

Washington State Elk Herd Plan

SELKIRK ELK HERD

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Wildlife Management Program
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February 2001

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Date

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Acknowledgments

The Selkirk elk herd plan was prepared by Region 1 Wildlife Management staff. Wildlife District Biologists Steve Zender and Jerry Hickman were the lead authors assisted by Dinah Demers, Regional Wildlife Program Manager. George Tsukamoto, Game Division Wildlife Biologist, provided continual direction and review toward the completion of the plan. Jim McGowan, Wildlife Biologist, Colville National Forest, shared information on habitat improvement projects and cooperators as well as helpful suggestions. We especially appreciate comments from the District 1, Colville, and District 2, Spokane, WDFW Regional Teams. We thank the wildlife biologists from the local Indian tribes for taking the time to meet with us and provide input or concerns.

SELKIRK ELK HERD PLAN

Executive Summary

The Selkirk Elk Herd is one of ten herds identified in the State. It is the northern most herd in eastern Washington. It is a conglomerate of many small groups or sub-herds, scattered throughout northeastern Washington, with the core populations in Game Management Units (GMUs) 109, 113, 117, 124 and 130. This elk herd represents an important resource that provides significant recreational, aesthetic, cultural and economic benefit to Washington citizens and to the Native American people of the area.

The Selkirk elk herd is a reintroduced herd resulting from a transplant of stock from Montana in 1915 and subsequent augmentations in 1932, 1969, 1970 and most recently in 2000 of stock from Yakima and Rattlesnake Hills (Hanford) Washington. The Spokane Tribe of Indians and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation have also transplanted elk to their respective reservations within the last 25 years. (Kieffer, B.J. pers. comm. 2000; Judd, S. pers. comm. 2000). These transplants have resulted in distinct elk populations that are not included with this plan but have contributed to the expansion of elk in northeastern Washington through emigration and expansion of range.

North of the Spokane River where elk are scattered in small groups over several counties, no complete surveys or statistical models have been employed to estimate total populations. In this area elk numbers are based on local knowledge gleaned from sporadic surveys, harvest data, and interviews with hunters. The current estimate for the northern area is about 1000 elk. The Hangman elk population is estimated to be ≥ 200 based upon population modeling, including survey and harvest data analysis from 1993 to 1997. The number of elk on Turnbull NWR for 1997 was estimated at 179 animals. The total Selkirk herd is estimated at 1,200 elk.

The elk population prior to the 1970's was primarily confined to northern Pend Oreille County. During the 70's and 80's elk expanded into Stevens and Spokane Counties. Significant expansion of elk numbers and distribution has occurred in the 90's into Ferry, Lincoln, southern Spokane and Whitman Counties.

Few elk were reported harvested from the 1930's to the early 1970's. With the gradual buildup and expanded distribution of elk in the Selkirk herd area hunter activity and elk harvest increased significantly. The elk harvest from 1994-1999 averaged 205 animals with an average of 4,596 hunters expending an average of 23,668 days of effort. The peak in harvest occurred in 1999 when 338 elk were reported taken, with a significant portion taken in the Hangman sub-herd area.

The purpose of this plan is to provide direction for the management of the Selkirk elk resource into the future. This is a five-year plan subject to amendment. Before the end of the fifth year of this plan, it should be updated, reevaluated, amended and carried out for another 5-year period. It

will be a valuable reference document and guideline for WDFW, Tribes, agency cooperators, landowners and the public. Priority management activities can be carried out as funding and resources become available.

Three primary goals in the Selkirk Elk Herd Plan are: (1) to manage the elk herd for a sustained yield; (2) to manage elk for a variety of recreational, educational and aesthetic purposes including hunting, scientific study, cultural and ceremonial uses by Native Americans, wildlife viewing and photography; and (3) to preserve, protect, perpetuate, manage and enhance elk and their habitats to ensure healthy, productive populations.

Specific elk herd and habitat management objectives, problems and strategies are identified. These are priority objectives identified to address specific problems in elk management. To accomplish each objective a variety of strategies have been developed. The following objectives have been identified:

- Manage the Selkirk Elk Herd using the best available science.
- Maintain current elk populations in non conflict areas and discourage elk expansion in western Stevens, northern Spokane and Ferry counties.
- Stabilize and maintain elk numbers at levels compatible with landowners and suburban expansion in PMU 12 (GMUs 127-142).
- Increase the elk population in eastern Stevens and Pend Oreille counties from 800 to 1,000 in keeping with habitat limitations and landowner tolerance.
- Manage PMU 10 for post hunting season bull ratios consistent with the statewide plan (currently ≥ 12 bulls per 100 cows) in combination with overall bull mortality rate $\leq 50\%$.
- Reduce poaching of elk.
- Reduce damage complaints caused by elk.
- Cooperate and collaborate with the Kalispel Tribe of Indians, Colville Confederated Tribes, and Spokane Tribe of Indians to implement the Selkirk Elk Herd Plan.
- Increase hunting opportunity while still maintaining population and bull escapement objectives.
- Increase baseline information on important elk habitats in the priority elk areas of the Selkirk herd.
- Maintain or improve current habitat capability, especially critical use areas on USFS lands in PMU 10 (Pend Oreille).
- Enhance nutritional quality and quantity of key elk winter and spring foraging areas.
- Encourage habitat improvement projects for elk in GMU 105 (Kelly Hill).
- Eliminate impacts to endangered caribou and grizzly bears in the northern half of GMU 113 (Selkirk).
- Increase public awareness of the elk resource and promote non consumptive values of elk including viewing and photography. Encourage more aesthetic appreciation of the Hangman sub-herd (GMUs 127-142).
- Reduce vehicle-elk collisions on major highways.

Spending priorities have been identified for the first year and the next five years. Achieving spending levels will be contingent upon availability of funds and creation of partnerships. The recommended prioritized expenditures for the Selkirk elk herd are as follows:

<u>Priority Expenditures</u>	<u>1st year</u>	<u>5 years</u>
● Harvest data collection.	\$5,000.00	\$25,000.00
● Herd surveys	\$6,000.00	\$30,000.00
● Habitat improvement	\$5,000.00	\$25,000.00
● Damage claims	\$1,000.00	\$5,000.00
● Road management	\$4,000.00	\$7,000.00
● Augment elk into GMUs 113 and 117.	\$2,000.00	\$10,000.00
● Establish public viewing areas.	\$0.00	\$29,000.00
● Reduce vehicle-elk accidents on highways	<u>\$25,000.00</u>	<u>\$25,000.00</u>
Total	\$48,000.00	\$156,000.00

SELKIRK ELK HERD PLAN

I Introduction

The herd plan is a step-down planning document under the umbrella of the Washington State Management Plan for Elk (McCall 1997) and the Environmental Impact Statement for Elk Management (McCall 1996). For management and administrative purposes the State has been divided into numerous Game Management Units (GMUs). A group of GMUs is described as a Population Management Unit (PMU). The Selkirk Elk Herd is one of ten herds designated in Washington (Appendix A). In this context an elk herd is defined as a population within a recognized boundary as described by a combination of GMUs. The Selkirk elk herd is currently in PMU 11, and has the following GMUs: 101 (Sherman), 105 (Kelly Hill), 109 (Three Forks), 113 (Selkirk), 117 (49 Degrees North), 121 (Huckleberry), 124 (Mount Spokane), 127 (Mica Peak), 130 (Cheney), 133 (Roosevelt), 136 (Harrington), 139 (Steptoe), and 142 (Almota).

The Selkirk Elk Herd Plan is a five-year planning document subject to annual review and amendment. Once approved the plan will remain in effect, as amended or until canceled. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) recognizes the sovereign status of federally recognized treaty tribes and executive order tribes. This document recognizes the responsibility of WDFW and the Kalispel Tribe of Indians, the Spokane Tribe of Indians, and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation to cooperate and collaborate. It also recognizes the role of private landowners and public land management agencies, notably the U.S. Forest Service, Washington Department of Natural Resources and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in elk management.

II Area Description

A. Location: The Selkirk elk herd is widely distributed as groups or sub-herds scattered throughout the Selkirk Mountains and Kettle Range of northeast Washington and the timbered and broken lands in southern and western Spokane, northern Lincoln, and Whitman counties.

The primary herd north of Spokane is centered in Pend Oreille County and includes GMU 113 (Selkirk) and the east portion of GMU 109 (Three Forks), GMU 117 (49 Degrees North) and the eastern portion, including northeastern Spokane County, of GMU 124 (Mount Spokane). More isolated, groups of elk are found in western Stevens County in portions of GMUs 105 (Kelly Hill), 109 (Three Forks), 121 (Huckleberry), and 124 (Mount Spokane); and in eastern Ferry County, GMU 101 (Sherman)(Appendix B).

Elk found south of Spokane are primarily centered in GMUs 127 (Mica) and 130 (Cheney). Elk are increasingly observed in Whitman County, GMUs 139 (Steptoe)

and 142 (Almota). Isolated groups are present in northern Lincoln County, GMU 133 (Roosevelt) and have expanded into southern Lincoln County, GMU 136 (Harrington).

- B. Ownership:** North of the Spokane River, ownership is an interspersed of public, private, and tribal lands. The U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Colville National Forest has the greatest percentage of elk habitats, but in most cases these elk also spend some time on adjacent private farms or industrial timber lands. Elk numbers are very limited on the Panhandle National Forest of eastern Pend Oreille County. Major industrial forest landowners include Boise Cascade and Stimson Lumber. The Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages limited, but relatively important, winter range for elk. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Little Pend Oreille Refuge) is a large area but has only limited elk use on the southern fringe. The (WDFW) owns little elk range in this area. Tribal lands include the Colville Indian Reservation in Ferry County, the Spokane Indian Reservation in Stevens County, and the Kalispell Indian Reservation in Pend Oreille County. The elk south of the Spokane River depends almost entirely on private land, with the exception of elk that use the Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge.
- C. Topography:** North of Spokane is a region of mountains, foothills, and agricultural valleys. The area south of Spokane consists of agricultural or shrub steppe plains, hills, and canyons. Elevations in the Selkirk elk herd area range from 1,200 feet at Keller Ferry along the Spokane River to 7,309 feet at Gypsy Peak in north Pend Oreille County. Elk generally are found at the mid range of elevations from 2,000-4,000 feet, with rare use of the high elevations.
- D. Vegetation:** The habitat used by the Selkirk herd is very diverse. The area north of Spokane is densely forested with an abundance of shrubs and forbs. The elk are not migratory and primarily use foothills at mid to lower elevations. Elk make extensive use of remote pastures, homestead meadows, and the limited natural grass openings where they abut core areas of elk habitats. These core areas are at the foothill elevations and provide abundant browse in shrub fields created by timber management or fire, and mature forest stands that provide thermal and security cover. The southern Spokane area is drier, where open timber is interspersed with suburban housing and large commercial hay and grain crops. Elk find security and thermal cover in areas such as Hangman Creek and Rock Creek canyons, the forested slopes of Mica Peak, and the diverse habitats of the Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge.

The climate in the northern area is characterized by warm, dry summers and cool, moist winters with considerable snow accumulation. Forage availability is limited to shrub browse during the winter. Snow depth restricts elk movements and often limits use of open clear-cuts and shrub forage to areas below 3500 feet elevation by

mid winter. Accessible winter range is limited, and elk, deer, and moose often forage in the same areas on the same browse species. In southern Spokane County it is drier and snow accumulation is not a significant factor for elk foraging.

- E. Other Ungulates:** The Selkirk herd is expanding its range into some of the better traditional deer habitat in the state. These elk generally use the same areas as white-tailed deer, and to a lesser degree, mule deer. Elk primarily overlap with white-tailed deer in Stevens, Pend Oreille, and Spokane counties. In Ferry, Lincoln, and Whitman counties both white-tailed deer and mule deer coexist. Moose are a relative newcomer to northeast Washington and have increased tremendously in the last decade. Moose are another large ungulate consuming shrubs along side elk on most forested elk habitat in the Selkirk Herd range. The recovery area of the endangered caribou overlaps or borders some elk range in northern Pend Oreille County, however, elk and caribou seldom use the same relatively high elevation habitats in this area. While there is little concern for interspecies competition, there is concern for enhancing white-tailed deer and elk in this area due to the positive effect this may have on cougar populations that prey on the caribou. Ongoing research will help to clear up this issue.

III. Distribution

- A. Historic Distribution:** Archeological evidence indicates that elk were once widely distributed in eastern Washington. Coullier et al., (1942) reported numerous split elk bones from archeological sites along the upper Columbia River from Marcus down river to Hellgate, indicating elk meat was an important part of the diet of Indians of this area. Rocky Mountain elk (*Cervus elaphus nelsoni*) were eliminated in eastern Washington by the late 1800's, except for possibly some remnant animals.

Elk from Montana were reintroduced to Stevens County in 1915 (Appendix C). There was also a small introduction of 5 elk to the Sullivan Lake area of Pend Oreille County in 1932. These were animals that the Manitou Park in Spokane could not care for during the depression era. The results of the release were monitored and recorded closely and by 1946 the USFS at Sullivan Lake reported sightings of elk from "all over the district." In 1950 there was an either-sex hunting season established with 14 animals reported taken. This was the first year elk was observed west of the Pend Oreille River and the first official elk damage complaint received from the Metaline Falls area (USFS files, 1950).

In 1969 and 1970, the Washington Department of Game transplanted elk from Yakima to Pend Oreille County. There have also been transplants in the last few decades to the Colville Indian Reservation (1977), Spokane Indian Reservation (1991), and in British Columbia (north of Northport, WA). Most recently (2000) the WDFW transplanted 82 elk to augment populations in central Pend Oreille County (GMUs 113 and 117) from the Hanford Elk Herd on the Arid Lands

Ecology Reserve. All elk reintroduced to northeast Washington are believed to be of Rocky Mountain elk origin, with ancestry originating from Yellowstone National Park.

- B. Current Distribution:** Elk have dispersed over most of the forested uplands throughout northeast Washington (eastern Ferry, Stevens, Pend Oreille, and northern Spokane counties). Riparian zones and timber cover provide habitat for elk south of the Spokane River in southern Spokane and Lincoln counties (GMUs 127, 130, 133). Elk numbers are high in GMU 130 (on and adjacent to Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge) and occasionally in parts of Whitman County (GMUs 139 and 142), (Appendix D). Dispersion of elk appears to have stabilized in most areas but continues in southern Pend Oreille-north Spokane, Ferry, and western and southern Stevens counties.
- C. Proposed Distribution:** The area north of the Spokane River is heavily forested with considerable rugged, mountainous terrain. The distribution of elk will not likely change much as the result of management by WDFW. Local population levels may be increased where greater numbers are desired through habitat improvement projects, augmentations, or reducing mortality. While population levels can be suppressed by adjusting harvest strategies it does not appear reasonable at this time that elk would actually be eliminated from large areas or that establishment of isolated groups of elk in new areas can be completely curtailed. This plan does not recommend a significant change in the distribution of elk as it presently exists. The plan will address specific GMUs or parts of GMUs where expansion of elk numbers and distribution is acceptable and encouraged, and in units or areas where it is recommended elk be discouraged from increasing due to potential or ongoing agricultural damage or suburban conflicts. In elk damage areas, especially in south Spokane County, WDFW will continue to pursue strategies to stabilize the elk population in balance with landowner tolerance.

Wildlife experts and layman continue to debate whether there may be interspecific competition between deer and elk, at the expense of deer where it occurs. At this point the greatest concern is where elk have the potential to expand and increase into the major mule deer habitats of Ferry, Lincoln, and Okanogan counties. While there is limited data to support or refute the interspecific competition hypothesis, this plan will follow the summary statement by Lindzey, et. al., (1997): *“It seems prudent to assume elk can reduce the quality of those ranges for deer, despite the paucity of data documenting competition. Management plans should recognize the possibility of competition and the potential negative influence of this interaction on deer populations.”*

IV Herd Management

A. Herd History, Current Status, and Management Activities:

History of management: Management of the Selkirk Herd has been by Game Management Units (GMUs). As elk have colonized new areas expanding their distribution into more GMUs, the boundary of the Selkirk Herd management area has expanded accordingly. There have generally been two sub-herds recognized but not specifically identified in the past as Population Management Units (PMU's) within the Selkirk Herd. The Units north of the Spokane River will be referred to as the Pend Oreille population (GMUs 101-124) and throughout this plan as the Pend Oreille PMU 10. The Units south of the Spokane River will be referred to as the Hangman population (GMUs 127-142) and the PMU 12 (Hangman), (Appendix B).

The units with large public or industrial timber lands in Pend Oreille and eastern Stevens counties have been managed for maximum elk distribution and numbers. Hunting has been for any bull with antlerless hunting by limited permit to provide additional opportunity or to address ongoing elk damage to crops (Appendix E). As elk distribution expanded, the objective has been to limit elk numbers in agricultural and urban growth areas (western Stevens, Spokane counties) or the prime mule deer areas (Ferry and Okanogan counties) while still allowing for elk presence at tolerable levels. Season lengths have been consistent with the general eastern Washington seasons, however, elk of either-sex have generally been legal. The Hangman sub-herd has provided a variety of hunt options to maximize hunter access to private lands and crop or harass elk that cause conflict or damage.

Estimated Population Size: North of the Spokane River where elk are scattered in small groups over several counties, no complete surveys or statistical models have been employed to estimate total populations. In this area elk numbers are based on local knowledge gleaned from sporadic surveys, harvest data, and interviews with hunters. The current estimate for the Pend Oreille sub-herd is 1000 elk. Following the June 1997 aerial survey, the Hangman elk population was estimated to be 115-219 (95% C.I.) (W. Myers, pers. comm. 2000, not referenced). Based upon population modeling, including survey and harvest data from 1993 to 1997, the actual number of elk probably lies at the upper level of the estimated range. A reasonable estimate of the elk on Turnbull NWR for 1997 is 179 animals. The total Selkirk herd is estimated at 1,200 elk.

Population Status and Trend: Early elk viewing and hunting within the Selkirk Herd was primarily confined to northern Pend Oreille County prior to the 1970's. During the 70's and 80's there was a gradual expansion of elk distribution, and thus total numbers, into most of Pend Oreille, northern and eastern Stevens, and eastern Spokane counties. In the 90's a significant and continued expansion of elk numbers and distribution south of the Spokane River in Spokane and Whitman counties occurred. Smaller but numerous groups of elk continue to expand into nearly all

parts of Stevens County. North of the Reservation, in the eastern portion of Ferry County, there is relatively stable but widely distributed small groups of elk. Lincoln County has a few isolated groups while elk seem to be expanding west into the southern part of the county. Total elk numbers have increased significantly over the last several decades, but this is due to expansion into new range rather than increases in areas that were popular for elk 20 years ago.

On both the Spokane and Colville Indian Reservations there are substantial elk populations as a result of transplants by the tribal wildlife departments in the last few decades. These herds have expanded and occasional emigration or expansion of their range has contributed to the presence of elk in the southern Huckleberry Mountain Range and northern Lincoln County.

More recently the northern Selkirk populations, especially in Pend Oreille County, suffered high mortality due to the severe winter of 1996/97 and relatively high predation from cougars since the mid 1990's. Bull harvest has declined in recent years. Elk harvest in the Pend Oreille management units averaged 74 (range 58-95) from 1992-96. The 1997-98 average kill was only 26 (range 19-33). However, a considerable amount of this bull harvest decline may also be attributed to shorter seasons and poor hunting weather during that time. Harvest increased significantly in 1999, as conditions improved for hunting.

In February and March of 2000, 82 elk (61 cows, 21 calves) from Hanford (Arid Lands Ecology Reserve) were transplanted to central Pend Oreille County in GMUs 113 (Selkirk) 55 elk and GMU 117 (49 Degrees North) 27 elk. Blood samples taken from a sample of transplanted mature cow elk indicated a 92.6% pregnancy rate.

Continued expansion of small groups of elk into non elk areas is anticipated. Populations in the old traditional elk areas are expected to fluctuate, but no dramatic increases or decreases from the average population levels of the last decade are expected.

Population surveys (herd composition/calf survival/bull escapement): In the northern units adequate composition data is not available due to limited and sporadic surveys. Sample sizes have not been sufficient to estimate bull:cow ratios, but the percentage of adult bulls in the harvest averaged 50% (1995-99). Percentage of harvested mature (six-point and greater) bulls averaged 24% (Appendix F). This data, and the limited survey data available, indicates adequate bull escapement (estimated overall bull mortality rate of 50%) for general bull hunting herd management.

Calf ratios in early spring in northern areas have ranged from 34-62 per 100 cows in recent years (Appendix G). Bulls are observed at this time, but mature bulls are often not with the cows at this season so the ratios are not representative of the true

ratio. These ground surveys are conducted by both biologists and volunteer sportsmen. During aerial surveys for moose in December 2000, biologists classified 32 elk as well; with a bull:cow:calf ratio of 15/100/45.

In the Hangman area post-season surveys were conducted from a combination of ground and aerial techniques 1996 - 1997. The bull:cow ratios were inconsistent from year to year because of very small number of animals observed. There is a need for more consistent surveys with an improvement in sampling.

Recreational harvest: From 1994 to 1999, the elk harvest for the Selkirk Herd averaged 205 elk (range: 115-338). For this period hunters harvested an average of 111 antlered (range: 35-222) and 94 antlerless (range: 52-132) elk (Appendix H). The majority of the antlerless harvest was from the Hangman population. The large increase in 1999 was primarily due to a shift from an antlerless permit only hunt in much of the Hangman sub-herd in 1998 to a general season, open to all hunters for any elk.

In the Pend Oreille sub-herd the primary elk (eastern half) GMUs have been managed under a bull only hunting strategy since 1985. Generally limited modern firearm antlerless permits were available to provide additional recreational opportunity as well as to reduce damage. The western portion of the Pend Oreille sub-herd has been managed to control elk expansion and numbers through an either-sex hunting strategy for over a decade. Because elk are scattered and difficult to locate, harvest levels have been low. The 6 year (1994-99) harvest averaged 104 (range: 52-131), 71 antlered (range:29-111), 33 antlerless (range: 14-61); 68% of the harvest were antlered (Appendix I).

The Hangman area has experienced a dramatic increase in elk since the late 1980's. While an occasional elk observation was reported from the 1930's to 1970's, sport harvest of an elk was rare. The elk population began building in the late-1980's, apparently immigrating west from Idaho and south from Mt. Spokane. Five elk were harvested in the same area in 1986. The harvest of elk increased 113% (62-132) from 1992 to 1996. Since 1996 hunter opportunity has been adjusted to meet herd management objectives. The 94-99 average harvest was 101 elk (range: 21-213), 40 antlered (range: 2-111), 61 antlerless (range: 19-103) (Appendix J). Shifting from permit controlled hunting to open seasons in 1999 dramatically increased hunter pressure and harvest. Also, damage claims have been replaced by landowners who now respond to increasing elk numbers by leasing out hunting access on their property. Whether WDFW can achieve management goals from year to year largely depends on continued landowner cooperation and favorable climatic conditions during the hunting season.

Tribal Hunting: Tribal hunting of elk does not significantly effect elk management of the Selkirk Herd at this time. Elk are present and hunted near the shared

boundaries of both the Kalispel Tribe of Indians and Spokane Tribe of Indians reservations where habitat is contiguous and elk movements include both on and off reservation. Neither tribe has off reservation hunting rights so these elk are hunted off-reservation under the state hunting seasons and rules. Elk management objectives differ between WDFW in GMU 121 Huckleberry and Spokane Tribe on the adjacent Spokane Indian Reservation to the south. Tribal objectives provide for maximum elk numbers and distribution while WDFW has managed for controlling elk expansion and numbers. Elk use the areas north and south of the Reservation and the Spokane Tribe is concerned that the state either-sex hunt may be a significant impact on continued growth of their local population. State and Tribal personnel will continue to jointly monitor the hunting activities and harvest. Special regulations to reduce high cow harvest may be necessary if excessive cows are taken during the state hunting season.

Members of the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT) retain their hunting rights on the North Half of the original Colville reservation, which includes northern Ferry County (GMU 101) and Stevens County (GMU 105) west of the Columbia River, as well as part of Okanogan County (GMU 204). Tribal and state biologists have collaborated and coordinated wildlife management efforts with an objective of controlling elk expansion in this area of shared management. The tribal harvest has been, at most, a couple elk per year. While this plan addresses elk management objectives the plan embraces and honors the Cooperative Agreement between the Colville Tribe and WDFW, April 4, 1998 (Appendix Q).

Damage Removal: Damage to agricultural crops has been an ongoing problem in the Hangman PMU and in northern Pend Oreille County. In the Hangman PMU various hunting season alternatives have been employed to manage elk numbers, e.g., any elk permits, any elk general hunts, muzzle loader or Advanced Hunter Education (AHE) late antlerless hunts. In northern Pend Oreille County offending animals are exceptionally hard to kill and permits or special hunts have not been effective. Generally direct compensation has been necessary. There have been few damage removal elk kills outside of the hunting seasons established by WDFW. A significant number of animals will probably not be removed in the future with kill permits, special damage “hot spot” hunt permits, landowner damage hunts, or trap and transplant. But, these tools are available and will be used if they will reasonably and effectively address the problems.

If elk damage becomes a serious issue in the vicinity of any of the three local Indian reservations WDFW will involve the tribal biologists to develop strategies for alleviating the damage. In these instances the landowner, state, and tribe all have a stake in resolving the damage issue.

Poaching: The extent of poaching in the Selkirk Herd is unknown. Elk poaching has occurred and arrests have been made. According to studies by Smith et al.

(1994), in those areas of Washington State, 59% of total mortality was related to hunter harvest, 15% to poaching, 12% to malnutrition, 7% to wounding loss, 2% to predation, 1% to vehicle collisions, <1% to accidents, and 3% to unknown causes.

Predation: The Hangman elk are likely affected less by predators than in the northern mountainous portion of the Selkirk Herd. While southern Spokane County has few black bear and cougar, areas in Ferry, Pend Oreille, and Stevens counties have some of the highest black bear and cougar densities in the state. In 1998 the black bear harvest in the Selkirk Herd was 500 bears (WDFW 1999 Game Harvest Report) the highest harvest in the state and 28% of the state total harvest. That same year 78 cougar were harvested in the herd area; 37% of the state total. No predation specific mortality studies have been initiated in the Selkirk Herd and no data is available to estimate the impact of predation on these elk.

B. Social and Economic Values

Economic Value: The value of elk to the state and local economies was estimated to be as high as \$1,945 per harvested elk in the Blue Mountains (Myers 1999). The 1996 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation reported that trip and equipment expenditures for big game hunting in 1996 averaged \$860 per hunter (U.S. Dept. of Interior, et al. 1996). There were 8,286 elk hunters reported hunting the Selkirk Herd in 1999. Using the \$860 average expenditure per hunter from the National Survey, Selkirk Herd elk hunters added \$7,125,960 to the local and state economy in 1999. This is especially important in the Pend Oreille PMU where the economy is depressed. The Pend Oreille PMU accounted for 5,980 of the reported hunters, generating more than 5 million dollars for the area.

Hunters and Hunter Days: The estimated number of elk hunters in the Selkirk Herd declined from 6,772 in 1995 to 3,255 in 1997 (Appendix L). Low hunter participation and success in 1997 is consistent with all ungulate species that year due to the loss of animals in the severe winter of 1996/97. Hunter numbers recovered in 1999 to 8,286 which is above the 1994-99 average of 5,485 hunters. Hunters numbers in the Hangman PMU vary considerably due to the type of seasons offered, i.e., permit only, any elk, extra muzzleloader or AHE damage hunts.

Harvest Strategies: The entire Selkirk Herd has always been managed under an "any-bull" strategy. Bull mortality rates have not been high enough to warrant recommending antler restrictions.

The eastern portion of the Pend Oreille PMU has provided limited opportunity for antlerless hunting through either-sex elk permits. Hunters reported only a 3-21% success rate in the last 3 years (Appendix K). Over the 3-year period (97-99) there were 255 permits issued and only 1 antlered and 24 antlerless animals were reported

taken for an average success of 10%. This is an exceptionally low success rate for permit hunts and indicates permits can provide added opportunity for individuals to hunt antlerless animals with minimal impact on the elk population. However, special permits during the general elk hunt do not appear to promote effective antlerless harvest for purposes of population reduction and damage control.

Antlerless permits were eliminated in GMUs 113 and 117 for the 2000 hunting season to protect the elk translocation efforts conducted earlier in the year. Some form of antlerless hunting opportunity will be part of the management strategy for these units as well as the rest of the Pend Oreille PMU in the future.

The western portion of the Pend Oreille PMU has been managed for either-sex hunting since 1990. Elk are scattered and harvest is low, however this area provides considerable elk hunting opportunity. There is strong local interest in the elk, and elk hunter numbers are increasing. In Stevens County, WDFW is concerned that elk numbers will continue to increase and cause damage or exceed landowner tolerance. Either-sex hunting during the general seasons has helped to keep elk numbers in check in agricultural areas while having minimal impacts in the large contiguous forest habitats. Future hunting seasons will use different strategies in agricultural areas and forest habitats. More conservative harvest and/or elk habitat improvement projects are strategies to address differences in population goals, e.g., areas adjacent to the Spokane Reservation in GMU 121, and the large USFS contiguous forest lands in GMU 105.

The PMU 12 (Hangman) has been managed under an any-bull strategy with antlerless permits for modern firearm as well as special extended antlerless opportunities for muzzleloaders and Advanced Hunter Education (AHE) graduates. The Hangman area is nearly all private lands, and a significant amount of it is suburban. Access for hunters has been a management challenge. Harvest strategies for the Hangman area have been to maximize hunter access on to private lands and reduce or harass elk that are creating damage. The department will continue to encourage the Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge to allow hunting to address the increasing number of elk that retreat to the Refuge during the open hunting seasons.

Specific recommendations for harvest strategies will be made every three years as a part of the current WDFW Commission policy of adopting hunting seasons for a three-year period with annual establishment of permit seasons and necessary amendments. The three-year hunting package will serve as the harvest management implementation plan. Tribal participation in the formulation of specific recommendations and harvest strategies begins at the regional level. WDFW regional staff and field personnel meet with tribal representatives to coordinate harvest management strategies and other elk management activities.

Nonconsumptive Uses: Elk viewing is a popular recreation activity in Pend Oreille and Stevens counties where rural life and hunting traditions contribute to interests in viewing big game. The most significant viewing occurs in spring and to a lesser extent summer, when elk forage in farm fields. Most elk viewing occurs from public roads. Many people view elk on clear cuts and natural meadows on USFS administered lands. There may be a potential to develop elk viewing opportunities in the Hangman Unit on public lands owned by Spokane County.

Damage: Elk damage to agricultural crops and fences has been most severe in the Hangman PMU. Human/elk conflicts have escalated in the Hangman PMU since the 1980's due to increased elk numbers and distribution in the suburban and agricultural areas. Elk management in the Hangman PMU is complicated by county shooting closures, Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge (closed to hunting and providing a permanent sanctuary), and the difficulties of hunter access on small private ownerships.

The WDFW has expended a great deal of effort to control elk by gaining access for hunters on private lands. The establishment of Advanced Hunter Education (AHE) graduate hunts were designed to provide safe, ethical hunting on private lands. Liberal harvest of antlerless elk has been the primary strategy for reducing damage. In some cases landowner preference permits, landowner damage hunts and hot spot hunts have been issued to satisfy landowner complaints.

In northern Pend Oreille County (GMUs 109 and 113), damage to crops and fences is serious but limited to the same few farms each year (Appendices L and M). In this area, antlerless permit hunting during the regular season has not been effective in reducing elk numbers. Cash compensation authorized by RCW 77.36.005 - 040 has been used on some occasions to address landowner complaints (Appendix N). In Stevens County (GMUs 117 and 121), several groups of elk regularly come into farm fields that abut forested habitat. So far landowners have tolerated elk, however, it may be only a matter of time before landowners will seek elk suppression or compensation.

In the future all the options used in the past, as well as new innovative approaches, to reduce damage will be used. Since general antlerless permit hunts have not been very effective in targeting the offending animals, options that direct the harvest toward specific locations of concern will be considered. Damage Access permits may at times be the most efficient means of dealing with the problem.

The 'landowner damage hunt' is designed to allow landowners to provide or sell access to hunters (with valid elk tags) of their choosing to harvest problem elk on their property. Upon completing investigations of crop damage claims, WDFW officers may issue a specified number of antlerless elk permits to the landowners for transfer or sale to hunters of their choice to remove the problem elk. As a result the

landowners are compensated and damage is reduced or eliminated. WAC 232-28-266 sets the parameters for this hunt with a statewide kill quota of 100 antlerless elk (Appendix O).

V Habitat Management

The elk in the northern Selkirk Herd are scattered over large public and private forest lands in groups generally less than 20 animals. This area is not a classic grass elk range; populations are logically going to be limited due to the shrub/forb type of habitat relative to the carrying capacity of an open forest and grass habitat. Beyond that, there is no scientific information on what limits elk populations here, but the quality and quantity of low elevation winter browse and early spring grass foraging areas are thought to be significant factors. Timber management activities on private industrial forest and USFS lands provide widespread early successional shrub and forb foraging habitat, especially for summer range. The fact there is very little grass range in this area (none available in winter) likely limits the elk group sizes and maintains the herd as many small groups of elk scattered over a wide area.

Less logging on USFS lands now and potentially in the future may need to be offset with more aggressive prescribed fire management for adequate forage production. The key will be in identifying and intensively managing the critical areas. Industrial timber companies have logged extensively since the late-1970's and elk have expanded into most of these areas, taking advantage of the abundant forage. On private lands more attention may need to be directed toward cover:forage ratios and juxtaposition of clear cuts and dense forests. In some areas open road densities may be excessive.

Local members of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) have been very strong supporters of elk enhancement projects and have involved a wide variety of partners for cooperative funding. While the Colville National Forest has been the primary project partner, there are also several projects that have involved the state agencies, tribes, private timber companies, other federal agencies, and conservation groups. From 1989 through 1999 the RMEF and partners funded \$590,869 worth of elk projects in northeast Washington (Appendix P).

Habitat protection and enhancement projects are vital for maintaining or enhancing Selkirk elk populations. WDFW will encourage project funding and help identify critical elk project areas or needs. Priority for projects should be in the primary elk management units of the Pend Oreille PMU or other large contiguous private, DNR and USFS forest lands in GMU 105 (Kelly Hill). The concerns for elk damage in this unit are outside of the large block of USFS lands. Projects within the large blocks of forest lands would serve to provide incentive for elk that are already present in the area to remain there adjacent to British Columbia, Canada where elk are encouraged. This management direction would serve to compliment elk management along the international border of Washington and British Columbia, Canada.

VI Research Needs

No formal elk research projects have been initiated in the Selkirk Herd. Thirteen of the elk translocated from Hanford to Pend Oreille County in February-March, 2000 were fitted with radio transmitters. These elk have been regularly monitored by the Pend Oreille County Sportsman's Club and the Inland Northwest Wildlife Council.

Information on survival and movements of the released elk was the primary objective, however, additional information on resident elk habitat use patterns has been gained when these elk associated with the local resident elk.

A major WDFW research project titled "Population Regulation and Habitat Ecology of Mule Deer in North-Central and Northeast Washington" began early in 2000. One of the core areas for this study is Ferry County, with some potential work in GMU 105. The focus of this study is mule deer, but one of the objectives listed is to determine the landscape level habitat association relationships between mule deer, white-tailed deer, elk, and bighorn sheep. The methods include mapping (GIS layer) these species range, comparing the characteristics of sympatric ranges and evaluating impacts from competing species, measuring densities of the various species on sympatric ranges, and developing a model which predicts future sympatry and impacts to mule deer numbers. This research is the best opportunity to scientifically address the issue of encouraging or discouraging elk in primary mule deer units like GMU 101 in Ferry County. While there is no current recommendation to increase elk in Ferry County, it is suggested that elk funds from RMEF and matching funds from WDFW, USFS, CCT, or other private or agency groups interested in elk contribute to this project and encourage research directed toward the elk / mule deer competition. This study provides an excellent opportunity to contribute scientific knowledge that can be used in the Selkirk Herd and other like habitats throughout the west.

Elk damage to commercial agricultural areas is an ongoing problem in the Hangman PMU, and a variety of techniques are used to address this problem. The effectiveness of some of these damage control methods are unknown. Similarly, the landscape characteristics which contribute to damage areas are unknown. Factors which may predispose areas to damage, such as cultural practices (cultivating techniques, crops grown), landscape characteristics, and elk behavior need to be evaluated.

VII Herd Management Goals

This Plan provides the historical background, current condition and trend of this important resource. It is essentially an assessment document that, identifies management problems, develops solutions to overcome these problems, and sets direction. The plan outlines strategies and establishes priorities in resolving management of the elk herd. It provides a readily accessible resource for biological information collected from the herd and identifies inadequacies in scientific information. The goals of the Selkirk Elk Herd plan are:

- 1.) To manage the Selkirk Elk Herd for a sustained yield.
- 2.) To manage elk for a variety of recreational, educational and aesthetic purposes including hunting, scientific study, wildlife viewing and photography.

- 3.) Protect, manage and enhance elk habitats to ensure healthy, productive populations.

VIII Management Objectives, Problems and Strategies

The objectives and strategies for the Selkirk Herd will be grouped into three subsections including the Selkirk Herd as a whole and 2 PMU sub-herds. PMU 10 (Pend Oreille) will be managed for maximum elk population levels in keeping with habitat limitations and landowner tolerance in GMUs 109 (east of Aladdin - Northport Road), 113 and 117. The objective for the western and southern portion of the PMU in GMUs 109 (west of Aladdin - Northport Road), 121, 124, 105 and 101 will be to maintain and control elk distribution and numbers at current levels except for specific large public forest blocks as in northern GMU 105 where elk habitat enhancement will be encouraged. PMU 12, (Hangman), GMU's 127-142 includes the primary elk areas of northern Lincoln and southern Spokane counties, but also includes peripheral units in these counties as well as Whitman County where elk show up from time to time. The management objective here is to intensively manage the elk population to a level that is tolerable to agricultural landowners and the problems associated with the expanding suburban areas.

A. Overall Selkirk Elk Herd Management Objectives, Problems and Strategies:

1. *Objective:* Manage the Selkirk Elk Herd using the best available science.

Problem: Lack of consistent herd survey data prevents a thorough analysis of the status and trends of the population over time.

Strategies:

- a. Increase level of surveys to more precisely (90% C.I. of $\leq 10\%$ of the mean) document herd demographics and population size.
- b. Continue to investigate and experiment with survey protocol and timing and standardize data collection methods.

Problem: Current spring survey intensity is inadequate and accuracy is questionable.

Strategies:

- a. Continue to experiment with composition flight surveys to monitor annual production and bull:cow ratios.
- b. Increase efforts to utilize formal trained volunteers to conduct spring ground surveys to estimate post winter recruitment rates and document trend counts.
- c. Monitor bull antler classes to determine age distribution.

Problem: Harvest information (kill and hunter effort) collected from report cards and the hunter questionnaire is not providing accurate information for use at the GMU level.

Strategies:

- a. Increase precision and accuracy of recreational harvest through mandatory harvest reporting by hunters.
- b. Continue to track trends in percent yearling and six-point or greater bulls in the harvest to monitor age composition, bull mortality rates and availability of quality bulls.
- c. Work cooperatively with tribal wildlife personnel to monitor elk populations and resolve elk issues that may occur near reservation boundaries or on the “North Half” of the Colville Indian Reservation.

2. *Objective:* Reduce poaching of elk.

Problem: Most elk poaching occurs during fall hunting seasons (Smith, et al., 1994).

Strategies:

- a. Maintain separate firearm seasons for deer and elk with little or no overlap.
- b. Identify areas with high road density that lack security cover and work with landowners or agencies to develop a road management program that provides an adequate level of security while allowing reasonable hunter opportunity.
- c. Increase awareness of the problem and work with local sports groups, landowners, and the public in combating illegal elk hunting.

3. *Objective:* Reduce damage complaints caused by elk.

Problem: Elk damage to agricultural crops, fences, and nuisance in urban conflict areas is increasing.

Strategies:

- a. Use, landowner damage access permits, “feel-free-to-hunt” programs, hot-spot hunts, direct cash settlement, and other methods to address damage problems where the problem is site-specific. General any elk hunts are recommended where the objective is to control or reduce populations at the GMU or PMU level.
- b. Maintain general antlerless harvest within the capabilities of the elk population (7-11% of the antlerless segment of the population) at the GMU level to manage populations within habitat capabilities
- c. Encourage habitat enhancement projects on public lands to attract and hold elk there rather than the private agricultural lands.
- d. Carefully evaluate any elk transplant efforts and avoid releasing elk where damage exists or is a potential.
- e. In PMU 12 (Hangman) use preventive methods to reduce damage during the non hunting season, such as herding and harassing elk through the use of cracker shells, firecrackers, propane guns, and shotguns.

4. *Objective:* Increase public awareness of the elk resource and promote non consumptive values of elk including viewing and photography.

Problem: Many people are not aware of where and when elk viewing opportunities exist.

Strategies:

- a. Develop a brochure for the public with general information on where elk are likely to be found and their natural history and management.
- b. Consider listing popular spring viewing areas for elk in watchable wildlife viewing guides.
- c. Consider enhancing popular viewing sites with fertilizer and seeding of preferred forage species. This will promote greater use by elk, increase viewing opportunities, and provide improved nutrition for elk at critical times.

**F. Pend Oreille Sub-herd Management Objectives, Problems and Strategies:
PMU 10 - (GMUs 101-124)**

1. *Objective:* Increase the elk population from 800 to 1,000 in keeping with habitat limitations and landowner tolerance.

Problem: There appears to be a significant increase in potential elk forage in the central area of Pend Oreille and eastern Stevens counties due to extensive logging from the mid 1980's to mid 1990's.

Strategies:

- a. Continue to monitor the success of the Hanford elk transplant effort and evaluate the need for releasing more animals if the opportunity arises. The number of additional animals for release will depend on an evaluation of recruitment to the herd from the 2000 transplant.
 - b. Due to habitat limitations, elk damage or concern for damage problems and potential conflicts with caribou recovery efforts, future transplants will be targeted for central Pend Oreille County.
2. *Objective:* Manage PMU 10 for post hunting season bull ratios of ≥ 15 bulls per 100 cows in combination with overall bull mortality rate of $< 50\%$.

Problem: The survey and harvest sample sizes are so small that bull ratios and mortality rates are not precisely known.

Strategies:

- a. Maintain current management strategies at least through 2002 to determine whether they continue to achieve bull:cow ratio objective.
- b. Evaluate bull elk survivorship under any-bull harvest strategy with regard to

- achieving bull:cow ratios and bull survivorship objective.
- c. Implement mandatory elk hunter reporting in 2001 and use harvest report data to determine bull mortality rates and trends.
 - d. Experiment with flight survey timing to monitor post hunting season bull ratios. Efficiency may be gained by combining early winter moose and elk surveys.
3. *Objective:* Increase hunting opportunity while still maintaining population and bull escapement objectives.

Problem: Precision of elk population and harvest data limits ability to manage for maximum recreational opportunity.

Strategies:

- a. With increased precision of population and harvest information provide antlerless opportunity for modern firearm, muzzleloader, and archery at the harvest rate of 7-11% of the antlerless segment of the population in GMU's 109, 113 and 117.
 - b. Evaluate methods of increasing bull hunting opportunity (more days, season timing) if enhanced survey data indicates bull escapement consistently exceeds objectives.
4. *Objective:* Eliminate impacts to endangered caribou and grizzly bear in the northern half of GMU 113.

Problem: Human caused mortality by illegal shooting or killing grizzly bears in self defense is apparently the limiting factor in the recovery of the Selkirk grizzly bear population (McLellan et al., 1999; Knick and Kasworm, 1989).

Strategies:

- a. Educate elk hunters on recovery efforts for caribou and grizzly bear by providing brochures and posting signs. Provide educational patrols to alert hunters to the potential for conflict with grizzly bear when recovering game or hanging elk near camp.
 - b. Restrict vehicle access from certain areas to provide secure habitat for caribou and grizzly bear.
 - c. Increase enforcement emphasis in the recovery areas during elk hunting seasons.
5. *Objective:* Maintain current elk populations in non conflict areas and discourage elk expansion in western Stevens, northern Spokane and Ferry counties.

Problem: Most of the PMU has not been occupied by elk until recently and the potential for damage or conflict with farms and home-sites is increasing and

would be difficult, if not impossible, to alleviate. Increased numbers of elk in GMU 101 in northern Ferry County has the potential to impact important historic mule deer habitat.

Strategies:

- a. Maintain either-sex hunting seasons for elk in GMU's 101, 105, 109 (west of Aladdin - Northport Road), and 124 (west of Highway 395). Harvest strategies should promote antlerless harvest as a means of reaching the population goals. These units can still be managed for and produce quality bulls while maintaining limited population levels.
 - b. Maintain current elk numbers and control distribution in GMU 124 as it appears the population is at or above landowner tolerance levels given the increasing suburban expansion.
6. *Objective:* Cooperate and collaborate with the Kalispel Tribe of Indians, Colville Confederated Tribes and Spokane Tribe of Indians to implement the Selkirk Elk Herd Plan.

Problem: Tribal coordination is imperative to accomplish elk herd management goals and objectives. Where management philosophies and direction differ from this plan there must be continued cooperation and collaboration for the best interest of the elk resource on and off the reservations.

Strategies:

- a. Fully execute and sustain the Agreement between the WDFW and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation.
- b. Discuss and/or coordinate hunting season proposals with tribal biologists.
- c. Share harvest data, hunter patrol, and survey information with tribal biologists to provide the best available knowledge to document potential conflicts arising from elk harvest management.
- d. Through collaborative efforts with tribal biologists, develop harvest recommendations to address problem elk or management issues.

**C. Hangman Sub-herd Management Objectives, Problems and Strategies
PMU 12 (GMUs 127-142)**

1. *Objective:* Stabilize and maintain elk numbers at levels compatible with landowners and suburban expansion.

Problem: Elk are continuing to increase in the urban and agricultural areas and causing nuisance conflicts and agricultural damage. Elk numbers and distribution exceed landowner tolerance at various times and places. Recreational hunting programs are difficult to manage because of differences in landownership.

Strategies:

- a. Use recreational hunting opportunities to control and manage elk numbers and distribution. Stabilize elk herd growth through continued liberal recreational harvest by providing either-sex general or, where appropriate, special permit elk hunts. To achieve harvest, long seasons may be needed when weather conditions make elk more available to hunters.
 - b. Encourage Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge to consider a hunting program to address the increasing number of elk using the refuge.
 - c. Discourage elk expansion in mule deer habitats in GMU 133.
 - d. Continue to use hot spot hunts and landowner damage hunts to target depredating elk. In specified damage areas, special hunts either early or late may be used to address specific problems.
 - e. Work with individuals or groups of landowners and develop incentive programs or conservation easements that reward them for maintaining or enhancing elk populations and elk use opportunities, including hunting, on their lands.
 - f. During closed hunting seasons, use nonfatal methods to reduce damage, such as herding and harassing elk through the use of cracker shells, firecrackers, propane guns, and shotguns.
2. *Objective:* Encourage more aesthetic appreciation of this elk sub-herd by the public

Problem: The second largest human population center in the state is within a short drive of this elk herd.

Strategies:

- a. Supply the public with information on these elk through the WDFW Web page and other media opportunities.
 - b. Seek funding and construct viewing blinds on Spokane County public lands.
3. *Objective:* Reduce vehicle-elk collisions on major highways.

Problem: Elk vehicle collisions are an increasing problem that diminishes the resource and a serious threat to public health in this area. Annually, more than 15 elk are lost on Highway 195 south of Spokane from collisions between vehicles and elk. An increasing number of elk are also lost on Interstate Highway 90. The State Department of Transportation requires detailed studies to identify elk crossings on highways and movement patterns before considering actions to reduce elk-vehicle collisions.

Strategies:

- a. Capture and equip about 25 elk with telemetry, from appropriate locations to determine movement patterns across highways.
- b. Work with the Department of Transportation to sign or otherwise alert the motorists of the hazard.

- c. Continue to monitor vehicle/elk collisions on Highway 195 and I-90.
- d. Determine seasonal movements of elk and interchange of animals between groups in the Hangman area.

IX Habitat Management Objectives and Strategies:

- 1 *Objective:* Maintain or improve current habitat capability, especially critical use areas on USFS lands in PMU 10 (Pend Oreille).

Problem: Reduced timber harvest activities on USFS lands may result in declining elk forage availability.

Strategies:

- a. Work with USFS to identify and map important elk range and encourage site specific timber and prescribed fire management to maintain habitat capability with appropriate forage:cover ratios.
2. *Objective:* Enhance nutritional quality and quantity of key elk winter and spring foraging areas.

Problem: Quality, quantity, and availability of elk winter and early spring forage may be a critical elk population limiting factor in PMU 10 (Pend Oreille).

Strategies:

- a. Encourage USFS, DNR, and industrial timberland owners to implement controlled burns to enhance forage production; protect and enhance hardwoods, aspen stands, riparian areas; fertilize and seed meadows; and plant clover and grass mixtures on log landings, skid trails, and closed roads.
 - b. Encourage and help facilitate continued partnerships, especially with Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF), to improve elk habitat. While WDFW owns little elk habitat, upland restoration, wildlife, and habitat program biologists and staff can provide assistance in identifying key areas and writing habitat improvement proposals, and assist in completion of the project.
 - c. Encourage USFS, DNR, and industrial timberland owners to reduce the density of open roads to 1 mi/mi² in important elk habitat areas.
 - d. Continue habitat enhancement projects on WDFW lands in the LeClerc Creek area.
3. *Objective:* Encourage habitat improvement projects for elk in GMU 105 (Kelly Hill).

Problem: There is a large block of USFS, DNR and corporate timber land contiguous with British Columbia that has potential for elk habitat

enhancement in GMU 105. WDFW has not encouraged elk enhancement projects here in the past due to the no-elk expansion objective in this unit. This plan revises that direction and provides support to potential cooperators for habitat enhancement in areas where there are no conflicts with agriculture.

Strategies:

- a. Encourage Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) to develop partnerships with USFS, Boise Cascade Corporation and DNR or other large forest landowners to improve elk habitat in this area. Implement controlled burns to enhance browse; fertilize and seed meadows; and plant clover and grass mixtures on log landings, skid trails, and closed roads.
 - b. Close appropriate roads to provide elk secure habitat away from private agricultural and residential property while still providing reasonable road access for hunting opportunity (<1 mi/mi² of open road).
4. *Objective:* Increase baseline information on important elk habitat in the priority elk areas of the Selkirk Herd.

Problem: The limited habitat mapping information gathered to date on elk has generally been from anecdotal observations and communication with knowledgeable locals rather than specific survey data.

Strategies:

- a. Increase efforts to identify, map, and evaluate important elk habitat. This may be accomplished by focusing more survey and cooperative project monies (WDFW, USFS, USFWS and RMEF) toward identification of elk distribution and seasonal use locations.
- b. Continue the radio telemetry tracking cooperative project in Pend Oreille County and collar additional animals if more elk are released. Direct tracking efforts on late winter and early spring use areas.
- c. Seek funding and cooperators to study elk distribution and movement patterns in PMU 12 (Hangman).
- d. Coordinate elk surveys with early winter moose surveys and acquire GPS locations of observed elk. Map early spring elk observations made by trained observers.

X Spending Priorities

- A. Harvest Estimates:** Increase the precision and accuracy of recreational harvest estimation from the Selkirk Herd to the PMU level.

Priority: High

Time Line: 2001 and annually.

Cost: \$10,500

- B. Field Surveys:** Standardize data collection for managing the Selkirk Herd and develop a scientifically sound approach to collecting data. Increase survey

efforts. Increased survey effort means more precise estimates of the elk population and greater knowledge of key use areas which can be targeted for habitat improvement or protection projects. Aerial survey time will need to be enhanced considerably, estimated flight budget for enhanced surveys of the Selkirk herd is \$6,000.

Priority: High

Time Line: 2001 - Ongoing

Cost: \$6000 annually

- C. Habitat Improvement:** Provide a pool of WDFW “matching” money for initiating cooperative projects with RMEF, USFS, DNR, Stimson Lumber Co., Boise Cascade, WDFW lands, or other interested parties. It is currently difficult for WDFW to become a partner because there is no matching money or means of providing a match to attract partners.

Priority: High

Time Line: 2002 FY - Ongoing

Cost: \$3000 annually

- D. Damage Claims:** Provide adequate compensation to landowners who experience elk damage to agricultural crops in PMU 10 (Pend Oreille) where the objective is to maintain maximum elk numbers in keeping with habitat limitations and landowner tolerance. The number and monetary value of complaints is small for this area, so compensation may be the most cost-effective method of dealing with damage.

Priority: Moderate

Time Line: Ongoing

Cost: \$1000 annually

- E. Road Management:** Assist other agencies and industrial timber owners to install and enforce road closures where WDFW has identified a priority need for elk enhancement and signed a cooperative agreement.

Priority: Moderate

Time Line: Ongoing

Cost: \$2000

- F. Elk Augmentation:** Continue transplants to portions of GMU’s 113 and 117 where the potential for conflict with agriculture or caribou recovery efforts is considered minimal. Augmentation is not a high priority for the Selkirk herd. If there continues to be a need to place animals captured for removal from Hanford then elk populations in Pend Oreille County can benefit from the boost in numbers. It also provides the opportunity to insert radio marked animals into these local elk groups for collection of information on preferred habitat use areas and mortality rates. The PMU 10 population objective is to increase elk numbers by 200. Eighty-two elk were transplanted in late winter 2000, with some known losses as well as calf production, the balance of which is unknown. The current objective will be to accept up to 100 additional elk.

Priority: Moderate

Time Line: 2001-2002

Cost: \$7000 (Radios, monitoring, elk transportation only)

- G. Elk Mortalities on Highways:** Reduce vehicle/elk collisions on I-90 and Highway 195. Determine the timing of elk movements and locations of highway crossings to reduce elk mortalities and improve highway safety. Make recommendation to the Department of Transportation to provide safe crossings for elk and improve highway safety. Spokane County is developing their Master Comprehensive Plan for growth management purposes. The delineation and zoning of an “Open Space Plan” which includes wildlife corridors and linkages is important to the future of the Hangman sub-herd. A two year study was initiated in 2001 with funding provided by ALEA grant and matching funds from Safari Club International.

Priority: High

Time Line: 2001 thru 2004

Cost: \$25,000

- H. Establish an elk public viewing area:** The Hangman sub-herd is within 10 to 15 minutes travel time of the Spokane metropolitan area and nearly 500,000 people. It is estimated that less than 5% of these residents know of the existence of this elk herd and even less have ever observed these elk. Spokane County has already purchased several parcels of land with their “Conservation Futures” funding. A watchable wildlife viewing area may be possible if a sites are amenable.

Priority: Moderate

Time Line: 2001 thru 2004

Cost: \$29,000.00

XI Herd Plan Review and Amendment

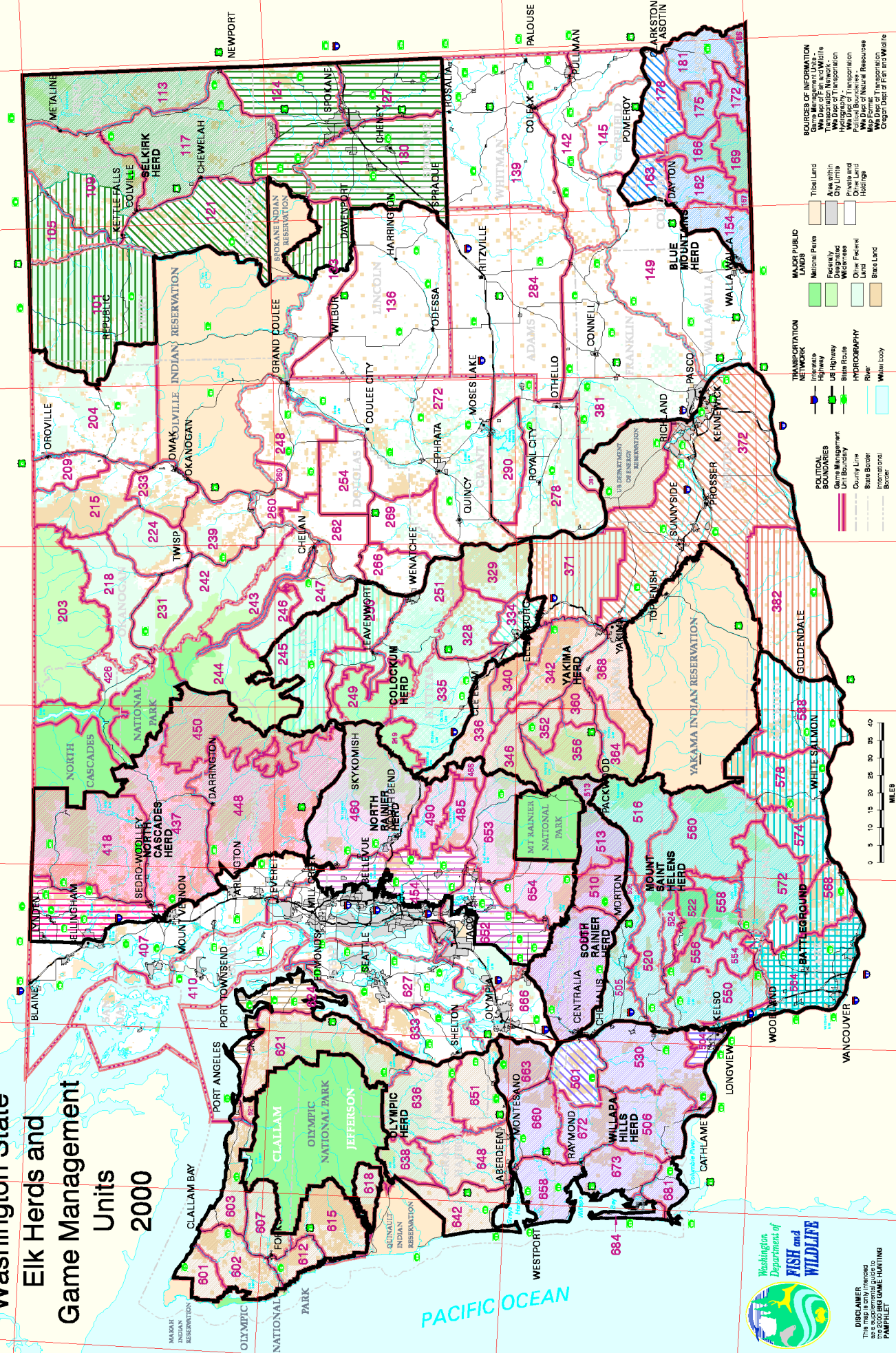
The Selkirk Elk Herd Plan is identified as a five-year document subject to annual review and amendment. As new information is gathered and conditions change it will be necessary to maintain a free exchange of communication between WDFW, Tribes, and cooperators. An annual review of the plan by WDFW will be announced and new information and emergent issued shared with all cooperators.

XII Literature Cited

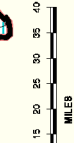
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APPENDIX A Selkirk Elk Herd Location in Northeastern Washington

Washington State Elk Herds and Game Management Units 2000



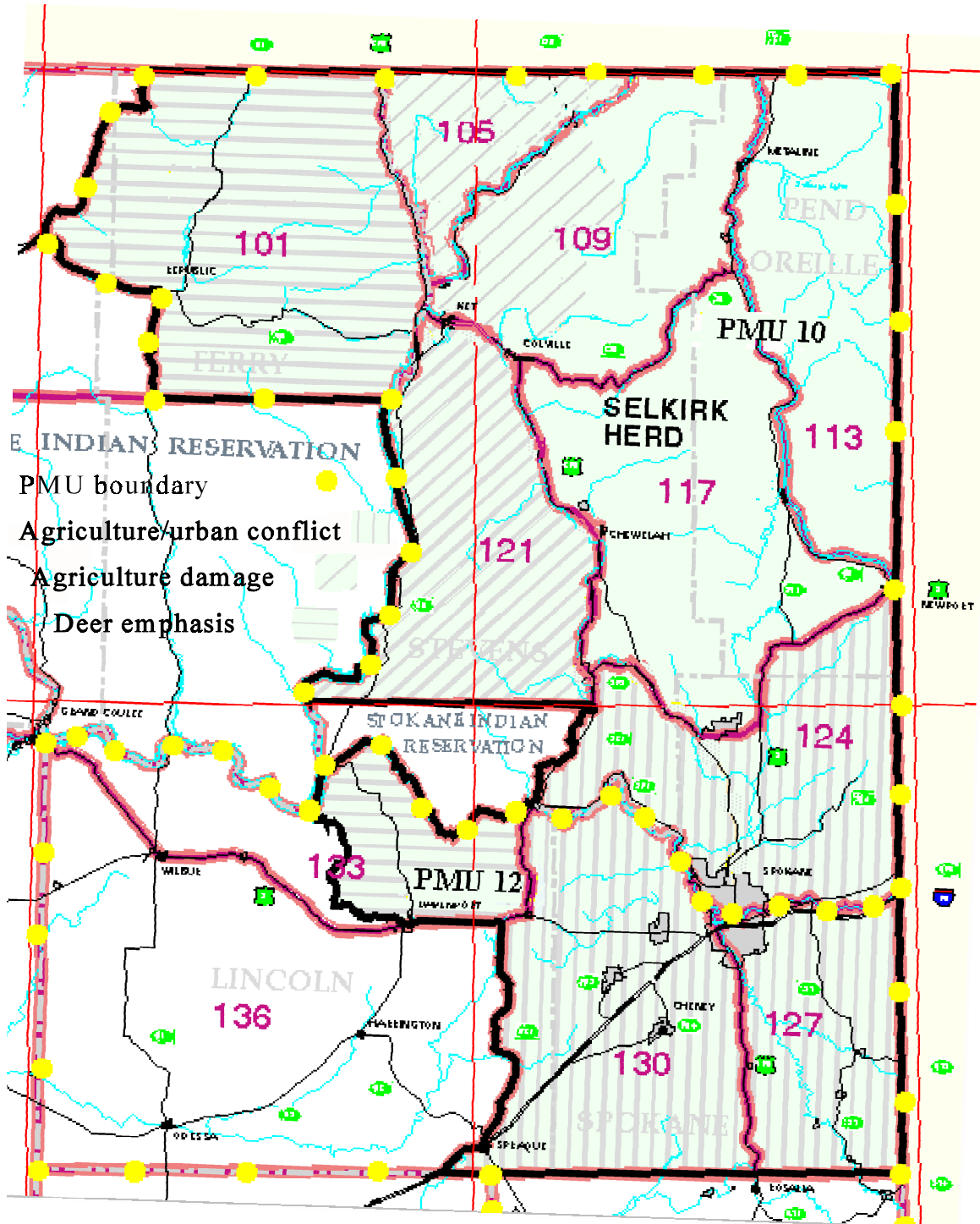
- SOURCES OF INFORMATION**
- Wa Dept of Fish and Wildlife
 - Wa Dept of Natural Resources
 - Hydrography
 - Political Boundaries
 - Wa Dept of Transportation
 - Congress Dept of Fish and Wildlife
- MAPS PUBLIC LANDS**
- National Parks
 - Federal
 - State
 - Private
 - Other Federal Land
 - State Land
 - Blue Land
- TRANSPORTATION NETWORK**
- Interstate
 - Highway
 - US Highway
 - State Route
 - Waterway
 - River
 - Water body
- POLITICAL BOUNDARIES**
- County Line
 - State Boundary
 - International Boundary
- HYDROGRAPHY**
- River
 - Water body



Washington Department of FISH and WILDLIFE

DISCLAIMER
This map is only intended as a general guide to use. Please refer to the legal description for specific boundary locations.

APPENDIX B The Selkirk Elk Herd Area



APPENDIX C WDFW Elk Releases in the Range of the Selkirk Elk Herd

Date	Location of release	Number released	Origin of elk
1915	E of Colville and Chewelah, Stevens County	4	Yellowstone Natl. Park
1932	Sullivan Lake Area, Pend Oreille County	6	Montana via Spokane Park
1969	E of River N of Ione, Pend Oreille County	34	Yakima
1969	Sullivan Lake Area, Pend Oreille County	5	Seattle Zoo
1970	W Branch LeClerc Creek, Pend Oreille County	26	Yakima
2000	Central Pend Oreille County	82	Hanford

APPENDIX D Selkirk Elk Herd Seasonal Distribution Map

NOT YET AVAILABLE

APPENDIX E Elk Hunting Seasons in the Selkirk Herd

YEAR	GMU # & Permit (#s)	DATES	DAYS	LEGAL ANIMAL	HUNT DESCRIPTION AND TAG TYPE
2000	101, 105, 109, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136, 113, 117.	09/01 - 09/14	14	Any Elk	Early Archery General (EA)
		09/01 - 09/14	14	Any Bull	
	101, 105, 121, 124, 127, 117.	11/22 - 12/08	17	Any Elk	Late Archery General (EA)
		11/22 - 12/08	17	Any Bull	
	109, 127, 130, 133, 136.	10/07 - 10/13	7	Any Bull	Early Muzzleloader General (EM)
		10/07 - 10/13	7	Any Elk	
	130, 133, 136.	11/22 - 12/08	17	Any Elk	Late Muzzleloader General (EM)
	109, 113, 117, 124 E. of Hwy 395.	10/28 - 11/05	9	Any Bull	Modern Firearm General (EF)
10/28 - 11/05		9	Any Elk		
101, 105, 121, 124W, 127, 130, 133, 136.	12/09 - 12/31	23	Any Elk	Elk Hunts Open to Specified Tag Holders (EA, EM)	
127, 130, 133, 136. AHE Only	10/23 - 11/05	14	Any Elk	Modern Firearm Permit Hunts (EF, EM)	
109 Three Forks (20) 124 E. 395, Mt. Spokane (50)	10/23 - 11/05	14	Any Elk		
1999	101, 105, 109, 113, 117, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	09/01 - 09/14	14	Any Elk	Early Archery General (NA)
		09/01 - 09/14	14	Any Bull	
	101, 105, 117, 121, 124, 127, 130.	11/24 - 12/15	22	Any Elk	Late Archery General (NA)
		11/24 - 12/15	22	Any Bull	
	109.	10/09 - 10/15	7	Any Bull	Early Muzzleloader General (NM)
	127, 130, 133, 136.	11/24 - 12/15	22	Any Elk	Late Muzzleloader General (NM)
	101, 105, 109, 113, 117, 121, 124, 133, 136.	10/30 - 11/07	9	Any Bull	Modern Firearm General (NF)
		10/30 - 11/07	9	Any Elk	
101, 105, 121, 124W of hwy 395, 127, 130, 133, 136.	11/01 - 11/07	7	Any Elk	Modern Firearm Permit Hunts (EF, EM)	
109, 113, 117 Pend Oreille (50) 124 E. 395, Mt. Spokane (50) 127, 130 Mica/Cheney (250)	10/30 - 11/07	9	Any Elk		
	10/16 - 11/07	23	Antlerless Only		
109, 113, 117, 121, 124, 127, 130. Northeast (15).	11/02 - 11/15	14	Antlerless	Persons of Disability Permit Hunt (NF, NM, NA)	
1998	101, 105, 109, 113, 117, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	09/01 - 09/14	14	Any Elk	Early Archery General (NA)
		09/01 - 09/14	14	Any Bull	
	101, 105, 117, 121, 124, 127, 130.	11/25 - 12/15	21	Any Elk	Late Archery General (NA)
		11/25 - 12/15	21	Any Bull	
	109.	10/10 - 10/16	7	Any Bull	Early Muzzleloader General (NM)
	127, 130, 133, 136.	11/25 - 12/15	21	Any Elk	Late Muzzleloader General (NM)
	101, 105, 109, 113, 117, 121, 124, 133, 136.	10/31 - 11/08	9	Any Bull	Modern Firearm General (NF)
10/31 - 11/08		9	Any Elk		
101, 105, 121, 124W of hwy 395, 133, 136.	11/02 - 11/08	7	Antlerless Only	Modern Firearm Permit Hunts (NG, NM)	
109, 113, 117, 124E. Hwy 395 Northeast (80). 127, 130 Mica/Cheney (250).	10/17 - 11/08	23	Antlerless Only		

1997	101, 105, 109, 113, 117, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	09/01 - 09/14	14	Any Elk	Early Archery General (BA)
	101, 105, 117, 121, 124, 127.	11/26 - 12/15	20	Any Elk	Late Archery General (BA)
	109.	10/04 - 10/10	7	Any Bull	Early Muzzleloader General (BM)
	130, 133, 136.	11/26 - 12/15	20	Any Elk	Late Muzzleloader General (BM)
	101, 105, 109, 113, 117, 121, 124, 133, 136.	10/25 - 11/02 10/27 - 11/02	9 7	Any Bull Any Bull	Modern Firearm General (BG) Modern Firearm General (BP)
	101, 105, 121, 124W of hwy 395, 133, 136. 127, 130.	10/25 - 11/02 10/20 - 11/20	9 32	Any Elk Any Elk	Elk Hunts Open to Specified Tag Holders (BG, BP) Elk Hunts Open to Specified Tag Holders (BA, BG, BP, BM)
	109, 113, 117, 124E. Hwy 395 Northeast (80). 127, 130 Mica/Cheney (250).	10/29 - 11/02 10/11 - 11/02	5 23	Antlerless Only Antlerless Only	Modern Firearm Permit Hunts (BP, BM)
1996	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 119, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	09/01 - 09/14	14	Either-sex	Early Archery General (BA)
	103, 118, 121, 124, 127, 133.	11/27 - 12/15	19	Either-sex	Late Archery General (BA)
	127, 130, 133, 136.	11/27 - 12/15	19	Either-sex	Late Muzzleloader General (BM)
	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 119, 121, 124, 133, 136.	10/30 - 11/10 11/02 - 11/10	12 9	Male elk with visible antlers	Modern Firearm General (BG) Modern Firearm General (BP)
	100, 103, 105, 108, 121, 124W of hwy 395, 133, 136. Elk Area 010. (AHE Only)	11/02 - 11/10 10/20 - 11/20	9 32	Either-sex Either-sex	Elk Hunts Open to Specified Tag Holders (BG, BP) (BA, BG, BP, BM)
	111 Aladdin, (15). 113 Selkirk (15). 124 Mt. Spokane (50). 127, 130 Mica/Cheney (250).	11/02 - 11/10 11/02 - 11/10 11/02 - 11/10 10/12 - 11/10	9 9 9 30	Antlerless Only Antlerless Only Antlerless Only Antlerless Only	Modern Firearm Permit Hunts (BP, BM)
1995	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 119, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	09/01 - 09/14	14	Either-sex	Early Archery General (BA)
	103, 118, 121, 124, 127.	11/22 - 12/15	24	Either-sex	Late Archery General (BA)
	130, 133, 136.	11/22 - 12/15	24	Either-sex	Late Muzzleloader General (BM)
	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 119, 121, 124, 133, 136.	10/30 - 11/10 11/02 - 11/10	12 9	Male elk with visible antlers	Modern Firearm General (BG) Modern Firearm General (BP)
	100, 103, 105, 108, 121, 124W of hwy 395, 133, 136. Elk Area 010. (AHE Only)	10/28 - 11/05 10/20 - 11/20	9 32	Either-sex Either-sex	Elk Hunts Open to Specified Tag Holders (BB, BC) (BA, BB, BC, BM)
	111 Aladdin, (30). 113 Selkirk (35). 124 Mt. Spokane (30). 127, 130 Mica/Cheney (250).	10/28 - 11/05 10/28 - 11/05 10/28 - 11/05 10/28 - 11/05	9 9 9 9	Antlerless Only Antlerless Only Antlerless Only Antlerless Only	Modern Firearm Permit Hunts (BP, BM)
1994	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	09/01 - 09/14	14	Either-sex	Early Archery General (BA)
	103, 118, 121, 124, 127.	11/23 - 12/15	23	Either-sex	Late Archery General (BA)
	130, 133, 136.	11/23 - 12/15	23	Either-sex	Late Muzzleloader General (BM)

	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 119, 121, 124, 133, 136.	10/30 - 11/10 11/02 - 11/10	12 9	Male elk with visible antlers	Modern Firearm General (BG) Modern Firearm General (BP)
	100, 103, 105, 108, 121, 124W of Hwy 395, 133, 136.	10/29 - 11/06	9	Either-sex	Elk Hunts Open to Specified Tag Holders (BE, BL)
	111 Aladdin, (30). 113 Selkirk (50). 124 Mt. Spokane (30). 127, 130 Mica/Cheney (250).	10/29 - 11/06 10/29 - 11/06 10/29 - 11/06 10/29 - 11/06	9 9 9 9	Either-sex Either-sex Antlerless Only Either-sex	Modern Firearm Permit Hunts (BL, BM)
	Elk Area 010, S. Spokane (25)	10/20 - 11/20	32	Either-sex	Special Permit Hunt for Advanced Hunter Education
1993	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	10/01 - 10/14	14	Either-sex	Early Archery General (BA)
	118, 121, 124, 127.	11/24 - 12/15	22	Either-sex	Late Archery General (BA)
	130, 133, 136.	11/24 - 12/15	22	Either-sex	Late Muzzleloader General (BM)
	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 119, 121, 124, 133, 136.	11/03 - 11/14 11/06 - 11/14	12 9	Male elk with visible antlers	Modern Firearm General (BE) Modern Firearm General (BL)
	100, 103, 105, 108, 121, 124W of Hwy 395, 133, 136.	10/30 - 11/07	9	Either-sex	Elk Hunts Open to Specified Tag Holders (BE, BL)
	111 Aladdin, (30). 113 Selkirk (50). 124 Mt. Spokane (30). 127, 130 Mica/Cheney (150).	10/30 - 11/07 10/30 - 11/07 10/30 - 11/07 10/30 - 11/07	9 9 9 9	Either-sex Either-sex Antlerless Only Either-sex	Modern Firearm Permit Hunts (BL, BM)
1992	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	10/01 - 10/14	14	Either-sex	Early Archery General (BA)
	118, 121, 124, 127.	11/25 - 12/15	21	Either-sex	Late Archery General (BA)
	130, 133, 136.	11/25 - 12/15	21	Either-sex	Late Muzzleloader General (BM)
	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 119, 121, 124, 133, 136.	11/04 - 11/15 11/07 - 11/15	12 9	Male elk with visible antlers	Modern Firearm General (BE) Modern Firearm General (BL)
	100, 103, 105, 108, 121, 124W of Hwy 395, 133, 136.	10/31 - 11/08	9	Either-sex	Elk Hunts Open to Specified Tag Holders (BE, BL)
	111 Aladdin, (15). 113 Selkirk (30). 124 Mt. Spokane (30). 127, 130 Mica/Cheney (150).	10/31 - 11/07 10/31 - 11/07 10/31 - 11/07 10/31 - 11/07	8 8 8 8	Either-sex Either-sex Antlerless Only Either-sex	Modern Firearm Permit Hunts (BL, BM)
1991	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	09/28 - 10/11	14	Either-sex	Early Archery General (BA)
	118, 121, 124, 127.	11/27 - 12/15	19	Either-sex	Late Archery General (BA)
	130, 133, 136.	11/27 - 12/15	19	Either-sex	Late Muzzleloader General (BM)
	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 119, 121, 124, 133, 136.	11/06 - 11/17 11/09 - 11/17	12 9	Male elk with visible antlers	Modern Firearm General (BE) Modern Firearm General (BL)
	100, 103, 105, 108, 121, 124W of Hwy 395, 127, 130, 133, 136.	11/02 - 11/10	9	Either-sex	Elk Hunts Open to Specified Tag Holders (BE, BL)
	111 Aladdin, (15). 113 Selkirk (30). 124 Mt. Spokane (30).	10/31 - 11/07 10/31 - 11/07 10/31 - 11/07	8 8 8	Either-sex Either-sex Antlerless Only	Modern Firearm Permit Hunts (BL, BM)

1990	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	09/29 - 10/12	14	Either-sex	Early Archery General (BA)
	118.	11/21 - 12/09	19	Either-sex	Late Archery General (BA)
	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 119, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	10/31 - 11/11 11/03 - 11/11	12 9	Male elk with visible antlers	Modern Firearm General (BE) Modern Firearm General (BL)
	100, 103, 105, 108, 121.	11/03 - 11/11	9	Either-sex	Elk Hunts Open to Specified Tag Holders (BE, BL)
	111 Aladdin, (15). 113 Selkirk (30). 127, 130 Mica/Cheney (30).	11/03 - 11/11 11/03 - 11/11 11/03 - 11/11	8 8 8	Either-sex Either-sex Either-sex	Modern Firearm Permit Hunts (BL, BM)
1989	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	09/30 - 10/13	14	Either-sex	Early Archery General (BA)
	118.	11/27 - 12/10	14	Either-sex	Late Archery General (BA)
	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 119, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	10/25 - 11/05 10/28 - 11/05	12 9	Male elk with visible antlers	Modern Firearm General (BE) Modern Firearm General (BL)
	111 Aladdin, (15). 113 Selkirk (30). 127, 130 Mica/Cheney (30).	10/28 - 11/05 10/28 - 11/05 10/28 - 11/05	8 8 8	Either-sex Either-sex Either-sex	Modern Firearm Permit Hunts (BL, BM)
1988	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	10/01 - 10/14	14	Either-sex	Early Archery General (BA)
	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 119, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	10/26 - 11/06 10/29 - 11/06	12 9	Male elk with visible antlers	Modern Firearm General (BE) Modern Firearm General (BL)
	111 Aladdin, (15). 127 Mica Peak (50). 127 Mica Peak (50). 130 Cheney (10).	10/29 - 11/06 10/29 - 11/06 01/14 - 02/12 10/29 - 11/06	9 9 29 9	Either-sex Either-sex Antlerless Only Either-sex	Modern Firearm Permit Hunts (BL, BM)
1987	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	10/01 - 10/16	16	Either-sex	Early Archery General
	100, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113, 118, 119, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	10/28 - 11/08 10/31 - 11/08	12 9	Male elk with visible antlers	Modern Firearm General (BE) Modern Firearm General (BL)
1986	100, 103, 105, 107, 108, 110, 112, 115, 118, 121, 124.	09/20 - 09/22 09/23 - 09/30	3 8	Bull Only Either-sex	Early Archery General
	100, 103, 105, 107, 108, 110, 112, 115, 118, 119, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	10/29 - 11/09 11/01 - 11/09	12 9	Male elk with visible antlers	Modern Firearm General (BE) Modern Firearm General (BL)
1985	100, 103, 105, 107, 108, 110, 112, 115, 118, 121, 124.	09/21 - 09/24 09/25 - 09/30	4 6	Bull Only Either-sex	Early Archery General
	100, 103, 105, 107, 108, 110, 112, 115, 118, 119, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	10/30 - 11/10 11/02 - 11/10	12 9	Male elk with visible antlers	Modern Firearm General (BE) Modern Firearm General (BL)

1984	100, 103, 105, 107, 108, 110, 112, 115, 118, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	10/01 - 10/05 10/06 - 10/12	5 7	Bull Only Either-sex	Early Archery General
	100, 103, 105, 107, 108, 110, 112, 115, 118, 119, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	10/31 - 11/11 11/03 - 11/11	12 9	Male elk with visible antlers	Modern Firearm General (BE) Modern Firearm General (BL)
	105, 107, 108, 110, 118, 119, 121, 124.	11/03 - 11/11	9	Either-sex	Either-sex elk seasons (BL)
	Elk Area 012, Pend Oreille (20)	11/03 - 11/11	9	Either-sex	Special Permit Hunting Season
1983	100, 103, 105, 107, 108, 110, 112, 115, 118, 119, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	11/02 - 11/13 11/05 - 11/13	12 9	Male elk with visible antlers	Modern Firearm General (A) Modern Firearm General (B)
	105, 107, 109, 118, 119, 121, 124.	11/05 - 11/13	9	Either-sex	Either-sex elk seasons (B)
	Elk Area 012, Pend Oreille (15)	11/05 - 11/13	9	Either-sex	Special Permit Hunting Season
1982	100, 103, 105, 107, 108, 110, 112, 115, 118, 119, 121, 124, 127, 130, 133, 136.	11/03 - 11/14	12	Male elk with visible antlers	Modern Firearm General (M)
	105, 109, 118, 119, 121, 124.	11/03 - 11/14	9	Either-sex	Either-sex elk seasons (M)
	Elk Area 012, Pend Oreille (15)	11/06 - 11/14	9	Either-sex	Special Permit Hunting Season

APPENDIX F Report Card and Field Check Elk Antler Point Data, GMUs 101-124.

Year	Sample	% Yearling	% 1-2 Points	% 3-5 Points	% 6+ Points
1985	20	45	45	10	45
1986	17	29	29	24	47
1987	14	36	36	28	36
1988	30	53	53	20	27
1989	23	48	48	35	17
1990	19	53	53	21	26
1991	28	43	43	39	18
1992	35	54	54	34	12
1993	33	33	33	36	30
1994	26	35	35	23	42
1995	39	46	46	31	23
1996	45	46	46	27	27
1997	21	52	52	19	29
1998	16	44	44	31	25
1999	28	61	61	21	18

APPENDIX G Pend Oreille PMU Elk Classification Surveys, March-April

Year	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Total	Ratio
1992	7	61	21	89	11/100/34
1995	9	38	13	60	24/100/34
1998	11	95	59	165	12/100/62
1999	5	96	40	141	05/100/42
2000	1	66	27	94	01/100/41

APPENDIX H Elk Harvest and Hunter Trends for the Selkirk Herd, 1994-1999

Year	Antlered	Antlerless	Total Harvest	Hunters	Hunter Days
1994	117	113	230	5,299	21,718
1995	138	52	190	6,772	23,717
1996	99	132	231	5,334	19,271
1997	54	68	122	3,255	13,046
1998	35	80	115	3,966	16,287
1999	222	116	338	8,286	47,970

APPENDIX I Elk Harvest and Hunter Trends for the Pend Oreille PMU, 1994-1999

Year	Antlered	Antlerless	Total Harvest	Hunters	Hunter Days
1994	77	46	123	4,386	18,071
1995	107	24	131	5,705	20,032
1996	70	29	99	4,333	14,303
1997	29	23	52	2,531	9,490
1998	33	61	94	3,599	14,487
1999	111	14	125	5,980	31,753

APPENDIX J Elk Harvest and Hunter Trends for the Hangman PMU, 1994-1999

Year	Antlered	Antlerless	Total Harvest	Hunters	Hunter Days
1994	40	67	107	913	3,647
1995	31	28	59	1,067	3,685
1996	29	103	132	1,207	4,968
1997	25	45	70	726	3,557
1998	2	19	21	368	1,798
1999	111	102	213	2,306	16,217

APPENDIX K Pend Oreille PMU Special Elk Permit Hunting Activity, 1997-99

Year	Area	Permits	Reports Returned	Hunters	Elk Killed	% Hunter Success	Days per Hunter
1997	Northeast	75	74	70	11	15.7	4.4
1998	Northeast	80	65	61	13	21.3	4.3
1999	Pend Oreille	50	36	33	1	3.0	5.6
1999	Mt. Spokane	50	38	33	6	18.2	4.9

APPENDIX L Selkirk Elk Herd Agricultural Damage Formal Claims (1990 - 1999)

County	Date	Species	Crop	Claimed	Paid	Status
Pend Oreille	10/05/99	elk	alfalfa	\$1,000	\$920	paid partial
Pend Oreille	11/30/98	elk	alfalfa	\$1,000	\$920	paid partial
Pend Oreille	10/24/97	elk	alfalfa	\$1,200	\$760	paid partial
Pend Oreille	12/31/97	elk/deer	alfalfa	\$1,000	\$0	rejected
Spokane	1996	elk	hay	\$1,920	\$1,260	paid partial
Lincoln	10/31/96	elk	alfalfa	\$4,500	\$2,916	paid partial
Pend Oreille	12/05/96	elk/deer	alfalfa/grass	\$2,000	\$2,000	paid in full
Pend Oreille	12/10/96	elk	alfalfa	\$1,800	\$950	paid partial
Pend Oreille	11/16/95	elk	alfalfa	\$1,000	\$712	paid partial
Pend Oreille	11/21/95	elk/deer	alfalfa	\$1,000	\$736	paid partial
Pend Oreille	1994	elk/deer	alfalfa/grass	\$1,000	\$720	paid partial
Pend Oreille	1994	elk	alfalfa	\$2,460	\$780	paid partial
Pend Oreille	1993	elk	alfalfa	\$2,550	\$1,000	paid partial
Pend Oreille	1993	elk/deer	alfalfa	\$1,000	\$1,000	paid in full
Spokane	1993	elk	hay	\$2,000	\$2,000	paid in full
Pend Oreille	1992	elk	alfalfa	\$1,950	\$611	paid partial
Pend Oreille	1991	elk/deer	alfalfa	\$3,000	\$600	paid partial
Pend Oreille	1991	elk/deer	alfalfa	\$500	\$0	rejected
(No Claims)	1990					

APPENDIX M Selkirk Elk Herd Agricultural Damage Claims - Annual Summary

Year	# Claims	Claim Amount	# Claims Paid	Amount Paid	Claims Rejected
1999	1	\$1,000.00	1	\$920.00	0
1998	1	\$1,000.00	1	\$920.00	0
1997	2	\$2,200.00	1	\$760.00	1
1996	4	\$10,220.00	4	\$7,126.00	0
1995	2	\$2,000.00	2	\$1,448.00	0
1994	2	\$3,460.00	2	\$1,500.00	0
1993	3	\$5,550.00	3	\$4,000.00	0
1992	1	\$1,950.00	1	\$611.00	0
1991	2	\$3,500.00	1	\$600.00	1
1990 - 1980	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0
TOTALS	18	\$30,880.00	16	\$17,885.00	2

APPENDIX N Management Authority and Strategies For Controlling Elk Damage

Authority:

RCW 77.36.005

Findings.

The legislature finds that:

(1) As the number of people in the state grows and wildlife habitat is altered, people will encounter wildlife more frequently. As a result, conflicts between humans and wildlife will also increase. Wildlife is a public resource of significant value to the people of the state and the responsibility to minimize and resolve these conflicts is shared by all citizens of the state.

(2) In particular, the state recognizes the importance of commercial agricultural and horticultural crop production and the value of healthy deer and elk populations, which can damage such crops. The legislature further finds that damage prevention is key to maintaining healthy deer and elk populations, wildlife-related recreational opportunities, and commercially productive agricultural and horticultural crops, and that the state, participants in wildlife recreation, and private landowners and tenants share the responsibility for damage prevention. Toward this end, the legislature encourages landowners and tenants to contribute through their land management practices to healthy wildlife populations and to provide access for related recreation. It is in the best interests of the state for the department of fish and wildlife to respond quickly to wildlife damage complaints and to work with these landowners and tenants to minimize and/or prevent damages and conflicts while maintaining deer and elk populations for enjoyment by all citizens of the state.

(3) A timely and simplified process for resolving claims for damages caused by deer and elk for commercial agricultural or horticultural products is beneficial to the claimant and the state.
[1996 c 54 § 1.]

RCW 77.36.010

Definitions.

Unless otherwise specified, the following definitions apply throughout this chapter:

(1) "Crop" means a commercially raised horticultural and/or agricultural product and includes growing or harvested product but does not include livestock. For the purposes of this chapter all parts of horticultural trees shall be considered a crop and shall be eligible for claims.

(2) "Emergency" means an unforeseen circumstance beyond the control of the landowner or tenant that presents a real and immediate threat to crops, domestic animals, or fowl.

(3) "Immediate family member" means spouse, brother, sister, grandparent, parent, child, or grandchild.
[1996 c 54 § 2.]

RCW 77.36.020

Game damage control -- Special hunt.

The department shall work closely with landowners and tenants suffering game damage problems to control damage without killing the animals when practical, to increase the harvest of damage-causing animals in hunting seasons, and to kill the animals when no other practical means of damage control is feasible.

If the department receives recurring complaints regarding property being damaged as described in this section or RCW 77.36.030 from the owner or tenant of real property, or receives such complaints from several such owners or tenants in a locale, the commission shall consider conducting a special hunt or special hunts to reduce the potential for such damage.

[1996 c 54 § 3.]

RCW 77.36.030

Trapping or killing wildlife causing damage -- Emergency situations.

(1) Subject to the following limitations and conditions, the owner, the owner's immediate family member, the owner's documented employee, or a tenant of real property may trap or kill on that property, without the licenses required under RCW 77.32.010 or authorization from the director under RCW 77.12.240, wild animals or wild birds that are damaging crops, domestic animals, or fowl:

(a) Threatened or endangered species shall not be hunted, trapped, or killed;

(b) Except in an emergency situation, deer, elk, and protected wildlife shall not be killed without a permit issued and conditioned by the director or the director's designee. In an emergency, the department may give verbal permission followed by written permission to trap or kill any deer, elk, or protected wildlife that is damaging crops, domestic animals, or fowl; and

(c) On privately owned cattle ranching lands, the land owner or lessee may declare an emergency only when the department has not responded within forty-eight hours after having been contacted by the land owner or lessee regarding damage caused by wild animals or wild birds. In such an emergency, the owner or lessee may trap or kill any deer, elk, or other protected wildlife that is causing the damage but deer and elk may only be killed if such lands were open to public hunting during the previous hunting season, or the closure to public hunting was coordinated with the department to protect property and livestock.

(2) Except for coyotes and Columbian ground squirrels, wildlife trapped or killed under this section remain the property of the state, and the person trapping or killing the wildlife shall notify the department immediately. The department shall dispose of wildlife so taken within three days of receiving such a notification and in a manner determined by the director to be in the best interest of the state.

[1996 c 54 § 4.]

RCW 77.36.040

Payment of claims for damages -- Procedure -- Limitations.

(1) Pursuant to this section, the director or the director's designee may distribute money appropriated to pay claims for damages to crops caused by wild deer or elk in an amount of up to ten thousand dollars per claim. Damages payable under this section are limited to the value of such commercially raised horticultural or agricultural crops, whether growing or harvested, and shall be paid only to the owner of the crop at the time of damage, without assignment. Damages shall not include damage to other real or personal property including other vegetation or animals, damages caused by animals other than wild deer or elk, lost profits, consequential damages, or any other damages whatsoever. These damages shall comprise the exclusive remedy for claims against the state for damages caused by wildlife.

(2) The director may adopt rules for the form of affidavits or proof to be provided in claims under this section. The director may adopt rules to specify the time and method of assessing damage. The burden of proving damages shall be on the claimant. Payment of claims shall remain subject to the other conditions and limits of this chapter.

(3) If funds are limited, payments of claims shall be prioritized in the order that the claims are received. No claim may be processed if:

(a) The claimant did not notify the department within ten days of discovery of the damage. If the claimant intends to take steps that prevent determination of damages, such as harvest of damaged crops, then the claimant shall notify the department as soon as reasonably possible after discovery so that the department has an opportunity to document the damage and take steps to prevent additional damage; or

(b) The claimant did not present a complete, written claim within sixty days after the damage, or the last day of damaging if the damage was of a continuing nature.

(4) The director or the director's designee may examine and assess the damage upon notice. The department and claimant may agree to an assessment of damages by a neutral person or persons knowledgeable in horticultural or agricultural practices. The department and claimant shall share equally in the costs of such third party examination and assessment of damage.

(5) There shall be no payment for damages if:

(a) The crops are on lands leased from any public agency;

(b) The landowner or claimant failed to use or maintain applicable damage prevention materials or methods furnished by the department, or failed to comply with a wildlife damage prevention agreement under RCW 77.12.260;

(c) The director has expended all funds appropriated for payment of such claims for the current fiscal year; or

(d) The damages are covered by insurance. The claimant shall notify the department at the time of claim of insurance coverage in the manner required by the director. Insurance coverage shall cover all damages prior to any payment under this chapter.

(6) When there is a determination of claim by the director or the director's designee pursuant to this section, the claimant has sixty days to accept the claim or it is deemed rejected.
[1996 c 54 § 5.]

RCW 77.36.050

Claimant refusal -- Excessive claims.

If the claimant does not accept the director's decision under RCW 77.36.040, or if the claim exceeds ten thousand dollars, then the claim may be filed with the office of risk management under RCW 4.92.040(5). The office of risk management shall recommend to the legislature whether the claim should be paid. If the legislature approves the claim, the director shall pay it from moneys appropriated for that purpose. No funds shall be expended for damages under this chapter except as appropriated by the legislature.
[1996 c 54 § 6.]

RCW 77.36.060

Claim refused -- Posted property.

The director may refuse to consider and pay claims of persons who have posted the property against hunting or who have not allowed public hunting during the season prior to the occurrence of the damages.
[1996 c 54 § 7.]

RCW 77.36.070

Limit on total claims from wildlife fund per fiscal year.

The department may pay no more than one hundred twenty thousand dollars per fiscal year from the wildlife fund for claims under RCW 77.36.040 and for assessment costs and compromise of claims. Such money shall be used to pay animal damage claims only if the claim meets the conditions of RCW 77.36.040 and the damage occurred in a place where the opportunity to hunt was not restricted or prohibited by a county, municipality, or other public entity during the season prior to the occurrence of the damage.
[1996 c 54 § 8.]

RCW 77.36.080

Limit on total claims from general fund per fiscal year -- Emergency exceptions.

(1) The department may pay no more than thirty thousand dollars per fiscal year from the general fund for claims under RCW 77.36.040 and for assessment costs and compromise of claims unless the legislature declares an emergency. Such money shall be used to pay animal damage claims only if the claim meets the conditions of RCW 77.36.040 and the damage occurred in a place where the opportunity to hunt was restricted or prohibited by a county, municipality, or other public entity during the season prior to the occurrence of the damage.

(2) The legislature may declare an emergency, defined for the purposes of this section as any happening arising from weather, other natural conditions, or fire that causes unusually great damage to commercially raised agricultural or horticultural crops by deer or elk. In an

emergency, the department may pay as much as may be subsequently appropriated, in addition to the funds authorized under subsection (1) of this section, for claims under RCW 77.36.040 and for assessment and compromise of claims. Such money shall be used to pay animal damage claims only if the claim meets the conditions of RCW 77.36.040 and the department has expended all funds authorized under RCW 77.36.070 or subsection (1) of this section.
[1996 c 54 § 9.]

Landowner Damage Hunts

Deer:

Tag Required: Deer hunter must have a current valid, unaltered, unnotched deer tag on his/her person.
Hunting Method: Any legal weapon
Season Framework: 2000-2001 August 1 - March 31
2001-2002 August 1 - March 31
2002-2003 August 1 - March 31
Location: Statewide
Legal Deer: Antlerless Only
Kill Quota: 600 Statewide

Elk:

Tag Required: Elk hunter must have a current valid, unaltered, unnotched elk tag on his/her person.
Hunting Method: Any legal weapon
Season Framework: 2000-2001 August 1 - March 31
2001-2002 August 1 - March 31
2002-2003 August 1 - March 31
Location: Statewide
Legal Elk: Antlerless Only
Kill Quota: 100 Statewide

Special Notes: A landowner with deer/elk damage will enter into a Cooperative Agreement with WDFW and establish a boundary for deer/elk hunt, season dates within the framework and number of animals to be removed. Landowner agrees not to claim damage payments and will allow access to hunters during the general hunting seasons. Landowner selects hunters. A landowner damage access permit provided by the landowner will authorize the hunter to use an unused general deer/elk tag to hunt and kill a legal animal during the prescribed damage hunt season.

APPENDIX P RMEF Projects in Northeast Washington from 1989 - 1999

PROJECT NAME	RMEF \$\$	PARTNER \$\$	TOTAL \$\$
Colville District prescribed burn	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00
North End District burn	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$7,000.00
LeClerc Creek prescribed burn	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00	\$3,500.00
Dry Canyon prescribed burn	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00	\$3,500.00
Vaagen Brothers land donation (40 acres)	-	-	-
Iron Mountain browse rehabilitation	\$874.00	\$1,945.00	\$2,819.00
Cottonwood Creek browse rehabilitation	\$873.00	\$3,310.00	\$4,183.00
Lost Creek winter range burn	\$873.00	\$1,600.00	\$2,473.00
High Lake/Addy Basin prescribed burn	\$4,563.00	\$4,563.00	\$9,126.00
South Dry Canyon prescribed burn	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00
Half Moon prescribed burn	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00
Ione Hill West underburn	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$1,600.00
Ledgerwood prescribed burn	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$6,000.00
July Canyon prescribed burn	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00
Deer feeder prescribed burn	\$1,036.00	\$125.00	\$1,161.00
Woodward prescribed burn	\$2,600.00	\$3,500.00	\$6,100.00
Exposure Creek habitat projects	\$8,600.00	\$8,550.00	\$17,150.00
Smick Meadows Interpretive project	\$3,500.00	\$25,500.00	\$29,000.00
Kettle Falls Road restoration	\$3,500.00	\$2,600.00	\$6,100.00
Colville District road closure	\$800.00	-	\$800.00
Cee Cee Ah habitat enhancement	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00	\$17,000.00
Dry Canyon Ridge prescribed burn	\$1,200.00	\$1,600.00	\$2,800.00
Power Winchester habitat enhancement	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$24,000.00
Churchill Mountain prescribed burn	\$4,700.00	\$4,700.00	\$9,400.00
Cedar Creek winter range prescribed burn	\$2,200.00	\$3,200.00	\$5,400.00
Addy Mountain access management	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$3,200.00
Rocky underburn	\$1,400.00	\$2,100.00	\$3,500.00
Cottonwood Creek drainage forage enhancement	\$3,229.00	\$4,982.00	\$8,211.00
Colville District access management #2	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
Bon Ayre underburn	\$4,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$12,000.00
Pend Oreille east habitat treatment	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00
Tri-county biological control program	\$2,500.00	\$100,950.00	\$103,450.00
Pend Oreille East habitat treatment & population monitoring	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$16,000.00
Deadman Creek road closure and obliteration	\$1,600.00	\$9,600.00	\$11,200.00
Cedar Creek habitat enhancement	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00
LeClerc Creek Forage enhancement	\$2,240.00	\$3,620.00	\$5,860.00
Addy Leslie forage enhancement	\$1,600.00	\$29,686.00	\$31,286.00
Whitman & Saucon Creek prescribed burn	\$2,300.00	\$2,300.00	\$4,600.00
Blacktail Butte winter range burn	\$2,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$6,000.00
Granite Peak elk habitat improvement	\$4,000.00	\$7,500.00	\$11,500.00
Addy-Leslie-Eagle Mountain underburns	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$12,000.00
Lake Basin prescribed burn	\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00	\$7,200.00
Rattlesnake Hills Elk Relocation	\$12,750.00	\$141,000.00	\$153,750.00
Kettle Falls Winter range overflights	\$1,000.00	\$800.00	\$1,800.00
TOTAL	\$145,438.00	\$447,231.00	\$592,669.00

APPENDIX Q Agreement Between the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation and WDFW

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES
OF THE COLVILLE INDIAN RESERVATION
AND THE
WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

PARTIES

This Agreement is entered into by and between the confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation, Nespelem, Washington (Colville Tribes), and the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, Olympia, Washington (WDFW).

PREAMBLE

Colville Tribes currently occupy a reservation of approximately 1.3 million acres in north central Washington. The original reservation was created by Executive Order of President Grant in 1872. In 1892, the Tribes ceded back to the federal government approximately one-half of the original reservation (“North Half”), reserving to themselves the right to hunt and fish on the “North Half.” These “North Half” rights have been affirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Colville Indian Reservation was set aside for the exclusive use of eight bands and numerous individual Indians who were not party to any treaty. This agreement addresses hunting and fishing issues on the Colville Indian Reservation and “North Half.”

For many years, there were disagreements and disputes between the Colville Tribes and the state of Washington regarding the regulation of hunting and fishing by non-members on the Colville Indian Reservation. Between 1975 and 1981, the Colville Tribes and State were engaged in litigation over the competing claims of authority.

Ultimately, the District Court issued a preliminary injunction preventing the State from applying its hunting and fishing laws to non-Indians on the reservation. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals reviewed the District Court’s decision. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals agreed with the District Court. In an opinion issued June 22, 1981, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the injunction issued against the State. In light of the Court of Appeals opinion, the state elected to negotiate with the Colville Tribes rather than to further pursue the litigation. These negotiations led to a cooperative agreement between the State and Tribe that has been in place continuously since 1982.

Although the factual and legal landscape has changed somewhat since the above referenced litigation, the complex legal and jurisdictional issues persist. It is the shared opinion of the Colville Tribes and the State Department of Fish and Wildlife that this complex and confusing jurisdictional framework hinders the discharge of the respective parties’ obligations to maximize hunting and fishing opportunity while at the same time preserving, perpetuating, and protecting the wildlife resource.

The parties to this agreement have concluded that the resource is best protected, the federally protected rights of the Colville Indian people implemented, and reasonable recreation opportunity of the general public maximized through this cooperative agreement between the Tribes and Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife.

RECITALS

It is a primary purpose and intent of this document to:

- Identify as clearly as possible the respective licensing, management, and regulatory responsibilities of the parties within the boundaries of the Colville Indian Reservation.
- Improve the protection of fish and wildlife on the reservation on the North Half.
- Protect and enhance recreational hunting and fishing opportunities on the reservation.
- Protect the Colville Tribe's core interest in providing ceremonial and subsistence hunting and fishing for tribal members and preserving the cultural significance of the wildlife resource on the reservation.
- Foster productive and mutually beneficial partnerships between the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Colville Tribes.

In consideration of the mutual promises and covenants herein, the parties agree as follows:

1. **No Waiver of Rights, claims or Arguments.** Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed as a concession by either party as to the other party's claims, nor an admission of same, nor a waiver of the right to challenge such claims. Neither this Agreement nor the activities of the parties pursuant to this Agreement shall be utilized to affect the equitable or legal position of either party in any future litigation.
2. **No Effect on Jurisdiction or Authority.** This Agreement does not purport to declare legal rights or authorities. Nothing herein shall be deemed as enlarging or diminishing the jurisdiction or authority of the state or Colville Tribes to regulate the activities of persons within the reservation.
3. **Terms of Agreement.** This Agreement shall be for a term of one year, commencing on the effective date of this Agreement, provided, however, this Agreement shall be extended from year to year automatically thereafter until terminated by either party by delivery of written notice of termination to the other party not less than 60 days prior to the date of the desired termination.
4. **Annual Review.** The parties anticipate that this Agreement will be dynamic and that modifications may be necessary to respond to changing circumstances. Therefore, the parties, acting through the Policy Committee, agree to review this Agreement annually and to make such necessary modifications as to which the parties mutually agree.
5. **Policy Committee.** A Policy committee, composed of one member of the Natural Resources Committee of the Business Council of the Colville Tribes, one Fish and Wildlife Commissioner, the Director of the Colville Tribes Fish and Wildlife Department, and one WDFW Regional Director, is hereby established. The purpose of the Policy Committee is to facilitate cooperative action by the Parties and to resolve disputes which may arise under this Agreement.

The Policy Committee shall annually designate a chair and shall meet at such times as are appropriate to conduct business and/or resolve disputes as described in the Agreement.
6. **Non-Member Fishing on the Reservation.** The Colville Tribes and WDFW desire to protect and manage fishing on the reservation for conservation, subsistence and recreational purposes. Consistent with these goals, the Colville Tribes commit to maintaining non-member fishing

opportunities on the reservation.

7. **Consultation on Fishing Season Setting.** Fish biologists of the Tribes and WDFW shall meet to exchange information and to develop proposed parallel non-member fishing regulations for the waters on the Reservation and Lake Roosevelt, Rufus Woods, Okanogan River and Crawfish Lake. Such proposed regulations shall include, by way of example but not limitation, seasons dates, size limits, bag limits, open and closed areas, and other conservation initiatives necessary to management and conservation of the fisheries. The objectives of these proposed parallel regulations shall be the conservation of the fishery resource and harvest for subsistence and recreational purposes.

In the event that the biologists cannot agree on proposed parallel non-member fishery regulations, such matters shall be referred to the Policy Committee established under this Agreement for resolution of any dispute.

The proposed regulations of the biologists or Policy Committee, as the case may be, shall then be forwarded to the Colville Tribes and to the WDFW for promulgation pursuant to their respective rule-making procedures. Nothing in this section, however, is intended to supersede the respective rule promulgation procedures of the parties.

8. **Boundary Waters License Requirement for Non-members.** The Colville Tribes agree that possession of a valid Washington State fishing license shall be deemed possession of a valid tribal fishing permit for fishers angling by boat, on the Columbia and Okanogan Rivers where they form the boundaries of the Colville Indian Reservation and on Washburn Island Pond and on Crawfish lake.

Anglers fishing from the Reservation shore of boundary waters should check with the Colville Tribal Fish and Wildlife Department to determine licensing and other appropriate regulations.

9. **Licensing Requirements for Non-members Fishing on Other Reservation Waters.** WDFW agrees that for purposes of enforcement, possession of a valid tribal fishing permit shall be deemed possession of a valid state fishing license for fishing activities on waters, other than boundary waters, that are within the boundaries of the Colville Reservation.

The purpose of Sections 8 and 9 above, is to avoid the conflict, confusion, and difficulty of locating the Reservation Boundary in or on the boundary waters of the Columbia and Okanogan Rivers and in resolving the jurisdiction issues with regard to lakes and ponds lying wholly within the exterior boundaries of the Colville Reservation.

10. **Boundary Water Fishing by Colville Members.** While fishing by boat on boundary waters, including waters that form the boundary to the North Half, the Colville I.D. card shall be the sole document necessary for fishing.

11. **Revenues.** The Colville Tribes are engaged in Fishery Management Activities on Reservation Boundary waters. These activities benefit non-member angler and the general public through preservation and protection of the fishery resource. By accepting the licensing provisions of this agreement, potential tribal revenue is lost which would have been utilized for fishery management. The WDFW and Colville Tribes agree to assess the management impacts of lost revenue and establish mechanisms that mitigate the losses and result in the implementation of fishery management benefits.

12. **Wildlife Protection and Preservation.** The WDFW and the Colville Tribes agree to work

together to protect, preserve, and enhance wildlife populations on the reservation and the North Half, through the following strategies:

1. Joint and cooperative surveying of wildlife populations where feasible.
 2. The sharing of population and harvest statistics.
 3. Mutual support of supplementation efforts for species such as sharp-tailed grouse and big horned sheep.
 4. Development of a joint wildlife habitat protection and enhancement strategy; and a
 5. Commitment to mule deer conservation in north central Washington.
13. **Consultation on Hunting Season Setting.** The WDFW and Colville Tribe wildlife biologists shall meet at least twice annually to develop hunting season recommendations that meet the conservation and recreation goals of this agreement. The timing of these meetings shall be subject to the season setting process of the Colville Business Council and the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission.
14. **Wildlife harvest by Non-members on the Colville Reservation.** The WDFW and Colville Tribes agree to the following opportunities and restrictions for non-member hunting on the Colville Reservation.
- Non-member hunters shall have the opportunity to hunt upland birds, including pheasants, migratory birds, including dove and rabbits, within the limits of sound wildlife management and conservation practice on the portions of the Colville Indian Reservation opened by the Colville Tribes.
 - Non-members will be prohibited from trapping furbearing animals and from hunting big game and grouse within the boundaries of the Colville Reservation. This section shall not apply to Colville members.
17. **Problem Wildlife.** The WDFW and the Colville Tribes agree to work together to develop a protocol and provide solutions for landowners with problems involving dangerous wildlife and/or wildlife depredation.
18. **Enforcement.** The WDFW and the Colville Tribes agree to work cooperatively to reduce violations of state and tribal fish and game laws. To that end, the parties agree to produce a joint enforcement agreement which will outline procedures for joint patrols and investigations and protocols for directing violations to the appropriate court system.
19. **Tribal and State Information.** The WDFW shall include in its fishing and hunting pamphlets and any other similar sources of information provided by the state to the public the following provision: “When fishing or hunting within the boundaries of the Colville Indian Reservation, you should contact the office of the Colville confederated Tribes Fish and Wildlife Department to determine the Tribal permits and regulations applicable to such activities.”
- The Colville Tribes shall include in its fishing and hunting pamphlets and any other sources of information provided by the tribe to the public the following provision: “When fishing or hunting within the boundaries of the Colville Indian Reservation, you should contact the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife to determine state license and regulations applicable to such activities.”
20. **Approvals.** This Agreement shall be effective upon approval by the Colville Business Council and the Director of the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and ratification by the

Washington State Fish and Wildlife Commission.

- 21. **Upon Whom Binding.** The covenants and agreement herein mentioned shall extend to and be binding upon the assigns, successors, agents and administrators of the parties and to all persons acting by or through the parties.

DATED this 4th day of April, 1998.

Larry W. Peck

April 4, 1998

Joseph A. Pakootas

April 4, 1998

Bern Shanks

April 16, 1998