

Habitat Committee, October 2023: Annual Grazing Management Update

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A landscape photograph showing a valley with scrubby vegetation and rocky hillsides. The foreground is filled with low-lying, greenish-grey shrubs and dry grasses. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains under a clear blue sky with a few white clouds. The overall scene is a natural, rugged environment.

**SINLAHEKIN WILDLIFE AREA
CARTER MOUNTAIN UNIT
GRAZING PERMIT AREA**

Active Grazing Permits, 2023

Region	Complex	Permits	Acres
1	Asotin Creek	2	1,175
1	Chief Joseph	3	8,525
2	Big Bend	3	19,763
2	Columbia Basin	6	11,998
2	Methow	7	12,530
2	Scotch Creek	4	5,336
2	Sinlahekin	7	8,814
3	LT Murray	3	11,618
3	Oak Creek	2	13,795
3	Sunnyside	2	467
3	Wenas	2	262
5	Shillapoo	2	362
5	Cowlitz	1	240
5	Klickitat	6	11,658
	Total	50	106,543



Seasonal streambed, LT Murray Wildlife Area



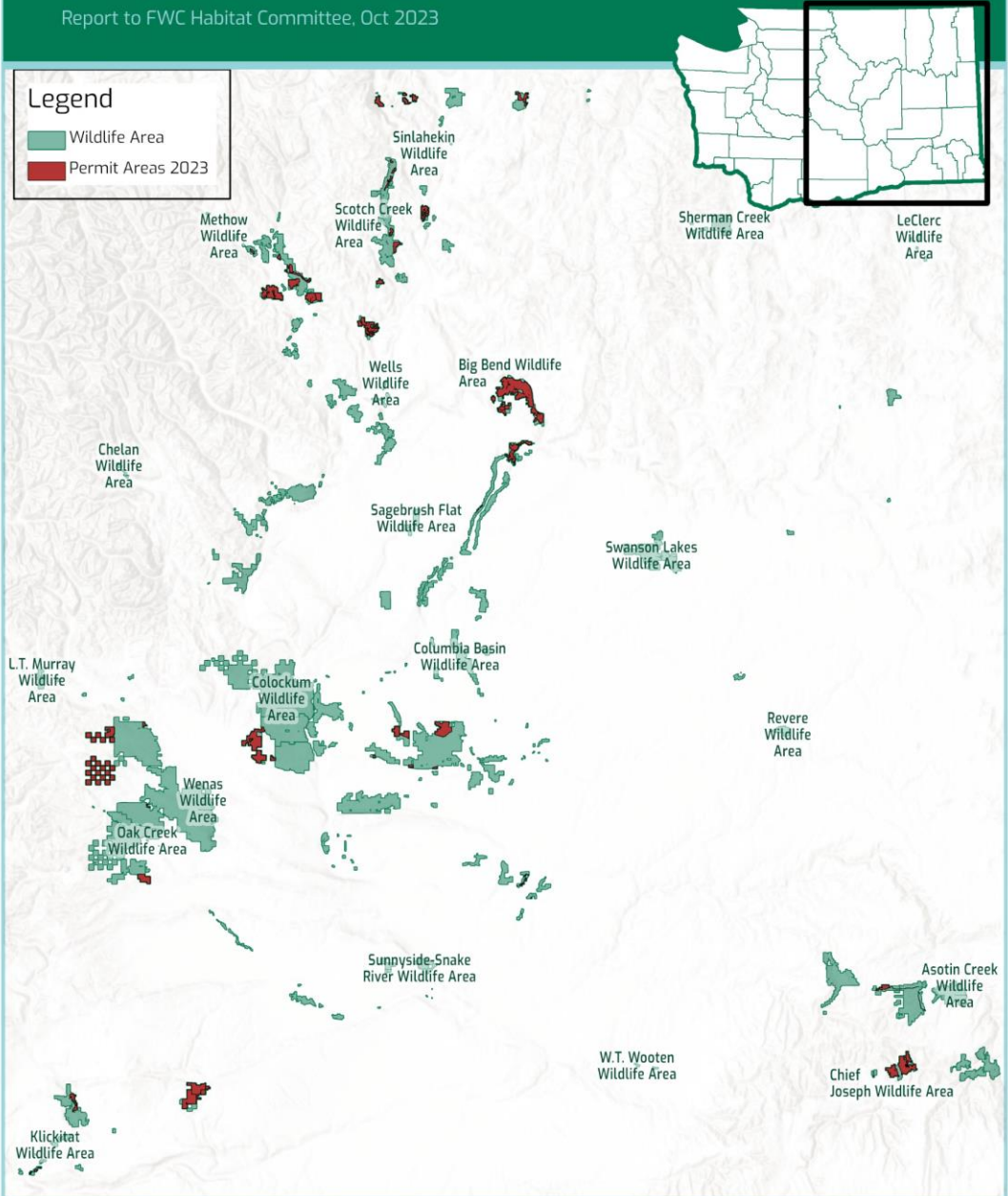
WDFW Grazing Permit Areas, 2023

All Permit Areas

Report to FWC Habitat Committee, Oct 2023

Legend

- Wildlife Area
- Permit Areas 2023



Department of Fish and Wildlife



This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.

Active Grazing Permits 2023

- 9 multi-year permits renewed
- 8 temporary permits issued (5 crossing, 3 other)



Temp. crossing permit area, Asotin Creek Wildlife Area, July 2023



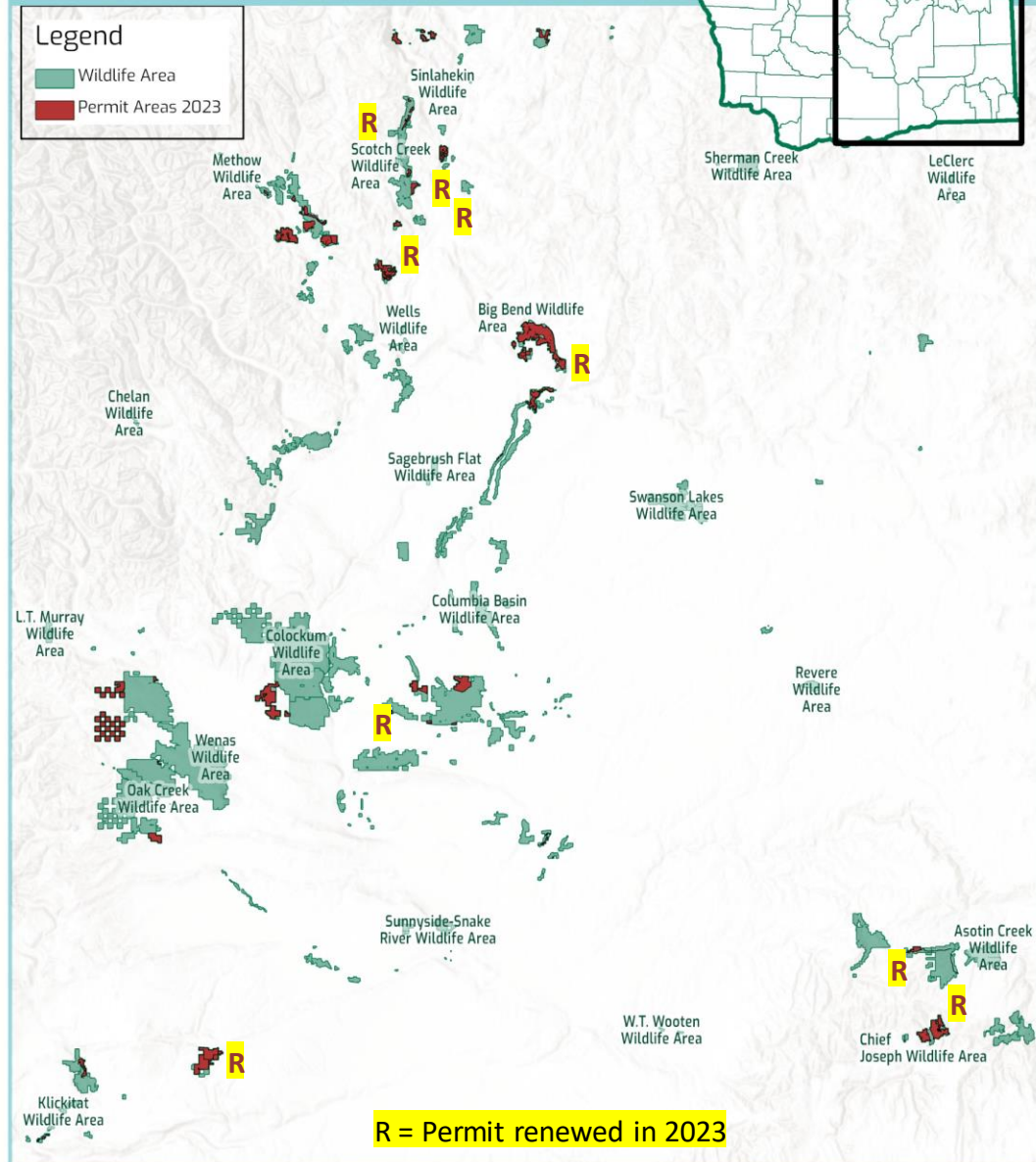
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Renewed Multi-Year Permits at:

Asotin Creek
Chief Joseph
Big Bend
Columbia Basin
Scotch Creek
Sinlahekin
Klickitat/Simcoe



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Chopaka grazing permit



July 2018



June 2023



Ellemeham Mountain grazing permit



June 2018



July 2023



Shillapoo Wildlife Area



- Extensive reed canarygrass and Himalayan blackberry
- Sometimes rapid transition to predominantly woody species cover

August 2023: area without active management



Shillapoo: active management for Canada geese, waterfowl



Grazing permit: August 2023



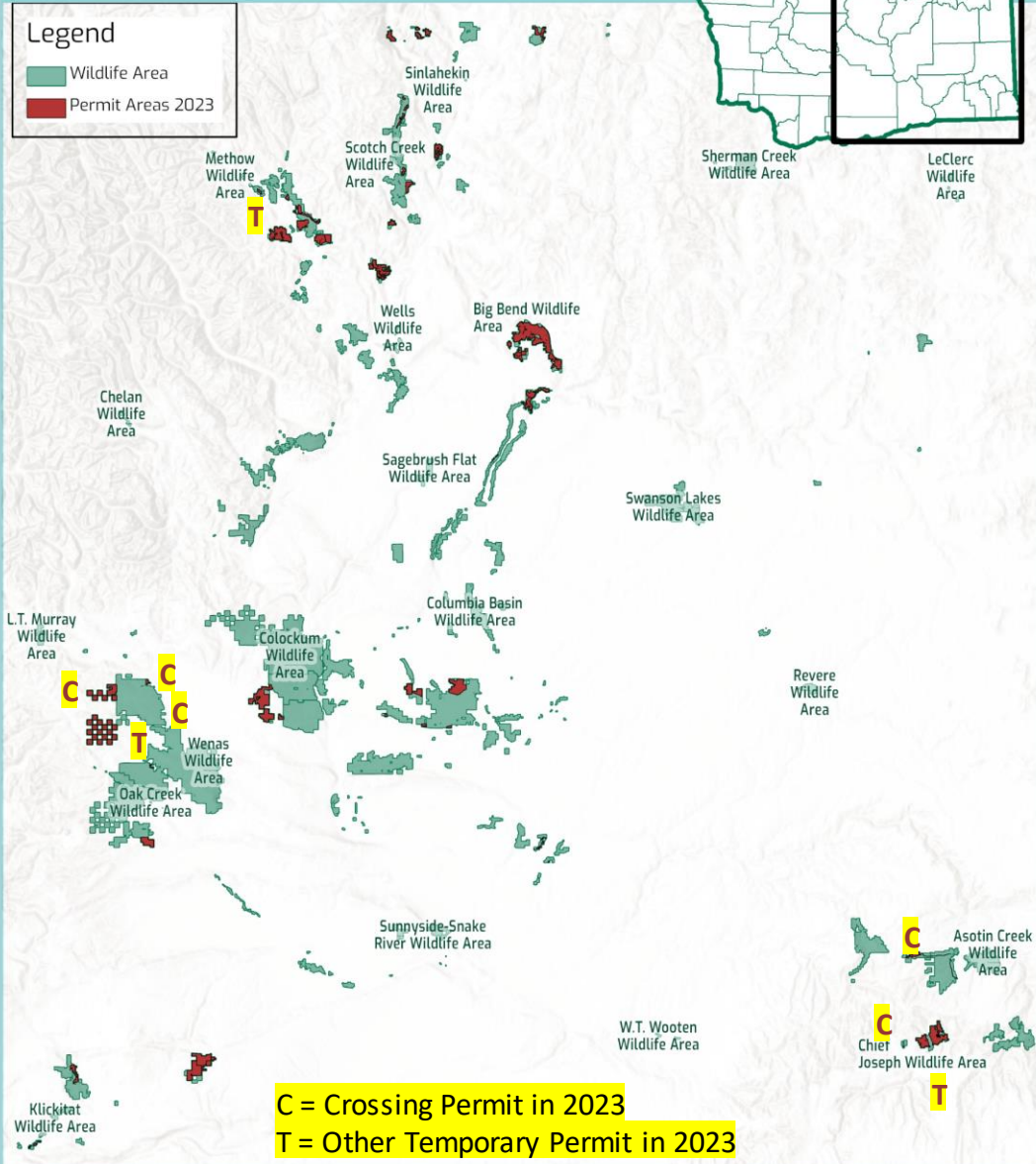
Agricultural lease: August 2023



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All Permit Areas



Temporary Permits Issued at:

Asotin Creek
Chief Joseph
Methow
LT Murray
Wenas



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LT Murray: crossing permit



Photo taken in between two single-day crossings (June 2023)



Ecological Integrity Monitoring, 2023

- Most permits showed no significant change
- Carter: increase possibly due to post-fire recovery of biological soil crust

	Ellemeham	Carter	Chopaka	Shillapoo	LTM
Mean 2018	3.58	3.00	3.33	2.67	3.72
Mean 2023	3.67	3.67	3.67	2.75	3.78
t stat	0.48	4.90	2.00	1.00	0.36
<i>p</i>	0.66	0.02	0.30	0.50	0.73

Carter Mountain: grazing permit, former prescribed burn



June 2018



June 2023



New/Discontinuing Permits 2023

- NEW: Simcoe permit introduced to Commissioners Dec 2022
 - Also one new crossing permit (for two days) on the Wenas Wildlife Area
 - Two requests for emergency pasture – not a good match (proximity)
- DISCONTINUED: 1 former DNR lease (80 acres acquired at Big Bend)



Permits for FWC Review 2024

- None known at this time
- Possible temporary permits could begin at areas under consideration for longer-term grazing
 - Violet Prairie
 - South Fork Cowiche
- After data collection and evaluation, any longer-term renewal would be brought to the Commission (per Commissioner feedback in 2022)



Questions?

