

WAC 220-415-130

Mountain Goat Seasons: 2019

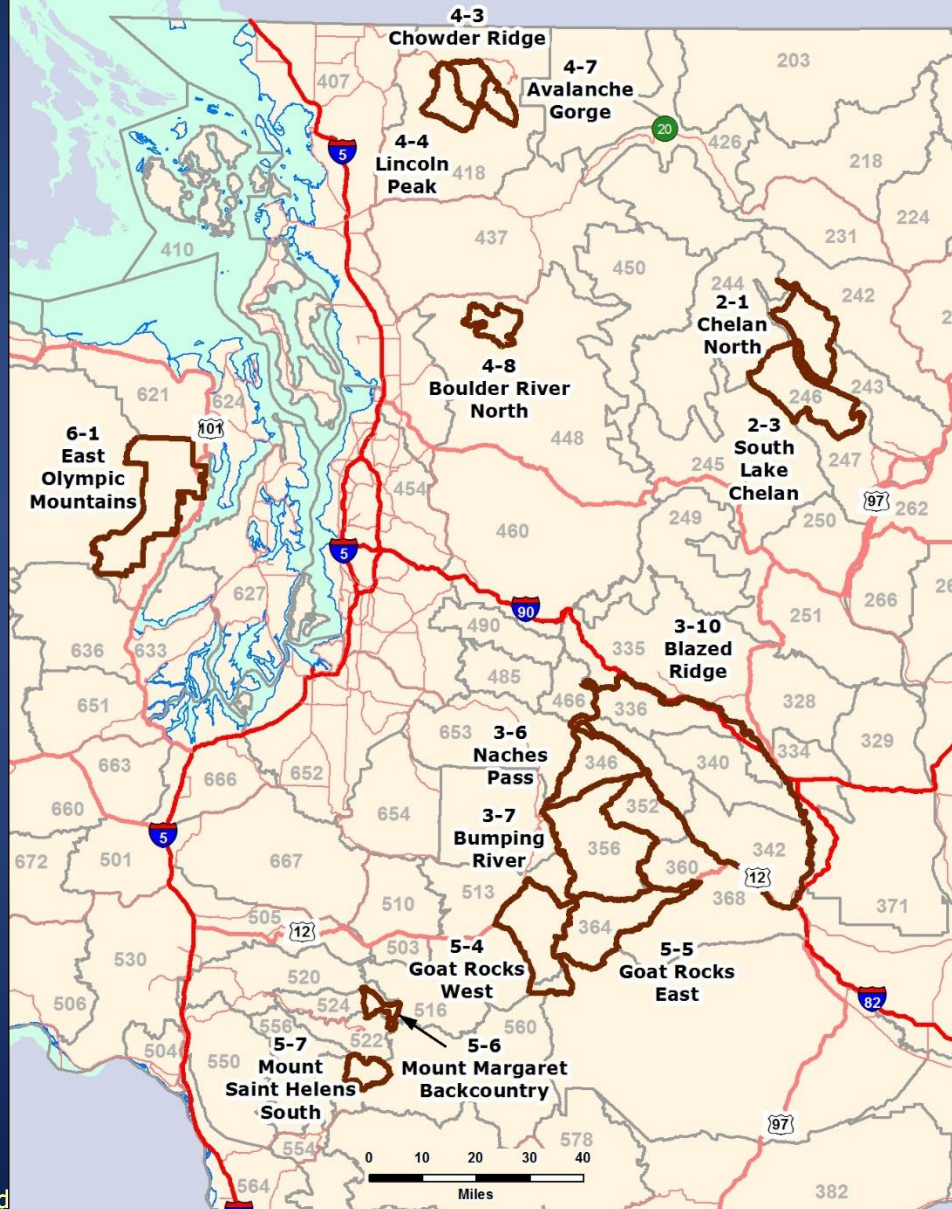


Washington Department of
FISH and WILDLIFE

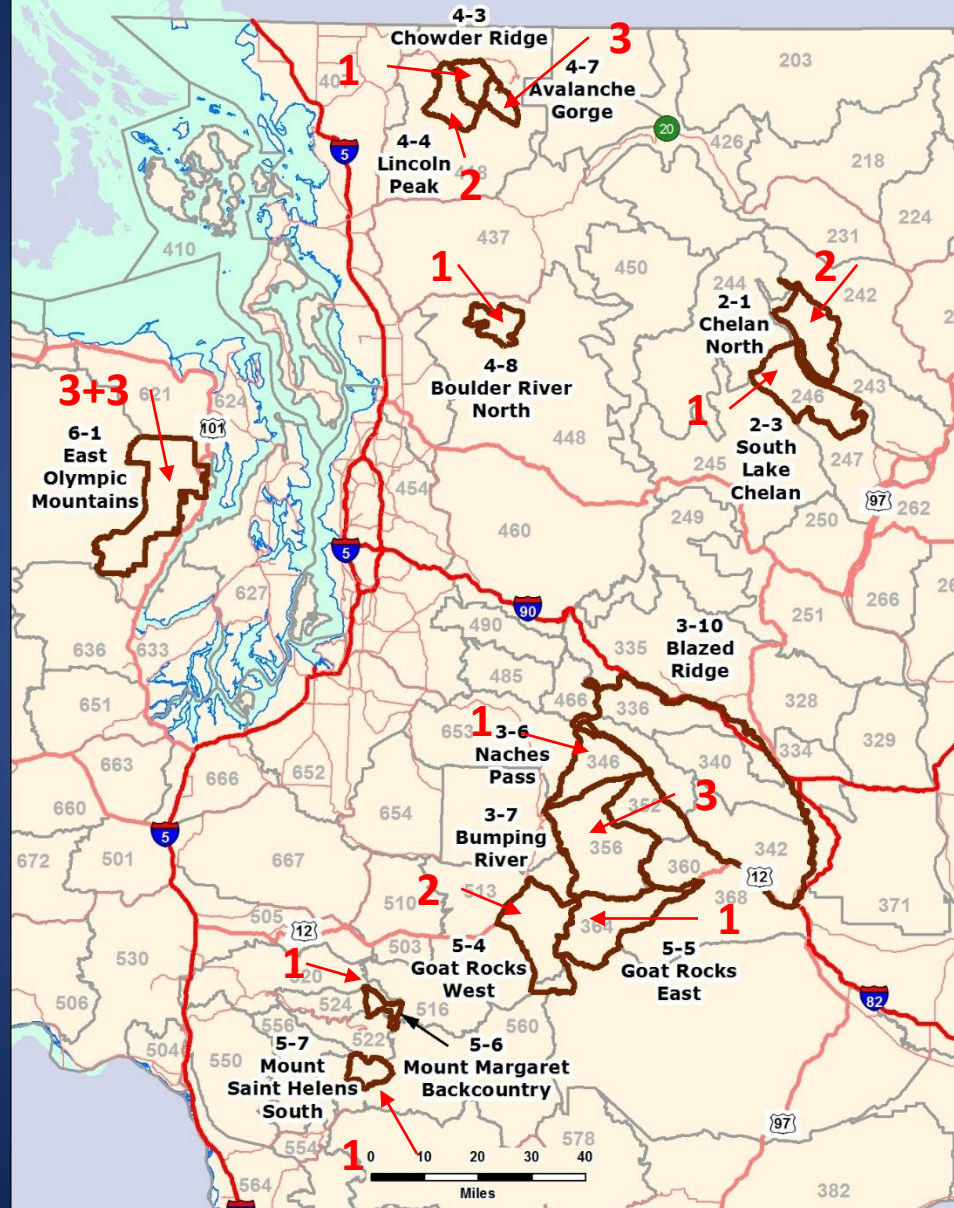
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Bighorn Sheep, Moose, Mountain Goat, and Pronghorn
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2018-2019 Mountain Goat Hunt Areas



2018-2019 Mountain Goat Hunt Areas

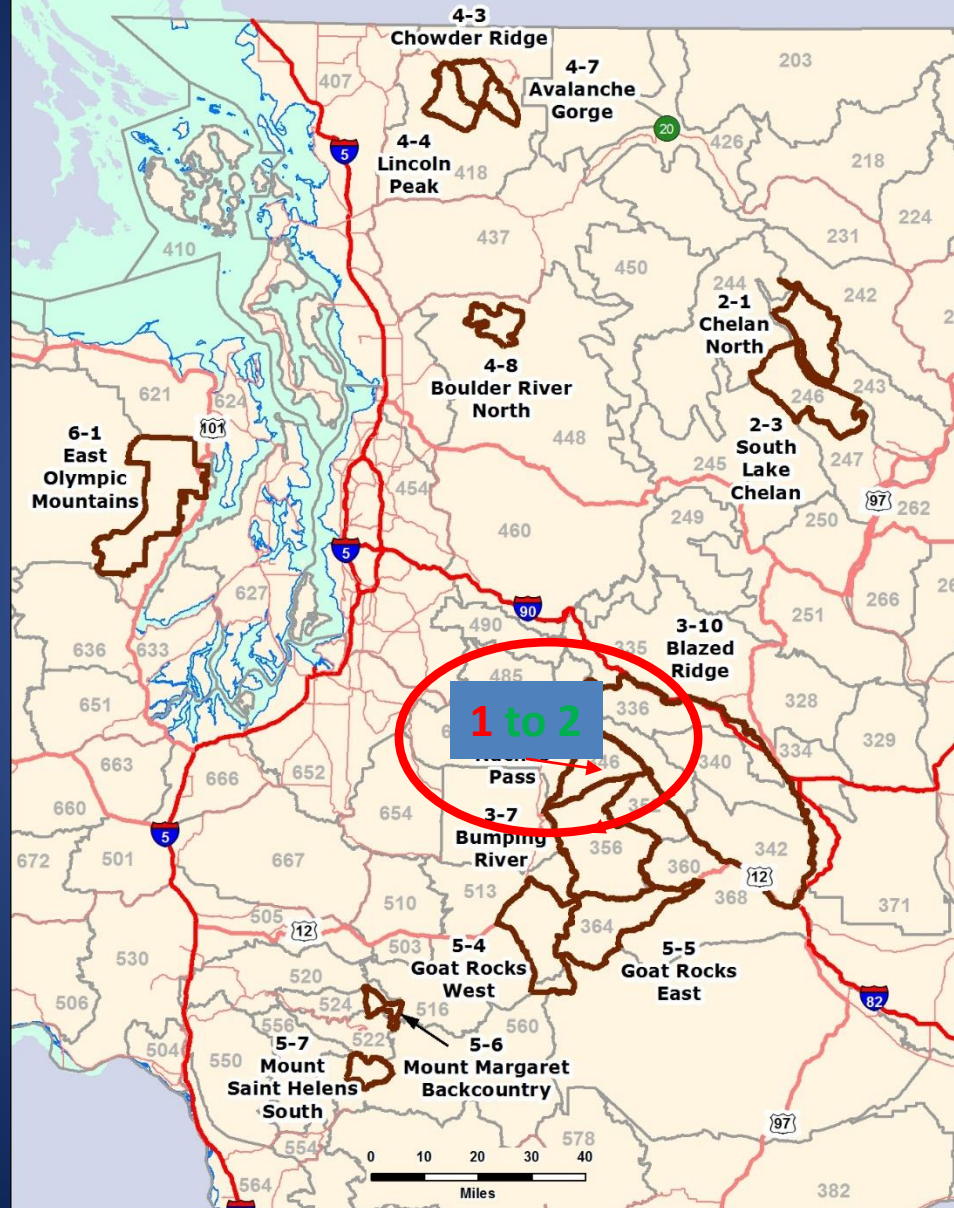


Permits available last year (2018 season)

Mountain Goat Populations are Still Sensitive to Harvest

- Minimize harvest of females (“nannies”)
- Provide recreational opportunity where consistent with long-term sustainability

2018-2019 Mountain Goat Hunt Areas



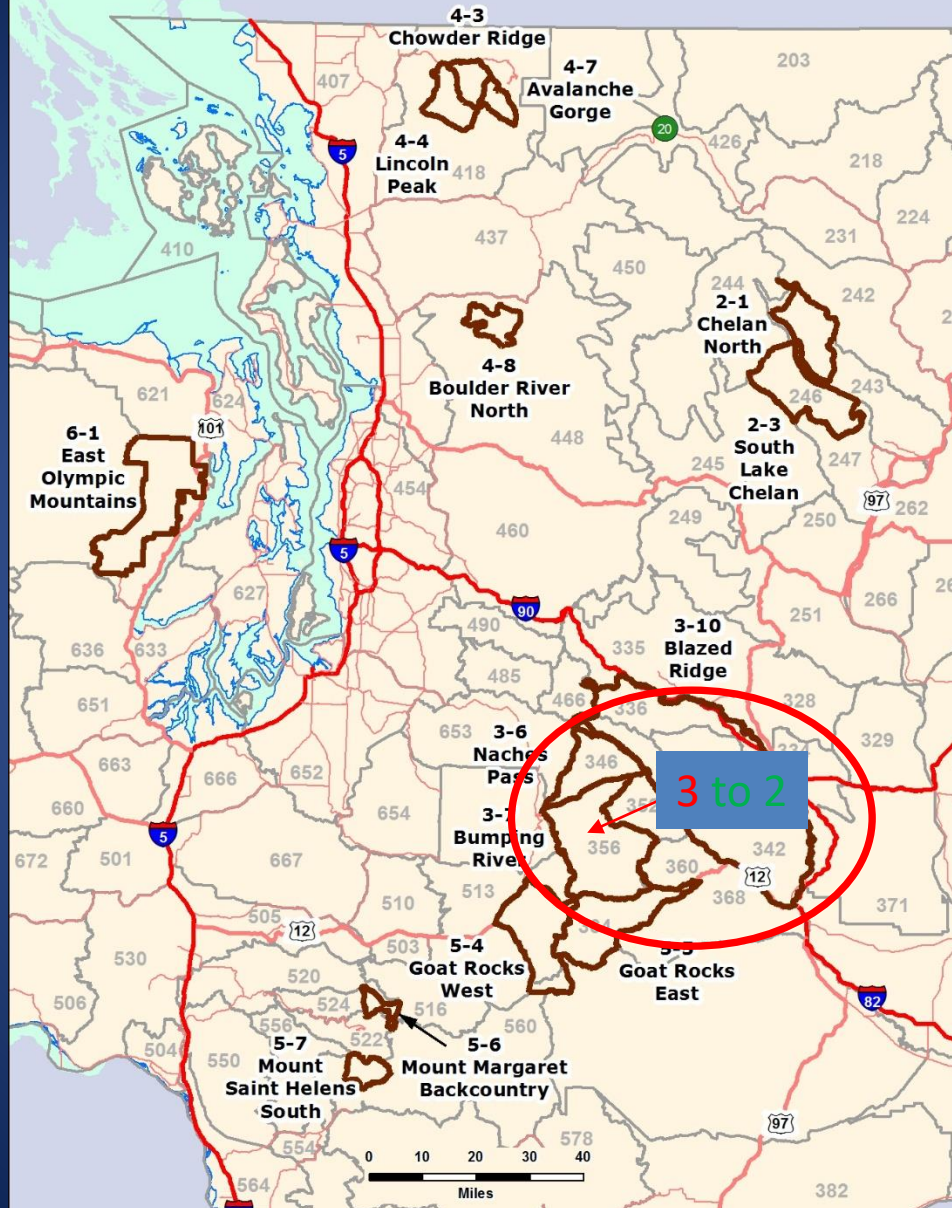
Proposed changes for 2019

1. Naches Pass

This unit typically supports **3/year**. In 2018, we had 1 only, because 3 hunters were allowed by rule to use their permits from 2017, when the access to the entire area was legally proscribed.

Although total harvest in past 3 years well under 4% of the reference population, 5 of the harvested animals were nannies (> target 1.2% of reference population). Thus, we proposed reducing in 2019 from 3 to 2.

2018-2019 Mountain Goat Hunt Areas

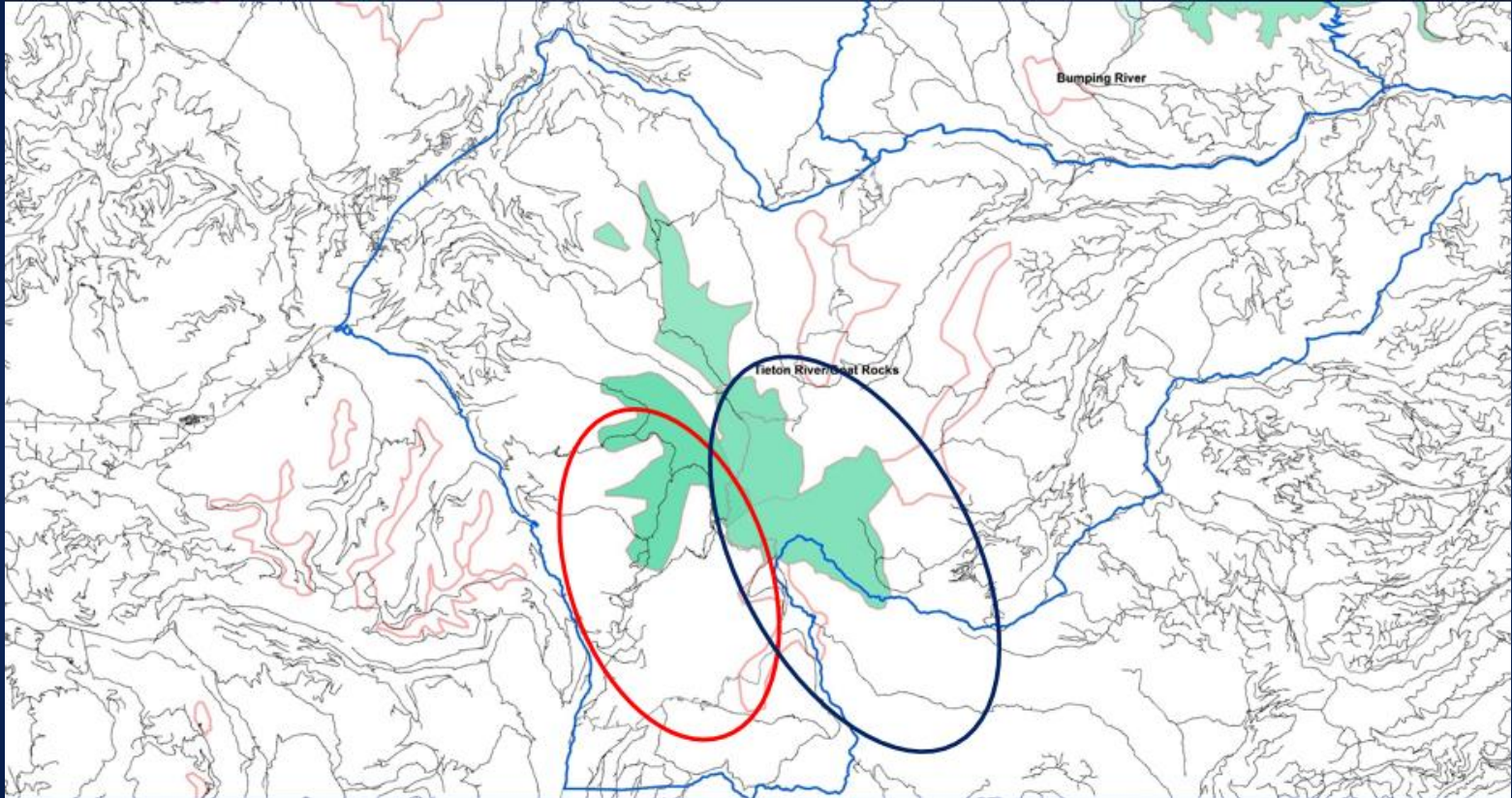


Proposed changes for 2019

2. Bumping River

Estimated population from 2018 survey ~ 98 animals, slightly below our standard of 100. No recommendation to close unit entirely, but slight reduction in permits for a few years for to err on safe side.

In 2018, to fine tune geographic distribution of harvest, we split “Goat Rocks”
hunt unit into two...



Miriam fire 2018



Emergency rule 18-242 (9/12/18)

WAC 220-415-13000B Mountain goat seasons and permit quotas.

Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-415-130, effective immediately, until further notice, the following rules apply:

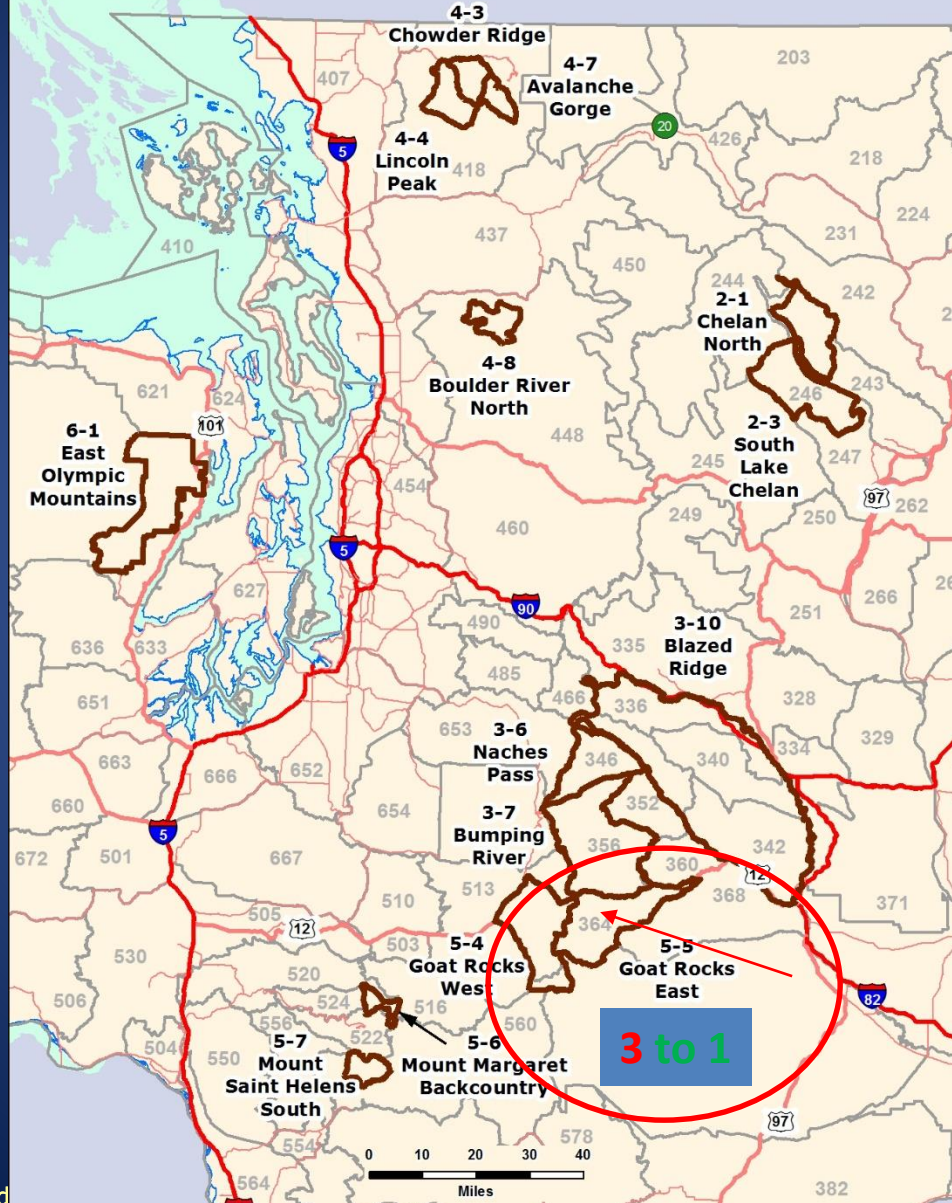
(1) Due to the recent forest fires, the U.S Forest Service has closed access to most of the Goat Rocks East (5-5) mountain goat hunt. This closure will likely remain in effect for most of the 2018 hunting season.

(2) This rule allows current holders of mountain goat hunting permits for the Goat Rocks East mountain goat hunting area (5-5) the option to return their permits to the department, which will then re-issue these permits to the same holders for the 2019 mountain goat hunting season.

Two of the three permit holders took advantage of this provision...



2018-2019 Mountain Goat Hunt Areas

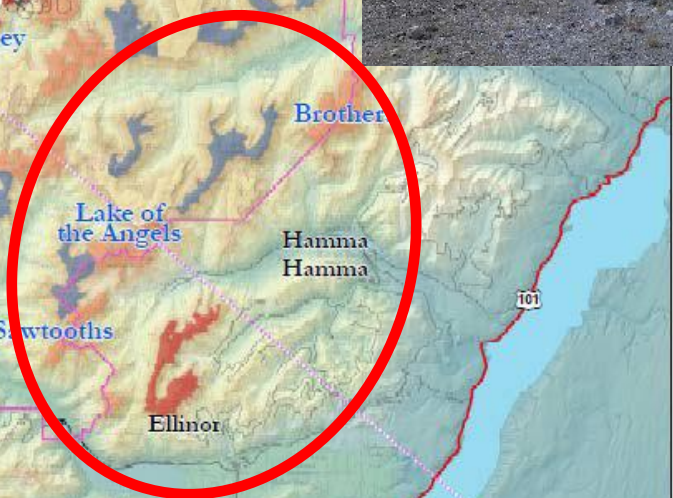
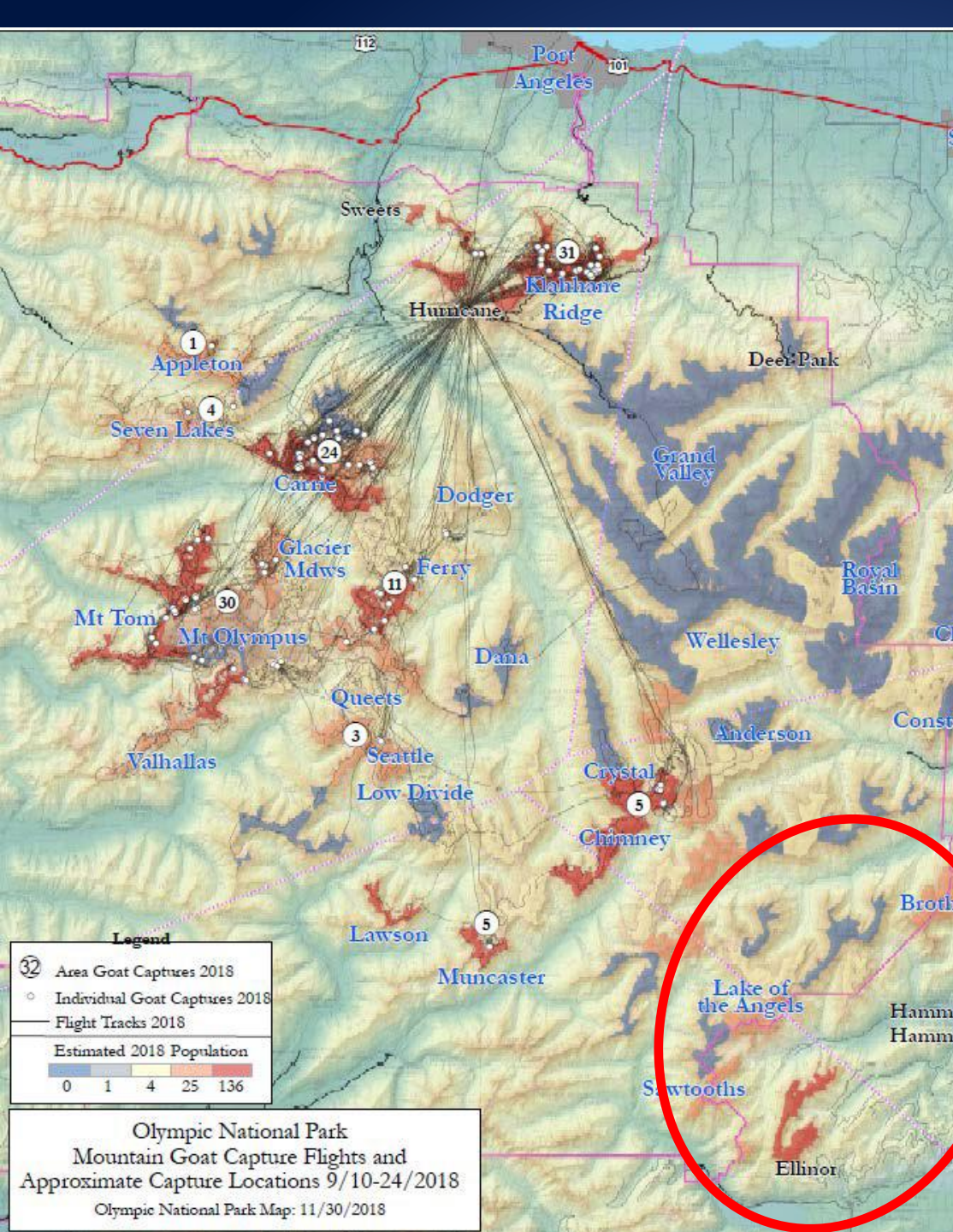


Proposed changes for 2019

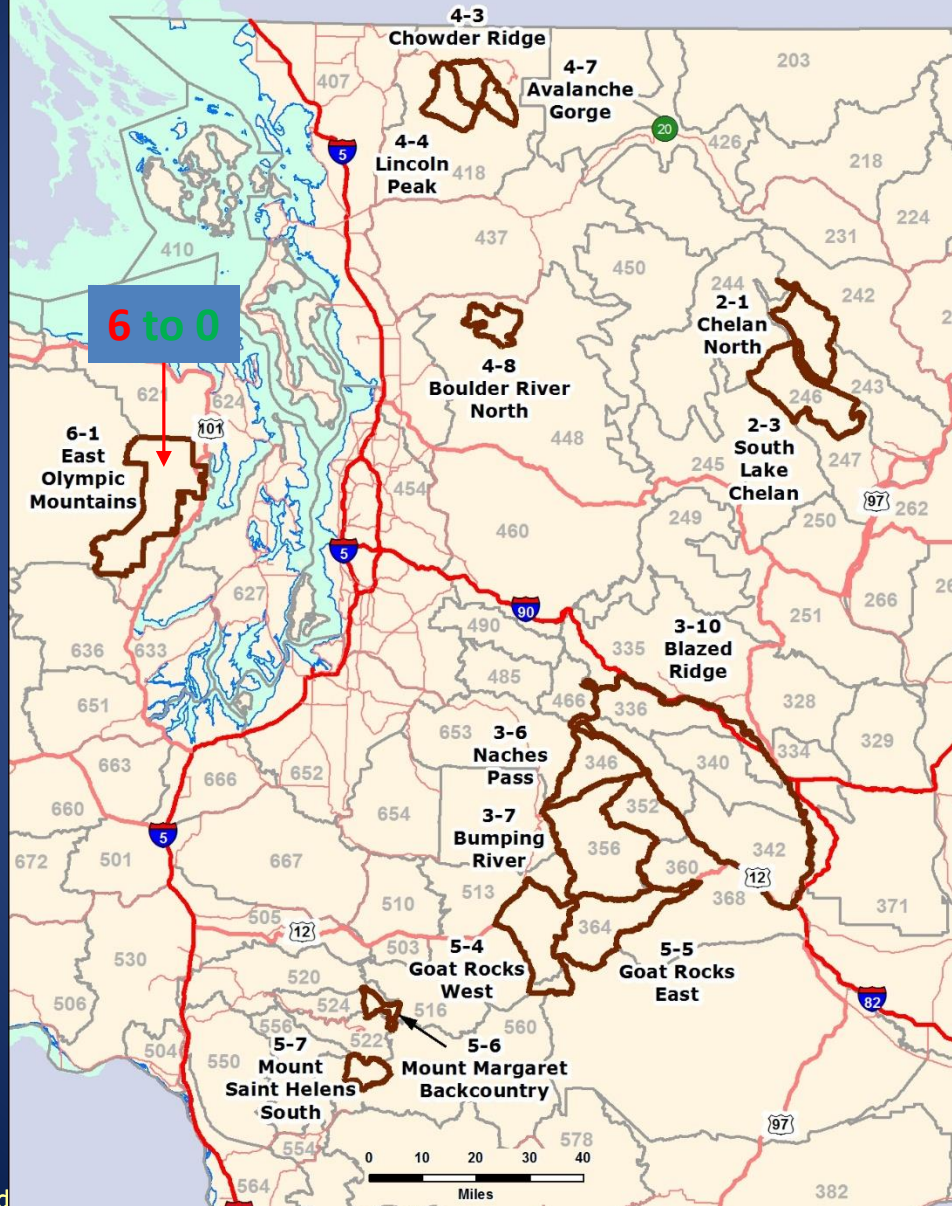
3. Goat Rocks East

Thus, to maintain high hunt quality and ensure conservative off-take, reduce new permits to 1 in 2019

3 to 1



2018-2019 Mountain Goat Hunt Areas



Proposed changes for 2019

4. Suspension of conflict reduction hunt

Avoids having hunters expect to harvest goats that WDFW may have just spirited away...

Public Comments

Supporting Comments

Opposing, Neutral, and Other Comments

- Three favored increasing goat hunting opportunity generally
- One favored retaining the Olympic Mtns conflict reduction hunt
- Two favored changing any sex permits (albeit with strong male focus) to billy-only permits

Questions?

