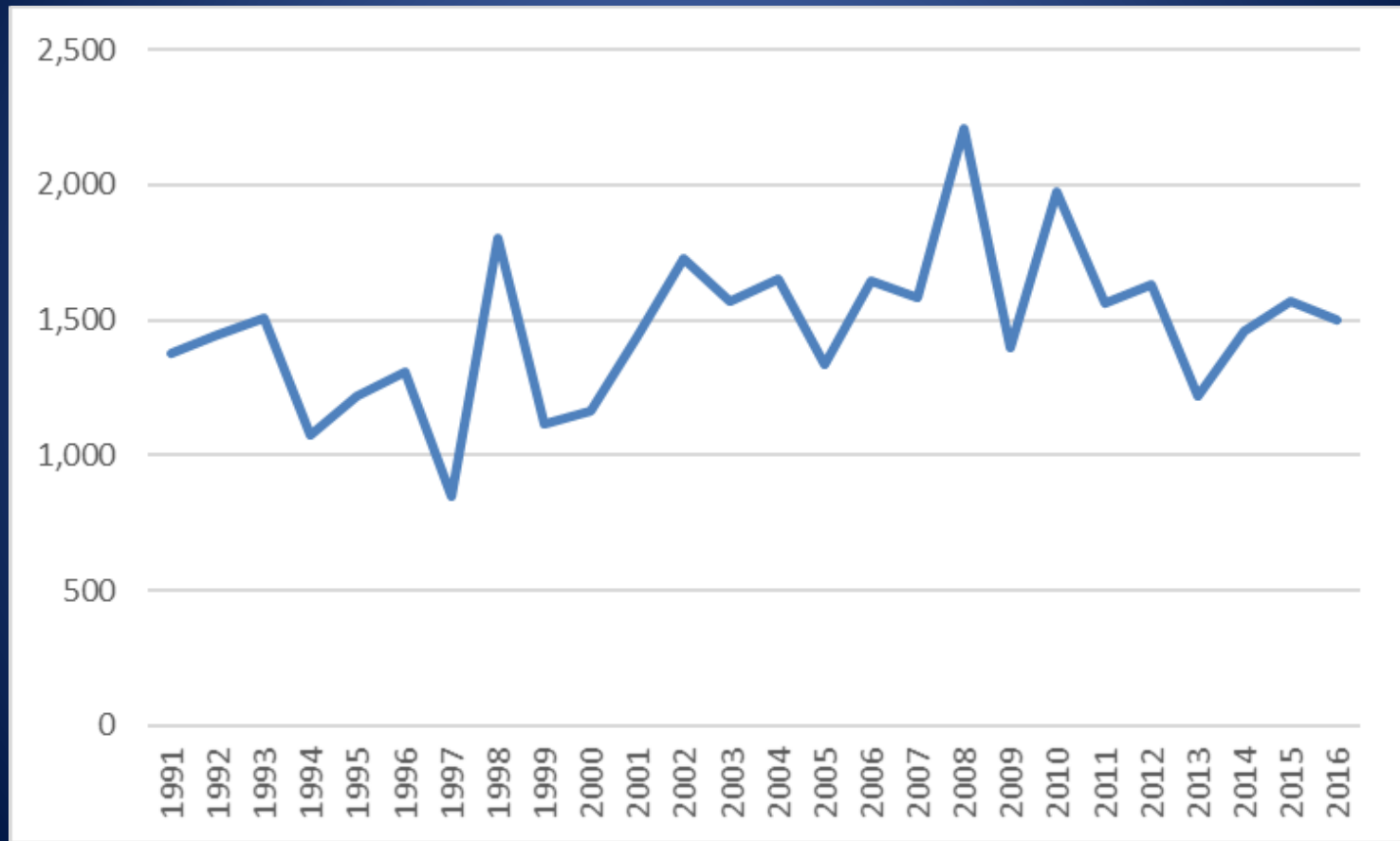
# WAC 220-415-090

## Fall Black Bear Hunting Season

- Summary: Outlines the requirements related to participating in recreational fall bear hunts; which the annual bear bag limit is 2 animals.



# Statewide Fall Bear Harvest



# Proposed Changes WAC 220-415-090 Fall Black Bear Hunting Seasons

- Changes: Season dates to reflect 2018-2020
- Changes: Remove GMUs 410 and 422
- Rationale: No known resident bears therefore few, if any, opportunities for hunting

Fall Black Bear		
Hunt Zone	Season	Hunt Area GMUs
Coastal	Aug. 1 - Nov. 15	GMUs 501, 504, 506, 530, 601, 602, 603, 607-621, 636-651, 658-663, 672-684
Puget Sound	Aug. 1 - Nov. 15	GMUs 407, <del>((410,))</del> 454, 624, 627, 633, 652, 666, 667
North Cascades	Aug. 1 - Nov. 15	GMUs <del>((418-450))</del> 418-421, 426-450, 460
South Cascades	Aug. 15 - Nov. 15	GMUs 466, 485, 503, 505, 510-520, 524, 550-574, 653, 654
Okanogan	Aug. 15 - Nov. 15	GMUs 203, 209-243
East Cascades	Aug. 1 - Nov. 15	GMUs 244-247, 249-251, 328, 329-368, 382, 388, 578
Northeastern A	Sept. 1 - Nov. 15	GMUs 101-121, 204
Northeastern B	Aug. 15 - Nov. 15	GMUs 124-130
Blue Mountains	Sept. 1 - Nov. 15	GMUs 145-154, 162-186
Columbia Basin	Aug. 1 - Nov. 15	GMUs 133, 136, 139, 142, 248, 254, 260-290, 371-381
Long Island	Sept. 1 - Nov. 15	GMU 699



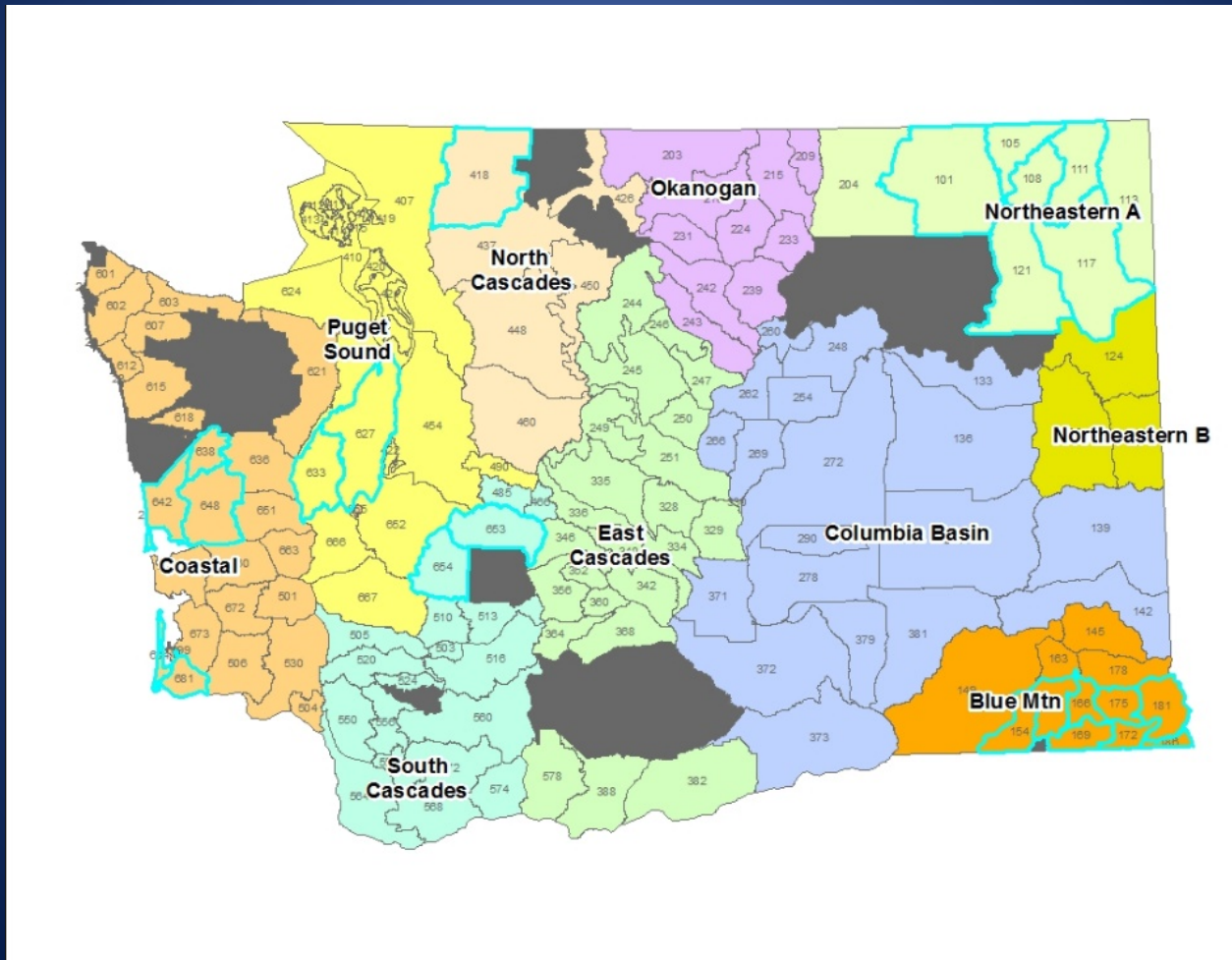
# WAC 220-415-080

## Spring Black Bear Season

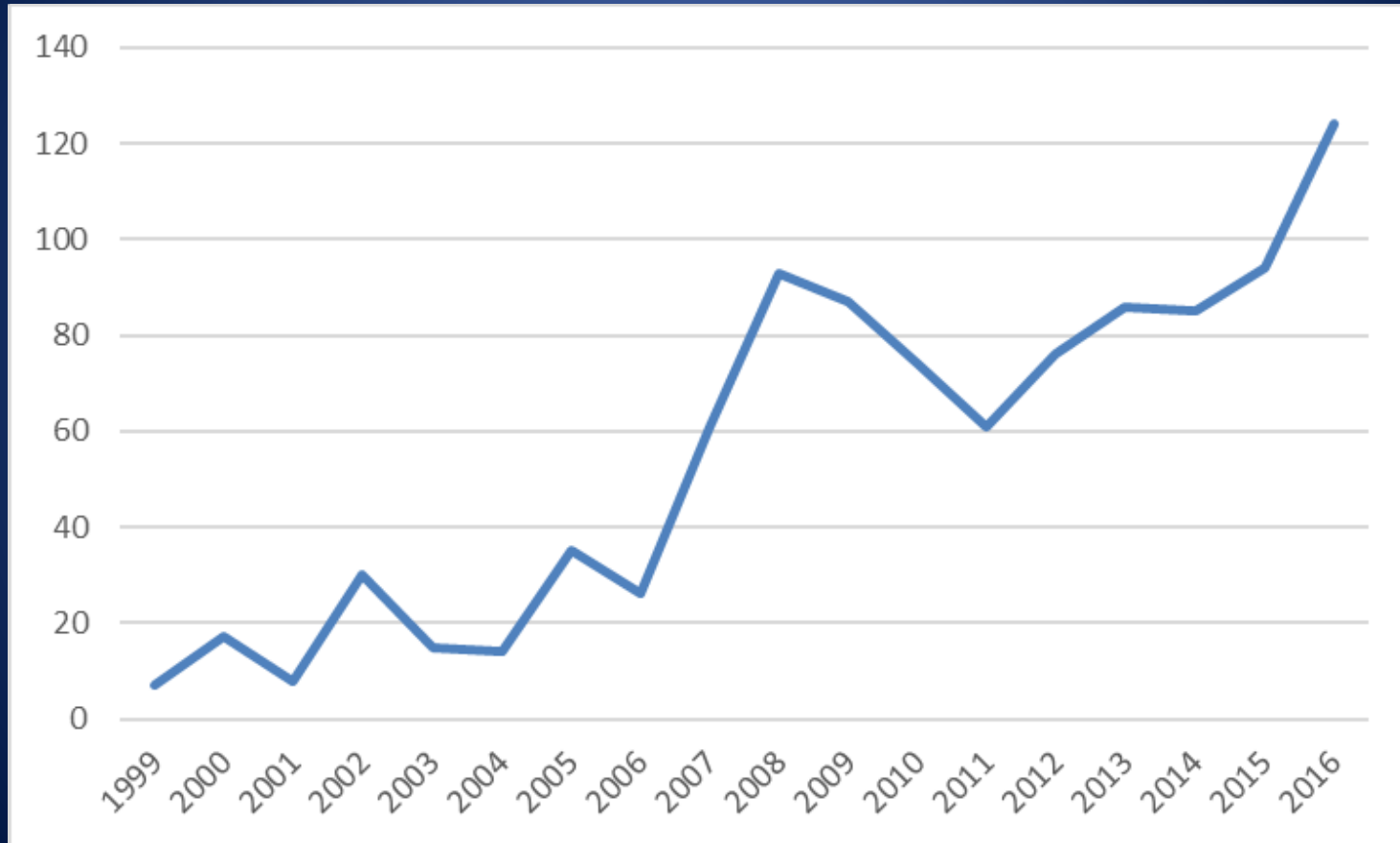
- Summary: Outlines the requirements related to participating in spring black bear hunts through a black bear special permit; which successful harvest applies towards the annual 2 bear bag limit.



# Spring Special Permit Black Bear Hunt Areas



# Statewide Spring Bear Harvest



# Proposed Changes WAC 220-415-080 Spring Black Bear Season and Regulations

- Changes: Season dates to reflect 2019 and 2020 seasons
- Changes: Language modified to reflect appropriate ownership in Kapowsin Hunt Area
- Rationale: Correctly identify season dates and locations



# Proposed Bear Identification Test

- Purpose: to minimize harvest of grizzly bears as a result of mistaken identity and build stewardship of resource management with other agencies
- Provide photographic clues to assist hunters with identification
- Aligns with other western states that have documented both black bears and grizzly bears - MT, WY, ID



# Proposed Bear Identification Test

- Test is required for GMUs identified by the department
  - Listed in hunting pamphlet
- May be taken until a passing score is achieved (80%)
  - Online testing through Licensing or at a Regional Office
- Department will honor certificates from other states
  - Proof must be carried on person
- Annual requirement



# Proposed Changes WAC 220-415-080 Spring Black Bear Season and Regulations

Hunt Name	Hunt Area	Permits	Season Dates
<b>Sherman</b>	GMU 101 <u>Note: Mandatory bear identification test required.</u>	50	April 1 - June 15
<b>Kelly Hill</b>	GMU 105 <u>Note: Mandatory bear identification test required.</u>	50	April 1 - June 15
<b>Douglas</b>	GMU 108 <u>Note: Mandatory bear identification test required.</u>	40	April 1 - June 15
<b>Aladdin</b>	GMU 111 <u>Note: Mandatory bear identification test required.</u>	50	April 1 - June 15
<b>49 Degrees North</b>	GMU 117 <u>Note: Mandatory bear identification test required.</u>	100	April 1 - June 15
Huckleberry	GMU 121	100	April 1 - June 15
Blue Creek	GMU 154	15	April 15 - June 15
Dayton	GMU 162	15	April 15 - June 15
Tucannon	GMU 166	5	April 15 - June 15
Wenaha	GMU 169	45	April 15 - June 15
Mt. View	GMU 172	15	April 15 - June 15
Lick Creek	GMU 175	15	April 15 - June 15
Couse	GMU 181	4	April 15 - June 15
Grande Ronde	GMU 186	5	April 15 - 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	12	April 15 - May 31
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. <u>Note: Mandatory bear identification test required.</u>	30	April 15 - June 15
Copalis	GMU 642, 638, and 648 (excluding U.S. Forest Service lands).	50	April 15 - June 15
<b>Kapowsin</b>	That portion of GMUs 653 and/or 654 that is designated as the hunt area by Hancock Forest Management ( <del>and International Forestry</del> ), <u>Hampton, and Olympic Resource Management.</u>	150	April 15 - June 15

# Proposed Changes

## WAC 220-415-080 and WAC 220-415-090

- Changes: Modified language to clarify requirements regarding report and submission of biological samples
- Changes: Modified language to clarify penalties for failure to report or comply with the conditions of each WAC
- Rationale: Clarifying language should reduce potential confusion and violations



# Public Comments

- Fall Bear: 49 received
  - 21 Support
    - General support; suggestions: earlier start, separating bag limits
  - 7 Neutral
  - 21 Opposed
    - Similar points; suggestions: oppose the bear ID test; stating additional hurdle
- Spring Bear: 77 received
  - 18 Support
    - General support; suggestions: expand season, increase tags, close season in grizzly bear areas
  - 17 Neutral
  - 41 Opposed
    - Varied opposition; suggestions: expand seasons, increase tags, oppose ID test, oppose reporting requirement, oppose general methods of management

# Questions?

