



State of Washington  
**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

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December 1, 2022

The Honorable Kevin Van De Wege  
Chair, Senate Agriculture, Water,  
Natural Resources, and Parks  
212 John A. Cherberg Building  
Post Office Box 40424  
Olympia, WA 98504-0424

The Honorable Mike Chapman  
Chair, House Rural Development,  
Agriculture, and Natural Resources  
132B Legislative Building  
Post Office Box 40600  
Olympia, WA 98504-0600

Dear Chairs Van De Wege and Chapman,

I am writing to provide you with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's report to the legislature regarding the work of our Americans with Disabilities Act Advisory Committee.

The Department is required to submit a biennial report per RCW 77.04.150 detailing the levels of participation in hunting and fishing by persons with disabilities, and any recommendations to maintain accessibility for persons with disabilities. The attached report provides an overview of the committee and regional updates from work completed in 2022.

If you have any questions or concerns about this report, please feel free to contact me at (360)480-1472.

Sincerely,

Tom McBride  
Legislative Director

# ADA Advisory Committee Annual Report

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife



December 1, 2022

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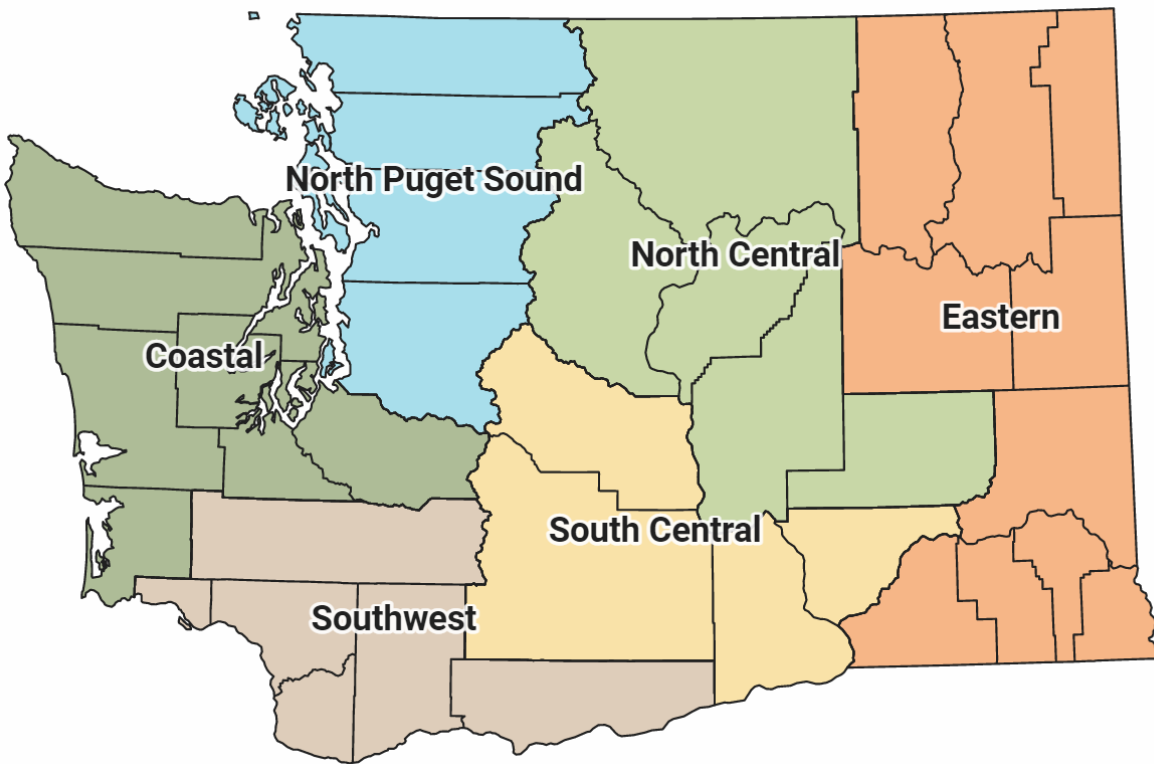
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Individuals who need to receive this information in an alternative format, language, or who need reasonable accommodations to participate in WDFW-sponsored public meetings or other activities may contact the Title VI/ADA Compliance Coordinator by phone at 360-902-2349, TTY (711), or email ([Title6@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Title6@dfw.wa.gov)).

For more information, see <https://wdfw.wa.gov/accessibility/requests-accommodation>.



# Current Membership



## **Region 1 – Eastern**

Kenneth McNaughton

## **Region 2 – North Central**

VACANT

## **Region 3 – South Central**

Alberto Saldana, Jr.

## **Region 4 – North Puget Sound**

Jayson Morris

## **Region 5 – Southwest**

Gregory Meloy

## **Region 6 – Coastal**

VACANT

## **At-Large Region**

Ronald “Z” Zubrick

## **Department Staff**

Larry Delgado, DEI Manager

Mamta Ouyoumijan, DEI Consultant

## **Fish & Wildlife Commission**

Nichole Kloepfer, Executive Assistant



# Mission Statement

The [Americans with Disabilities Act Advisory Committee \(ADAAC\)](#) will provide accurate and meaningful information to the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission regarding the needs of persons with disabilities as they seek to enjoy equal opportunity to access all the programs provided by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

## Overview

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility in the outdoors is especially important for anglers, hunters, or persons with disabilities who enjoy watching wildlife. The ADA extends Section 504's nondiscrimination requirement to all activities of state and local governments, not only those that receive federal financial assistance.

### License Data

**Table 1.** 2021 license year data for disabled hunters and fishers. \*BOTH category includes persons who are disabled hunters and fishers/shellfishers.

Type	
Disabled Hunter	5,632
Disabled Fisher/Shellfisher	12,402
BOTH*	25,502
TOTAL:	<b>43,536</b>

**Table 2.** Levels of participation in hunting and fishing by persons with disabilities based on Special Use Permits (SUPs) in all WDFW regions. \*Data for 2022 is through 11/19/2022. \*\*SUP Renewal numbers are included in the number of SUPs Processed.

	2020	2021	2022*
SUPs Processed	174	361	296
SUP Renewals**	22	156	127
SUPs Denied	47	82	50
TOTAL SUPs RECEIVED:	221	443	346

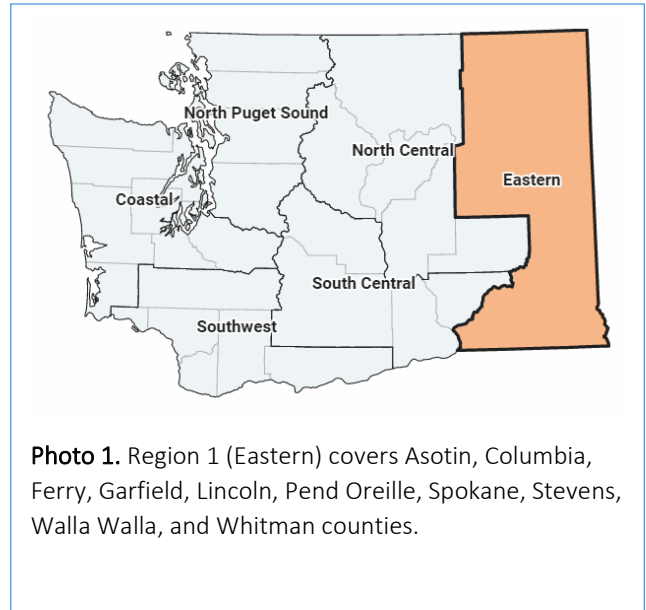


# Region 1

## Overview

In 2022, Region 1 accomplished the following activities:

- Recorded 287 volunteer hours spent clearing deadfall from roads dedicated for disabled hunters inside the Colville National Forest.
- Added canopies for two existing wheelchair platforms at the lower end of Rustler’s Gulch Wildlife Area and another at Squirrel Meadows.
- Built an additional wheelchair platform in Colville National Forest.
- Installed a wheelchair platform on private land owned by Manulife Investments with assistance from the Kalispel Tribe.
- Hosted an ADA Booth at the annual Big Horn Outdoor Adventure Show in March in Spokane
- Presented a daily seminar at the Big Horn Show entitled “The Nuts and Bolts of ADA Access for Outdoorsmen with Disabilities.”
- Hosted sportsmen with all types of disabilities with a follow-up day-long workshop in April.



## Future Work

Upcoming plans include meeting with Stimson Lumber officials to establish a Disabled Hunter program like the one operating under the Inland Empire Paper Company (IEPC), and Manulife Investments (formerly known as Hancock Timber Management). With the exception of the IEPC program, which is a lottery draw, the Manulife and potentially Stimson programs would make certain tracts of timber company property – already behind locked gates – available to those who qualify as disabled hunters as indicated on their licenses.

Annual participation in Big Horn Outdoor Adventure Show to provide a seminar for sportsmen with disabilities as well as host a booth at the show and follow up with day-long ADA Open House and workshop will continue. This provides opportunities for representation from many different organizations and agencies speaking to their own unique offerings for those with disabilities. i.e., WDFW, Colville National Forest, Youth Outdoors Unlimited, Paralyzed Veterans of America, and many more.

In Spring 2023, this Region also plans to install a second platform at Aladdin Mountain as well as a duck blind which is currently being assembled.



# Region 2

## Overview

The Region 2 ADAAC position is currently vacant, and the Department continues to actively recruit for a new committee member.

In 2022, Region 2 staff coordinated for Ron “Z” Zubrick (At-Large ADAAC member) to attend the Wenatchee Valley Sportsman’s Show, host a booth, and share some of this committee’s work with show participants.

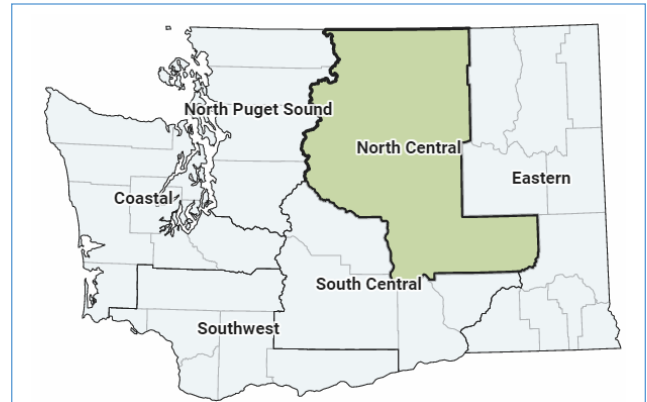
# Region 3

## Overview

On October 3, 2022, Region 3 ADAAC member Alberto Saldana along with the At-Large member, Ron “Z” Zubrick, met with the staff of the Region 3 office to make an in-person connection and gain feedback on continuing to strengthen partnerships between the committee and regional staff. Z provided information on some of the work the committee has done in the past in other regions and how similar work can be done in Region 3.

## Future Work

A follow-up meeting will be held at the start of 2023 to continue to strengthen professional relationships with the committee and committee members from other regions.



**Photo 2.** Region 2 (North Central) covers Adams, Chelan, Douglas, Grant, and Okanogan counties.



**Photo 3.** Region 3 (South Central) covers Benton, Franklin, Kittitas, and Yakima counties.

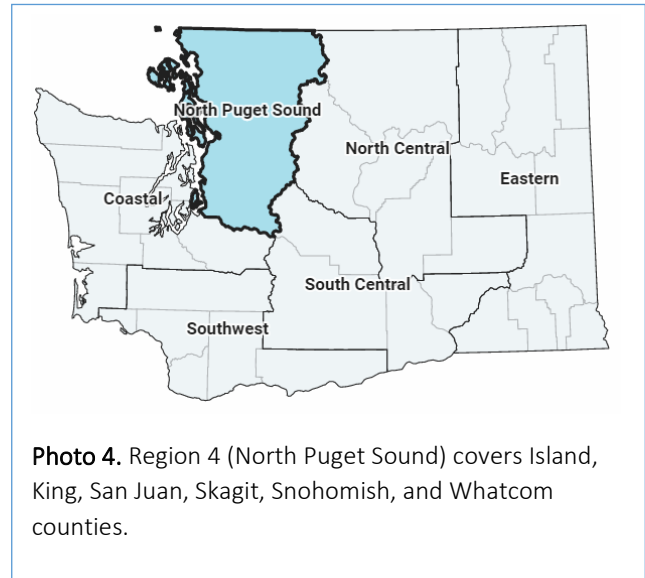




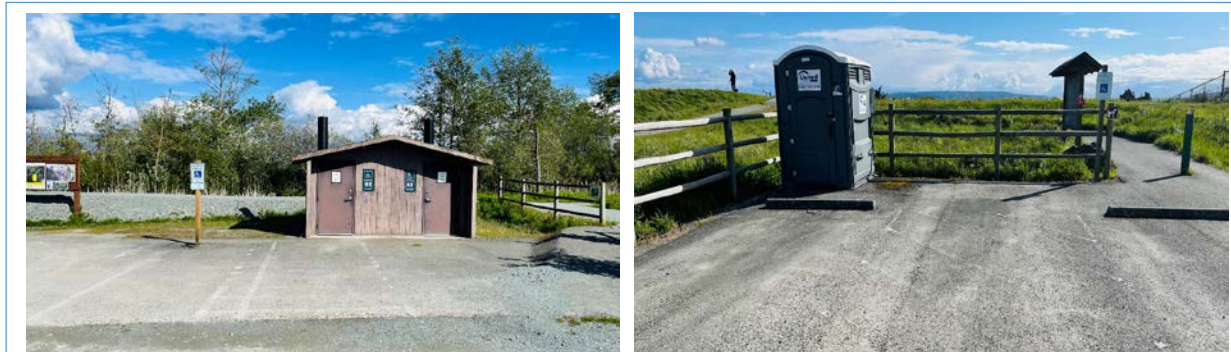
# Region 4

## Overview

Region 4 is implementing goals related to providing more diversity, equity, and inclusion in the region and will continue to grow participation in hunting and fishing by persons with disabilities, along with more significant infrastructure and policy measures to maintain or improve greater access. Clear communication of WDFW values will significantly improve services for people with disabilities. Outreach focuses on retaining, recruiting, and reactivating (R3) hunters, anglers, trappers, shellfish harvesters, and participants in wildlife viewing; all want greater access with the lowest impact.



Regional staff and ADAAC member Jayson Morris completed site visits to determine baselines in the field. The regional office staff were helpful when providing answers during site visits.



**Photo 5.** Well maintained, clean, and accessible rest areas at Wylie Road (above left) and Samish Island Road (above right).

## Future Work

Future work includes creating a hierarchy of the levels of participation with wildlife enthusiasts with a disabilities rating system. Ideally, each level should have a rating system with quantitative results and an explanatory narrative on the rating. This work will be tackled in the coming year.

- **Level 1, Information:** Provide people with disabilities information about ADA services and decisions





- **Level 2, Consultation:** Ask for public opinions and ideas; make adjustments and decisions according to feedback
- **Level 3, Collaboration:** Collaborate with all regions, programs, and staff on outcomes
- **Level 4, Empowerment:** Increased the level of involvement and participation through empowerment.

## Region 5

### Overview

There is no data available for Region 5.

## Region 6

### Overview

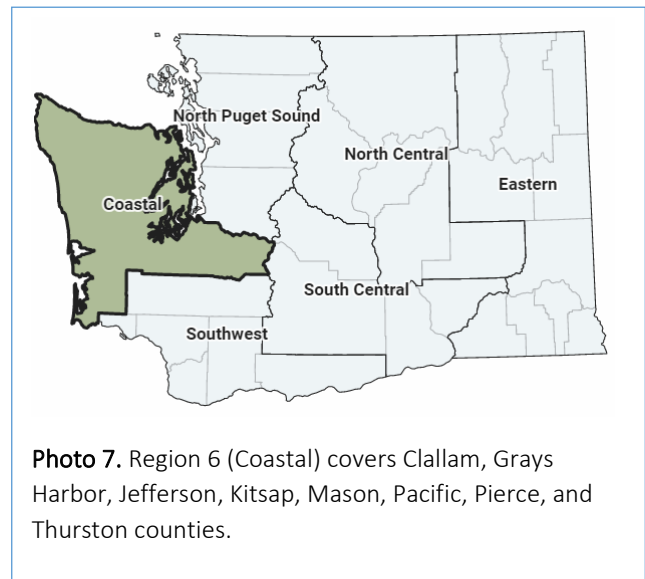
The Region 6 ADAAC position is currently vacant, and the Department continues to actively recruit for a new committee member. However, regional staff are currently in the process of setting up an open house event to discuss the ADA work that has been done in this region.

### Future Work

Future work will include ongoing collaboration to host more events and create more programming for ADA services in Region 6, along with the recruitment for the vacant member position.



**Photo 6.** Region 5 (Southwest) covers Clark, Cowlitz, Kilicktat, Lewis, Skamania, and Wahkiakum counties.



**Photo 7.** Region 6 (Coastal) covers Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Kitsap, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, and Thurston counties.

