

Elk General Seasons and Elk Special Permits

WAC 220-415-050 and WAC 220-415-060

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Summary Sheet

Meeting dates:	April 13-14, 2018
Agenda item:	Elk General Seasons and Elk Special Permits – Decision
Presenter(s):	Jerry Nelson, Ph.D., Deer and Elk Section Manager, Game Division, Wildlife Program

Background summary:

Staff briefing the Fish and Wildlife Commission at the March Commission meeting in Wenatchee regarding the proposed amendments to WAC 220-415-050 2018-2020 Elk general seasons and definitions, and WAC 220-415-060 2018 Elk special permits. The proposed elk hunting seasons represent the culmination of the 2018-2020 three-year hunting season package process.

Staff recommendation:

Proposed amendments for elk general season:

- For all three weapon types, make the Master Hunter seasons in Elk Area 3911 consistent with the Master Hunter seasons in Elk Area 3912 and GMU 371, by eliminating the split seasons and 2nd elk tag for Elk Area 3911.
- Shift GMU 663, general season, modern firearm, to 3 pt. min. or Antlerless.
- Reduce the general season, early archery, antlerless, in GMUs 328, 329, 336, 340, 352, 356, and 364 to the last 6 days of the 13 day season.
- Add late archery, 3 pt. min. and antlerless opportunity in GMUs 506, 530, and 663.
- Extend the late archery season in GMU 407 to help mitigate damage.
- Add GMU 334 to early muzzleloader.
- Shift GMU 663 to 3 pt. min. or antlerless in early muzzleloader.
- Shift the legal elk for late muzzleloader in GMU 407 for 3 pt. min. or antlerless to Any elk to help mitigate damage.
- Add late muzzleloader, 3 pt. min. and antlerless opportunity in GMU 578 to help mitigate damage.

Proposed amendments for elk special permits:

- Adjust the Quality and Bull special permits using the allocation formula, or adjust permits to levels agreed upon with stakeholders and tribes.
 - Shift some Region 5 Bull permits to the Quality category.
 - Add some Quality permits to the northwest Olympic Peninsula.
 - Reduce the Quality and Bull special permits for the Yakima herd.
 - Adjust antlerless special permits up or down to maintain herds at objective or move them toward population objective.
 - Add some Youth, antlerless, special permits to the northwest Olympic Peninsula.
 - Add some Senior 65+, antlerless, special permits to the northwest Olympic Peninsula.
 - Add some Hunters with Disabilities, antlerless, special permits to the northwest Olympic Peninsula.
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Policy issue(s) and expected outcome:

- Maximize recreational elk hunting opportunity.
- Continue sustainable hunting seasons for elk.
- Address wildlife conflict issues by using recreational hunters when possible.

Fiscal impacts of agency implementation:

No fiscal impacts beyond the status quo.

Public involvement process used and what you learned:

The department conducted an extensive public involvement process to develop the 2018-2020 hunting season proposals. Six open house, public meetings were conducted throughout the state in July and August of 2017, to discuss a variety of issues with constituents. Concurrently, the public was asked to provide input on hunting seasons via the department website for a 6-week time period. The department emailed over 119,000 hunters notifying them of the website survey and encouraging them to participate. The department received over 3,900 responses related to deer and elk hunting seasons. Using that information, the department determined which recommendations would move forward.

In preparation for this meeting, notification was made to approximately 12,000 individuals and organizations informing them of the opportunity to provide comment on the proposed regulation amendments. Additionally, these individuals and organizations were informed of the opportunity to provide verbal testimony at the March 16-17, 2018 Commission meeting in Wenatchee.

Action requested and/or proposed next steps:

Amend WAC 220-415-050 and WAC 220-415-060 as presented.

Draft motion language:

Motion: I move to amend WAC 220-415-050 and WAC 220-415-060 as presented by staff.

Is there a "second"?

If so, then motion maker discusses basis for motion; other Commissioners discuss views on motion; amendments, if any, proposed and addressed.

Post decision communications plan:

WDFW Website

News Release

Hunting Regulations Pamphlet

Form revised 2-15-18

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 17-10-076, filed 5/3/17, effective 6/3/17)

WAC 220-415-050 ((2015-2017)) 2018-2020 Elk general seasons and definitions. It is unlawful to fail to comply with bag, possession, and season limits described below. A violation of this section is punishable under RCW 77.15.410 Unlawful hunting of big game—Penalty.

Bag Limit: One (1) elk per hunter during the license year, except where otherwise permitted by department rule. Any combination of seasons, tags, and permits set by the department will not exceed a maximum of two (2) elk per hunter during the license year.

Hunting Method: Elk hunters must select only one of the hunting methods: Modern firearm, archery, or muzzleloader.

Elk Tag Areas: Elk hunters must choose either Eastern or Western Washington to hunt in and buy the appropriate tag for that area.

Any Bull Elk Seasons: Open only to the taking of elk with visible antlers; bull calves are illegal.

Antler Point: To qualify as an antler point, the point must be at least one inch long, measured on the longest side.

Branch: A branch is defined as any projection off the main antler beam that is at least one inch long, measured on the longest side, and longer than it is wide.

Spike Bull Antler Restrictions: Bull elk taken in spike-only game management units (GMUs) must have at least one antler with no branches originating more than 4 inches above where the antler attaches to the skull.

Spike-only GMUs: 145-154, 162-186, 249, and 336-368.

True Spike - Bull Antler Restrictions: Neither antler of bull elk taken in GMUs 251, and 328-335 can have branching originating more than 4 inches above where the antlers attach to the skull. Under the true-spike restriction, taking an elk that has two points on one side or antler points within one inch of the definitions regarding length of point, or point of origination, is an infraction under RCW 77.15.160. All other types of violations of the true-spike restriction are subject to current penalties and assessments under RCW 77.15.410 and 77.15.420.

True-spike GMUs: 251, 328-335.

3-point Antler Restrictions: Legal bull elk must have at least 3 antler points on one side(~~(, with at least 2 antler points above the~~

ear)). Eye guards are antler points when they are at least one inch long. Antler restrictions apply to all hunters during any open season.

3-point GMUs: All of Western Washington, except for GMUs 448, 454, 564, 652 for archers, 666, 684, and Elk Area 4941.

Permit-only Units: The following GMUs are closed to elk hunting during general elk seasons: 157, 371, 418, 485, 522, 556, 621, 636, and 653.

GMUs Closed to Elk Hunting: 437 (except for Elk Area 4941) and 490.

Areas with Special Restrictions: There are modern firearm restrictions in GMU 334 and portions of GMU 660. GMU 554 is open only for early archery and muzzleloader seasons. Elk Area 6064 in GMU 638 (Quinault) is open to master hunters only.

Elk Tag Areas

Eastern Washington: All 100, 200, and 300 GMUs.

EA - Eastern Washington Archery Tag

EF - Eastern Washington Modern Firearm General Elk Tag

EM - Eastern Washington Muzzleloader Tag

Western Washington: All 400, 500, and 600 GMUs.

WA - Western Washington Archery Tag

WF - Western Washington Modern Firearm General Elk Tag

WM - Western Washington Muzzleloader Tag

Modern Firearm General Elk Seasons

License Required: A valid big game hunting license with an elk tag option.

Tag Required: A valid modern firearm elk tag as listed below for the area hunted.

Hunting Method: May use modern firearm, bow and arrow, crossbow, or muzzleloader, but only during modern firearm seasons.

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	((2015)) 2018 Dates	((2016)) 2019 Dates	((2017)) 2020 Dates	Legal Elk
Eastern Washington	EF	101, 105, 108, 111, 113, 117, 121, 204	((Oct. 31 - Nov. 8)) Oct. 27 - Nov. 4	((Oct. 29 - Nov. 6)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 3	((Oct. 28 - Nov. 5)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Any bull
		145 through 154, 162 through 169, 172 (except Elk Area 1040), 175 through 186, 249, 336 through 368	((Oct. 31 - Nov. 8)) Oct. 27 - Nov. 4	((Oct. 29 - Nov. 6)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 3	((Oct. 28 - Nov. 5)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Spike bull
		251, 328, 329, 334, 335	((Oct. 31 - Nov. 8)) Oct. 27 - Nov. 4	((Oct. 29 - Nov. 6)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 3	((Oct. 28 - Nov. 5)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	True spike bull
		Elk Area 3722*	Sept. 8-23	Sept. 7-22	Sept. ((6-24)) 5-20	Antlerless only
		124 through 142, 372, 382, 388	((Oct. 31 - Nov. 8)) Oct. 27 - Nov. 4	((Oct. 29 - Nov. 6)) Oct. 26 - Nov. 3	((Oct. 28 - Nov. 5)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 8	Any elk
		203, 209 through 248, 250, 254 through 290, 373, 379, 381	Oct. ((31)) 27 - Nov. 15	Oct. ((29)) 26 - Nov. 15	Oct. ((28)) 31 - Nov. 15	Any elk
		Master Hunters Only: 371, Elk Areas 3911 and 3912. <u>Must wear hunter orange.</u>	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, ((2016)) 20182019	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, ((2017)) 20192020	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, ((2018)) 20202021	Antlerless only
		((Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911**	Nov. 14 - Dec. 15	Nov. 12 - Dec. 15	Nov. 11 - Dec. 15	Antlerless only
		Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911** 2nd tag.	Aug. 1 - Oct. 30	Aug. 1 - Oct. 28	Aug. 1 - Oct. 27	Antlerless only)
		Master Hunters Only: 127, 130	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Antlerless only
<p>*GMU 372 and Elk Area 3722 are mainly private property. Hunters are not advised to try hunting these areas without making prior arrangements for access.</p> <p>((**Master hunters who hunt in Elk Area 3911 during the August to October early master hunter season must purchase a master hunter, Elk Area 3911, second elk transport tag. Only master hunters with an eastside elk tag can purchase this tag. Elk Area 3911 second elk transport tags will be valid only for Elk Area 3911 from August 1 - October 30, 2015; August 1 - October 28, 2016, and August 1 - October 27, 2017. Only one antlerless elk may be taken from Elk Area 3911, unless drawn for an antlerless elk special permit. Master hunters who hunt in Elk Area 3911 during the November to December late master hunter season may use their unused general season elk tag, but are not eligible to use an Elk Area 3911, master hunter, second elk transport tag. Any legal weapon may be used during either master hunter Elk Area 3911 hunt. All master hunters participating in an Elk Area 3911 hunt must wear hunter orange.))</p>						

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	((2015)) 2018 Dates	((2016)) 2019 Dates	((2017)) 2020 Dates	Legal Elk
Western Washington	WF	460, 466, 503, 505 through 520, 524 (except CLOSED in Elk Area 5066), 530, 550, 560, 568, 572, 574, 578, 601 through 618, 624 (except for Elk Area 6071), 627, 633, 638 (except master hunters only in Elk Area 6064 portion of GMU 638), 642 through 651, 652 (except for Elk Area 6014), 654 through 660, 666 667 through 684. ((Except master hunters only in Elk Area 6064 portion of GMU 638.))	Nov. ((7-18)) 3-14	Nov. 5-16	Nov. 4-15	3 pt. min.
		501, 504, 663, Elk Area 6014	Nov. ((7-18)) 3-14	Nov. ((5-16)) 2-13	Nov. ((4-15)) 7-18	3 pt. min. or antlerless
		407, 448, 564, 666	Nov. ((7-18)) 3-14	Nov. ((5-16)) 2-13	Nov. ((4-15)) 7-18	Any elk
		454	Nov. ((7-18)) 3-14	Nov. ((5-16)) 2-13	Nov. ((4-15)) 7-18	Any bull

Archery General Elk Seasons

License Required: A valid big game hunting license with an elk tag option.

Tag Required: A valid archery elk tag as listed below for the area hunted.

Hunting Method: Bow and arrow only, as defined under WAC 220-414-070.

Special Notes: Archery tag holders can hunt only during archery seasons and must hunt with archery equipment (WAC 220-414-070). Archery elk hunters may apply for special bull permits. Please see permit table for tag eligibility for all elk permits.

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	((2015)) 2018 Dates	((2016)) 2019 Dates	((2017)) 2020 Dates	Legal Elk
Early Archery General Elk Seasons						
Eastern Washington	EA	101 through 142, 204, 243, 247, 249, 250, 373, 379, 381, 388	Sept. ((12-24)) 8-20	Sept. ((10-22)) 7-19	Sept. ((9-21)) 12-24	Any elk
		162, 166, 169, 172 (except Elk Area 1040), 175, 186, 336, 340, 352, 356, 364	Sept. ((12-24)) 8-20	Sept. ((10-22)) 7-19	Sept. ((9-21)) 12-24	Spike bull
		328, 329, 336, 340, 352, 356, 364	Sept. 15-20			Antlerless
		328, 329, ((335))	Sept. ((12-24)) 8-20	Sept. ((10-22)) 7-19	Sept. ((9-21)) 12-24	True spike bull (or antlerless)

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	((2015) 2018 Dates	((2016) 2019 Dates	((2017) 2020 Dates	Legal Elk
		334, 335	Sept. 8-20	Sept. 7-19	Sept. 12-24	True spike bull or antlerless
		145, 149, 154, Elk Area 1010, Elk Area 1013, 163, ((175,)) 178, 181, ((334, 336, 340, 352, 356, 364))	Sept. ((12-24)) 8-20	Sept. ((10-22)) 7-19	Sept. ((9-21)) 12-24	Spike bull or antlerless
Western Washington	WA	448, 454, 564, 652 (except Elk area 6013), 666, 684	Sept. ((12-24)) 8-20	Sept. ((10-22)) 7-19	Sept. ((9-21)) 12-24	Any elk
		407	Sept. ((12-24)) 8-20	Sept. ((10-22)) 7-19	Sept. ((9-21)) 12-24	Any elk
		501 through 505, 520, 550, 554, 560, 568, 572, 574, 578, ((624 (except for Elk Area 6071,)) Elk Area 6061, 654, 660, 667 through 673, 681, 699	Sept. ((12-24)) 8-20	Sept. ((10-22)) 7-19	Sept. ((9-21)) 12-24	3 pt. min. or antlerless
		460, 466, 506, 510, 513, 516, 524 (except CLOSED in Elk Area 5066), 530, 601 through 618, 624 (except for Elk Area 6071), 627, 633, 638 (except Master Hunters only in Elk Area 6064), 642 through 651, 658, 663	Sept. ((12-24)) 8-20	Sept. ((10-22)) 7-19	Sept. ((9-21)) 12-24	3 pt. min.
Late Archery General Elk Seasons						
Eastern Washington	EA	101, 105, 108, 117, 121, 204	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Any bull
		124, 127, 373, 388	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Any elk
		178	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	Antlerless only
		Elk Area 1010, 163	Dec. 9 - Jan. 30, 2016 2019	Dec. 9 - Jan. 30, 2017 2020	Dec. 9 - Jan. 30, 2018 2021	Antlerless only
		203, 209 through 248, 250, 254 through 290, 379, 381. Must wear hunter orange.	Oct. ((31)) 27 - Nov. 15	Oct. ((29)) 26 - Nov. 15	Oct. ((28)) 31 - Nov. 15	Any elk
		Master Hunters Only: 371, Elk Areas 3911 and 3912. Must wear hunter orange.	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, ((2016)) 2018 2019	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, ((2017)) 2019 2020	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, ((2018)) 2020 2021	Antlerless only
		((Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911**). Must wear hunter orange.	Nov. 14 - Dec. 15	Nov. 12 - Dec. 15	Nov. 11 - Dec. 15	Antlerless only
		Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911** 2nd tag. Must wear hunter orange.	Aug. 1 - Oct. 30	Aug. 1 - Oct. 28	Aug. 1 - Oct. 27	Antlerless only))
		Master Hunters Only: 127, 130	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Antlerless only
		328, 334, 335	Nov. ((25)) 21 - Dec. 8	Nov. ((23)) 27 - Dec. 8	Nov. ((22)) 25 - Dec. 8	True spike bull or antlerless
Western Washington	WA	336, 342, 346, 352, 364, Elk Area 3681	Nov. ((25)) 21 - Dec. 8	Nov. ((23)) 27 - Dec. 8	Nov. ((22)) 25 - Dec. 8	Spike bull or antlerless
		Elk Area 4601, 503, 505, 506, 530, 652 (except Elk Area 6013), 663, 667, 672, 681, and 699. Master hunters only in Elk Area 6064 portion of GMU 638.	Nov. ((25)) 21 - Dec. 15	Nov. ((23)) 27 - Dec. 15	Nov. ((22)) 25 - Dec. 15	3 pt. min. or antlerless
		407	Nov. 21 - Jan 20, 2019	Nov. 27 - Jan 20, 2020	Nov. 25 - Jan 20, 2021	Any elk
		((407,)) 448, 454, 564, 666	Nov. ((25)) 21 - Dec. 15	Nov. ((23)) 27 - Dec. 15	Nov. ((22)) 25 - Dec. 15	Any elk
		603, 612, 615, 638 (except for Elk Area 6064), 648 ((506, 520, 530))	Nov. ((25)) 21 - Dec. 15	Nov. ((23)) 27 - Dec. 15	Nov. ((22)) 25 - Dec. 15	3 pt. min. Antlerless only
*GMU 372 and Elk Area 3722 are mainly private property. Hunters are not advised to try hunting these areas without making prior arrangements for access.						

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	((2015)) 2018 Dates	((2016)) 2019 Dates	((2017)) 2020 Dates	Legal Elk
		((**Master hunters who hunt in Elk Area 3911 during the August to October early master hunter season must purchase a master hunter, Elk Area 3911, second elk transport tag. Only master hunters with an eastside elk tag can purchase this tag. Elk Area 3911 second elk transport tags will be valid only for Elk Area 3911 from August 1–October 30, 2015, August 1–October 28, 2016, and August 1–October 27, 2017. Only one antlerless elk may be taken from Elk Area 3911, unless drawn for an antlerless elk special permit. Master hunters who hunt in Elk Area 3911 during the November to December late master hunter season may use their unused general season elk tag, but are not eligible to use an Elk Area 3911, master hunter, second elk transport tag. Any legal weapon may be used during either master hunter Elk Area 3911 hunt. All master hunters participating in an Elk Area 3911 hunt must wear hunter orange.))				

Muzzleloader General Elk Seasons

License Required: A valid big game hunting license with an elk tag option.

Tag Required: A valid muzzleloader elk tag as listed below for the area hunted.

Hunting Method: Muzzleloader, as defined under WAC 220-414-060, or bow and arrow, as defined under WAC 220-414-070.

Special Notes: Muzzleloader tag holders can only hunt during the muzzleloader seasons. Only hunters with tags identified in the Special Elk Permits tables may apply for special elk permits.

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	((2015)) 2018 Dates	((2016)) 2019 Dates	((2017)) 2020 Dates	Legal Elk
Early Muzzleloader General Elk Seasons						
Eastern Washington	EM	101 through 121, 204, 247	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>6-12</u>	Oct. ((4-7)) <u>5-11</u>	Oct. ((7-13)) <u>3-9</u>	Any bull
		124 through 142, 245, 250	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>6-12</u>	Oct. ((4-7)) <u>5-11</u>	Oct. ((7-13)) <u>3-9</u>	Any elk
		145, 149, 154, 162, 163, 166, 172 (except Elk Area 1040), 175, 178, 181, 336 through 342, 352 through 368	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>6-12</u>	Oct. ((4-7)) <u>5-11</u>	Oct. ((7-13)) <u>3-9</u>	Spike bull
		328, 329, <u>334</u> , 335, Elk Area 2051	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>6-12</u>	Oct. ((4-7)) <u>5-11</u>	Oct. ((7-13)) <u>3-9</u>	True spike bull
Western Washington	WM	407	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>6-12</u>	Oct. ((4-7)) <u>5-11</u>	Oct. ((7-13)) <u>3-9</u>	Any elk
		Elk Area 4601	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>6-12</u>	Oct. ((4-7)) <u>5-11</u>	Oct. ((7-13)) <u>3-9</u>	3 pt. min. or antlerless
		448, 454, 564, 666, 684	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>6-12</u>	Oct. ((4-7)) <u>5-11</u>	Oct. ((7-13)) <u>3-9</u>	Any elk
		460, 466, 505, 506, 510, 513, 516, 520, 524 (except CLOSED in Elk Area 5066), 530, 550, 554, 560, 568, 572, 574, 578, 602, 603, 607, 612, 615, 624 (except for Elk Area 6071), 627, 633, 638 (except for Elk Area 6064), 642, 648, 660, ((663,)) 672, 673, 681	Oct. ((3-9)) <u>6-12</u>	Oct. ((4-7)) <u>5-11</u>	Oct. ((7-13)) <u>3-9</u>	3 pt. min.

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	((2015)) 2018 Dates	((2016)) 2019 Dates	((2017)) 2020 Dates	Legal Elk
		501, 503, 504, 652 (except Elk Area 6013 closed to antlerless), 654, 663, 667	Oct. ((3-9)) 6-12	Oct. ((4-7)) 5-11	Oct. ((7-13)) 3-9	3 pt. min. or antlerless
Late Muzzleloader General Elk Seasons						
Eastern Washington	EM	130 through 142	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Any elk
		203, 209 through 248, 250, 254 through 290, 373, 379, 381. Must wear hunter orange.	Oct. ((31)) 27 - Nov. 15	Oct. ((29)) 26 - Nov. 15	Oct. ((28)) 31 - Nov. 15	Any elk
		Master Hunters Only: 371, Elk Areas 3911 and 3912. Must wear hunter orange.	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, ((2016)) 2018 2019	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, ((2017)) 2019 2020	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, ((2018)) 2020 2021	Antlerless only
		((Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911** - Must wear hunter orange.	Nov. 14 - Dec. 15	Nov. 12 - Dec. 15	Nov. 11 - Dec. 15	Antlerless only
		Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911** 2nd tag. Must wear hunter orange.	Aug. 1 - Oct. 30	Aug. 1 - Oct. 28	Aug. 1 - Oct. 27	Antlerless only))
		Master Hunters Only: 127, 130	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Antlerless only
Western Washington	WM	407	((Nov. 25 - Dec. 15)) Nov. 21 - Jan. 20, 2019	((Nov. 23 - Dec. 15)) Nov. 27 - Jan. 20, 2020	((Nov. 22 - Dec. 15)) Nov. 25 - Jan. 20, 2021	((3 pt. min. or antlerless)) Any elk
		501, 503, 504, 505, 578, 652 (except Elk Area 6013 closed to antlerless).	Nov. ((25)) 21 - Dec. 8	Nov. ((23)) 27 - Dec. 8	Nov. ((22)) 25 - Dec. 8	3 pt. min. or antlerless
		448, 454, 564, 666, 684	Nov. ((25)) 21 - Dec. 15	Nov. ((23)) 27 - Dec. 15	Nov. ((22)) 25 - Dec. 15	Any elk
		568, 574((-578))	Nov. ((25-30)) 21-30	Nov. ((23-30)) 27-30	Nov. ((22-30)) 25-30	3 pt. min.
		601, 618, 651, 658, 667	Nov. ((25)) 21 - Dec. 15	Nov. ((23)) 27 - Dec. 15	Nov. ((22)) 25 - Dec. 15	3 pt. min.
		((**Master hunters who hunt in Elk Area 3911 during the August to October early master hunter season must purchase a master hunter, Elk Area 3911, second elk transport tag. Only master hunters with an eastside elk tag can purchase this tag. Elk Area 3911 second elk transport tags will be valid only for Elk Area 3911 from August 1 - October 30, 2015, August 1 - October 28, 2016, and August 1 - October 27, 2017. Only one antlerless elk may be taken from Elk Area 3911, unless drawn for an antlerless elk special permit. Master hunters who hunt in Elk Area 3911 during the November to December late master hunter season may use their unused general season elk tag, but are not eligible to use an Elk Area 3911, master hunter, second elk transport tag. Any legal weapon may be used during either master hunter Elk Area 3911 hunt. All master hunters participating in an Elk Area 3911 hunt must wear hunter orange.))				

[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. WSR 17-10-076 (Order 17-10), amended and recodified as § 220-415-050, filed 5/3/17, effective 6/3/17. 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, § 232-28-358, 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 15-10-059 (Order 15-98), § 232-28-358, filed 4/30/15,

effective 5/31/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047, 77.12.240, and 77.32.070. WSR 14-10-019 (Order 14-95), § 232-28-358, filed 4/25/14, effective 5/26/14; WSR 13-11-078 (Order 13-94), § 232-28-358, filed 5/16/13, effective 6/16/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047. WSR 12-11-005 (Order 12-70), § 232-28-358, filed 5/2/12, effective 6/2/12.]

RECOMMENDED ADJUSTMENTS

The department recommends the following adjustments since the Code Reviser filed (CR-102). The adjustments are included in your notebooks.

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- Change: Under the Modern Firearm category, Eastern Washington, Master Hunters Only: 371, Elk Areas 3911 and 3912, category – change the year on the January dates to 2019, 2020, and 2021 respectively.

Rationale: This change corrects a typographical error.

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- Change: Under the Modern Firearm category, Western Washington, first line in the table starting with GMU 460, replace GMU 666 with GMU 667.

Rationale: This change corrects a typographical error.

- Change: Under the Early Archery category, Eastern Washington, EA, after the 2nd line of the table starting with 162, and ending with Spike bull, add a new line that reads as the bold language listed below:

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Unit	2018 Dates	2019 Dates	2020 Dates	Legal Elk
Early Archery General Elk Seasons						
Eastern Washington	EA	328, 329, 336, 340, 352, 356, 364	Sept. 15-20			Antlerless

Rationale: This change is in response to comments received from archery hunters expressing concerns about the balance between conservation of the elk resource and the loss of opportunity. Additional analysis was conducted by staff to reach this proposed compromise. The dates for 2019 and 2020 are intentionally left blank. Checks of harvest and survey data will be done each year before a recommendation will be formulated for the subsequent year.

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- Change: Under the Late Archery category, Eastern Washington, Elk Area 1010 and GMU 163, category – change the year on the January dates to 2019, 2020, and 2021 respectively.

Rationale: This change corrects a typographical error.

- Change: Under the Late Archery category, Eastern Washington, Master Hunters Only: 371, Elk Areas 3911 and 3912, category – change the year on the January dates to 2019, 2020, and 2021 respectively.

Rationale: This change corrects a typographical error.

- Change: Under the Late Archery category, Western Washington, after the 4th line, remove the hunt dates and restriction for GMUs 506, 520, and 530.

Rationale: Because the three GMUs have been moved or deleted from this line in the table, the dates and the legal elk are no longer necessary. These changes correct a mistake in the recommendation. The recommendation should have deleted the entire line in the table.

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- Change: Under the Late Muzzleloader category, Eastern Washington, Master Hunters Only: 371, Elk Areas 3911 and 3912, category – change the year on the January dates to 2019, 2020, and 2021 respectively.

Rationale: This change corrects a typographical error.

Summary of Public Comments Received During the Official Comment Period and WDFW Response:

WAC 220-415-050 2018-2020 Elk general seasons and definitions.

Supporting Comments:

There were 32 comments in support of the proposal. There was no common theme to the support comments.

Opposing, Neutral, and Other Comments:

There were 162 comments in opposition to the proposal. There were two primary themes to the opposing comments.

One was the opposition to the removal of archery, antlerless opportunity in the 300 series GMUs. Concerns were expressed that no special permit antlerless, archery opportunity was being offered in place of the general season removal in those GMUs. Those special permit hunts were subsequently added to the special permit WAC via the recommended adjustments process.

The second theme was the misunderstanding that some archers thought opportunity was being removed for GMUs 506 and 530. For some unknown reason, archers commenting in opposition thought that archery, early season or late season or both were being removed from GMUs 506 and 530. However, the proposal does not recommend any changes to the early archery season in those two GMUs, and proposes adding opportunity in the late archery season by shifting GMUs 506 and 530 from the antlerless only legal animal, to the 3 pt. min. plus antlerless legal animal.

There were 13 comments that were neutral. Despite the neutral stance, the comments included the same complaints about removing the 300 series antlerless archery opportunity. There were also comments about season timing, length, and management of species other than elk.

Direction and Rationale:

The main theme of the comments centered on the proposed removal of archery, antlerless opportunity in the 300 series GMUs. Those criticisms were taken seriously and adjustments were made through the recommended adjustments process. The remainder of the comments are similar to the type routinely received by the department as we go through each rule-making process. Field staff are making hunting season recommendations they feel will maximize hunting opportunity without having a negative impact on the elk populations. The department will move forward with the recommendations, which include the recommended adjustments, to the Fish and Wildlife Commission.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 17-10-076, filed 5/3/17, effective 6/3/17)

WAC 220-415-060 ((2017)) 2018 Elk special permits. It is unlawful to fail to comply with the bag, possession, and season limits described below. A violation of this section is punishable under RCW 77.15.410 Unlawful hunting of big game—Penalty.

Special Elk Permit Hunting Seasons (Open to Permit Holders Only)

Hunters must purchase an elk hunting license prior to purchasing a permit application. Hunters may only apply for permits consistent with the tag required for the hunt choice; however, Multiple Season Permit holders may apply for Eastern or Western Washington archery, muzzle-loader, or modern firearm permit hunts. Applicants must have purchased the proper tag for these hunts. The elk tag prefixes required to apply for each hunt are shown in the following table. Hunters drawn for a special permit hunt must comply with weapon restrictions, dates, and other conditions listed for the hunt. Hunters drawn for a special permit designated "**Any tag**" under the "**Weapon/Tag**" restriction must use equipment consistent with the requirements of their transport tag and license.

Quality						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Turnbull	EA, EF, EM	Any	((Oct. 1-15 and Nov. 9- Dec. 6)) Oct. 1-6 and Nov. 9-30	Any bull	Elk Area 1015	1
((Prescott	EF	Any	Sept. 25-29	Any bull	GMU 149	4))
Prescott	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMU 149	2
Blue Creek	EF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMU 154	1
Blue Creek	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMU 154	((6)) 1011
Watershed	EA, EF, EM	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 27 - Nov. 4	3 pt. min.	GMU 157	40
Dayton	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMU 162	((44)) 109
Ten Ten	EF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	Elk Area 1010, GMU 163	1
Ten Ten	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	Elk Area 1010, GMU 163	43
Tucannon	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMU 166	14
Wenaha West	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	Elk Area 1008	((9)) 8
Wenaha East	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	Elk Area 1009	((40)) 129
Mountain View	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMU 172, EXCEPT Elk Area 1040	((46)) 1916
Ten Forty	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	Elk Area 1040	2
Lick Creek	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMU 175	((6)) 4
Peola	EF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMU 178	1
Peola	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMU 178	1
Couse	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMU 181	((3)) 23
Mission	EF	Any	Sept. ((23-29)) 22-28	Any bull	GMU 251	3
Colockum	EF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMUs 328, 329	1
Colockum	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMUs 328, 329	2219
Teanaway	EF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMU 335	2
Peaches Ridge	EF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMUs 336, 346	3
Observatory	EF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMUs 340, 342	3
Little Naches	EF	Any	((Sept. 30 - Oct. 8)) Sept. 29 - Oct. 7	Any bull	GMU 346	105
Goose Prairie	EF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMUs 352, 356	53
Bethel	EF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMU 360	3
Rimrock	EF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMU 364	3
Cowiche	EF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMU 368	3
Nooksack	WF	Any	((Oct. 7 - Nov. 17)) Oct. 6-31 and Dec. 17- 31	Any bull	GMU 418 ((and Elk Area 4944))	((12)) TBD12
Green River	WF, WA , WM	Any	((Nov. 4-10)) Oct. 20- 26	Any bull	GMU 485	8
Wahkiakum	WF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMUs 506, 530	1
South Rainier	WF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMUs 510, 513	1
Packwood	WF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMU 516	1
Winston	WF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMU 520	1
Coweeman	WF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMU 550	1
Toutle	WF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28 and Nov. ((4-15)) 3-14	Any bull	GMU 556	32
Toutle	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) 3-14	Any bull	GMU 556	4645
Lewis River	WF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMU 560	2
Siouxon	WF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMU 572	2
Carlton	WF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	Elk Area 5057	5
West Goat Rocks	WF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	Elk Area 5058	5

Quality						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Upper Smith Creek	WF	Any	Sept. 24-28	Any bull	Elk Area 5064	1
Mount Whittier	WF	Any	Sept. 24-28	Any bull	Elk Area 5065	1
Norway Pass	WF	Any	Sept. 24-28	Any bull	Elk Area 5066	2
Mt. Adams	WF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	Elk Area 5059	5
Mudflow	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) 3-14	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	((5)) 7
Peninsula	WF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	3 pt. min.	GMUs 602, 603 , 607, 612, 615	((1)) 4
((Clearwater	WF	Any	Sept. 25-29	3 pt. min.	GMU 615	2))
Matheny	WF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	3 pt. min.	GMU 618	3
Quinault	WF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	3 pt. min.	GMU 638	5
Wynoochee	WF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	3 pt. min.	GMU 648	1
White River	WF	Any	Sept. ((25-29)) 24-28	Any bull	GMU 653	2
Prescott	EA	Any	Sept. ((2-21)) 1-20	Any bull	GMU 149	1
Blue Creek	EA	Any	Sept. ((2-21)) 1-20	Any bull	GMU 154	((6)) 8
Dayton	EA	Any	Sept. ((2-21)) 1-20	Any bull	GMU 162	((7)) 64
Ten Ten	EA	Any	Sept. ((2-21)) 1-20	Any bull	Elk Area 1010, GMU 163	((4)) 85
Tucannon	EA	Any	Sept. ((2-21)) 1-20	Any bull	GMU 166	((6)) 126
Wenaha West	EA	Any	Sept. ((2-21)) 1-20	Any bull	Elk Area 1008	((3)) 2
Wenaha East	EA	Any	Sept. ((2-21)) 1-20	Any bull	Elk Area 1009	((4)) 54
Mountain View	EA	Any	Sept. ((2-21)) 1-20	Any bull	GMU 172, EXCEPT Elk Area 1040	((44)) 1215
Ten Forty	EA	Any	Sept. ((11-24)) 10-23	Any bull	Elk Area 1040	2
Lick Creek	EA	Any	Sept. ((2-21)) 1-20	Any bull	GMU 175	((13)) 47
Peola	EA	Any	Sept. ((2-21)) 1-20	Any bull	GMU 178	((2)) 42
Couse	EA	Any	Sept. ((2-21)) 1-20	Any bull	GMU 181	2
Colockum	EA	Any	Sept. ((9-21)) 8-20	Any bull	GMUs 328, 329	1312
Teanaway	EA	Any	Sept. ((9-21)) 8-20	Any bull	GMU 335	43
Peaches Ridge	EA	Any	Sept. ((9-21)) 8-20	Any bull	GMUs 336, 346	10458
Observatory	EA	Any	Sept. ((9-21)) 8-20	Any bull	GMUs 340, 342	10457
Goose Prairie	EA	Any	Sept. ((9-21)) 8-20	Any bull	GMUs 352, 356	10953
Bethel	EA	Any	Sept. ((9-21)) 8-20	Any bull	GMU 360	6632
Rimrock	EA	Any	Sept. ((9-21)) 8-20	Any bull	GMU 364	8563
Cowiche	EA	Any	Sept. ((9-21)) 8-20	Any bull	GMU 368	21
Nooksack	WA	Any	((Aug. 28 - Sept. 16 and Dec. 1-31)) Aug. 27 - Sept. 15 and Jan. 1-18, 2019	Any bull	GMU 418 ((and Elk Area 4941))	((7)) TBD7
Toutle	WA	Any	Sept. ((9-21)) 8-20 and Dec. 1-15	Any bull	GMU 556	3433
Upper Smith Creek	WA	Any	Sept. 16-22	Any bull	Elk Area 5064	1
Norway Pass	WA	Any	Sept. 8-14	Any bull	Elk Area 5066	2
Mudflow	WA	Any	Sept. ((15-21)) 15-23 and Nov. 16-21	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	((5)) 7
Peninsula	WA	Any	Sept. 1-23	3 pt. min.	GMUs 602, 603, 607, 612, 615	2
White River	WA	Any	Sept. ((9-21)) 8-20	Any bull	GMU 653	19
Prescott	EM	Any	Oct. ((1-13)) 1-12	Any bull	GMU 149	1
Blue Creek	EM	Any	Oct. ((1-13)) 1-12	Any bull	GMU 154	((2)) 3
Dayton	EM	Any	Oct. ((1-13)) 1-12	Any bull	GMU 162	((5)) 23
Ten Ten	EM	Any	Oct. ((1-13)) 1-12	Any bull	Elk Area 1010, GMU 163	1

Quality						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Tucannon	EM	Any	Oct. ((1-13)) 1-12	Any bull	GMU 166	3
Wenaha West	EM	Any	Oct. ((1-13)) 1-12	Any bull	Elk Area 1008	2
Wenaha East	EM	Any	Oct. ((1-13)) 1-12	Any bull	Elk Area 1009	((4)) 2 3
Mountain View	EM	Any	Oct. ((1-13)) 1-12	Any bull	GMU 172, EXCEPT Elk Area 1040	((5)) 9 5
Ten Forty	EM	Any	((Sept. 30 - Oct. 8)) Oct. 1-12	Any bull	Elk Area 1040	2
Lick Creek	EM	Any	Oct. ((1-13)) 1-12	Any bull	GMU 175	((2)) 1
Peola	EM	Any	Oct. ((1-13)) 1-12	Any bull	GMU 178	1
Couse	EM	Any	Oct. ((1-13)) 1-12	Any bull	GMU 181	1
Mission	EM	Any	((Oct. 1-10)) Sept. 30 - Oct. 9	Any bull	GMU 251	3
Colockum	EM	Any	Sept. ((30 - Oct. 8)) 29 - Oct. 7	Any bull	GMUs 328, 329	7 5
Teanaway	EM	Any	Sept. ((30 - Oct. 8)) 29 - Oct. 7	Any bull	GMU 335	2
Peaches Ridge	EM	Any	Sept. ((30 - Oct. 8)) 29 - Oct. 7	Any bull	GMUs 336, 346	33 17
Observatory	EM	Any	Sept. ((30 - Oct. 8)) 29 - Oct. 7	Any bull	GMUs 340, 342	27 13
Goose Prairie	EM	Any	Sept. ((30 - Oct. 8)) 29 - Oct. 7	Any bull	GMUs 352, 356	24 13
Bethel	EM	Any	Sept. ((30 - Oct. 8)) 29 - Oct. 7	Any bull	GMU 360	20 9
Rimrock	EM	Any	Sept. ((30 - Oct. 8)) 29 - Oct. 7	Any bull	GMU 364	40 9
Cowiche	EM	Any	Sept. ((30 - Oct. 8)) 29 - Oct. 7	Any bull	GMU 368	5 6
Nooksack	WM	Any	((Sept. 20 - Oct. 1 and Nov. 18-29)) Sept. 19-30 and Nov. 16-25, and Dec. 1-9	Any bull	GMU 418 ((and Elk Area 4941))	((7)) TBD 7
Toutle	WM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Any bull	GMU 556	13 18
Mount Whittier	WM	Any	Sept. 16-22	Any bull	Elk Area 5065	1
Norway Pass	WM	Any	Sept. 16-22	Any bull	Elk Area 5066	2
Mudflow	WM	Any	Oct. ((7-17)) 6-16	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	((5)) 7
Peninsula	WM	Any	Sept. 29 - Oct. 5	3 pt. min.	GMUs 602, 603, 607, 612, 615	2

Bulls						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
((Prescott	EF, EM	Any	Nov. 7-18	Any bull	GMU 149	2
Prescott	EF, EM	Any	Nov. 19-30	Any bull	GMU 149	2
Prescott	EF	Any	Dec. 1-15	Any bull	GMU 149	2
Prescott	EF	Any	Dec. 16-31	Any bull	GMU 149	2))
Ten Forty	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Spike bull only	Elk Area 1040	2
Grande Ronde	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMU 186	1
Mission	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMU 251	1
Teanaway	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMU 335	3
Peaches Ridge	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMUs 336, 346	140 61
Observatory	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMUs 340, 342	74 35
Goose Prairie	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMUs 352, 356	106 54
Bethel	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 - Nov. 5)) 22 - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMU 360	76 38

Bulls						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Rimrock	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 – Nov. 5)) <u>22</u> - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMU 364	77 <u>65</u>
Cowiche	EF	Any	Oct. ((23 – Nov. 5)) <u>22</u> - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMU 368	12
Alkali	EF	Any	Oct. ((16 – Nov. 3)) <u>15</u> - Nov. 2	Any bull	GMU 371	15
Skagit River	WF	Any	Oct. ((7 – Nov. 17)) <u>6</u> - Nov. 8	Any bull	Elk Area 4941	((2)) TBD <u>4</u>
Upper Smith Creek	WF	Any	Oct. 17-23	Any bull	Elk Area 5064	2
Mount Whittier	WF	Any	Oct. 17-23	Any bull	Elk Area 5065	1
Norway Pass	WF	Any	Oct. 17-23	Any bull	Elk Area 5066	3
Olympic	WF	Any	Oct. ((21 – Nov. 15)) <u>20</u> - Nov. 14	3 pt. min.	GMU 621, EXCEPT for Elk Area 6071	7
Skokomish	WF	Any	Oct. ((21 – Nov. 15)) <u>20</u> - Nov. 14	3 pt. min.	GMU 636	3 <u>2</u>
White River	WF	Any	Nov. ((4 –15)) <u>3</u> -14	Any bull	GMU 653	35 <u>37</u>
Ten Forty	EA	Any	Sept. ((2 –10)) <u>1</u> -9	Spike bull only	Elk Area 1040	2
Grande Ronde	EA	Any	Sept. ((2 –21)) <u>1</u> -20	Any bull	GMU 186	1
Alkali	EA	Any	Sept. ((1 –24)) <u>1</u> -23	Any ((bull)) Elk	GMU 371	10
Skagit River	WA	Any	((Aug. 28 – Sept. 16 and Dec. 1-31)) Aug. 27 - Sept. 15 and Jan. 1-7, 2019	Any bull	Elk Area 4941	((2)) TBD <u>8</u>
Upper Smith Creek	WA <u>Any</u>	WA	Oct. 1-7	Any bull	Elk Area 5064	2
Mount Whittier	WA	Any	Oct. 1-7	Any bull	Elk Area 5065	1
Norway Pass	WA	Any	Oct. 1-7	Any bull	Elk Area 5066	3
Lewis River	WA	Any	Nov. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Dec. 8	3 pt. min.	GMU 560	5
Siouxon	WA	Any	Nov. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Dec. 8	3 pt. min.	GMU 572	5
Olympic	WA	Any	Sept. ((1 –21)) <u>1</u> -20 and Dec. 1-15	3 pt. min.	GMU 621, EXCEPT Elk Area 6071	5 <u>4</u>
Skokomish	WA	Any	Sept. ((1 –21)) <u>1</u> -20 and Dec. 1-15	3 pt. min.	GMU 636	5 <u>2</u>
Ten Forty	EM	Any	Oct. ((7 –13)) <u>8</u> -14	Spike bull only	Elk Area 1040	2
Grande Ronde	EM	Any	Oct. ((7 –13)) <u>1</u> -12	Any bull	GMU 186	1
Alkali	EM	Any	Sept. ((25 – Oct. 15)) <u>24</u> - Oct. 14	Any bull	GMU 371	15
Skagit River	WM	Any	((Sept. 20 – Oct. 1 and Nov. 18-29)) Sept. 19-30 and Dec. 1-10 and Jan. 9-19, 2019	Any bull	Elk Area 4941	((2)) TBD <u>4</u>
Upper Smith Creek	WM	Any	Oct. 9-15	Any bull	Elk Area 5064	2
Mount Whittier	WM	Any	Oct. 9-15	Any bull	Elk Area 5065	1
Norway Pass	WM	Any	Oct. 9-15	Any bull	Elk Area 5066	3
Yale	WM	Any	Nov. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Dec. 15	3 pt. min.	GMU 554	15
Olympic	WM	Any	Sept. ((30 – Oct. 13)) <u>29</u> - Oct. 12	3 pt. min.	GMU 621, EXCEPT for Elk Area 6071	2
Skokomish	WM	Any	Sept. ((30 – Oct. 13)) <u>29</u> - Oct. 12	3 pt. min.	GMU 636	1
White River	WM	Any	Oct. ((7 –13)) <u>6</u> -12	Any bull	GMU 653	7

Antlerless Elk						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
North Half	EF	Any	Oct. ((28 – Nov. 5)) <u>27</u> - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMUs 101, 105, 204	10
Stevens <u>Douglas</u>	EF	Any	Oct. ((28 – Nov. 5)) <u>27</u> - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMUs 108, 121	10 <u>5</u>
Aladdin	EF	Any	Oct. ((28 – Nov. 5)) <u>27</u> - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 111	10
Selkirk	EF	Any	Oct. ((28 – Nov. 5)) <u>27</u> - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 113	10
49 Degrees North	EF	Any	Oct. ((28)) <u>27</u> - Nov. ((5)) <u>4</u> and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMU 117	10

Antlerless Elk						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Huckleberry	EF	Any	Oct. 27 - Nov. 4 and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMU 121	10
Turnbull	EF	Any	Nov. 16-21	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	6
Turnbull	EF	Any	Dec. ((12-17)) 11-16	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	6
Mayview-Peola	EF	Any	Oct. ((14-22)) 13-23	Antlerless	GMUs 145, 178	10
Mayview-Peola	EF	Any	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) 27 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMUs 145, 178	35 20
Prescott	EF	Any	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) 27 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 149	20
Blue Creek	EF	Any	Oct. ((14-22)) 13-23	Antlerless	GMU 154	10
Blue Creek	EF	Any	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) 27 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 154	10
Marengo-Dayton	EF	Any	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) 27 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 163 and Elk Area 1010	((100)) 75
Mountain View	EF	Any	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) 27 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	Elk Area 1013	40
Dayton	EF	Any	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) 27 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	Elk Area 1016	((8)) 5
Lick Creek	EF	Any	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) 27 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 175	3
Ten Forty	EF	Any	Nov. ((6-12)) 5-11	Antlerless	Elk Area 1040	5
Couse	EF	Any	Aug. ((19-27)) 18-26	Antlerless	Elk Area 1081	30
Couse	EF	Any	Oct. ((14-22)) 13-23	Antlerless	Elk Area 1081	5
Couse	EF	Any	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) 27 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	Elk Area 1081	30
George Creek	EF	Any	Oct. 13 - Nov. 19	Antlerless	Elk Area 1082	10
Malaga	EF	Any	Sept. ((9-22)) 8-21	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	20
Malaga	EF	Any	Nov. ((6)) 5 - Dec. 31	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	55
Colockum	EF	Any	((Nov. 1-5)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329	((100)) 250 100
West Bar	EF	Any	Oct. ((28-31)) 27-30	Antlerless	GMU 330	5
West Bar	EF	Any	((Nov. 1-5)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 330	5
Teanaway	EF	Any	((Aug. 1 - Sept. 8)) Oct. 27 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 335	((30)) 40 30
Taneum	EF	Any	((Nov. 1-5)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 336	35
Manastash	EF	Any	((Nov. 1-5)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 340	30
Umtanum	EF	Any	((Nov. 1-5)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 342	25
Little Naches	EF	Any	((Nov. 1-5)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 346	35
Nile	EF	Any	((Nov. 1-5)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 352	10
Bumping	EF	Any	((Nov. 1-5)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 356	20
Bethel	EF	Any	((Nov. 1-5)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 360	10
Rimrock	EF	Any	((Nov. 1-5)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 364	15
Cowiche	EF	Any	((Nov. 1-5)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 368	15
Alkali	EF	Any	Oct. ((16 - Nov. 3)) 15 - Nov. 2	Antlerless	GMU 371	20
South Issaquah	WF	Any	Nov. 3-14	Antlerless	Elk Area 4542	10
North Bend	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) 3-14	Antlerless	Elk Area 4601	5
Green River	WF , WA , WM	Any	((Nov. 4-10)) Oct. 20-26	Antlerless	GMU 485	48
Mossyrock	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) 3-14	Antlerless	GMU 505	50
Willapa Hills	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) 3-14	Antlerless	GMU 506	25
Winston	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) 3-14	Antlerless	GMU 520	25
Margaret	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) 3-14	Antlerless	GMU 524 (except ((#)) CLOSED in Elk Area 5066)	((25)) 5

Antlerless Elk						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Ryderwood	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 530	35
Coweeman	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 550	((50)) <u>15</u>
Toutle	WF	Any	Nov. 20-30	Antlerless	GMU 556	((25)) <u>15</u>
Lewis River	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 560	40
Washougal	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 568	35
Siouxon	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 572	20
Wind River	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 574	40
West Klickitat	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 578	75
Upper Smith Creek	WF	Any	Oct. 17-23	Antlerless	Elk Area 5064	4
Mount Whittier	WF	Any	Oct. 17-23	Antlerless	Elk Area 5065	2
Norway Pass	WF	Any	Oct. 17-23	Antlerless	Elk Area 5066	5
Mudflow	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	((7)) <u>5</u>
Mallis	WF	Any	Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 6010	10
Mallis	WF	Any	Jan. 1-20, ((2018)) <u>2019</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6010	20
Puyallup	WF	Any	Dec. 29, ((2017)) <u>2018</u> - Jan. 17, ((2018)) <u>2019</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6014	10
Puyallup	WF	Any	Jan. 18 - Feb. 7, ((2018)) <u>2019</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6014	10
Puyallup	WF	Any	Feb. 8-25, ((2018)) <u>2019</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6014	10
Hanaford	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6069	5
Williams Creek	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 673	50
Long Beach	WF	Any	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 684	6
Turnbull	EA	Any	Sept. ((9-21)) <u>8-20</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	14
Lick Creek	<u>EA</u>	<u>Any</u>	<u>Sept. 8-20</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMU 175</u>	<u>10</u>
Dayton	EA	Any	Sept. ((9-21)) <u>8-20</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1016	((5)) <u>10</u>
Malaga	EA	Any	Sept. ((2-8)) <u>1-7</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	20
((Alkali	EA	Any	Sept. 1-24	Antlerless	GMU 371	5))
<u>Coloekum</u>	<u>EA</u>	<u>Any</u>	<u>Sept. 8-20</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMUs 328, 329</u>	<u>100</u>
Margaret	WA	Any	Sept. ((9-21)) <u>8-20</u> and Dec. 1-15	Antlerless	GMU 524 (except ((for)) CLOSED in Elk Area 5066)	((20)) <u>5</u>
Toutle	WA	Any	Sept. ((9-21)) <u>8-20</u> and Dec. 1-15	Antlerless	GMU 556	((30)) <u>15</u>
Upper Smith Creek	WA	Any	Oct. 1-7	Antlerless	Elk Area 5064	4
Norway Pass	WA	Any	Oct. 1-7	Antlerless	Elk Area 5066	3
<u>Mudflow</u>	<u>WA</u>	<u>Any</u>	<u>Sept. 8-14 and Nov. 16-21</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>Elk Area 5099</u>	<u>7</u>
Lewis River	WA	Any	Nov. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 560	10
Siouxon	WA	Any	Nov. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 572	5
Wynoochee	WA	Any	Nov. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Dec. 15	Antlerless	GMU 648	((125)) <u>110</u>
North Half	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) <u>6-12</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 101, 105, 204	10
<u>StevensDouglas</u>	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) <u>6-12</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 108, 121	<u>105</u>
Aladdin	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) <u>6-12</u>	Antlerless	GMU 111	10
Selkirk	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) <u>6-12</u>	Antlerless	GMU 113	10
49 Degrees North	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) <u>6-12</u> and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMU 117	20
<u>Huckleberry</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Any</u>	<u>Oct. 6-12</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMU 121</u>	<u>10</u>
Turnbull	EM	Any	((Oct. 1-7)) <u>Nov. 23-28</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	9
Turnbull	EM	Any	Nov. ((23 - Dec. 6)) <u>30 - Dec. 5</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	9
Dayton	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) <u>6-12</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1016	((8)) <u>5</u>
Blue Creek	EM	Any	Dec. 9, ((2017)) <u>2018</u> - Jan. 20, ((2018)) <u>2019</u>	Antlerless	GMU 154	25

Antlerless Elk						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Mountain View	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	Elk Area 1013	20
Lick Creek	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 175	3
Mayview-Peola	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMUs 145, 178	20
Couse	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	Elk Area 1081	10
Couse	EM	Any	Dec. ((1-31)) 1, 2018 - Jan. 20, 2019	Antlerless	Elk Area 1081 and Elk Area 1075	35
George Creek	EM	Any	Sept. 29 - Oct. 12 and Nov. 20 - Dec. 31	Antlerless	Elk Area 1082	10
Malaga	EM	Any	Sept. ((30 - Oct. 8)) 29 - Oct. 7	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	45
Colockum	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329	((50)) 100 50
West Bar	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 330	5
Teanaway	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 335	10
Taneum	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 336	25
Manastash	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 340	25
Umtanum	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 342	20
Nile	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 352	10
Bumping	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 356	10
Bethel	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 360	10
Cowiche	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 368	10
Alkali	EM	Any	Sept. ((25 - Oct. 15)) 24 - Oct. 14	Antlerless	GMU 371	10
((Stella	WM	Any	Jan. 1-15, 2018	Antlerless	GMU 504	35))
Willapa Hills	WM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 506	15
Mudflow	WM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-16	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	4
Winston	WM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 520	15
Margaret	WM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 524 (except ((for)) CLOSED in Elk Area 5066)	((40)) 5
Ryderwood	WM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 530	30
Coweeman	WM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 550	((25)) 15
Yale	WM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 554	((40)) 30
Yale	WM	Any	Nov. ((22)) 21 - Dec. 15	Antlerless	GMU 554	((35)) 25
Toutle	WM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 556	((25)) 15
Lewis River	WM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 560	15
Washougal	WM	Any	Nov. ((22)) 21 - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 568	35
Siouxon	WM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 572	10
Wind River	WM	Any	Nov. ((22)) 21 - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 574	50
((West Kliekitat	WM	Any	Nov. 22 - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 578	75))
Upper Smith Creek	WM	Any	Oct. 9-15	Antlerless	Elk Area 5064	4
Mount Whittier	WM	Any	Oct. 9-15	Antlerless	Elk Area 5065	2
Norway Pass	WM	Any	Oct. 9-15	Antlerless	Elk Area 5066	2
Mallis	WM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	Elk Area 6010	((20)) 10
Mashel	WM	Any	Dec. 29, ((2017)) 2018 - Jan. 12, ((2018)) 2019	Antlerless	Elk Area 6054	((25)) 20
North River	WM	Any	Nov. ((22)) 21 - Dec. 15	Antlerless	GMU 658	20
Forks ²	WF, WM, WA	Any	Jan. 1-31, 2019	Antlerless	Elk Area 6612	20

Youth - Only youth hunters may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt.						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Turnbull	EF	Youth	Nov. 9-14	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	6
Aladdin	EF	Youth	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) 27 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 111	5

Youth - Only youth hunters may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt.						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Selkirk	EF	Youth	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) <u>27 - Nov. 4</u>	Antlerless	GMU 113	5
49 Degrees North	EF	Youth	Oct. ((28)) <u>27 - Nov. ((5)) 4</u> and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMU 117	5
Mayview-Peola	EF	Youth	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) <u>27 - Nov. 4</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 145, 178	5
Blue Creek	EF	Youth	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) <u>27 - Nov. 4</u>	Antlerless	GMU 154	5
Dayton	EF	Youth	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) <u>27 - Nov. 4</u>	Antlerless	GMU 162	10
Ten Forty	EF	Youth	Oct. ((14-22)) <u>13-21</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1040	5
Lick Creek	EF	Youth	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) <u>27 - Nov. 4</u>	Antlerless	GMU 175	2
Couse	EF	Youth	Aug. ((19-27)) <u>18-26</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1081	5
Couse	EF	Youth	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) <u>27 - Nov. 4</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1081	5
Malaga	EF	Youth	Nov. ((6-15)) <u>5-15</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	10
Colockum	EF	Youth	((Nov. 1-12)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 12	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329, 335	((45)) <u>25</u>
Yakima North	EF	Youth	((Nov. 1-12)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 12	Antlerless	GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346	15
Yakima Central	EF	Youth	((Nov. 1-12)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 12	Antlerless	GMUs 352, 356, 360	5
Yakima South	EF	Youth	((Nov. 1-12)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 12	Antlerless	GMUs 364, 368	5
Colockum	EM	Youth	Sept. ((30 - Oct. 8)) <u>29 - Oct. 7</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329, 335	((5)) <u>10</u>
Yakima North	EM	Youth	Sept. ((30 - Oct. 8)) <u>29 - Oct. 7</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346	10
Yakima Central	EM	Youth	Sept. ((30 - Oct. 8)) <u>29 - Oct. 7</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 352, 356, 360	10
Yakima South	EM	Youth	Sept. ((30 - Oct. 8)) <u>29 - Oct. 7</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 364, 368	10
North Bend	WF, WM, WA	Youth	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 4601	5
Skagit River	WF, WM, WA	Youth	((Sept. 17-19, Oct. 2-6, and Oct. 15-29)) Nov. 10-26 and Dec. 17-31	((Any elk)) Antlerless	Elk Area 4941	((4)) TBD
((Grays River	WF	Youth	Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 5056	5))
Mudflow	WF	Youth	Nov. ((22-30)) <u>21-30</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	((3)) <u>5</u>
Mudflow	WF	Youth	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 3)) <u>27 - Nov. 2</u> and Nov. 24-30	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	((3)) <u>5</u>
Coweeman	WF	Youth	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 550	15
Toutle	WF	Youth	Nov. 20-30	Antlerless	GMU 556	((25)) <u>20</u>
Lewis River	WF	Youth	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 560	10
Wind River	WF	Youth	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 574	10
West Klickitat	WF	Youth	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 578	25
Region 5	WF	Youth with mentor	Aug. 1, ((2017)) 2018 - Mar. 31, ((2018)) 2019	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 5	10 ^{hc}
Peninsula	WF	Youth	Nov. 3-14	Antlerless	GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615	4
Clearwater	WF	Youth	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 615	5
Matheny	WF	Youth	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 618	5
Wynoochee	WF	Youth	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 648	10
North River	WF	Youth	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 658	5
Williams Creek	WF	Youth	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 673	10
Mallis	WF	Youth	Dec. ((16-31)) <u>16, 2018 - Jan. 20, 2019</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6010	10
Peninsula	WA	Youth	Sept. 8-20	Antlerless	GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615	<u>2</u>
Peninsula	WM	Youth	Oct. 6-12	Antlerless	GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615	<u>2</u>
Forks ^s	WF, WM, WA	Youth	Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 6612	<u>10</u>

Youth - Only youth hunters may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt.						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Region 6	WF	Youth with mentor	Aug. 1, 2018 - Mar. 31, 2019	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 56	5 ^{B/C}

65+ Senior - Only hunters 65 and older may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt.						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Northeast	EF	65+	Oct. ((28)) 27 - Nov. ((5)) 4 and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMUs 113, 117	10
Prescott	EF	65+	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) 27 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 149	3
Blue Creek	EF	65+	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) 27 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 154	3
Dayton	EF	65+	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) 27 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMUs 162, 163	3
Peola	EF	65+	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) 27 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 178	3
Malaga	EF	65+	Nov. ((6-15)) 5-15	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	10
Colockum	EF	65+	((Nov. 1-12)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 12	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329, 335	((5)) 10
Yakima North	EF	65+	((Nov. 1-12)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 12	Antlerless	GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346	10
Yakima Central	EF	65+	((Nov. 1-12)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 12	Antlerless	GMUs 352, 356, 360	5
Yakima South	EF	65+	((Nov. 1-12)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 12	Antlerless	GMUs 364, 368	5
Alkali	EF	65+	Oct. ((16 - Nov. 3)) 15 - Nov. 2	Antlerless	GMU 371	10
South Issaquah	WF, WM, WA	65+	Nov. 3-14	Antlerless	Elk Area 4542	10
North Bend	WF, WM, WA	65+	Nov. ((4-15)) 3-14	Antlerless	Elk Area 4601	5
Colockum	EM	65+	Sept. ((30 - Oct. 8)) 29 - Oct. 7	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329, 335	5
Yakima North	EM	65+	Sept. ((30 - Oct. 8)) 29 - Oct. 7	Antlerless	GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346	5
Yakima Central	EM	65+	Sept. ((30 - Oct. 8)) 29 - Oct. 7	Antlerless	GMUs 352, 356, 360	5
Ryderwood	WF	65+	Nov. ((4-15)) 3-14	Antlerless	GMU 530	15
((West Kliekitat	WM	65+	Nov. 22 - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 578	15))
Skagit River	WF, WM, WA	65+	((Sept. 17-19, Oct. 2-6, and Oct. 15-29)) Nov. 11-26 and Dec. 17-31	((Any elk)) Antlerless	Elk Area 4941	((4)) TBD 4
((Grays River	WF, WM, WA	65+	Jan. 16-31, 2018	Antlerless	Elk Area 5056	5))
Peninsula	WF	65+	Nov. 3-14	Antlerless	GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615	3
Centralia Mine	WF	65+	Jan. 6-7-5-6, ((2018)) 2019	Antlerless	Elk Area 6011	5
Centralia Mine	WF	65+	Jan. 13-14-12-13, ((2018)) 2019	Antlerless	Elk Area 6011	5
Hanaford	WF, WM, WA	65+	Dec. 29, ((2017)) 2018 - Jan. 12, ((2018)) 2019	Antlerless	Elk Area 6069	5
Hanaford	WF, WM, WA	65+	Jan. 13-28, ((2018)) 2019	Antlerless	Elk Area 6069	5
Peninsula	WA	65+	Sept. 8-20	Antlerless	GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615	1
Peninsula	WM	65+	Oct. 6-12	Antlerless	GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615	1
Forks ²	WF, WM, WA	65+	Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 6612	10

Hunters with Disabilities - Only hunters with disabilities may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt.						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Northeast	EF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((28)) 27 - Nov. ((5)) 4 and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMUs 113, 117	4
Turnbull	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((9-15)) 1-6	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	6
Prescott	EF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) 27 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 149	3

Hunters with Disabilities - Only hunters with disabilities may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt.						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Blue Creek	EF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((28–Nov. 5)) <u>27</u> - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 154	3
Dayton	EF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((28–Nov. 5)) <u>27</u> - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMUs 162, 163	3
Peola	EF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((28–Nov. 5)) <u>27</u> - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 178	3
Observatory	EF, EM, <u>EA</u>	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((23–Nov. 5)) <u>22</u> - Nov. 4	Any bull	GMUs 340, 342	5
Little Naches	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Sept. ((30–Oct. 8)) <u>29</u> - Oct. 7	Any bull	GMU 346	5
Malaga	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Sept. ((9-22)) <u>8-21</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	10
Colockum	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Nov. 1-12)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 12	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329, 335	((5)) <u>10</u>
Yakima North	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Nov. 1-12)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 12	Antlerless	GMUs 336, 340, 342, 346	10
Yakima Central	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Nov. 1-12)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 12	Antlerless	GMUs 352, 356, 360	5
Yakima South	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Nov. 1-12)) Oct. 31 - Nov. 12	Antlerless	GMUs 364, 368	5
Alkali	<u>EF, EM, EA</u>	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((16–Nov. 3)) <u>15</u> - Nov. 2	Any bull	GMU 371	5
Corral Canyon	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Sept. 22-29	Any elk	Elk Area 3721	2
<u>South Issaquah</u>	<u>WF, WM, WA</u>	<u>Hunters w/ Disabilities</u>	<u>Nov. 3-14</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>Elk Area 4542</u>	<u>10</u>
North Bend	WF, WM, WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 4601	5
Skagit River	WF, WM, WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Sept. 17-19, Oct. 2-6, and Oct. 15-29)) Nov. 11-26 and Dec. 17-31	((Any elk)) <u>Antlerless</u>	Elk Area 4941	((4)) <u>TBD</u>
((Grays River	WF, WM, WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Feb. 15-28, 2018	Antlerless	Elk Area 5056	5))
Mudflow	WF, WM, WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((20-26)) <u>19-25</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	((3)) <u>5</u>
Mudflow	WF, WM, WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Sept. ((26–Oct. 2)) <u>25</u> - Oct. 1	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	((4)) <u>5</u>
Washougal	WF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Nov. ((4-15)) <u>3-14</u>	Antlerless	GMU 568	15
Region 5	<u>WF</u>	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Aug. 1, 2018 - Mar. 31, 2019	<u>Antlerless</u>	Designated Areas in Region 5	10 ^{HC}
Centralia Mine	WF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	((Oct. 7-8)) Sept. 29-30	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Elk Area 6011	5
Centralia Mine	WF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((14-15)) <u>6-7</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Elk Area 6011	5
((Region 5	WF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Aug. 1, 2017 - Mar. 31, 2018	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 5	10 ^{HC}))
Peninsula	<u>WF</u>	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Nov. 3-14	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615</u>	<u>3</u>
Peninsula	<u>WM</u>	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. 6-12	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615</u>	<u>1</u>
Peninsula	<u>WA</u>	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Sept. 8-20	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMUs 602, 607, 612, 615</u>	<u>1</u>

Master Hunter - Only master hunters may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt. Additional weapon restrictions may be conditioned by the hunt coordinator for each hunt. For those hunts requiring the purchase of a master hunter second tag, one elk may be killed in the unit under the authorization of the special permit.							
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Requirements	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Turnbull	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Dec. 19-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	6
Region 1	EF, EA, EM/ 2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2017)) 2018 - Mar. 31, ((2018)) 2019	Antlerless	Region 1	20 ^{HC}
Region 2	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2017)) 2018 - Mar. 31, ((2018)) 2019	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 2	10 ^{HC}

Master Hunter - Only master hunters may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt. Additional weapon restrictions may be conditioned by the hunt coordinator for each hunt. For those hunts requiring the purchase of a master hunter second tag, one elk may be killed in the unit under the authorization of the special permit.

Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Requirements	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Fairview	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	((Oct. 28, 2017– Mar. 31, 2018)) Oct. 27, 2018 - Mar. 31, 2019	Antlerless	Designated Areas in GMUs 328-368	40 ^{HC}
Region 3	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2017)) 2018 - Mar. 31, ((2018)) 2019	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 3	25 ^{HC}
Rattlesnake Hills	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2017)) 2018 - Feb. 28, ((2018)) 2019	Antlerless	Designated Areas in GMU 372	20 ^{HC}
((North Bend	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	July 1, 2017 – Mar. 31, 2018	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Elk Area 4601	15 ^{HC}))
Region 4 North	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	July 1, ((2017)) 2018 - Mar. 31, ((2018)) 2019	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Whatcom and Skagit counties	((12)) TBD ^{HC} 18 ^{HC}
Region 4 South	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	July 1, ((2017)) 2018 - Mar. 31, ((2018)) 2019	Antlerless	Designated Areas in King and Snohomish counties	10 ^{HC}
Pumice Plains	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Sept. 24-30	Antlerless	Elk Area 5063	2
Pumice Plains	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Oct. 9-15	Antlerless	Elk Area 5063	2
Pumice Plains	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Oct. 17-23	Antlerless	Elk Area 5063	5
Pumice Plains	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Nov. 3-14	Antlerless	Elk Area 5063	2
Trout Lake**	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Dec. 15-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 5062	5
((Grays River	WF, WM, WA/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 16-30	Antlerless	Elk Area 5056	5))
Trout Lake**	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Jan. 1-15, ((2018)) 2019	Antlerless	Elk Area 5062	5
Trout Lake**	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Jan. 16-30, ((2018)) 2019	Antlerless	Elk Area 5062	5
JBH*	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Nov. 1 - Dec. 31	Antlerless	Elk Area 5090	5 ^{HC}
Region 5	Any western elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2017)) 2018 - Mar. 31, ((2018)) 2019	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 5	((20)) 30 ^{HC} 20 ^{HC}
Long Beach	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	((Aug. 1– Sept. 8 and Oct. 14– Nov. 21)) July 1, 2018 - Mar. 31, 2019	Antlerless	GMU 684	5
((Long Beach	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	Dec. 16, 2017 – Mar. 31, 2018	Antlerless	GMU 684	5))
Region 6	WF, WA, WM/2nd elk tag	Master Hunter elk tag required	Master Hunter	July 1, 20172018 - Mar. 31, 20182019	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 6	((60)) 30 ^{HC}

* Muzzleloader only, scopes allowed.

** May only hunt on privately owned lands. Must use only archery or legal shotgun (10 or 12 gauge; slugs only).

Y HC Must use only archery, muzzleloader, or legal shotgun (10 or 12 gauge; slugs only).

This is a damage hunt administered by a WDFW designated hunt coordinator. Successful applicants will be contacted on an as-needed basis to help with specific sites of elk damage on designated landowner's property. Not all successful applicants will be contacted in any given year, depending on elk damage activity for that year.

Hunter Education Instructor Incentive Permits				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special elk permits will be allocated through a random drawing to those hunter education instructors who qualify. Permit hunters must use archery equipment during archery seasons, muzzleloader equipment or archery equipment during muzzleloader seasons, and any legal weapon during modern firearm seasons. Hunter orange is required during modern firearm seasons. Except for online class incentive permits and chief instructor incentive permits, qualifying hunter education instructors must be certified and have been in active status for a minimum of three consecutive years, inclusive of the year prior to the permit drawing. Permittees may purchase a second license for use with the permit hunt only. Qualified hunter education instructors may only receive one incentive permit each year. 				
Area	Dates	Restrictions	GMUs	Permits
Region 3	All general season and permit seasons established for GMUs included with the permit. Not eligible	Any ((elk)) bull	GMUs 336-346	2
Region 3		Any ((elk)) bull	GMUs 352-360	1

Region 3	for seasons and permits for auction hunts; raffle hunts; and hunts for master hunters, youth hunters, hunters with disabilities, or hunters 65 years and older, unless the hunter education instructor legally qualifies for such hunts.	Any ((elk) bull	GMUs 364-368	1
Region 5		Any elk	382, 388 and all 500 series GMUs EXCEPT GMU 522	2
Region 6		Any elk	GMUs 618, 638-648 , 654, ((660)) <u>658, 663, 672, ((673, 684)) 699</u>	1

[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. WSR 17-10-076 (Order 17-10), amended and recodified as § 220-415-060, filed 5/3/17, effective 6/3/17. 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, § 232-28-360, 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 15-10-059 (Order 15-98), § 232-28-360, filed 4/30/15, effective 5/31/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047, 77.12.240, and 77.32.070. WSR 14-10-019 (Order 14-95), § 232-28-360, filed 4/25/14, effective 5/26/14; WSR 13-11-078 (Order 13-94), § 232-28-360, filed 5/16/13, effective 6/16/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047. WSR 12-11-005 (Order 12-70), § 232-28-360, filed 5/2/12, effective 6/2/12.]

RECOMMENDED ADJUSTMENTS

The department recommends the following adjustments since the Code Reviser filed (CR-102). The adjustments are included in your notebooks.

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- Change: Under the Quality category, Modern Firearm (EF and WF), change the permit numbers for the following hunts:
 - Blue Creek, Oct. 22-Nov. 4, change the number of permits from 10 to 11;
 - Dayton, change the number of permits from 10 to 9;
 - Ten Ten, Oct. 22-Nov. 4, change the number of permits from 4 to 3;
 - Wenaha East, change the number of permits from 12 to 9;
 - Mountain View, change the number of permits from 19 to 16;
 - Couse, change the number of permits from 2 to 3;
 - Colockum, Oct. 22-Nov. 4, change the number of permits from 22 to 19;
 - Little Naches, change the number of permits from 10 to 5;
 - Goose Prairie, change the number of permits from 5 to 3;
 - Nooksack, change the permits from TBD to 12;
 - Toutle, Sept. 24-28 and Nov. 3-14, change the number of permits from 3 to 2;
 - Toutle, Nov. 3-14, change the number of permits from 46 to 45.

Rationale: These permit changes are adjustments resulting from the special permit allocation formula, or are permit levels agreed upon with stakeholders and tribes.

- Change: Under the Quality category, Green River, add WA and WM to the Weapon/Tag column.

Rationale: This change represents the results of negotiations between the department, the watershed managers, and the Muckleshoot Tribe that took place after the notebook material deadline.

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- Change: Under the Quality category, Archery (EA and WA) and Muzzleloader (EM), change the permit numbers for the following hunts:
 - Dayton, change the number of permits from 6 to 4;
 - Ten Ten, change the number of permits from 8 to 5;
 - Tucannon, change the number of permits from 12 to 6;
 - Wenaha East, change the number of permits from 5 to 4;

- Mountain View, change the number of permits from 12 to 15;
- Lick Creek, change the number of permits from 4 to 7;
- Peola, change the number of permits from 1 to 2;
- Colockum, change the number of permits from 13 to 12;
- Teanaway, change the number of permits from 4 to 3;
- Peaches Ridge, change the number of permits from 104 to 58;
- Observatory, change the number of permits from 104 to 57;
- Goose Prairie, change the number of permits from 109 to 53;
- Bethel, change the number of permits from 66 to 32;
- Rimrock, change the number of permits from 85 to 63;
- Nooksack, change the permits from TBD to 7;
- Toutle, change the number of permits from 34 to 33;
- Dayton, EM, change the number of permits from 2 to 3.

Rationale: These permit changes are adjustments resulting from the special permit allocation formula, or are permit levels agreed upon with stakeholders and tribes.

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- Change: Under the Quality category, Muzzleloader (EM and WM), change the permit numbers for the following hunts:
 - Wenaha East, change the number of permits from 2 to 3;
 - Mountain View, change the number of permits from 9 to 5;
 - Colockum, change the number of permits from 7 to 5;
 - Peaches Ridge, change the number of permits from 33 to 17;
 - Observatory, change the number of permits from 27 to 13;
 - Goose Prairie, change the number of permits from 24 to 13;
 - Bethel, change the number of permits from 20 to 9;
 - Rimrock, change the number of permits from 10 to 9;
 - Cowiche, change the number of permits from 5 to 6;
 - Nooksack, change the permits from TBD to 7;
 - Toutle, change the number of permits from 13 to 18.

Rationale: These permit changes are adjustments resulting from the special permit allocation formula, or are permit levels agreed upon with stakeholders and tribes.

- Change: Under the Bulls category, Modern Firearm (EF), change the permit numbers for the following hunts:
 - Peaches Ridge, change the number of permits from 110 to 61;
 - Observatory, change the number of permits from 71 to 35;
 - Goose Prairie, change the number of permits from 106 to 54;
 - Bethel, change the number of permits from 76 to 38.

Rationale: These permit changes are adjustments resulting from the special permit allocation formula, or are permit levels agreed upon with stakeholders and tribes.

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- Change: Under the Bulls category, Modern Firearm (EF, WF), Archery (WA), and Muzzleloader (WM); change the permit numbers for the following hunts:
 - Rimrock, EF, change the number of permits from 77 to 65;
 - Skagit River, WF, change the permits from TBD to 4;
 - Skokomish, WF, change the number of permits from 3 to 2;
 - White River, WF, change the number of permits from 35 to 37;
 - Skagit River, WA, change the permits from TBD to 8;
 - Olympic, WA, change the number of permits from 5 to 4;
 - Skokomish, WA, change the number of permits from 5 to 2;
 - Skagit River, WM, change the permits from TBD to 4.

Rationale: These permit changes are adjustments resulting from the special permit allocation formula, or are permit levels agreed upon with stakeholders and tribes.

- Change: Under Bulls, Upper Smith Creek, WA, Elk Area 5064, change the “Hunters” column from WA to Any.

Rationale: This change corrects a typographical error.

Page 19-20

- Change: Under Antlerless, EF, change the Stevens hunt to a Douglas hunt and change the permits from 10 to 5, and add a Huckleberry hunt with 10 permits good for the October general season and the last half of December as indicated below.

<u>Stevens</u>	<u>EF</u>	<u>Any</u>	<u>Oct. ((28 - Nov. 5)) 27 - Nov. 4</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMUs 108, 121</u>	<u>40 5</u>
<u>Douglas</u>						
<u>Huckleberry</u>	<u>EF</u>	<u>Any</u>	<u>Oct. 27 - Nov. 4 and Dec. 16-31</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMU 121</u>	<u>10</u>

Rationale: This change is in response to local landowners indicating elk numbers have increased in the last couple of years and are starting to be problematic.

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- Change: Under Antlerless, Mayview-Peola, Oct. 27-Nov. 4, change the number of permits from 35 to 20.

Rationale: This change is in response to local landowners indicating elk numbers have been down in this area the last couple of years.

- Change: Under the Antlerless category, Modern Firearm (EF), change the permit numbers for the following hunts:
 - Colockum, EF, change the number of permits from 250 to 100;
 - Teanaway, EF, change the number of permits from 40 to 30.

Rationale: These permit changes restore the modern firearm antlerless permits to the previous year’s level for these GMUs. This change better maintains consistency with other antlerless opportunities being proposed for this elk population.

- Change: Under the Antlerless category, remove the South Issaquah hunt.

Rationale: The newly proposed Elk Area 4542 is not moving forward in 2018 so this associated hunt is being pulled back.

- Change: Under the Antlerless category, Green River, add WA and WM to the Weapon/Tag column and change the number of permits from 4 to 8.

Rationale: This change represents the results of negotiations between the department, the watershed managers, and the Muckleshoot Tribe that took place after the notebook material deadline.

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- Change: Under the Antlerless category, remove the Colockum hunt.

Rationale: This change is in response to a change being made in the General Season WAC for early, archery season that will allow 6 days of antlerless hunting opportunity in place of these special permits.

- Change: Under Antlerless, EM, change the Stevens hunt to a Douglas hunt and change the permits from 10 to 5, and add a Huckleberry hunt with 10 permits good for the October general season.

Stevens Douglas	EM	Any	Oct. ((7-13)) 6-12	Antlerless	GMUs 108, 124	40 5
Huckleberry	EM	Any	Oct. 6-12	Antlerless	GMU 121	10

Rationale: This change is in response to local landowners indicating elk numbers have increased in the last couple of years and are starting to be problematic.

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- Change: Under the Antlerless category, Colockum, EM, change the number of permits from 100 back to 50.

Rationale: This change restores the permit level to status quo, which after further analysis by staff, was deemed adequate.

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- Change: Under the Youth category, Skagit River, change the permits from TBD to 4.

Rationale: These permit changes are adjustments resulting from the special permit allocation formula, or are permit levels agreed upon with stakeholders and tribes.

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- Change: Under the Youth category, Region 6, Modern Firearm (WF), change the boundary to read “Designated Areas in Region 6.”

Rationale: This boundary change corrects a typographical error.

- Change: Under the 65+ Senior category, remove the South Issaquah hunt.

Rationale: The newly proposed Elk Area 4542 is not moving forward in 2018 so this associated hunt is being pulled back.

- Change: Under the 65+ Senior category, Skagit River, change the permits from TBD to 4.

Rationale: These permit changes are adjustments resulting from the special permit allocation formula, or are permit levels agreed upon with stakeholders and tribes.

- Change: Under the 65+ Senior category, change the first Centralia Mine hunt from Jan. 6-7, 2019 to Jan. 5-6, 2019.

Rationale: This change corrects a typographical error.

- Change: Under the 65+ Senior category, change the second Centralia Mine hunt from Jan. 13-14, 2019 to Jan. 12-13, 2019.

Rationale: This change corrects a typographical error.

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- Change: Under the Hunters with Disabilities category, remove the South Issaquah hunt.

Rationale: The newly proposed Elk Area 4542 is not moving forward in 2018 so this associated hunt is being pulled back.

- Change: Under the Hunters with Disabilities category, Skagit River, change the permits from TBD to 4.

Rationale: These permit changes are adjustments resulting from the special permit allocation formula, or are permit levels agreed upon with stakeholders and tribes.

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- Change: Under the Master Hunter category, Region 4 North, change the permits from TBD^{HC} to 18^{HC}.

Rationale: These permit changes are adjustments resulting from the special permit allocation formula, or are permit levels agreed upon with stakeholders and tribes, or are design to help mitigate agricultural damage.

- Change: Under Master Hunter category, remove the Pumice Plains Sept. 24-30 hunt.

Rationale: This change represents a revised agreement between the department and the Forest Service. The agreement provides for additional hunts that have been added in both early and late time periods for 2018, as well as providing for an expanded total area that can be hunted, both of which will increase the hunter satisfaction.

- Change: Under the Master Hunter category, Region 5, change the permits from 30^{HC} to 20^{HC}.

Rationale: Staff recommend retaining the status quo number of permits until further discussion with Master Hunter partners.

- Change: Under the Master Hunter category, Region 6, WF, WA, WM/2nd elk tag; change the July date to 2018 and change the March date to 2019.

Rationale: This change corrects a typographical error.

Summary of Public Comments Received During the Official Comment Period and WDFW Response:

WAC 220-415-060 Elk special permits.

Supporting Comments:

There were 28 supporting comments, which included a couple of duplicates. There did not seem to be a common theme for the supportive comments. Support was expressed for both increasing and decreasing special permit opportunity depending upon the specific hunt. Although supportive, archery hunters wanted antlerless, special permit opportunity in the 300 series GMUs where general season antlerless opportunity was removed. The department heard those concerns and has subsequently proposed those special permit hunts as part of the recommended adjustments.

Opposing, Neutral, and Other Comments:

There were 51 comments, with a couple of duplicates, opposed to the proposal. Most of the opposition comments centered on what was being proposed for the 300 series GMUs. The number of antlerless special permits and the lack of archery, antlerless special permits in those GMUs was a cause for concern. As a result of those comments, the department has proposed some antlerless, archery special permits and also proposed holding the modern firearm and muzzleloader special permits at status quo. Those proposals were accomplished through the recommended adjustments process. The other opposition comments were varied and were more related to specific locations and hunts. Those concerns were about both decreasing and increasing permit levels and were specific to locations and user groups. Archers provided the bulk of the opposition comments.

There were 16 neutral comments submitted. Although commenters selected the neutral choice, all but one had a criticism of the special permit proposals. There wasn't a common theme to the criticisms and they included – the timing of the special permit process; the number of permits being offered to a specific user group; the number and types of categories being offered; and a perceived lack of fairness to specific user groups.

Direction and Rationale:

The main theme of the comments centered on the proposals in the 300 series GMUs. Those criticisms were taken seriously and adjustments were made through the recommended adjustments process. The remainder of the comments are similar to the type routinely received by the department as we go through each rule-making process. Field staff are making hunting season recommendations they feel will maximize hunting opportunity without having a negative impact on the elk populations. The department will move forward with the recommendations, which include the recommended adjustments, to the Fish and Wildlife Commission.



PROPOSED RULE MAKING

CR-102 (August 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.320) Do NOT use for expedited rule making

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: January 24, 2018
TIME: 8:20 AM

WSR 18-03-177

Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

Original Notice

Supplemental Notice to WSR _____

Continuance of WSR _____

Preproposal Statement of Inquiry was filed as WSR 17-24-106 on December 6, 2017 ; or

Expedited Rule Making--Proposed notice was filed as WSR _____; or

Proposal is exempt under RCW 34.05.310(4) or 34.05.330(1).

Proposal is exempt under RCW _____.

Title of rule and other identifying information: (describe subject)

WAC 220-400-050 Requirements for sealing of pelts and collection of biological information for river otter, cougar, lynx, and bobcat.

WAC 220-410-040 Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions-Region four.

WAC 220-410-050 Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions-Region five.

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

WAC 220-412-080 Special hunting season permits.

WAC 220-412-100 Landowner hunting permits.

WAC 220-413-030 Importation and retention of dead nonresident wildlife.

WAC 220-413-070 Hunting with aid of aircraft, boats or other vehicles.

WAC 220-413-100 Mandatory report of hunting activity.

WAC 220-413-180 Special closures and firearm restriction areas.

WAC 220-414-060 Muzzleloading firearms.

WAC 220-414-080 Hunting—Hunter orange clothing requirements.

WAC 220-415-010 Deer area descriptions.

WAC 220-415-020 2015-2017 Deer general seasons and definitions.

WAC 220-415-030 2017 Deer special permits.

WAC 220-415-040 Elk area descriptions.

WAC 220-415-050 2015-2017 Elk general seasons and definitions.

WAC 220-415-060 2017 Elk special permits.

WAC 220-415-070 2017 Moose seasons, permit quotas, and areas.

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

WAC 220-415-090 2015-2017 Fall black bear hunting seasons and regulations.

WAC 220-415-100 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 Cougar hunting seasons and regulations.

WAC 220-415-120 2017 Bighorn sheep seasons and permit quotas.

WAC 220-415-130 2015-2017 Mountain goat seasons and permit quotas.

WAC 220-416-010 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 Small game and other wildlife seasons and regulations.

WAC 220-416-060 2017-2018 Migratory waterfowl seasons and regulations.

WAC 220-440-030 Public Safety Cougar Removals.

Hearing location(s):

Date:

Time:

Location: (be specific)

Comment:

March 15-17, 2018

8:00 a.m.

Red Lion Hotel
1225 N. Wenatchee Avenue
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Date of intended adoption: April 12-14, 2018 (Note: This is **NOT** the effective date)

Submit written comments to:

Name: Wildlife Program Rules Coordinator

Address: PO Box 43141, Olympia, WA 98504-3200

Email: wildthing@dfw.wa.gov

Fax: (360) 902-2162

Other: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/regulations/seasonsetting/2018-2020/>

By (date) February 14, 2018

Assistance for persons with disabilities:

Contact Tami Lininger

Phone: (360) 902-2267

Fax:

TTY: (800) 833-6388

Email: tami.lininger@dfw.wa.gov

Other:

By (date) March 7, 2018

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

WAC 220-400-050 Requirements for sealing of pelts and collection of biological information for river otter, cougar, lynx, and bobcat.

The purpose of the proposal is to simplify the sealing requirements for bobcat and cougar pelts by aligning the date for sealing bobcat with the last date of trapper reporting and by requiring cougar pelt sealing to occur within 72 hours of harvest. The proposed changes align the dates for pelt sealing each species, regardless of method or reporting of harvest.

WAC 220-410-040 Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions-Region four.

The purpose of the proposal is to clarify boundary language as it pertains to Game Management Unit 485 Green River. The existing language can be somewhat complicated. The proposed changes take advantage of the well-marked boundaries of the watershed which are identical to the GMU boundary.

WAC 220-410-050 Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions-Region five.

The purpose of the proposal is to clarify boundary language as it pertains to Game Management Units 522 Loo Wit and 560 Lewis River. The proposed changes clarify directional movements on established roads that make up the boundaries.

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

This proposal replaces GMU 172 with GMU 169 for the Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep raffle permit holder.

WAC 220-412-080 Special hunting season permits.

This proposal revises wording in the "once in a lifetime" part of special hunting permits for moose, to reflect the proposed change in hunt categories from "any moose" to "antlered bull moose." Any "point" accumulated under the "any moose" category will be transferred to the "antlered bull moose" category.

Additionally applicants for special hunting season permits will be required to either complete hunter education prior to submitting a permit application, or be exempt from the hunter education requirement.

WAC 220-412-100 Landowner hunting permits.

This proposal modifies hunt dates on properties enrolled in WDFW's Landowner Hunting Permit (LHP) program for the 2018 hunting seasons. These sites offer special hunting opportunities to the public through permits issued by WDFW, raffles, or selection by the landowner.

WAC 220-413-030 Importation and retention of dead nonresident wildlife.

The proposal will ban the importation and retention of specific parts of dead nonresident wildlife that could contain Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) from Montana. Specific circumstances are fully set forth in WAC 220-413-030 to include the state of Montana.

WAC 220-413-070 Hunting with aid of aircraft, boats or other vehicles.

The purpose of this proposal is to add unmanned aircraft to the rule that restricts the use of aircraft, boats, or other types of vehicles to hunt, spot, or harass wildlife.

WAC 220-413-100 Mandatory report of hunting activity.

The proposal will change the reporting deadline for brant, sea duck, and snow goose to March 20 following the season for which the harvest card was issued, and adds a harvest report card requirement for the SW Canada Goose special species authorization.

WAC 220-413-180 Special closures and firearm restriction areas.

The purpose of the proposal is to modify restrictions in the Special Closures and Firearm Restriction rule by:

Adding mountain goat as an exception to the hunting restriction in GMU 522.

Clarifying and adding exceptions to the firearm restriction that exists in a portion of GMU 652.

Removing a firearm restriction area in Kitsap County that is no longer needed.

WAC 220-414-060 Muzzleloading firearms.

The purpose of the proposal is to eliminate the restriction that disallows the use of primers, designed for modern cartridges in the firearms ignition system, during muzzleloader hunting seasons. Such a rule change will allow more technologically advanced muzzleloaders to be used during muzzleloader seasons.

WAC 220-414-080 Hunting—Hunter orange clothing requirements.

This proposal adds turkey to the hunter orange rule and requires turkey hunters that are hunting during a modern deer or elk firearm season to wear florescent orange.

WAC 220-415-010 Deer area descriptions.

The purpose of the proposal is to eliminate the three Deer Areas surrounding Spokane and the Colfax Deer Area that are either ineffective or no longer needed and add the North Issaquah Deer Area in King and Snohomish Counties to help mitigate deer conflict issues. Deer Areas allow the department to focus deer hunting pressure on a smaller scale than the Game Management Unit. Deer Areas help expand hunting opportunity that would normally not be available. Deer Areas also help accommodate wildlife conflict mitigation using hunting as a tool.

WAC 220-415-020 2015-2017 Deer general seasons and definitions.

The purpose of this proposal is to retain general season deer hunting opportunity for 2018-2020. In addition, the purpose of the proposal is to balance the hunting opportunity between user groups. The proposal also increases the opportunity when deer populations allow, and reduces the opportunity when declining deer numbers warrant a change.

WAC 220-415-030 2017 Deer special permits.

The purpose of this proposal is to retain special permit deer hunting opportunity for 2018. In addition, the purpose of the proposal is to balance the hunting opportunity between user groups. The proposal also increases the opportunity when deer populations allow, and reduces the opportunity when declining deer numbers warrant a change.

WAC 220-415-040 Elk area descriptions.

The purpose of the proposal is to add new Elk Areas or adjust the boundaries of existing Elk Areas. Elk Areas allow the department to focus elk hunting pressure on a smaller scale than the Game Management Unit. Elk Areas help expand hunting opportunity that would normally not be available. Elk Areas also help accommodate wildlife conflict mitigation using hunting as a tool.

WAC 220-415-050 2015-2017 Elk general seasons and definitions.

The purpose of this proposal is to retain general season elk hunting opportunity for 2018-2020. In addition, the purpose of the proposal is to balance the hunting opportunity between user groups. The proposal also increases the opportunity when elk populations allow, and reduces the opportunity when declining elk numbers warrant a change.

WAC 220-415-060 2017 Elk special permits.

The purpose of this proposal is to retain elk special permit hunting opportunity for 2018. The purpose is also to balance the elk hunting opportunity between user groups. The proposal also increases elk hunting opportunity when elk populations allow, and reduces elk hunting opportunity when declining elk numbers warrant a change.

WAC 220-415-070 2017 Moose seasons, permit quotas, and areas.

The purpose of this proposal is to remove hunt category "any moose," replacing it with "any antlered bull moose;" require successful moose hunters to submit an incisor tooth by mail to WDFW for ageing; add "or archery" to the list of permitted weaponry for moose hunting in the Parker Lake special hunt area; and changes in permit levels.

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

The purpose of the proposed amendments is to align the rules with the appropriate season dates; require a bear identification test for hunters that will hunt within grizzly bear recovery areas as identified by the department; expand the biological samples that may be collected by the department; and include results for failure to report or comply with the conditions of the rule.

WAC 220-415-090 2015-2017 Fall black bear hunting seasons and regulations.

The purpose of the proposed amendments is to align the rules with the appropriate season dates; remove game management units that do not have resident bear populations; require a bear identification test for hunters that will hunt within grizzly bear recovery areas as identified by the department; expand the biological samples that may be collected by the department; and include results for failure to report or comply with the conditions of the rule.

WAC 220-415-100 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 Cougar hunting seasons and regulations.

The purpose of the proposed amendments is to align the rules with the appropriate season dates; align the cougar season with the license year and thereby minimize potential confusion by hunters; and align the late cougar season start date with the closing date of the general deer and elk seasons for modern firearm and muzzleloader with the exception of a few Master Hunter antlerless elk seasons that continue into January.

WAC 220-415-120 2017 Bighorn sheep seasons and permit quotas.

The purpose of the proposal is to initiate modest ewe (bighorn sheep female) harvests in two separate areas of the Lincoln Cliffs bighorn sheep populations. Additionally, increase harvest of both rams and ewes in the Chelan Butte population.

WAC 220-415-130 2015-2017 Mountain goat seasons and permit quotas.

The purpose of the proposal is to require holders of mountain goat hunting permits to pass an online test of their ability to distinguish mountain goats by gender (i.e., billy vs. nanny) before they would be allowed to purchase their mountain goat hunting license; establish new mountain goat hunting seasons in Mt. Margaret back-country, and Mt. St. Helens South (one permit in each area); and split the existing Goat Rocks mountain goat hunt area into two contiguous areas.

WAC 220-416-010 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 Small game and other wildlife seasons and regulations.

The purpose of the proposal is to make date adjustments related to calendar changes; extend the fall turkey season in GMUs 101-154 and 162-186; remove the draw permits from Klickitat County and opens GMUs within that county to general season hunting; and prohibit night hunting in GMUs that fall within the lynx management zones as identified by the department.

WAC 220-416-060 2017-2018 Migratory waterfowl seasons and regulations.

The purpose of the proposal is to specify legal season dates and bag limits for the 2018-2019 season.

WAC 220-440-030 Public Safety Cougar Removals.

This proposal changes the current Public Safety Cougar Removal from a hunting opportunity authorizing the use of hounds, when certain conditions are met, to a permit program to provide training opportunities for owners of "working dogs" who are often summoned by WDFW Law Enforcement to assist in resolving wildlife conflict issues. If approved, this new program will allow working dogs and their owners the non-lethal pursuit of cougars under the conditions of a training permit.

Reasons supporting proposal:

WAC 220-400-050 Requirements for sealing of pelts and collection of biological information for river otter, cougar, lynx, and bobcat.

The proposed amendments will make the sealing requirements consistent for each species and thereby easily understood by user groups. The proposed changes will also make managing cougar hunt unit closures more efficient and timely.

WAC 220-410-040 Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions-Region four.

The proposed amendments will make the boundaries more discernable for hunters. The proposed changes will also make enforcement of hunting season rules and trespass rules more straightforward.

WAC 220-410-050 Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions-Region five.

The proposed amendments will make the boundaries more discernable for hunters. The proposed changes will also make enforcement of hunting season rules more straightforward.

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

The proposed amendments will redirect hunters from a small herd that has few mature rams to a herd that can more easily support removal of a large-sized ram.

WAC 220-412-080 Special hunting season permits.

The proposed amendments will maintain consistency with proposed changes in the WAC 220-415-070 and requirements elsewhere in WAC that applicants for special permits possess the necessary qualifications to hunt under that permit should they be drawn.

WAC 220-412-100 Landowner hunting permits.

Several years ago, the Fish and Wildlife Commission developed a policy to expand the private lands available to the general public for hunting. One of the programs that was authorized is the Landowner Hunting Permit Program. This program encourages landowners to provide opportunity to the general hunter in exchange for customized hunting seasons and the ability to generate funding to offset the cost of providing public access.

WAC 220-413-030 Importation and retention of dead nonresident wildlife.

Because Montana has identified chronic wasting disease in wild free ranging deer, the department seeks to mitigate the risk to public health and safety by adding the state of Montana to WAC 220-413-030.

WAC 220-413-070 Hunting with aid of aircraft, boats or other vehicles.

Small unmanned aircraft have become a part of modern culture. Unmanned aircraft use is pervasive. In the same spirit of hunting ethics that inspired the Fish and Wildlife Commission to promulgate a rule that restricts the use of vehicles, aircraft, or boats to hunt or harass wildlife, the department feels that unmanned aircraft should be specifically called out and added to this rule.

WAC 220-413-100 Mandatory report of hunting activity.

Two proposed amendments of WAC 220-416-060 require changing the February 15 deadline date. The proposal to move 12-days of the snow goose hunting season in Goose Management Area 1 (Skagit and Snohomish Counties) would have the goose season ending at the end of February (February 27, 2019). Additionally, the requirement of a mandatory harvest report for goose hunting in Goose Management Area 2-Coast and Inland (Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Pacific, and Wahkiakum Counties) has to accommodate goose hunting seasons that can extend to March 10 in some years. To minimize confusion, all waterfowl-related reporting deadlines would be changed to March 20.

WAC 220-413-180 Special closures and firearm restriction areas.

Reasons for supporting the rule include expanding mountain goat hunting opportunity; accommodating both firearm restriction needs and wildlife conflict mitigation; and adding flexibility to hunting seasons when restrictions are no longer necessary.

WAC 220-414-060 Muzzleloading firearms.

The Fish and Wildlife Commission requested that the department reach out to the hunting public and get their opinion on the use of modern cartridge primers on muzzleloading firearms during muzzleloader season. Deer and elk hunters were polled, and the majority of the respondents were in favor of allowing the more modern primers.

WAC 220-414-080 Hunting—Hunter orange clothing requirements.

This proposal is meant to increase safety. Turkey seasons in the past did not overlap with modern deer or elk firearm seasons. New proposals to control growing turkey populations make it necessary to overlap those seasons. This recommended rule adjustment provides consistency. All other species hunters are already required to wear hunter orange during modern deer or elk firearm season. This proposal adds turkey hunters to that list.

WAC 220-415-010 Deer area descriptions.

The proposed amendments will allow the department to use hunting as a management tool and expands deer hunting opportunity.

WAC 220-415-020 2015-2017 Deer general seasons and definitions.

This proposal provides for recreational deer hunting opportunity and protects deer from overharvest. The proposal would maintain sustainable general deer hunting season opportunities for 2018-2020. In addition, the proposal allows for the use of hunting as a management tool, helps address deer agricultural damage problems, and provides for deer population control when needed.

WAC 220-415-030 2017 Deer special permits.

This proposal provides for recreational deer hunting opportunity and protects deer from overharvest. The proposal would also maintain sustainable deer special permit hunting season opportunities for 2018. The proposal helps address deer agricultural damage problems and provides for deer population control when needed.

WAC 220-415-040 Elk area descriptions.

The proposed amendments allow the department to use hunting as a management tool and expands elk hunting opportunity.

WAC 220-415-050 2015-2017 Elk general seasons and definitions.

The proposal provides for recreational elk hunting opportunity and protects elk from overharvest. The proposal would maintain sustainable general elk hunting season opportunities for 2018-2020. The proposal helps address elk agricultural damage problems and provides for elk population control when needed.

WAC 220-415-060 2017 Elk special permits.

This proposal provides for recreational elk hunting opportunity and protects elk from overharvest. The proposal would maintain sustainable elk special permit hunting opportunity for 2018. The proposal helps address elk agricultural damage problems and provides for elk population control when needed.

WAC 220-415-070 2017 Moose seasons, permit quotas, and areas.

We expect the moose population in Northeastern Washington to stabilize or decline over the next few years. Being able to predict whether males (bulls) or females (cows) will be taken in any given hunt is important to managers. Almost all holders of "any moose" permits attempt to take bulls. Accumulated points held in the "any moose" category would be transferred to the new "any antlered bull moose" category; the definition of "antlered bull moose" would require the presence of "visible antlers." Public support for this proposal was high.

Models currently under development by WDFW to understand moose population trajectory require knowing the age of harvested moose. WDFW currently requests successful hunters to extract a tooth and send it to WDFW in a supplied envelope. However, compliance with the currently voluntary request is variable, and response is likely biased. Incorporating this request in rule should increase compliance, increasing the accuracy and precision of our monitoring models.

In response to a hunter's question from 2017, we realized that, unlike other 'muzzleloader hunts' offered for other species, we had not indicated that 'archery' – considered a lesser-capable weapon – could also be used in the muzzleloader season. WDFW received approval from The United States Air Force on this change.

Recent work has strongly suggested that moose have begun declining in abundance in most areas. We also received considerable support from the public for reducing "Youth only" hunts. Most of these specific changes reduce "antlerless moose" permits, particularly in WDFW District 2, where harvest rates have been relatively high. In response to suggestions from Enforcement, we would eliminate the Master Hunter moose permits, which have only been used a handful of times in the past decade, due to the difficulty of finding an appropriate situation. This would reduce expectation among Master Hunters for an opportunity, which, in reality, has rarely been realized.

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

The proposed amendments will announce the appropriate season dates, assist in lessening the likelihood of incidental take of grizzly bear, bring awareness to hunters, create stewardship of resources managed by other government agencies, and provide the department with the ability to collect biological samples which further assist managing bear populations.

WAC 220-415-090 2015-2017 Fall black bear hunting seasons and regulations.

The proposed amendments will announce the appropriate season dates, assist hunters by providing opportunities where they exist, assist in lessening the likelihood of incidental take of grizzly bear, bring awareness to hunters, create stewardship of resources managed by other government agencies, and provide the department with the ability to collect biological samples which further assist managing bear populations.

WAC 220-415-100 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 Cougar hunting seasons and regulations.

The proposed amendments will announce the appropriate season dates; assist in minimizing disturbance to ungulates that are already stressed from winter and birthing; minimize confusion and burden on hunters to buy two licenses; allow hunters who are deer and elk hunting to take a cougar through December 15 without having to call the toll free line to determine if the area is open or not; provide the department an earlier timeframe to manage the harvest guidelines; and attempt to minimize potential of exceeding the harvest guidelines.

WAC 220-415-120 2017 Bighorn sheep seasons and permit quotas.

Where bighorn sheep graze frequently on private, agricultural lands, public tolerance for them can be compromised. Because we have no current place to translocate these sheep, a ewe-only hunt is recommended.

The Chelan Butte bighorn sheep population has also grown, providing opportunity for hunters interested in taking rams (we propose a split season, early and late). Because this herd is situated close to small farms and rural residences, the risk of contact between bighorns and domestic sheep and goats is high. One action the department can take to manage this risk is to halt the slow down or halt the growth of the herd through increased provision of ewe permits.

WAC 220-415-130 2015-2017 Mountain goat seasons and permit quotas.

Mountain goat populations are sensitive to harvest of females, but identification of gender in the field is difficult. The department currently provides training videos and pamphlets to successful applicants for mountain goat hunting permits, but has no way of ensuring that these materials are used. The department proposes adding an online gender identification test that permit holders would be required to pass before being allowed to purchase a mountain goat hunting license. A passing score would be 80%, and permit holders could re-take the test as often as needed until they achieved a passing score.

We now have reliable surveys indicating that goats inhabiting the Mt. St. Helens and Mt. Margaret areas are sufficiently abundant to sustain a conservative hunt. Thus, new hunts are proposed in this area.

The conflict reduction hunt in the East Olympic Mountains remains in the proposed WAC revision as of 12/20/2017, but we hope to remove it prior to the March Commission meeting if we have more certainty that the multi-agency translocation project will commence in 2018. If agencies are moving goats from the Olympic Mountains, it would be inappropriate to provide hunters with the expectation that there would be goats for hunters to pursue in those same places.

The department's data suggests that mountain goat hunting in the Goat Rocks area has been sustainable, but almost all mountain goats taken have come from the more accessible portions of the area. Splitting the existing hunt area in two (and allocating permits approximately proportionally) would distribute harvest pressure more evenly among goats in the greater population.

WAC 220-416-010 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 Small game and other wildlife seasons and regulations.

Annual shifts in the calendar require adjustment.

Turkey populations in those GMUs are high, causing crop and property damage. The proposed change will lengthen the fall season to facilitate additional turkey harvest and help mitigate those problems.

The turkey population in Klickitat County is doing well enough to support a general season hunting opportunity. In the past hunting in those GMUs were by draw permit only. The recommended change will do away with the draw permits and opens those GMUs to general season hunters.

A bobcat hunter mistakenly harvested a collared lynx at night last year. It is very difficult to differentiate the two species with artificial light or night vision equipment. The recommended rule change will help conserve the few lynx that exist in the lynx management zones by making it illegal to night hunt in the GMUs that fall within those zones.

WAC 220-416-060 2017-2018 Migratory waterfowl seasons and regulations.

Waterfowl seasons and regulations are developed based on cooperative management programs among states of the Pacific Flyway Council and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, considering population status and other biological parameters. The rule establishes waterfowl seasons and regulations to provide recreational opportunity, control waterfowl damage, and conserve the waterfowl resources in Washington.

WAC 220-440-030 Public Safety Cougar Removals.

WDFW is often called upon to address wildlife conflict issues involving cougar and other species of wildlife. The issues include both public safety and the protection of property. This commonly requires assistance from local citizens who own working dogs (commonly known as hounds), that are especially capable of, and trained for, the detection, tracking, and treeing cougar. Due to broad hunting restrictions, working dogs are limited in access to training opportunities. Working dogs must be kept in peak physical condition in order to be effective. Young dogs require training in order to be of use. The current Public Safety Cougar Removal program was implemented as a pilot and has not been effective in addressing its original intent. Both the Law Enforcement and the Wildlife Programs support this concept. Representatives from The Humane Society of the United States and Conservation Northwest have been involved in creating this proposal and are in support.

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.013, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, 77.12.020, 77.12.040, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, 77.12.210, 77.12.240, 77.12.320, 77.12.570, 77.12.800, 77.15.245, 77.32.007, 77.32.050, 77.32.070, 77.32.090, 77.32.370, and 77.32.530.

Statute being implemented: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.013, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, 77.12.020, 77.12.040, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, 77.12.210, 77.12.240, 77.12.320, 77.12.570, 77.12.800, 77.15.245, 77.32.007, 77.32.050, 77.32.070, 77.32.090, 77.32.370, 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:

Agency comments or recommendations, if any, as to statutory language, implementation, enforcement, and fiscal matters: None.

Name of proponent: (person or organization) WDFW Private
 Public
 Governmental

Name of agency personnel responsible for:

	Name	Office Location	Phone
Drafting:	Eric Gardner	600 Capitol Way North Olympia, WA 98501	(360) 902-2515
Implementation:	Eric Gardner	600 Capitol Way North Olympia, WA 98501	(360) 902-2515
Enforcement:	Chief Steve Bear	600 Capitol Way North Olympia, WA 98501	(360) 902-2373

Is a school district fiscal impact statement required under RCW 28A.305.135? Yes No

If yes, insert statement here:

The public may obtain a copy of the school district fiscal impact statement by contacting:

- Name:
Address:
Phone:
Fax:

TTY:
Email:
Other:

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:

TTY:

Email:

Other:

No: Please explain: The rule proposal does not require a cost-benefit analysis and does not affect hydraulics.

Regulatory Fairness Act Cost Considerations for a Small Business Economic Impact Statement:

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, **may be exempt** from requirements of the Regulatory Fairness Act (see chapter 19.85 RCW). Please check the box for any applicable exemption(s):

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under RCW 19.85.061 because this rule making is being adopted solely to conform and/or comply with federal statute or regulations. Please cite the specific federal statute or regulation this rule is being adopted to conform or comply with, and describe the consequences to the state if the rule is not adopted.

Citation and description:

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt because the agency has completed the pilot rule process defined by RCW 34.05.313 before filing the notice of this proposed rule.

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under the provisions of RCW 15.65.570(2) because it was adopted by a referendum.

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under RCW 19.85.025(3). Check all that apply:

RCW 34.05.310 (4)(b)
(Internal government operations)

RCW 34.05.310 (4)(e)
(Dictated by statute)

RCW 34.05.310 (4)(c)
(Incorporation by reference)

RCW 34.05.310 (4)(f)
(Set or adjust fees)

RCW 34.05.310 (4)(d)
(Correct or clarify language)

RCW 34.05.310 (4)(g)
((i) Relating to agency hearings; or (ii) process requirements for applying to an agency for a license or permit)

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under RCW 19.85.025 (4).

Explanation of exemptions, if necessary: Proposed rule does not affect small businesses.

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONLY IF NO EXEMPTION APPLIES

If the proposed rule is **not exempt**, does it impose more-than-minor costs (as defined by RCW 19.85.020(2)) on businesses?

No Briefly summarize the agency's analysis showing how costs were calculated. _____

Yes Calculations show the rule proposal likely imposes more-than-minor cost to businesses, and a small business economic impact statement is required. Insert statement here:

The public may obtain a copy of the small business economic impact statement or the detailed cost calculations by contacting:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

TTY:

Email:

Other:

Date: January 24, 2018

Name: Scott Bird

Title: Rules Coordinator

Signature:

