

ALLOCATION OF HUNTING OPPORTUNITY

Game Mgmt Advisory Council

March 1, 2014

EQUITABILITY

WHAT IS IT ???



Equitable Opportunity

- Allocation between:
 - ◆ Modern Firearm Hunters
 - ◆ Muzzleloader Hunters
 - ◆ Archers
- Other Groups
 - ◆ Youth
 - ◆ Seniors
 - ◆ Disabled

Equitable Opportunity

- What is “Fair”?
- Is it equal:
 - ◆ Days
 - ◆ Season Timing
 - ◆ Harvest
 - ◆ Success Rate
- Something else?

Equitable Opportunity

- The Permit allocation formula
- Based on:
 - ◆ participation
 - ◆ success

$$\text{Permits} = \frac{\text{participation} \times \text{harvest quota}}{\text{success}}$$

Equitable Opportunity

- Can we extend the permit allocation formula to general seasons?
- The formula currently includes:
 - ◆ All deer or elk combined (does and bucks; cows and bulls)?
 - ◆ The geographic scale is the District
 - ◆ Standard: Statewide Participation & Proportion of Harvest

Equitable Opportunity

- Techniques to make changes:
 - ◆ GMUs open to group
 - ◆ Antlerless opportunity
 - ◆ Season timing
 - ◆ Season length

Equitable Opportunity

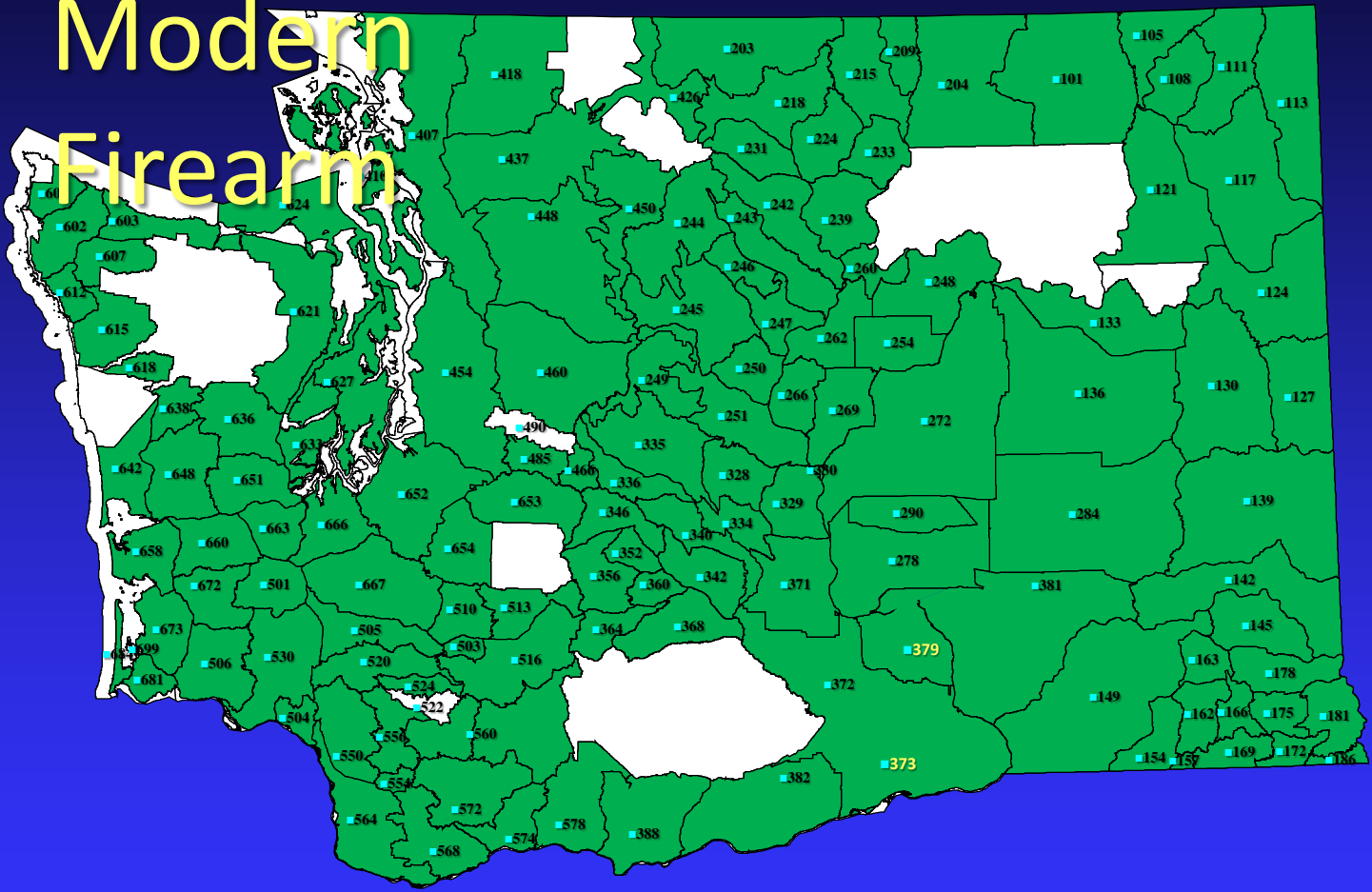


Equitable Opportunity

- Initial changes with 2000-02 package
- Created Allocation Committee as part of GMAC to review results of changes
- Recommendations to GMAC

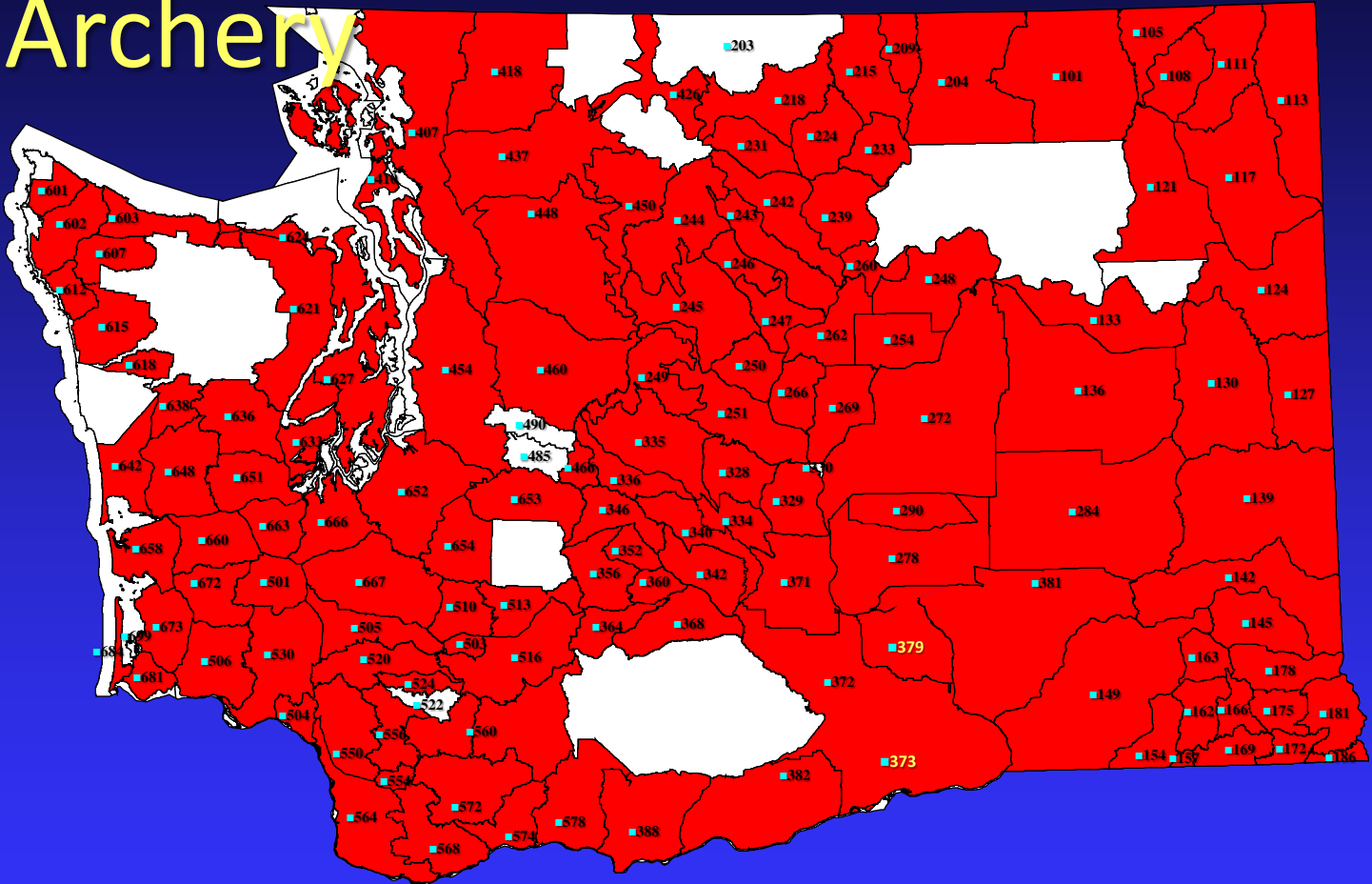
■ Deer

Modern Firearm

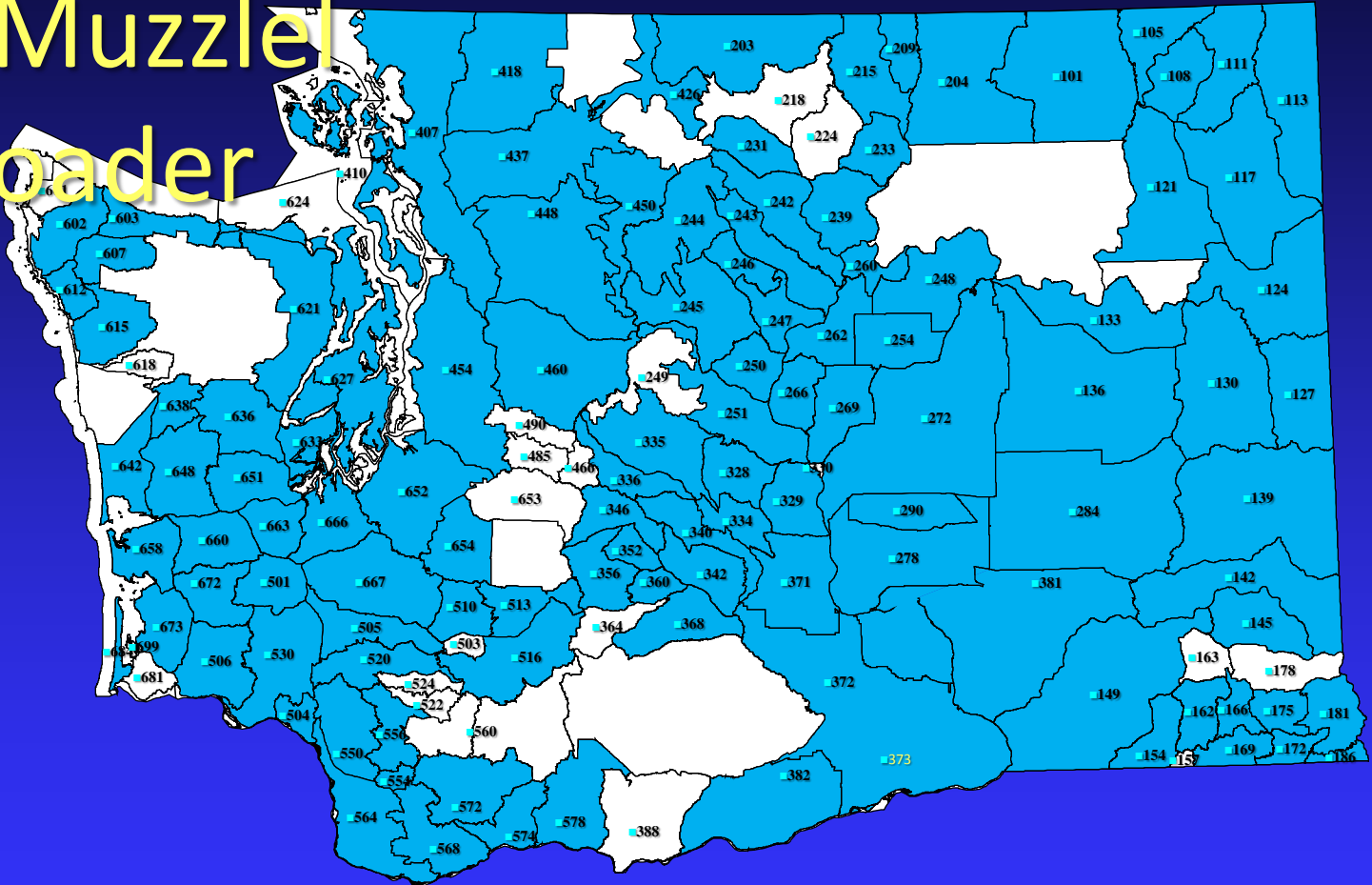


■ Deer

Archery

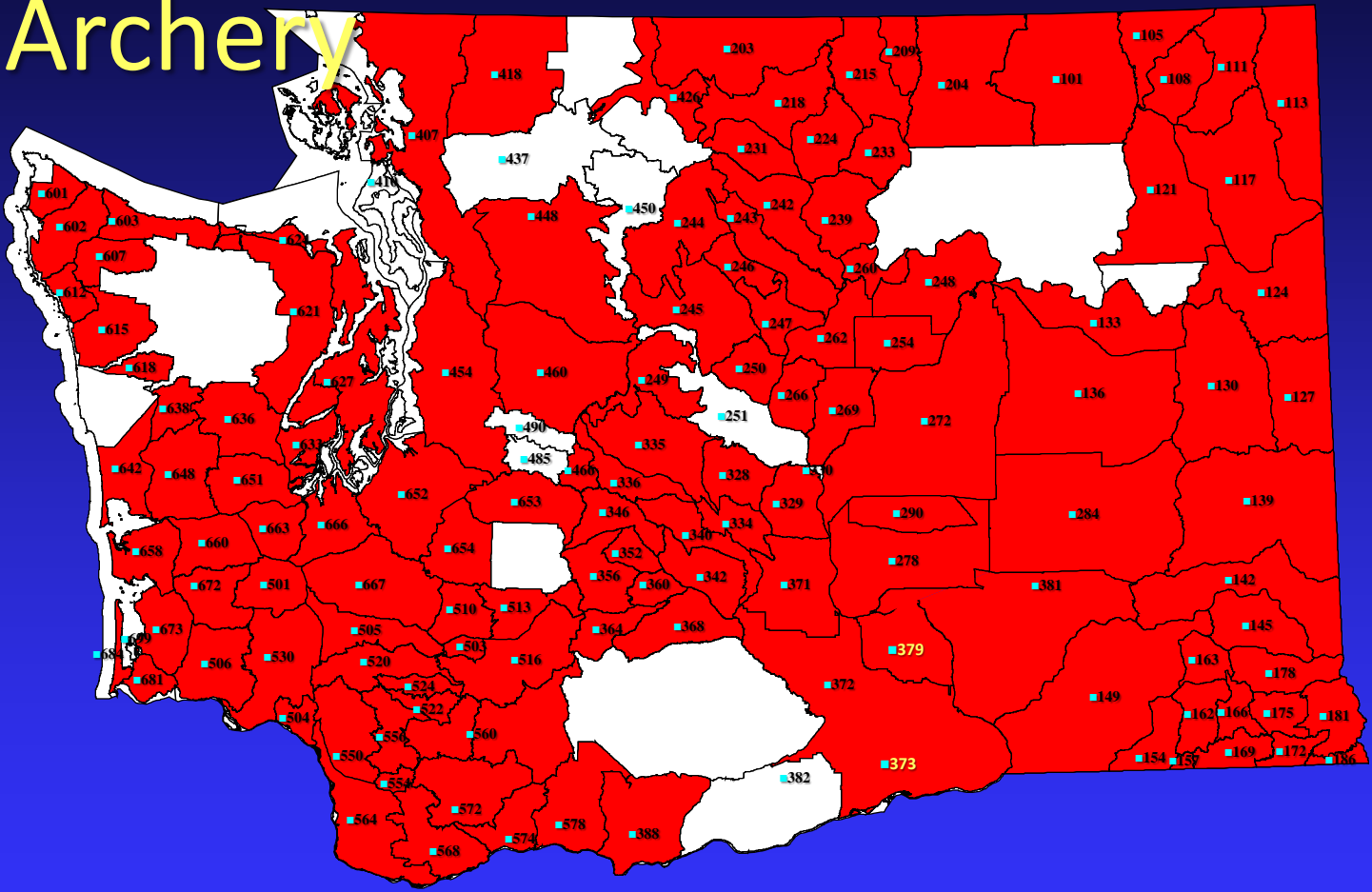


Deer Muzzleload

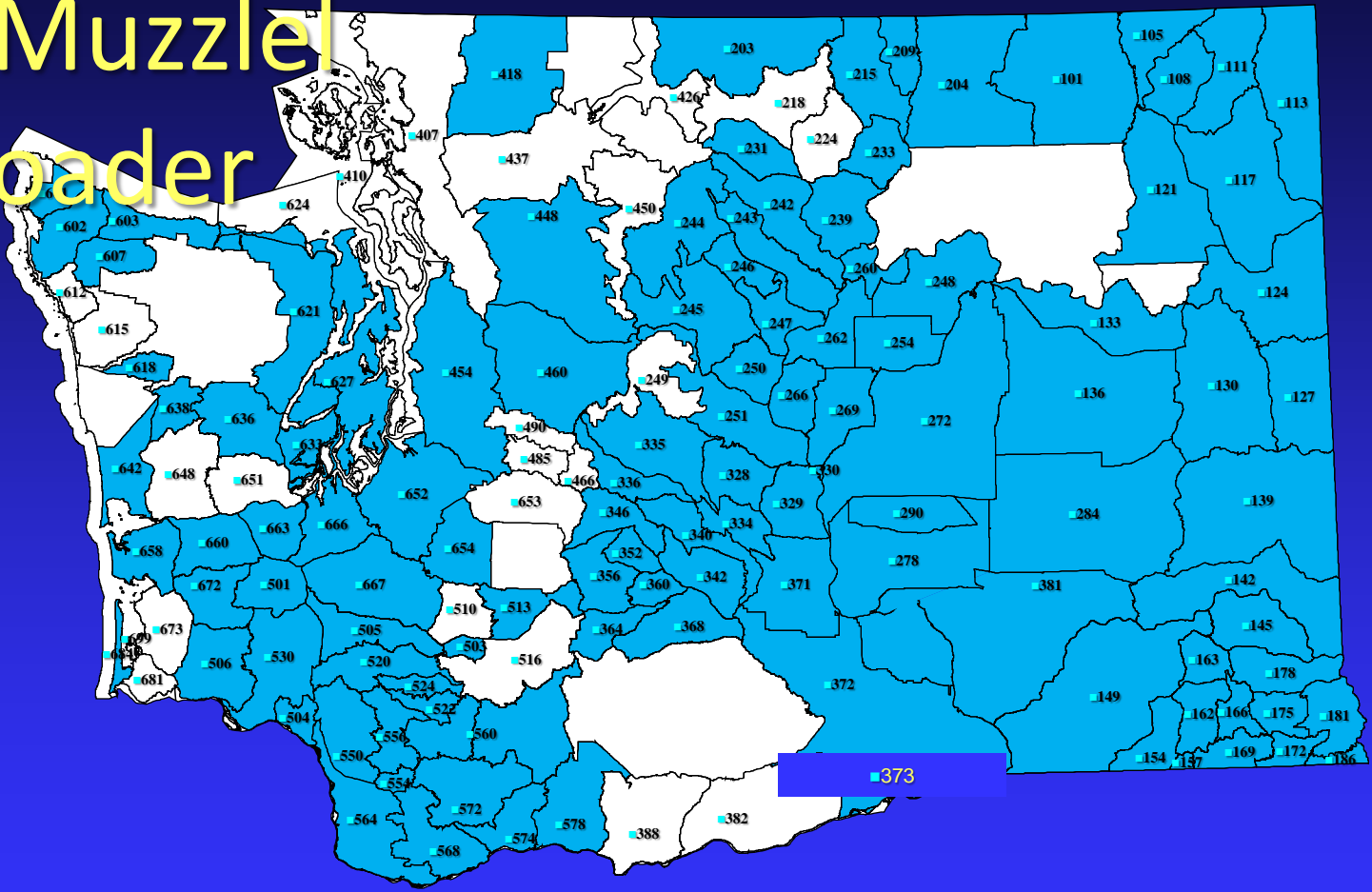


■ Elk

Archery



Elk Muzzleloader



Allocation Committee

- Results:
- Currently most Districts:
 - ◆ Offer a mix of opportunity for all groups
 - ◆ Are within acceptable levels of success and participation
- There are a few changes recommended for each three-year package
- Although none last package because of Governor's moratorium

Allocation Committee

- 2008 Review:
 - ◆ Look beyond the current formula at distribution of:
 - ◆ Antlered
 - ◆ Antlerless
 - ◆ Mature
 - ◆ Consider timing and quality

Allocation Committee

- Analyzed Harvest Data
- Results:
 - ◆ Percent of mature (Bucks-MF;Bulls-Arch)
 - ◆ Percent of bucks and bulls (MF)
 - ◆ Percent of antlerless (Archery)
- Other Considerations for Allocation

GMAC Considerations:

- Should archery and muzzleloader hunters expect to have similar harvest success as modern firearm? No.
- Should additional opportunity for hunting during the rut be available for modern firearms? Yes.
- Should antlered and antlerless opportunity be spread across all users more evenly? Yes.

GMAC Considerations:

- Changes to seasons should be “subtle” from one year to the next...
- Recommended changes should be based on harvest data.
- Review the current allocation formula (permits as well).
- Consider modeling variations in the allocation formula to predict the result of changes

GMAC Considerations:

- Resource considerations must be primary before allocation
- Also consider percentages in making allocation recommendations

GMAC Direction to Allocation Committee:

- Review of Allocation to benefit recruitment of First Time Hunters.
- Hunter Retention
- Annual Participation
- Preparing for the 2015-17 Three Year Package.

Allocation Committee Ideas:

- Hunter Match Making
- Mentoring Programs for First Time Hunters
- FTH - Special hunting opportunities

GMAC Involvement

- Game Mgmt Plan Update – starts this summer
- 2015-17 Hunting Seasons – starts next summer

Questions ?????

