

Bighorn Sheep Seasons and Auctions, Raffle, and Special Permits

WAC 220-412-070 and WAC 220-415-120

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Summary Sheet

Meeting dates: April 5-6, 2019

Agenda item: Bighorn Sheep Seasons and Auctions, Raffle, and Special Permits

Presenter(s): Dr. Richard B. Harris, Bighorn sheep, moose, mountain goat, and pronghorn antelope section manager, Game Division, Wildlife Program

Background summary:

Staff briefed the Commission on proposed amendments to WAC 220-412-070 Big game and wild turkey auction, raffle, and special incentive permits and WAC 220-415-120 Bighorn sheep seasons and permit quotas. With one exception, changes to permit quotas are minor and result from district biologists' best assessment of the status and trend of bighorn sheep populations. The Vulcan Mountain bighorn population in Ferry County, albeit small, appears to be growing and now has a good number of mature rams. Along with co-managers Confederated Colville Tribes, WDFW recommends resuming limited hunting of rams. The population of bighorn sheep in the Yakima Canyon ("Umtanum" and "Selah" hunt units) continues to decline from a series of lamb recruitment failures subsequent to the pneumonia die-off of 2009-10. The department plans to capture, test, and remove animals likely to be the source of the continued pathogen spread. Success in this effort is much more likely if the herd is first reduced (and that reduction may, in part, help remove the pathogen spreaders). Thus, a substantial, temporary increase in permits (primarily for ewes) is proposed to reduce the population to a size where spreaders can be found and selectively removed.

Staff recommendation: Revise permit numbers in the Selah Butte, Umtanum, Cleman, Quilomene, and Vulcan Mountain bighorn sheep herds.

Policy issue(s) and expected outcome:

- Sustainable bighorn sheep populations
 - Recover bighorns in the Yakima Canyon where very few lambs have been recruited since 2012, by removing enough animals to allow an effective program of identifying and removing pathogen spreaders
 - Providing hunter opportunity
-

Fiscal impacts of agency implementation:

No fiscal impacts beyond the status quo.

Public involvement process used and what you learned:

The department notified 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 1-2, 2019 Commission meeting in Spokane.

Action requested and/or proposed next steps:

Adopt WACs 220-412-070 and 220-415-120.

Draft motion language:

I move to adopt WACs 220-412-070 and 220-415-120 as presented.

Post decision communications plan:

WDFW Website

News Release

Hunting Regulations Pamphlet

Form revised 2-15-18

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-11-061, filed 5/11/18, effective 6/11/18)

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

(1) BLACK-TAILED DEER AUCTION PERMIT

(a) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(b) Hunt Area: Those GMUs open to black-tailed deer hunting EXCEPT GMU 485 and those GMUs closed to black-tailed deer hunting by the fish and wildlife commission.

(c) Weapon type: Any legal weapon.

(d) Bag limit: One additional any buck black-tailed deer.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(2) MULE DEER AUCTION PERMIT

(a) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(b) Hunt Area: Those GMUs open to mule deer hunting EXCEPT those GMUs closed to mule deer hunting by the fish and wildlife commission.

(c) Weapon type: Any legal weapon.

(d) Bag limit: One additional any buck mule deer.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(3) WHITE-TAILED DEER AUCTION PERMIT

(a) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(b) Hunt Area: Those GMUs open to white-tailed deer hunting EXCEPT those GMUs closed to white-tailed deer hunting by the fish and wildlife commission.

(c) Weapon type: Any legal weapon.

(d) Bag limit: One additional any buck white-tailed deer.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(4) THREE-DEER AUCTION PERMIT

(a) Bag limit: One additional any buck black-tailed deer, one additional any buck mule deer, and one additional any buck white-tailed deer; total harvest not to exceed three animals.

(b) Hunt Area: For black-tailed deer, those GMUs open to black-tailed deer hunting EXCEPT GMU 485 and those GMUs closed to deer hunting by the fish and wildlife commission. For mule deer, those GMUs open to mule deer hunting EXCEPT those GMUs closed to mule deer hunting by the fish and wildlife commission. For white-tailed deer, those GMUs open to white-tailed deer hunting EXCEPT those GMUs closed to white-tailed deer hunting by the fish and wildlife commission.

(c) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(d) Weapon: Any legal weapon.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(5) WESTSIDE ELK AUCTION PERMIT

(a) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(b) Hunt Area: Western Washington EXCEPT GMU 485, those GMUs closed to elk hunting, and those GMUs not opened to bull elk hunting by the fish and wildlife commission.

(c) Weapon type: Any legal weapon.

(d) Bag limit: One additional any bull elk.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(6) EASTSIDE ELK AUCTION PERMIT

(a) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(b) Hunt Area: Eastern Washington EXCEPT GMUs 157(~~(7-3347)~~) and those GMUs closed to elk hunting, and those GMUs not opened to bull elk hunting by the fish and wildlife commission.

(c) Weapon type: Any legal weapon.

(d) Bag limit: One additional any bull elk.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(7) CALIFORNIA BIGHORN SHEEP AUCTION PERMIT

(a) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(b) Hunt Area: The director is authorized to select areas open for this hunt based on population objectives, harvest objectives, and

recent harvest parameters as identified by the department. The selection of hunt areas will be made no later than December 1 for the following year, and will be posted on the department's web site no later than January 1.

(c) Weapon: Any legal weapon.

(d) Bag limit: One California bighorn ram.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(8) MOOSE AUCTION PERMIT

(a) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(b) Hunt Area: Any open moose unit, and hunt areas identified by the department before December 1 for the following year, and posted on the department's web site no later than January 1.

(c) Weapon: Any legal weapon.

(d) Bag limit: One moose of either sex.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(9) MOUNTAIN GOAT AUCTION PERMIT

(a) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(b) Hunt Area: The director is authorized to select areas open for this hunt based on population objectives, harvest objectives, and recent harvest parameters as identified by the department. The selection of hunt areas will be made no later than December 1 for the

following year, and will be posted on the department's web site no later than January 1.

(c) Weapon: Any legal weapon.

(d) Bag limit: One mountain goat of either sex.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

RAFFLE PERMITS

(10) BLACK-TAILED DEER RAFFLE PERMIT

(a) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(b) Hunt Area: Those GMUs open to black-tailed deer hunting EXCEPT GMU 485 and those GMUs closed to deer hunting by the fish and wildlife commission.

(c) Weapon: Any legal weapon.

(d) Bag limit: One additional any buck black-tailed deer.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(11) MULE DEER RAFFLE PERMIT

(a) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(b) Hunt Area: Those GMUs open to mule deer hunting EXCEPT those GMUs closed to mule deer hunting by the fish and wildlife commission.

(c) Weapon: Any legal weapon.

(d) Bag limit: One additional any buck mule deer.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(12) WHITE-TAILED DEER RAFFLE PERMIT

(a) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(b) Hunt Area: Those GMUs open to white-tailed deer hunting EXCEPT those GMUs closed to white-tailed deer hunting by the fish and wildlife commission.

(c) Weapon: Any legal weapon.

(d) Bag limit: One additional any buck white-tailed deer.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(13) WESTSIDE ELK RAFFLE PERMIT

(a) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(b) Hunt Area: Western Washington EXCEPT GMU 485, those GMUs closed to elk hunting, and those GMUs not open to bull elk hunting by the fish and wildlife commission.

(c) Weapon: Any legal weapon.

(d) Bag limit: One additional any bull elk.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(14) EASTSIDE ELK RAFFLE PERMIT

(a) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(b) Hunt Area: Eastern Washington EXCEPT GMUs 157(~~(7-3347)~~) and those GMUs closed to elk hunting, and those GMUs not opened to bull elk hunting by the fish and wildlife commission.

(c) Weapon: Any legal weapon.

(d) Bag limit: One additional any bull elk.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(15) CALIFORNIA BIGHORN SHEEP RAFFLE PERMIT

(a) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(b) Hunt Area: The director is authorized to select areas open for this hunt based on population objectives, harvest objectives, and recent harvest parameters as identified by the department. The selection of hunt areas will be made no later than December 1 for the following year, and will be posted on the department's web site no later than January 1 except that sheep units in Walla Walla, Columbia, Garfield, Asotin, or Pend Oreille counties are not open.

(c) Weapon: Any legal weapon.

(d) Bag limit: One California bighorn ram.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(16) MOOSE RAFFLE PERMIT

(a) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(b) Hunt Area: GMUs 101 through 121, 204.

(c) Weapon: Any legal weapon.

(d) Bag limit: One moose of either sex.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 2

(17) MOUNTAIN GOAT RAFFLE PERMIT

(a) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(b) Hunt Area: The director is authorized to select areas open for this hunt based on population objectives, harvest objectives, and recent harvest parameters as identified by the department. The selection of hunt areas will be made no later than December 1 for the following year, and will be posted on the department's web site no later than January 1.

(c) Weapon: Any legal weapon.

(d) Bag limit: One mountain goat of either sex.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(18) TURKEY RAFFLE PERMIT

(a) Season dates: April 1 - May 31 and September 1 - December 31

(b) Hunt Area: Statewide.

(c) Weapon: Archery or shotgun only.

(d) Bag limit: Three additional wild turkeys, but not to exceed more than one turkey in Western Washington or two turkeys in Eastern Washington.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(19) ROCKY MOUNTAIN BIGHORN SHEEP RAFFLE PERMIT

(a) Bag limit: One Rocky Mountain bighorn ram.

(b) Hunt Area: GMUs 113, (~~169~~) 172.

(c) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(d) Weapon: Any legal weapon.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(20) THREE-DEER RAFFLE PERMIT

(a) Bag limit: One additional any buck black-tailed deer, one additional any buck mule deer, and one additional any buck white-tailed deer; total harvest not to exceed three animals.

(b) Hunt Area: For black-tailed deer, those GMUs open to black-tailed deer hunting EXCEPT GMU 485 and those GMUs closed to deer hunting by the fish and wildlife commission. For mule deer, those GMUs open to mule deer hunting EXCEPT those GMUs closed to mule deer hunting by the fish and wildlife commission. For white-tailed deer, those GMUs open to white-tailed deer hunting EXCEPT those GMUs closed to white-tailed deer hunting by the fish and wildlife commission.

(c) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(d) Weapon: Any legal weapon.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(21) NORTHEAST WASHINGTON BIG GAME RAFFLE PERMIT

(a) Bag limit: Permit hunter may harvest three of six possible species. Species that may be harvested under this permit include: One

additional any buck white-tailed deer, one additional any bull elk, one any bull moose, one additional any legal cougar, one additional any legal black bear, and one additional any legal turkey (gobbler (~~and~~) or turkey with visible beard ONLY); total harvest not to exceed three animals.

(b) Hunt Area: GMUs 101-124.

(c) Season dates:

(i) September 1 - December 31 for white-tailed deer, elk, and moose.

(ii) April 15 - May 31 and September 1 - December 31 for black bear.

(iii) September 1 - March 31 for cougar.

(iv) April 15 - May 31 for turkey.

(d) Weapon: Any legal weapon EXCEPT archery and shotgun only for turkey.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(22) SOUTH-CENTRAL WASHINGTON BIG GAME RAFFLE PERMIT

(a) Bag limit: One additional any bull elk, one additional any buck deer, and one California bighorn sheep ram; total harvest not to exceed three animals.

(b) Hunt Area: For elk, any 300 or 500 series GMU EXCEPT ((~~GMU 334~~ and)) those GMUs closed to elk hunting and those GMUs not open to bull elk hunting by the fish and wildlife commission. For deer, any 300 or 500 series GMU EXCEPT those GMUs closed to deer hunting by the fish and wildlife commission. For California bighorn sheep, the director is authorized to select areas open for this hunt based on population objectives, harvest objectives, and recent harvest parameters as identified by the department. The selection of hunt areas will be made no later than December 1 for the following year, and will be posted on the department's web site no later than January 1.

(c) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(d) Weapon: Any legal weapon.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(23) SOUTHEAST WASHINGTON BIG GAME RAFFLE PERMIT

(a) Bag limit: Permit hunter may harvest four of five possible species. Species that may be harvested under this permit include: One additional any buck white-tailed deer, one additional any buck mule deer, one additional any bull elk, one additional any legal cougar, and one additional any legal black bear; total harvest not to exceed four animals.

(b) Hunt Area: GMUs 139-154 and 162-186.

(c) Season dates: September 1 - December 31 for white-tailed deer, mule deer, and elk. April 15 - June 15 and September 1 - December 31 for black bear. September 1 - March 31 for cougar

(d) Weapon: Any legal weapon.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

(24) NORTH-CENTRAL WASHINGTON BIG GAME RAFFLE PERMIT

(a) Bag limit: Permit hunter may harvest three of five possible species. Species that may be harvested under this permit include: One additional any buck white-tailed deer, one additional any buck mule deer, one any ram California bighorn sheep, one additional any legal cougar, and one additional any legal black bear; total harvest not to exceed three animals.

(b) Hunt Area: For white-tailed deer, mule deer, cougar, and black bear, any 200 series GMU EXCEPT those GMUs closed to deer hunting by the fish and wildlife commission. For California bighorn sheep, the director is authorized to select areas open for this hunt based on population objectives, harvest objectives, and recent harvest parameters as identified by the department. The selection of hunt areas will be made no later than December 1 for the following year, and will be posted on the department's web site no later than January 1.

(c) Season dates:

(i) September 1 - December 31 for white-tailed deer, mule deer, and California bighorn sheep.

(ii) April 15 - May 15 and September 1 - December 31 for black bear.

(iii) September 1 - March 31 for cougar.

(d) Weapon: Any legal weapon.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 1

SPECIAL INCENTIVE PERMITS

(25) WESTERN WASHINGTON ELK INCENTIVE PERMITS

(a) Hunt Area: Western Washington EXCEPT GMUs 418, 485, 522, and those GMUs closed to elk hunting or closed to bull elk hunting by the fish and wildlife commission.

(b) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(c) Weapon: Any legal weapon, EXCEPT must use archery equipment during archery seasons and muzzleloader equipment during muzzleloader seasons.

(d) Bag limit: One additional elk.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 2

(26) EASTERN WASHINGTON ELK INCENTIVE PERMITS

(a) Hunt Area: Eastern Washington EXCEPT ((~~GMUs 157, 334,~~)) GMU 157 and those GMUs closed to elk hunting or closed to bull elk hunting by the fish and wildlife commission.

(b) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(c) Weapon: Any legal weapon, EXCEPT must use archery equipment during archery seasons and muzzleloader equipment during muzzleloader seasons.

(d) Bag limit: One additional elk.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 2

(27) DEER INCENTIVE PERMITS

(a) Hunt Area: Statewide, for use in any area open to general or permit hunting seasons EXCEPT GMUs 157, 418, 485, 522, and those GMUs closed to deer hunting by the fish and wildlife commission.

(b) Season dates: September 1 - December 31

(c) Weapon: Any legal weapon, EXCEPT hunters must use archery equipment during archery seasons and muzzleloader equipment during muzzleloader seasons and any legal weapon at other times if there are no firearm restrictions.

(d) Bag limit: One additional any deer.

(e) Number of permit hunters selected: 5

PERMIT ISSUANCE PROCEDURE

(28) Auction permits: The director will select a conservation organization(s) to conduct annual auction(s). Selection of the conservation organizations will be based on criteria adopted by the Washington department of fish and wildlife. Big game and wild turkey auctions shall be conducted consistent with WAC 220-412-060.

(29) Raffle permits: Raffle permits will be issued to individuals selected through a Washington department of fish and wildlife drawing or the director may select a conservation organization(s) to conduct annual raffles. Selection of a conservation organization will be based on criteria adopted by the Washington department of fish and wildlife. Big game and wild turkey raffles shall be conducted consistent with WAC 220-412-040.

(30) Special incentive permits: Hunters will be entered into a drawing for special deer and elk incentive permits for prompt reporting of hunting activity in compliance with WAC 220-413-100.

(31) For permit hunts where the permittee may harvest multiple species, the permittee must select the species he/she wants to hunt within fourteen days of notification of being selected.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION AND REQUIREMENTS:

(32) Permittees shall contact the appropriate regional office of the department of fish and wildlife when entering the designated hunt area or entering the region to hunt outside the general season.

(33) The permittee may be accompanied by others; however, only the permittee is allowed to carry a legal weapon or harvest an animal.

(34) Any attempt by members of the permittee's party to herd or drive wildlife is prohibited.

(35) If requested by the department, the permittee is required to direct department officials to the site of the kill.

(36) The permit is valid during the hunting season dates for the year issued.

(37) The permittee will present the head and carcass of the bighorn sheep killed to any department office within ten days of date of kill.

(38) The permittee must abide by all local, state, and federal regulations including firearm restriction areas and area closures.

(39) Hunters awarded the special incentive permit will be required to send the appropriate license fee to the department of fish and wildlife headquarters in Olympia. The department will issue the license and transport tag and send it to the special incentive permit winner.

[Statutory Authority: 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. WSR 18-11-061 (Order 18-76), § 220-412-070, filed 5/11/18, effective 6/11/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.12.240, 77.04.055, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, 77.32.090, and 77.32.530. WSR 17-17-088, § 220-412-070, filed 8/17/17, effective 9/17/17. 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. WSR 17-10-076 (Order 17-10), amended and recodified as § 220-412-070, 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, § 232-28-283, 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 15-10-048 (Order 15-101), § 232-28-283, filed 4/29/15, effective 5/30/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047, 77.12.240, and 77.32.070. WSR 14-10-019 (Order 14-95), § 232-28-283, filed 4/25/14, effective 5/26/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.055, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, and 77.32.530. WSR 12-22-045 (Order 12-257), § 232-28-283, filed 11/2/12, effective 12/3/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047, 77.12.020, 77.12.570, 77.12.210,

77.12.150, and 77.12.240. WSR 10-03-041 (Order 10-10), § 232-28-283,
filed 1/13/10, effective 2/13/10.]

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

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

Supporting Comments:

There were four (4) comments submitted for this WAC proposal. One comments generally agreed with the proposal, two (2) opposed to proposal, and one (1) was neutral.

Opposing, Neutral, and Other Comments:

One respondent opposed adding GMU 334 to GMUs available for various elk auction and raffle permits unless other special draw permits were to be added in this unit as well. Similarly, one respondent opposed allowing statewide permit or raffle permit holders to hunt in units in which there is not also a regular draw hunt opportunity. One neutral respondent wondered why GMU 169 could not be kept open while also adding GMU 172 for the Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep raffle permit.

Direction and Rationale:

The Department understands the objection to having auction and/or raffle permits offered in species for which there is no corresponding draw opportunity for that species. The Department generally avoids this scenario. However, there are situations in which harvest opportunity needs to be limited numerically, and in which the income provided for conserving and managing the species outweighs the appearance of favoring only those who can afford to compete in auctions and raffles. The recommendation to change the GMU available to the holder of the Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep raffle was based on site-specific knowledge of where a sufficient number of large-sized rams have been observed during recent surveys.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-11-061, filed 5/11/18, effective 6/11/18)

WAC 220-415-120 ((2018)) 2019 Bighorn sheep seasons and permit quotas. (1) It is unlawful to fail to comply with the provisions of this section. A violation of species, sex, size, number, area, season, or eligibility requirements is punishable under RCW 77.15.410, Unlawful hunting of big game—Penalty.

(2) Bighorn Sheep Permit Hunts

(a) **Who May Apply:** Anyone may apply, EXCEPT those who previously harvested a bighorn sheep in Washington state. An individual may only harvest one bighorn ram during his or her lifetime. However, this restriction is waived for hunters who have previously harvested a bighorn sheep under a ewe-only, juvenile ram, raffle, or auction permit, as well as for applications for a ewe-only, juvenile ram, raffle, or auction permit.

(b) **Bag Limit:** One bighorn ram, except in designated adult ewe hunts the limit is one bighorn adult ewe.

Hunt Name	Permit Season	Permit Hunt Boundary Description	Special Restrictions	Permits
Ram (male) bighorn sheep only				
<u>Vulcan Mountain</u>	<u>Sept. 15 - Oct. 10</u>	<u>Sheep Unit 2</u>	<u>Any Legal Weapon</u>	<u>1</u>
Lincoln Cliffs A	Sept. 15 - Oct. 10	Sheep Unit 12	Any Legal Weapon	2

Hunt Name	Permit Season	Permit Hunt Boundary Description	Special Restrictions	Permits
Mt. Hull A	Sept. 15 - Oct. 10	Sheep Unit 10	Any Legal Weapon	1
Swakane	Sept. 15 - Oct. 10	Sheep Unit 14	Any Legal Weapon	2
Chelan Butte A	Sept. 15 - Oct. 10	Sheep Unit 18	Any Legal Weapon	2
Chelan Butte B	Oct. 11 - Nov. 15	Sheep Unit 18	Any Legal Weapon	2
Manson	Nov. 7 - Nov. 30	Sheep Unit 16	Any Legal Weapon	2
Selah Butte	Nov. 7 - Nov. 30	Sheep Unit 4	Any Legal Weapon	((2)) <u>4</u>
Umtanum	Sept. 15 - Oct. 10	Sheep Unit 5	Any Legal Weapon	((2)) <u>4</u>
Cleman Mountain A	Sept. 15 - Oct. 10	Sheep Unit 7	Any Legal Weapon	((3)) <u>4</u>
Quilomene	Sept. 15 - Oct. 10	Sheep Unit 13	Any Legal Weapon	((2)) <u>5</u>
Ewe (female) bighorn sheep only				
Lincoln Cliffs Whitestone Unit	Oct. 1-10	Sheep Unit 12 west of Mount View Rd ^d	Adult ewe only Any Legal Weapon	1
Lincoln Cliffs Lincoln Unit	Oct. 1-10	Sheep Unit 12 east of Mount View Rd ^d	Adult ewe only Any Legal Weapon	1
Mt. Hull B	Oct. 1-10	Sheep Unit 10	Adult ewe only Any Legal Weapon	1
Mt. Hull C (youth hunter) ^a	Oct. 1-10	Sheep Unit 10	Adult ewe only Any Legal Weapon	1
Chelan Butte C	Sept. 15 - Oct. 10	Sheep Unit 18	Adult ewe only Any Legal Weapon	4
Chelan Butte D (disabled hunter) ^b	Oct. 11-31	Sheep Unit 18	Adult ewe only Any Legal Weapon	3
← Cleman Mountain B	Oct. 11-31	Sheep Unit 7	Adult ewe only Any Legal Weapon	10 →
<u>Selah Butte North</u>	<u>Sept. 16 - Oct. 11</u>	<u>Sheep Unit 4A</u>	<u>Adult ewe or Juvenile ram</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Selah Butte North (youth hunter)</u>	<u>Sept. 16 - Oct. 11</u>	<u>Sheep Unit 4A</u>	<u>Adult ewe or Juvenile ram</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Mount Baldy</u>	<u>Sept. 16 - Oct. 11</u>	<u>Sheep Unit 4B</u>	<u>Adult ewe or Juvenile ram</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Mount Baldy (youth hunter)</u>	<u>Sept. 16 - Oct. 11</u>	<u>Sheep Unit 4B</u>	<u>Adult ewe or Juvenile ram</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Selah Butte South</u>	<u>Sept. 16 - Oct. 11</u>	<u>Sheep Unit 4C</u>	<u>Adult ewe or Juvenile ram</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Selah Butte South (youth hunter)</u>	<u>Sept. 16 - Oct. 11</u>	<u>Sheep Unit 4C</u>	<u>Adult ewe or Juvenile ram</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Umtanum North</u>	<u>Nov. 4 - Nov. 17</u>	<u>Sheep Unit 5A</u>	<u>Adult ewe or Juvenile ram</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Umtanum North (youth hunter)</u>	<u>Nov. 4 - Nov. 17</u>	<u>Sheep Unit 5A</u>	<u>Adult ewe or Juvenile ram</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Umtanum South</u>	<u>Nov. 4 - Nov. 17</u>	<u>Sheep Unit 5B</u>	<u>Adult ewe or Juvenile ram</u>	<u>5</u>

Hunt Name	Permit Season	Permit Hunt Boundary Description	Special Restrictions	Permits
<u>Umtanum South</u>	<u>Nov. 18 - Dec. 1</u>	<u>Sheep Unit 5B</u>	<u>Adult ewe or Juvenile ram</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Umtanum South</u>	<u>Dec. 2 - Dec. 15</u>	<u>Sheep Unit 5B</u>	<u>Adult ewe or Juvenile ram</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Umtanum South (youth hunter)</u>	<u>Nov. 4 - Dec. 15</u>	<u>Sheep Unit 5B</u>	<u>Adult ewe or Juvenile ram</u>	<u>3</u>
Cleman Mountain C	Nov. 1-18	Sheep Unit 7	Adult ewe only Any Legal Weapon	((8)) <u>±</u>
Cleman Mountain D (youth hunter) ^a	Nov. 1-18	Sheep Unit 7	Adult ewe only Any Legal Weapon	((2))
Juvenile ram (male) bighorn sheep only				
Chelan Butte E (disabled hunter) ^b	Oct. 11-31	Sheep Unit 18	Any Legal Weapon Juvenile ram ^c	2

See subsection (3) of this section Bighorn Sheep Units for detailed legal descriptions of these hunt area boundaries.

^aApplicants must be eligible to purchase a youth bighorn sheep permit application. An adult 18 years of age or older must accompany the youth hunter during the hunt.

^bApplicants must possess a Disabled Hunter Permit.

^cA juvenile ram is defined as a male bighorn sheep having at least one "unbroomed" horn that does not extend past an imaginary line beginning at the point on the animal's forehead where the front of the horn base adjoins the skull, and continuing downwards and in a posterior direction through the posterior edge of the eye. A "broomed" horn is defined as a sheep horn that has been broken, splintered, frayed or rubbed in the wild, thus shortening its length and disrupting its natural taper.

~~((See subsection (3) of this section Bighorn Sheep Units for detailed legal descriptions of these hunt area boundaries.))~~ This hunt contributes to a program designed to eliminate or greatly reduce prevalence of pneumonia in this herd. As such, hunters will be required to retain lungs and head for submission within ten calendar days to the Washington department of fish and wildlife regional or district office for veterinary sampling.

(3) **Bighorn Sheep Units:**

(a) **Sheep Unit 2 Vulcan Mountain:** Permit Area: Ferry County north of the Kettle River near Curlew.

(b) **Sheep Unit 4 Selah Butte:** Permit Area: That part of GMU 340 east of the Yakima River.

(c) **Sheep Unit 4A Selah Butte North:** Permit Area: That part of GMU 340 east of the Yakima River and north of Lmuma Creek.

(d) **Sheep Unit 4B Mount Baldy:** Permit Area: That part of GMU 340 east of the Yakima River, south of Lmuma Creek and north of Burbank Creek.

(e) **Sheep Unit 4C Selah Butte South:** Permit Area: That part of GMU 340 east of the Yakima River and south of Burbank Creek.

(f) **Sheep Unit 5 Umtanum:** Permit Area: Those portions of GMU 340 west of the Yakima River and GMU 342 north of Wenas Creek.

~~((d))~~ (g) Sheep Unit 5A Umtanum North: Permit Area: Beginning at the Powerline Crossing the Yakima River in Section 11 of T17N, R18E; then south down the Yakima River to Roza Creek; then west up Roza Creek to the powerline; then north along the powerline to the point of beginning.

(h) Sheep Unit 5B Umtanum South: Permit Area: Beginning where Roza Creek enters the Yakima River, then down the Yakima River to the powerline crossing in Section 17 of T14N, R19E; then north on the powerline to Roza Creek; then east down Roza Creek to the point of beginning.

(i) Sheep Unit 7 Cleman Mountain: Permit Area: GMU 346 and that part of GMU 342 south of Wenas Creek.

~~((e))~~ (j) Sheep Unit 10 Mt. Hull: Permit Area: That part of Okanogan County within the following described boundary: Beginning at Oroville; then south along U.S. Highway 97 to the Swanson's Mill Road (old Mt. Hull Road) near Lake Andrews; then east to the Dry Gulch Road; then north to the Oroville-Toroda Creek Road (Molson Grade Road); then west to Oroville and the point of beginning.

~~((f))~~ (k) Sheep Unit 12 Lincoln Cliffs: Permit Area: That part of Lincoln County north of Highway 2.

~~((g))~~ (l) **Sheep Unit 13 Quilomene:** Permit Area: GMUs 329, 330, and that part of 251 east of Squilchuck Creek and south of Colockum Creek.

~~((h))~~ (m) **Sheep Unit 14 Swakane:** Permit Area: GMU 250.

~~((i))~~ (n) **Sheep Unit 15 Tieton:** Permit Area: GMU 360.

~~((j))~~ (o) **Sheep Unit 16 Manson:** Permit Area: Beginning at the mouth of Granite Falls Creek on the south shore of Lake Chelan, E across Lake Chelan to Willow Point; NW along the shoreline of Lake Chelan to the mouth of Stink Creek; E along Stink Creek to the intersection with Green's Landing Road; along Green's Landing Road to Manson Boulevard; E on Manson Boulevard to Lower Joe Creek Road; NE on Lower Joe Creek Road to Grade Creek Road; NE on Grade Creek Road to US Forest Service Road 8210; NE on US Forest Service Road 8210 to intersection with US Forest Service Road 8020; W on US Forest Service Road 8020 to Fox Peak; NW along Sawtooth Ridge (Chelan-Okanogan County Line) to the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area boundary; S along the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area boundary to shore line of Lake Chelan; W across Lake Chelan to the mouth of Riddle Creek on the South Shore; SE along South Shore of Lake Chelan to the point of beginning.

~~((k))~~ (p) **Sheep Unit 18 Chelan Butte:** Permit Area: Beginning at the intersection of State Hwy 971 and US Hwy 97A, S to the W shoreline of the Columbia River, N along the W shoreline of the Columbia River for 21 miles to the mouth of Antoine Creek, W up Antoine Creek to where it crosses Apple Acres Rd, W on Apple Acres Rd to the intersection with Washington Creek Rd (US Forest Service Rd 8135), N on Washington Creek Rd to its end and then follow Washington Creek, W on Washington Creek to where it crosses US Forest Service Rd 8010, S on US Forest Service Rd 8010 (transitions into Purtteman Creek Rd) to Purtteman Gulch, S into Purtteman Gulch to the N shoreline of Lake Chelan, S along the shoreline to the S shoreline of Lake Chelan to the mouth of First Creek, S up First Creek to the intersection of State Hwy 971 (Navarre Coulee Rd), S on State Hwy 971 to the point of beginning.

~~((l))~~ (q) **Sheep Unit 19 Sinlahekin:** Beginning at the eastern boundary of the Pasayten Wilderness border and the US-Canadian border; E on the US-Canadian border to the border station on Similkameen Rd (Co. Rd 4568); SE on the Similkameen Rd (Co. Rd 4568) to the Loomis-Oroville Rd (Co. Rd 9425); E on the Loomis-Oroville Rd (Co. Rd 9425) to US Hwy 97 in Oroville; S on US Hwy 97 to 12th Ave; W on 12th Ave (it curves S and changes to Old Highway 97); S on Old Highway 97 to US

Hwy 97; S on US Hwy 97 to the South Pine Creek Rd (Co. Rd 9410); W on the South Pine Creek Rd (Co. Rd 9410) to Fish Lake Rd (Co. Rd 4290); W on Fish Lake Rd (Co. Rd 4290) to South Fish Lake Rd (Co. Rd 4282), along the south shore of Fish Lake; SW on South Fish Lake Rd (Co. Rd 4282), to the Sinlahekin Rd (Co. Rd 4015); SW on the Sinlahekin Rd (Co. Rd 4015), along the north shore of Conconully Lake, to the Salmon Creek North Fork Rd (Co. Rd 2361), at the town of Conconully; N on US Forest Service Rd 38 (Salmon Creek North Fork Rd, Co. Rd 2361) to US Forest Service Rd 3820; N on US Forest Service Rd 3820 over Lone Frank Pass, to US Forest Service Rd 39; N on US Forest Service Rd 39 to the US Forest Service Rd 300 at Long Swamp trailhead; W on the US Forest Service Rd 300 to US Forest Service Trail 342; N on US Forest Service Trail 342 to US Forest Service Trail 343; E on US Forest Service Trail 343 to US Forest Service Trail 341; E on US Forest Service Trail 341 to US Forest Service Trail 375; E on US Forest Service Trail 375 to the eastern boundary of the Pasayten Wilderness Area; N on the Pasayten Wilderness Area boundary to the US-Canadian border and the point of beginning.

((~~m~~)) (r) **Whitestone Unit:** Starting at the intersection of Mount View Rd and US Highway 2; W on US Highway 2 to the Lincoln County Line; N on the Lincoln County Line to the Lincoln County Line

in the Columbia River; E up the Columbia River to Halverson Canyon; S and W up Halverson Canyon to Mount View Rd; S on Mount View Rd to US Highway 2 and the point of the beginning.

((n)) (s) **Lincoln Unit:** Starting at the intersection of Mount View Rd and US Highway 2; E on US Highway 2 to the Lincoln County Line; N on the Lincoln County Line to the Lincoln County Line in the Spokane River; W down the Spokane River to the Columbia River; W down the Columbia River to Halverson Canyon; S and W up Halverson Canyon to Mount View Rd; S on Mount View Rd to US Highway 2 and the point of the beginning.

[Statutory Authority: 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. WSR 18-11-061 (Order 18-76), § 220-415-120, filed 5/11/18, effective 6/11/18. 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 § 220-415-120, 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, § 232-28-622, 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 15-10-048 (Order 15-101), § 232-28-622, filed 4/29/15,
effective 5/30/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047, 77.12.240, and
77.32.070. WSR 14-10-019 (Order 14-95), § 232-28-622, filed 4/25/14,
effective 5/26/14; WSR 13-11-078 (Order 13-94), § 232-28-622, filed
5/16/13, effective 6/16/13.]

WAC 220-415-120 2019 Bighorn sheep seasons and permit quotas.

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: 1. Reinstate Cleman Mountain B adult ewe only hunts (10 permits). 2. Change number of permits for Cleman Mountain C adult ewe only hunts from one back to eight. 3. Reinstate Cleman Mountain D adult ewe only (youth hunter) hunts (2 permits).

Rationale: The reduction in bighorn sheep ewe permits in the Cleman Mountain population in the original 2019 season proposals was premised on the Department's ability to capture and translocate a number of animals out of state. Due to mild winter conditions, the Department was unable to capture and translocate ewes this year, but the Cleman Mountain herd remains at a higher level than the Department deems prudent and should be reduced. Thus, we propose offering the same number of bighorn ewe permits as in 2017.

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

WAC 220-415-120 2019 bighorn sheep seasons, permit quotas, and areas

Supporting Comments:

Five (5) comments were received online. Three (3) respondents characterized their responses as supportive, one (1) as opposed and one (1) as neutral.

Opposing, Neutral, and Other Comments:

One respondent opposed any reduction of sheep hunting opportunity to benefit recovery of predators. (There are no reductions of sheep hunting opportunity recommended this year, nor is supporting predator populations a rationale for altering sheep hunting opportunity). Other respondents supported including youth opportunities (but misunderstood the recommendation, thinking that hunting was being used to cull sick individuals, whereas it is being used to reduce herd size to the point where WDFW biologists can identify and cull animals shedding the pathogen of concern).

Direction and Rationale:

Move forward with recommendations.



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 18, 2019
TIME: 11:41 AM

WSR 19-03-129

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 18-23-030 on November 14, 2018 ; 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)

Amended Rules

- WAC 220-410-040 Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions – Region four.
- WAC 220-410-060 Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions – Region six.
- WAC 220-412-070 Big game and wild turkey auction, raffle, and special incentive permits.
- WAC 220-412-100 Landowner hunting permits.
- WAC 220-413-030 Importation and retention of dead nonresident wildlife.
- WAC 220-413-090 Field identification of wildlife – Evidence of sex – Definitions.
- WAC 220-413-180 Special closures and firearm restrictions.
- WAC 220-413-200 Reducing the spread of hoof disease – Unlawful transport of elk hooves.
- WAC 220-414-070 Archery requirements.
- WAC 220-414-080 Hunting – Hunter orange clothing requirements.
- WAC 220-415-020 2018-2020 Deer general season and definitions.
- WAC 220-415-030 2019 Deer special permits.
- WAC 220-415-040 Elk area descriptions.
- WAC 220-415-050 2018-2020 Elk general season and definitions.
- WAC 220-415-060 Elk special permits.
- WAC 220-415-070 2019 Moose seasons, permit quotas, and areas.
- WAC 220-415-120 2019 Bighorn sheep season.
- WAC 220-415-130 2019 Mountain goat seasons and permit quotas.
- WAC 220-416-060 2019-2020 Migratory waterfowl seasons and regulations.
- WAC 220-416-110 Use of game birds for training dogs, field trials – Marking requirements.
- WAC 220-417-030 Wild animal trapping.
- WAC 220-430-010 Game farm license provisions.
- WAC 220-450-010 Criteria for planting aquatic plants and releasing wildlife.

Hearing location(s):

Date:	Time:	Location: (be specific)	Comment:
March 1-2, 2019	8:00 a.m.	Natural Resources Building Room 172 1111 Washington Street SE Olympia, WA 98501	

Date of intended adoption: April 5-6, 2019 (Note: This is **NOT** the effective date)

Submit written comments to:

Name: Wildlife Program
 Address: PO Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504
 Email: wildthing@dfw.wa.gov
 Fax: (360) 902-2162
 Other: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/regulations/seasonsetting/2019/>
 By (date) February 13, 2019

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) February 22, 2019

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

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 Green River watershed which are identical to the GMU boundary.

WAC 220-410-060 Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions-Region six.

The purpose of the proposal is to clarify boundary language as it pertains to the boundary shared by Game Management Unit 653 White River and 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 Green River watershed which are identical to the GMU boundary.

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

Proposed change (1) would allow holders of an Eastside Elk Auction Permit, Eastside Elk Raffle Permit, South-Central Washington Big Game Raffle Permit, or Eastern Washington Elk Incentive Permit to hunt elk in GMU 334 (Ellensburg). This GMU is currently excluded from the legal hunt area.

Proposed change (2) would redirect the holder of the 'Rocky Mountain' bighorn sheep raffle permit to a portion of the Wenaha-Mountain View herd complex with a greater number of mature rams.

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 2019 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 Tennessee. Specific circumstances are fully set forth in WAC 220-413-030 to include the state of Tennessee.

WAC 220-413-090 Field identification of wildlife – Evidence of sex – Definitions.

The proposal amends WAC 220-413-090 Field identification of wildlife-Evidence of sex-Definitions by changing subsection 1, related to the possession and transport of game birds by adding the fully feathered wing as an acceptable field identification requirement, with the exception of Canada and Cackling geese harvested in Goose Management Area 2 Coast and Inland where the head must be left attached for subspecies determination.

WAC 220-413-180 Special closures and firearm restrictions.

The proposed changes to the Special Closures and Firearm Restriction Areas WAC are administrative changes that clarify firearm restrictions in portions of Grays Harbor County and Pacific County only apply during modern firearm general deer and/or elk seasons. It also clarifies that Key Peninsula and Longbranch Peninsula are the same location in Pierce County.

WAC 220-413-200 Reducing the spread of hoof disease – Unlawful transport of elk hooves.

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

WAC 220-413-200 was most recently updated in September 2018. Since that time, TAHD has been confirmed along the border of GMUs 638 and 618, in the upper Wynoochee Valley (GMU 636) just south of Olympic National Park, and in GMU 621, necessitating the addition of GMUs 618, 621, and 638. With the addition of these 3 GMUs, the rule would apply in all but 15 of the 61 western Washington GMUs that are not islands in Puget Sound. The Department believes it prudent to add all western Washington GMUs to the restriction.

New Game Management Units (GMUs) are being proposed in which transport of elk hooves from harvested elk would be restricted. These new GMUs include all 400, 500, and 600 GMUs. The rule does allow, under certain circumstances, the legal transport of elk hooves to facilitate research by the Department and/or our collaborators.

WAC 220-414-070 Archery requirements.

The purpose of the proposal is to eliminate the restriction that makes it unlawful to hunt big game animals with any arrow weighing less than six grains per pound of draw weight with a minimum arrow weight of 300 grains. Such a rule change will ensure hunters are not unknowingly in violation of a restriction, while in no way negatively affecting the kill efficacy of modern archery equipment commonly in use today.

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

This proposal clarifies the hunter orange rule to address the overlap between turkey hunting and general season modern firearm deer and elk seasons. This proposed change will allow turkey hunters not to wear orange except during the general modern deer and elk seasons. This change will allow turkey hunters more flexibility and maintain safety during the general modern firearm seasons. 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 220-415-020 2018-2020 Deer general seasons and definitions.

The purpose of this proposal is to retain general season deer hunting opportunity for 2019. 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 2019 Deer special permits.

The purpose of this proposal is to retain special permit deer hunting opportunity for 2019. 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 this proposal is to 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. The purpose of the proposal is to adjust the boundaries of Elk Area 6054, such that harvest is focused in areas where conflicts are most frequent.

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

The purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:
The elk seasons for fall of 2019 represent the second year of the 2018-2020 three-year hunting season package. The purpose of the proposal is to increase opportunities in some areas to assist with efforts to mitigate elk damage. The proposal also corrects typographical errors associated with season dates for the western Washington and Elk Area 3722 general elk modern firearm seasons.

WAC 220-415-060 2019 Elk special permits.

The purpose of this proposal is to retain elk special permit hunting opportunity for 2019. 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 2019 Moose seasons, permit quotas, and areas.

The purpose of this proposal is to adjust moose permit limits to reflect population changes and recent harvest.

WAC 220-415-120 2019 Bighorn sheep season.

The purpose of this proposal is to adjust bighorn sheep hunt permit limits to reflect population changes and recent harvest.

WAC 220-415-130 2019 Mountain goat seasons and permit quotas.

The purpose of this proposal is to adjust mountain goat hunt permit limits to reflect population changes and recent harvest.

WAC 220-416-060 2019-2020 Migratory waterfowl seasons and regulations.

The proposal amends WAC 220-416-060 2018-19 Migratory waterfowl seasons and regulations to specify legal season dates, bag limits for the 2019-20 season.

Changes include:

- Adjusting season dates relative to 2019-2020 calendar dates
- Lowering Northern Pintail bag-limit to 1 pintail per day and associated possession limits per the USFWS Northern Pintail Harvest Strategy
- Proposed shift of 12-days for white goose hunting from the beginning of the season to February 22 – March 4, 2020 in Goose Management Area 4
- Proposed addition of dates to brant season in Pacific County, contingent upon the most recent 3-year average results per the Pacific Brant Population Management Plan harvest strategy.

WAC 220-416-110 Use of game birds for training dogs, field trials – Marking requirements.

The proposed changes clarify that only one method is required for marking game birds and adds an additional method option, which is nasal scarring caused by an anti-pecking device. In addition, the proposal adjusts the ordering of existing options for marking non-waterfowl game birds.

WAC 220-417-030 Wild animal trapping.

The proposed changes clarify that restraining traps (live capture traps) must be checked every 24 hours, whether or not an animal has been captured.

WAC 220-430-010 Game farm license provisions.

The proposed changes clarify that a game farm license is required to sell species listed in subsection 2 (game birds and waterfowl). Also, the proposed changes clarify that a current, valid license is required to continue to possess, propagate, sell and transfer wildlife that was lawfully possessed on January 1, 1992. Lastly, the proposed changes add conditions for revocation or denial of a game farm's license and grounds for prosecution under existing RCW.

WAC 220-450-010 Criteria for planting aquatic plants and releasing wildlife.

The proposed changes clarify that game birds released for dog training and hunting pursuant to WAC 220-416-110 do not need to be purchased. Instead, they simply need to be acquired from certain facilities. These facilities include a department facility, a state- or federally-licensed game farm facility that has been inspected by a certified veterinarian within the past twelve months, or a facility with current National Poultry Improvement Plan certification.

Reasons supporting proposal:

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 220-410-060 Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions-Region six.

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

1) GMU 334 has historically been excluded from the legal hunt area for auction, raffle, and special incentive permits, in addition to Quality Elk and Bull Elk special permits because it primarily consists of private residential and agricultural properties within and/or immediately adjacent to the city limits of Ellensburg, which makes it difficult for most hunters to find an area within the GMU where they have permission to hunt. In addition, the potential for human-elk conflicts within this GMU is high and the Department limits elk numbers by providing numerous opportunities to harvest spike bull (or true spike) and antlerless elk during general seasons. However, with no opportunities to harvest branch-antlered bulls, the number of mature bulls has steadily increased and they are frequently the source of damage complaints from agricultural producers. Including opportunities to harvest branch-antlered bulls in GMU 334 would provide increased opportunity to hunters, reduce the number of branch-antlered bulls, and reduce the number of human-elk conflicts that occur in association with branch-antlered bulls.

2) These bighorn herds are closely managed, so biologists typically have good data on the number and distribution of the large-sized rams sought by auction and raffle holders. WDFW also co-manages these herds with Oregon and the Nez Perce Tribes, so fine-scale distribution of hunters is helpful.

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 Tennessee 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 Tennessee to WAC 220-413-030.

WAC 220-413-090 Field identification of wildlife – Evidence of sex – Definitions.

The proposed amendment to WAC 220-416-090 Field identification of wildlife-Evidence of sex-Definition, brings field identification of game birds in line with federal possession and transport identification requirements. Identification of migratory waterfowl by wing is a typical training component for federal and state enforcement and should be allowed as an appropriate method of identification for game bird hunters in Washington. The exception of Canada and Cackling geese harvested in Goose Management Area 2 Coast and Inland where the head must be left attached for subspecies determination must be required due to the use of a bill measurement criteria set in WAC 220-413-060 2019-2020 Migratory waterfowl seasons and regulations that differentiates the Dusky Canada goose subspecies which is closed to harvest.

WAC 220-413-180 Special closures and firearm restrictions.

The added language was needed to clarify that modern firearms could be used within these areas to mitigate damage issues during established permit and/or damage hunts, which increases the department's ability to accommodate both firearm restriction needs and wildlife conflict mitigation. The Key Peninsula is also known to some as Longbranch Peninsula; the proposed change clarifies they are the same location.

WAC 220-413-200 Reducing the spread of hoof disease – Unlawful transport of elk hooves.

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

WAC 220-414-070 Archery requirements.

Washington is the only state that has a minimum arrow weight to draw weight ratio and only one of five that have a similar regulation of minimum overall weight of 300 grains. With the advent of carbon arrow technology, which dominates today's market, it is likely a vast majority of archery hunters are unknowingly in violation of the arrow weight to draw weight ratio restriction. In addition, it is highly unlikely any archer would shoot an arrow that weighed less than 300 grains. Lastly, we have no additional information that indicates either of these restrictions increases kill efficacy.

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

This proposal will increase turkey hunter success and maintain safety. Turkey seasons in the past did not overlap with modern deer or elk firearm season. New proposals to control growing turkey populations make it necessary to overlap those seasons. Last year we modified the hunter orange rule to include turkey. We have since found that the rule as written was too broad and turkey hunters had to wear orange throughout the fall season. This recommended rule adjustment provides more flexibility for turkey hunters, while maintaining the hunter orange requirement during the deer and elk modern firearm seasons.

WAC 220-415-020 2018-2020 Deer general seasons and definitions.

These proposals provide for recreational deer hunting opportunity and protects deer from overharvest. The proposal would maintain sustainable general deer hunting season opportunities for 2019. The proposal helps address deer agricultural damage problems and provides for deer population control when needed.

WAC 220-415-030 2019 Deer special permits.

These proposals provide for recreational deer hunting opportunity and protects deer from overharvest. The proposal would also maintain sustainable deer special permit hunting season opportunities for 2019. The proposal helps address deer agricultural damage problems and provides for deer population control when needed.

WAC 220-415-040 Elk area descriptions.

This proposal allows the department to use hunting as a management tool and expands elk hunting opportunity.

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

The proposal provides for recreational elk hunting opportunity and helps address elk agricultural damage problems and provides for elk population control when needed.

WAC 220-415-060 2019 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 2019. The proposal helps address elk agricultural damage problems and provides for elk population control when needed.

WAC 220-415-070 2019 Moose seasons, permit quotas, and areas.

Population abundance estimates and document of recent past harvest.

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

Population abundance estimates and document of recent past harvest.

WAC 220-415-130 2019 Mountain goat seasons and permit quotas.

Population abundance estimates and document of recent past harvest.

WAC 220-416-060 2019-2020 Migratory waterfowl seasons and regulations.

Waterfowl seasons and regulations are developed based on cooperative management programs among states of the Pacific Flyway 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 of Washington.

WAC 220-416-110 Use of game birds for training dogs, field trials – Marking requirements.

The proposal provides clarity so that the WAC is not misinterpreted to mean that game birds must be marked by all methods.

The use of anti-pecking devices is standard among game farms in the western US, particularly for pheasants which can be aggressive in captivity. By allowing nasal scarring caused by these devices to meet the marking requirements, the department is reducing the burden on game farmers to apply an additional mark to game birds. This proposed change will also improve compliance in marking requirements.

The proposal to adjust the order of the listed marking requirements is intended to emphasize less invasive methods.

WAC 220-417-030 Wild animal trapping.

The current WAC states that an animal captured in a restraining trap must be removed within 24 hours but doesn't state that traps must be checked every 24 hours. The proposed change clarifies that the traps must be checked every 24 hours and captured animals may not be restrained for more than 24 hours.

WAC 220-430-010 Game farm license provisions.

The proposed changes support game farm license holders by emphasizing that certain species cannot be sold without a game farm license. This is intended to reduce confusion and to ensure that unlicensed individuals are not selling these species.

In addition, the proposed changes provide clarity regarding license requirements to game farm license holders who maintain species that were lawfully possessed prior to prior to January 1, 1992.

The proposed changes also provide the department with the necessary tools to ensure that game farm license holders are compliant with the game farm license provisions.

WAC 220-450-010 Criteria for planting aquatic plants and releasing wildlife.

The proposed changes simplify requirements for obtaining game birds for dog training and hunting pursuant to WAC 220-416-110. The changes also seek to ensure that game birds are acquired from facilities that undergo appropriate inspections and follow appropriate guidelines to reduce the risk of disease transmission.

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.013, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, 77.12.020, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, 77.12.240, 77.12.570, 77.32.070, and 77.32.530.

Statute being implemented: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.013, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, 77.12.020, 77.12.047, 77.12.150, 77.12.240, 77.12.570, 77.32.070, 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) Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Private Public Governmental

Name of agency personnel responsible for:

	Name	Office Location	Phone
Drafting:	Eric Gardner	Natural Resources Building 1111 Washington St. SE Olympia, WA 98501	(360) 902-2515
Implementation:	Eric Gardner	Natural Resources Building 1111 Washington St. SE Olympia, WA 98501	(360) 902-2515

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

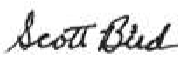
If the proposed rule is **not exempt**, does it impose more-than-minor costs (as defined by RCW 19.85.020(2)) on businesses?

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 18, 2019	Signature: 
Name: Scott Bird	
Title: Rules Coordinator	