

Fall Hunt Season Setting Milestones (generalized information for discussion purposes; dates not exact and may change as needed)

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/regulations/big-game/season-setting>

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/regulations/season-setting/timeline>

Category	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Other	Process Information
District Biologist/staff recommendation development and data analysis	Hunt recs reviewed & finalized ungulate surveys	Fall harvest and hunter reporting noncompliance analysis; ungulate surveys	Fall harvest and hunter reporting noncompliance analysis Final ungulate surveys informing recommendations					Development of Hunting Prospects	Game Surveys	Game Surveys	Game Surveys; hunt recs developed and reviewed	Game Surveys; hunt recs developed and reviewed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Wildlife Program and Game Division conduct work annually that results in hunt recommendations. Setting seasons is a Field – HQ/ HQ – Field iterative process District-Bios apply the guidance in existing plans (e.g., the GMP, elk plans, population modeling where used) This is above (bullet 3). District Bios make hunt recs, which in-turn are reviewed by the Regional Program Manager, the Regional Director, the Section Manager, the Division Manager, the Wildlife Program Director Research projects may take years to complete; data is used when available and appropriate Priority work (often described in the Game Management Plan) is supported by funding decisions that are typically put into place every biennium (fixed wing & helicopter surveys) Work is included in District Bio and other staff annual work plans (surveys, recommendation development, internal reviews) Recommendations are also informed by ongoing partnerships with: Tribes, Counties, NGOs, Local interest groups, GMAC, etc. Science Division conducts survey of hunters who did not report deer and elk effort/success and provides the corrected harvest data that is used by district biologists as well as regional and HQ staff to inform recommendations. <p>Discussion Topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What and how do we know about the populations? How do we address conservation objectives? What is the process from field to Commission?
Commission & Rulemaking steps		CR-102s filed	Fall hunt recommendations to Commission	Commission decisions; CR-103s & CESs filed							CR-101s filed		GMP; 3-year season setting; WL Committee discussions	
Public Outreach (non-regulatory) and season information				Hunt pamphlet production & publication	Fall hunt applications accepted Wild turkey hunting (Apr May)	Fall draw results notifications		Fall bear	Fall bear, deer, elk, cougar, turkey, mourning dove, and forest grouse hunts; Hunting Prospects published	Fall bear, deer, elk, moose, Mtn. goat, BHS, upland bird, and waterfowl hunts (many extend through Dec)	Fall bear, deer, elk, moose, Mtn. goat, BHS hunts		GMAC, local, County, & tribal engagement through regions	

Note: the Spring process steps & seasons are not included in this table