



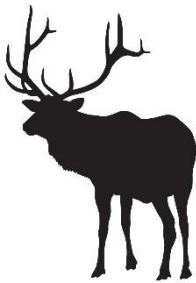
**North Cascades Elk Herd  
Human-Elk Conflict Update  
March 2023**

**Purpose**

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) employs dedicated staff to assist landowners with wildlife-related damage issues. This monthly report summarizes efforts by WDFW staff and Point Elliott Treaty Tribe Co-managers to address damage to private property caused by elk from the North Cascades elk herd.

**Number of Complaints**

Elk Damage Complaints in March 2023 – 8  
Elk Related Damage Complaints year to date – 21



**Harvest on Private Property**

Table 1. Elk harvested on private property as part of elk-related damage-mitigation efforts, North Cascades elk herd, July 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023. Landowner harvest pertains to elk harvested by landowners with WDFW-issued Damage Prevention Permits or Kill Permits. Master Hunter harvest pertains to elk harvested by WDFW-certified Master Hunters who have drawn Master Hunter Elk Hunt special permits. Tribal donations pertain to elk harvested by either landowners or WDFW staff and donated to a Point Elliott Treaty Tribe.

GMU	Landowner		Master Hunter		Tribal Donations	
	Bull	Antlerless	Bull	Antlerless	Bull	Antlerless
407		2				
418	2	10		2		
437	1	22		5		2
<b>Total</b>		<b>37</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>2</b>

### Damage Mitigation Efforts

WDFW received eight elk related damage complaints in March 2023. Five complaints were from commercial producers and involved elk damage to fencing or crop ground. Most landowners were offered a combination of damage contracts, damage permits, or a Master Hunter to hunt their property. Three complaints were from non-commercial producers and mostly consisted of elk damages to ornamental and fruit trees, gardens, and/or fencing. Advice on ways to mitigate damages were discussed as well as offering of exclusion fencing materials where applicable.

### Hoof Disease Removals

There were at least six limping elk removed during the 2022-23 damage season. Elk were removed by WDFW staff, Master Hunters, or landowner damage permits. Those numbers have been included in the damage table above.

### For more information please contact:

Tucker Seitz  
WDFW Wildlife Conflict Specialist  
(425) 410 - 9160

Robert Waddell  
WDFW District 14 Wildlife Biologist  
(425) 422 - 0537