

# **Agenda Item 8**

**WAC 232-28-288**

**Fall black bear seasons and regulations**

**&**

**WAC 232-28-286**

**Spring Black Bear Seasons and Regulations**

# Black Bear Population Status



Information is subject to changes  
and amendments over time

March 9, 2012 WDFW Commission  
meeting presentation

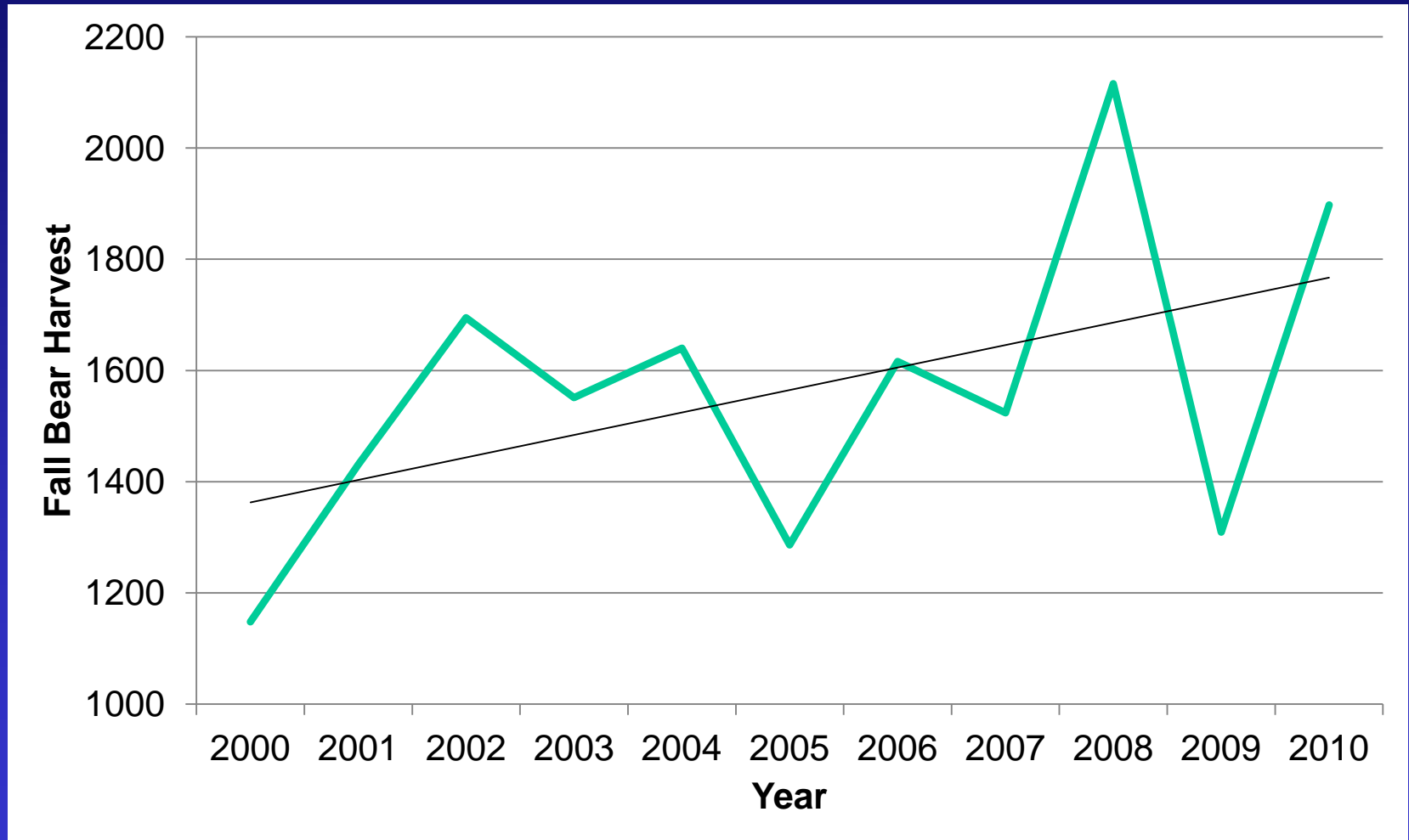
# Game Management Plan

## Objective 58

- Provide recreational hunting opportunities to annually harvest at least 800-1,200 bears statewide, while at the same time maintaining a sustainable bear population in each BBMU

Parameter	Harvest		
	Liberalize	Acceptable	Restrict
% Females in harvest	< 35%	35-39%	> 39%
Median age of harvested females	> 6 years	5-6 years	< 5 years
Median age of harvested males	> 4 years	2-4 years	< 2 years

# Statewide Fall Bear Harvest



# Statewide Bear Hunting Stats

Year	Male	Female	Total Harvest	# of Hunters	% Success	# Hunter Days	# Days per kill
1996	951	359	1,310	12,868	10%	104,431	80
1997	546	298	844	11,060	8%	97,426	115
1998	1,157	645	1,802	20,891	9%	216,456	120
1999	757	349	1,106	37,033	3%	481,319	435
2000	777	371	1,148	37,401	3%	296,849	259
2001	919	512	1,431	25,141	6%	230,431	161
2002	800	427	1,227	24,844	7%	219,428	127
2003	989	583	1,556	22,510	7%	192,544	123
2004	1,093	561	1,654	21,573	8%	186,626	113
2005	940	333	1,333	20,724	6%	172,527	129
2006	1,061	581	1,642	21,801	8%	168,237	103
2007	1,096	489	1,585	23,667	7%	168,237	106
2008	1,450	758	2,208	26,347	8%	215,032	102
2009	931	465	1,396	23,767	6%	192,347	147
2010	1,254	718	1,972	24,118	8%	185,389	98
<b>5-year Ave</b>	<b>1,158</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>1,761</b>	<b>23,940</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>185,848</b>	<b>111</b>

# Black bear Management Units

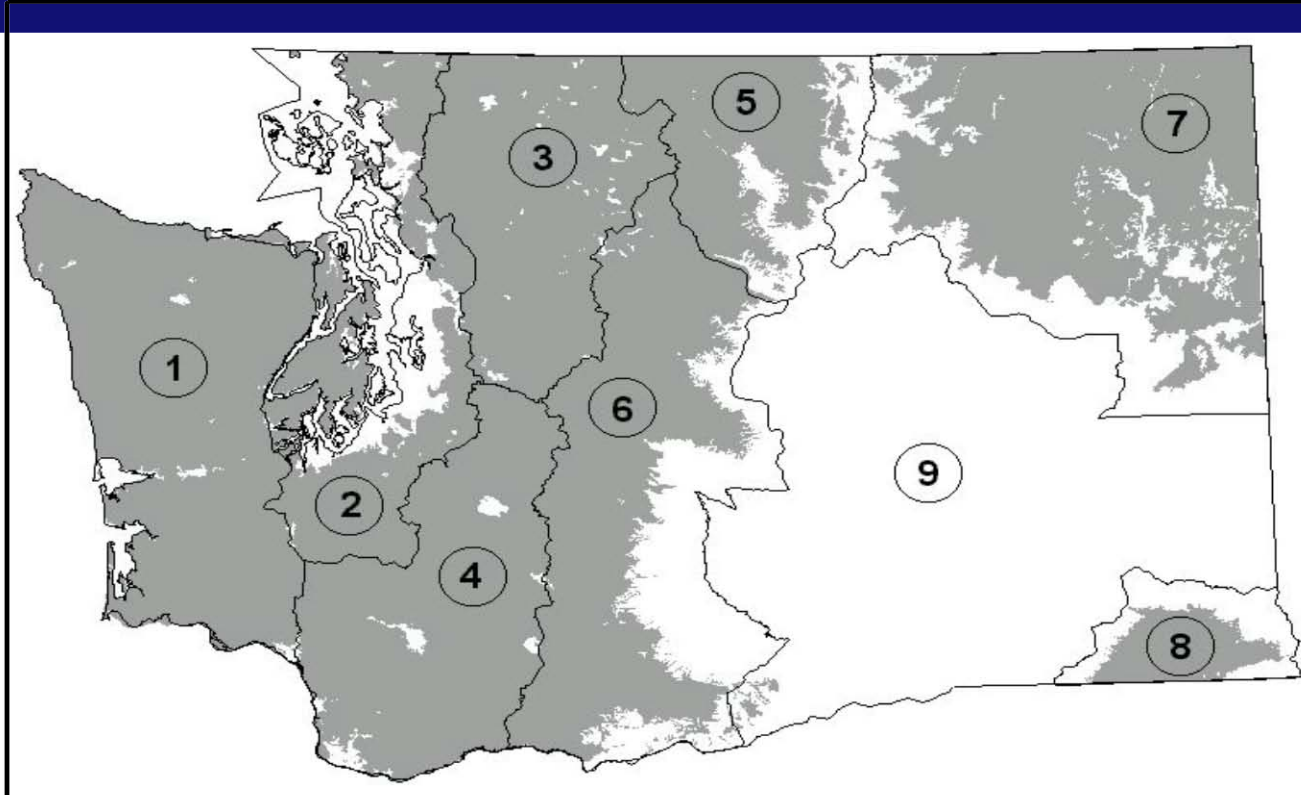
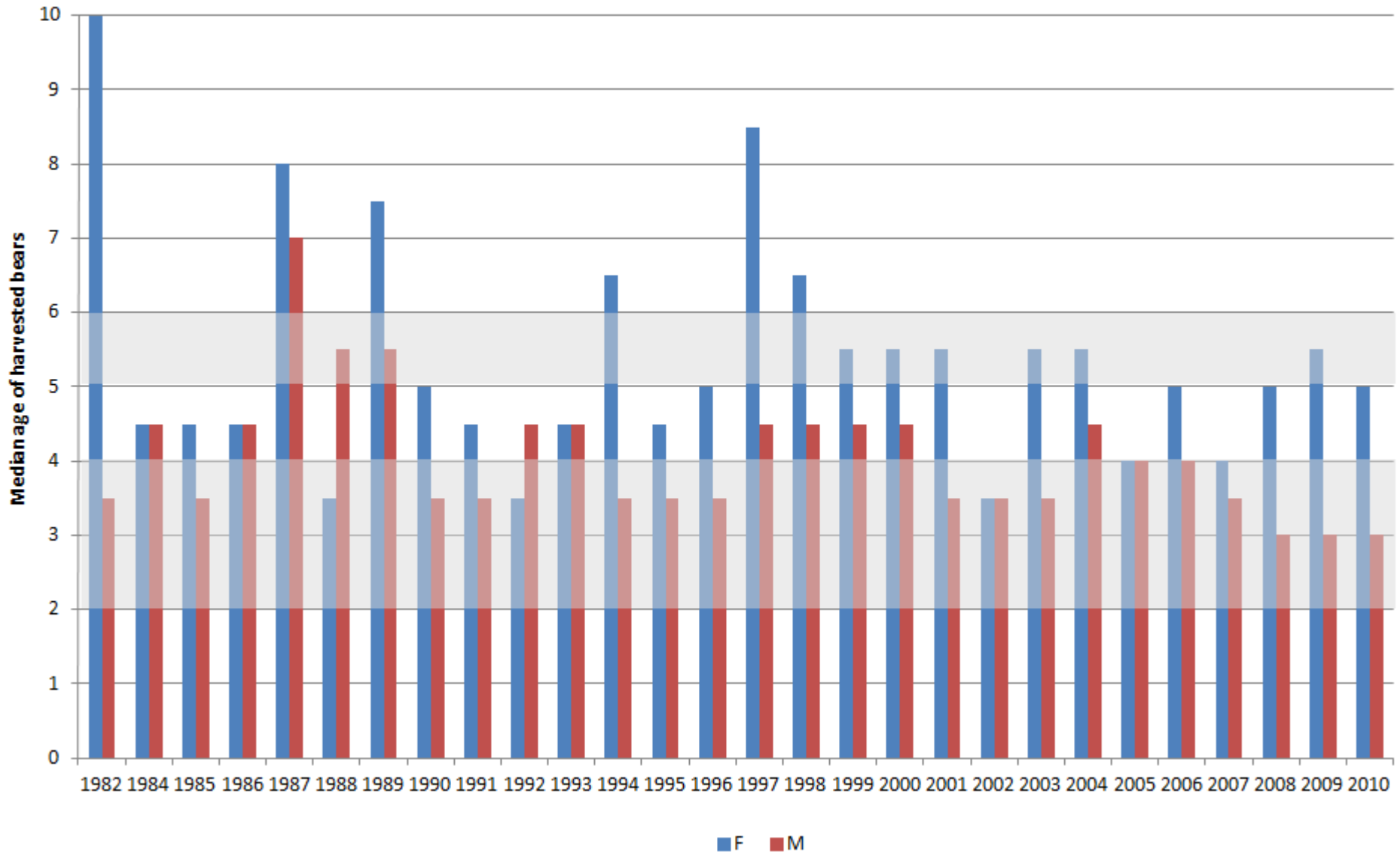


Figure 1. Black bear distribution and black bear management units in

# Percent Female in Harvest

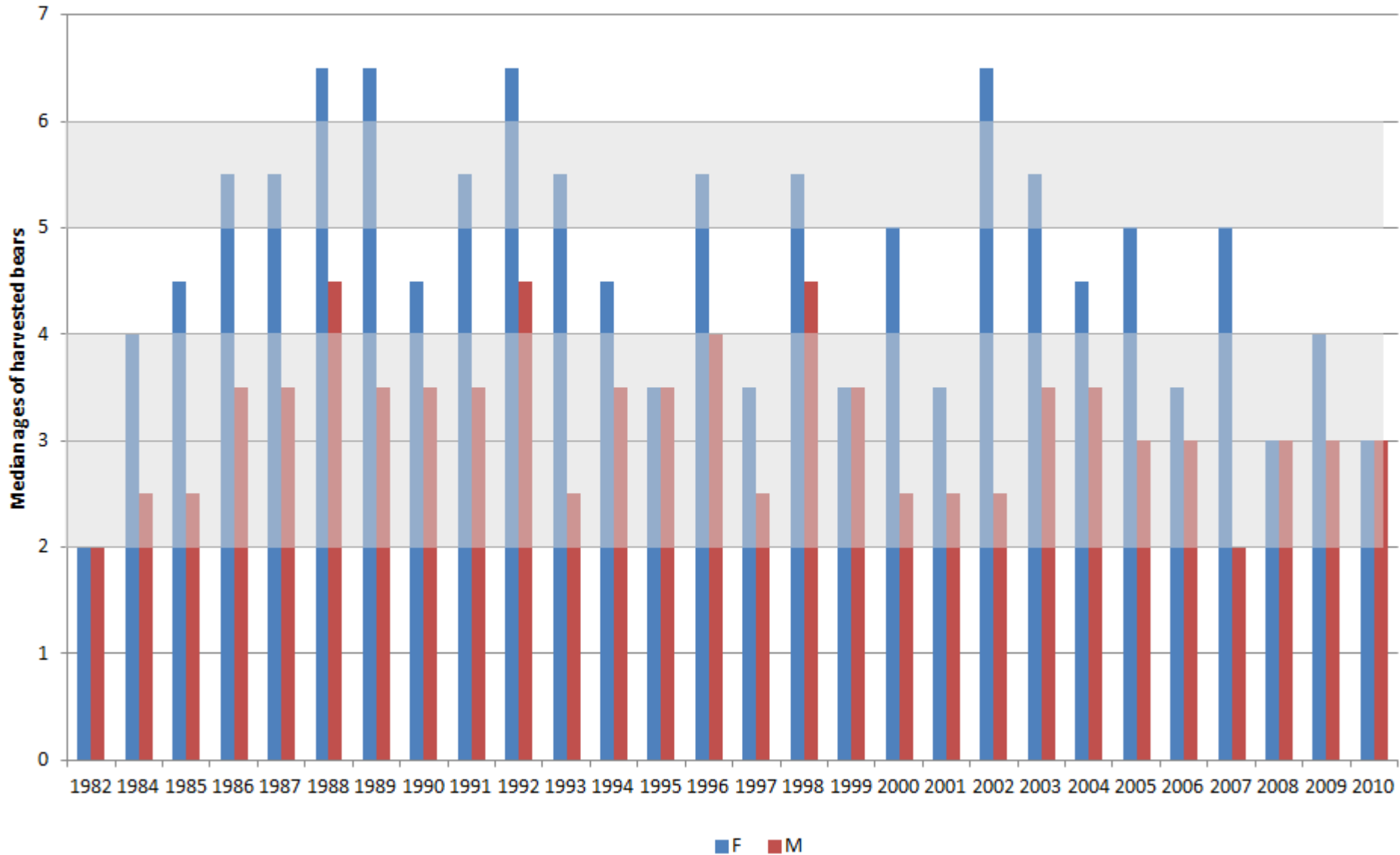
BBMU	% Female in total fall harvest	
	2005-2007 Ave	2008-2010 Ave
Coastal	30.3	32.7
Puget Sound	--	--
North Cascades	28.9	33.2
South Cascades	31.3	35.2
Okanogan	30.1	30.1
East Cascades	33.3	35.7
Northeastern	34.3	33.4
Blue Mtns	28.5	36.0
Columbia Basin	--	--

# Coastal BBMU

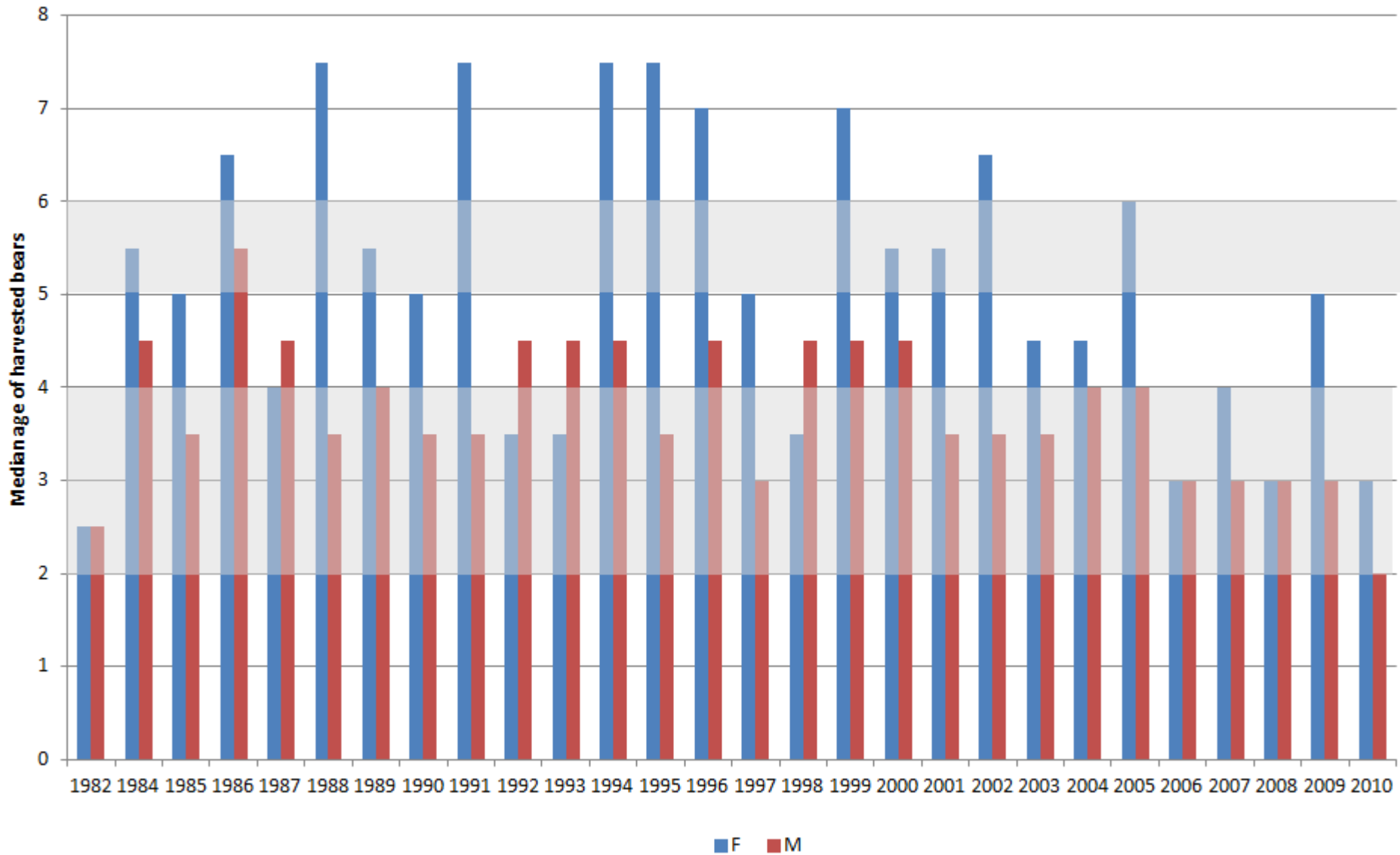




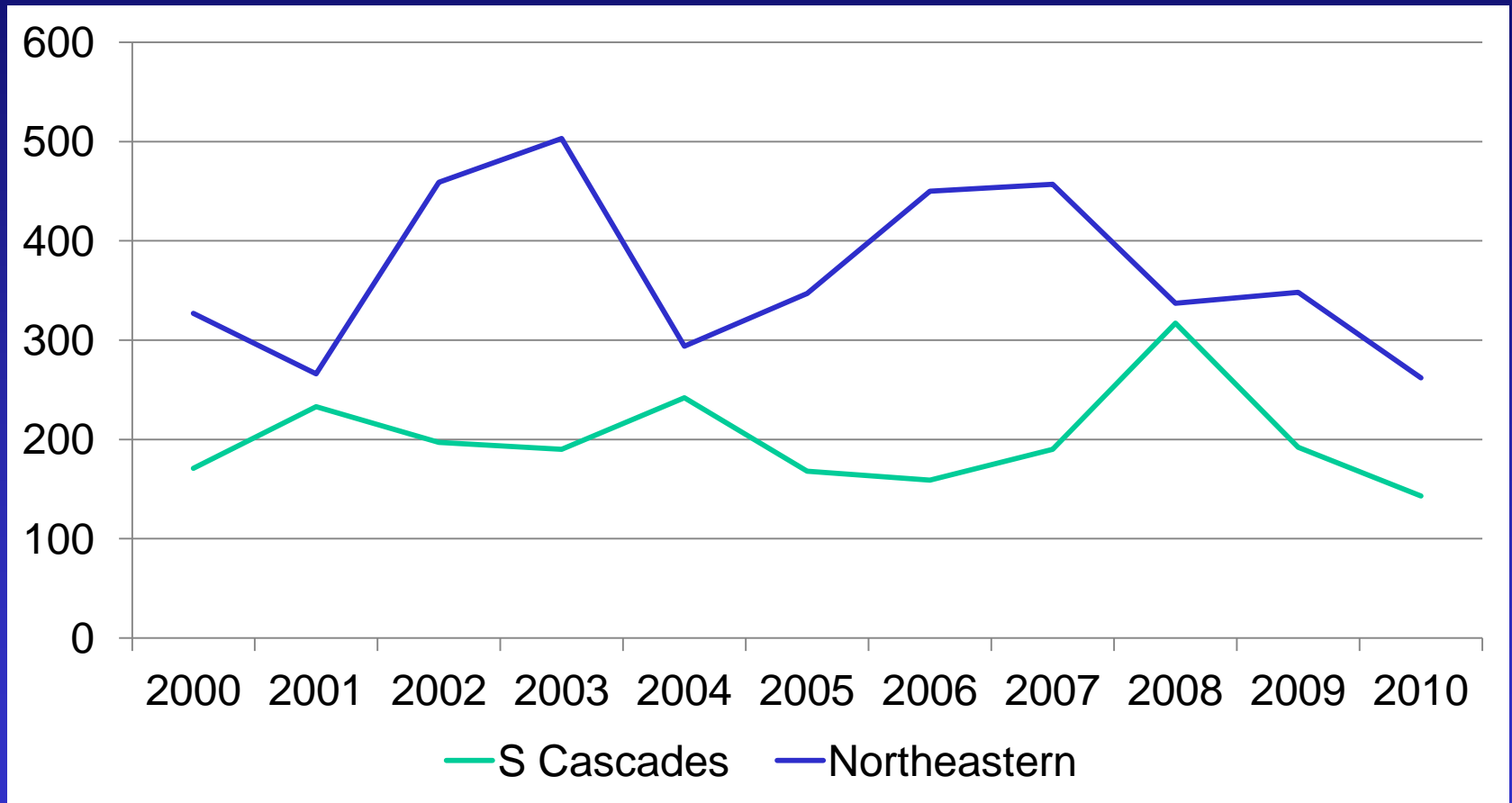
# Northeastern BEMU



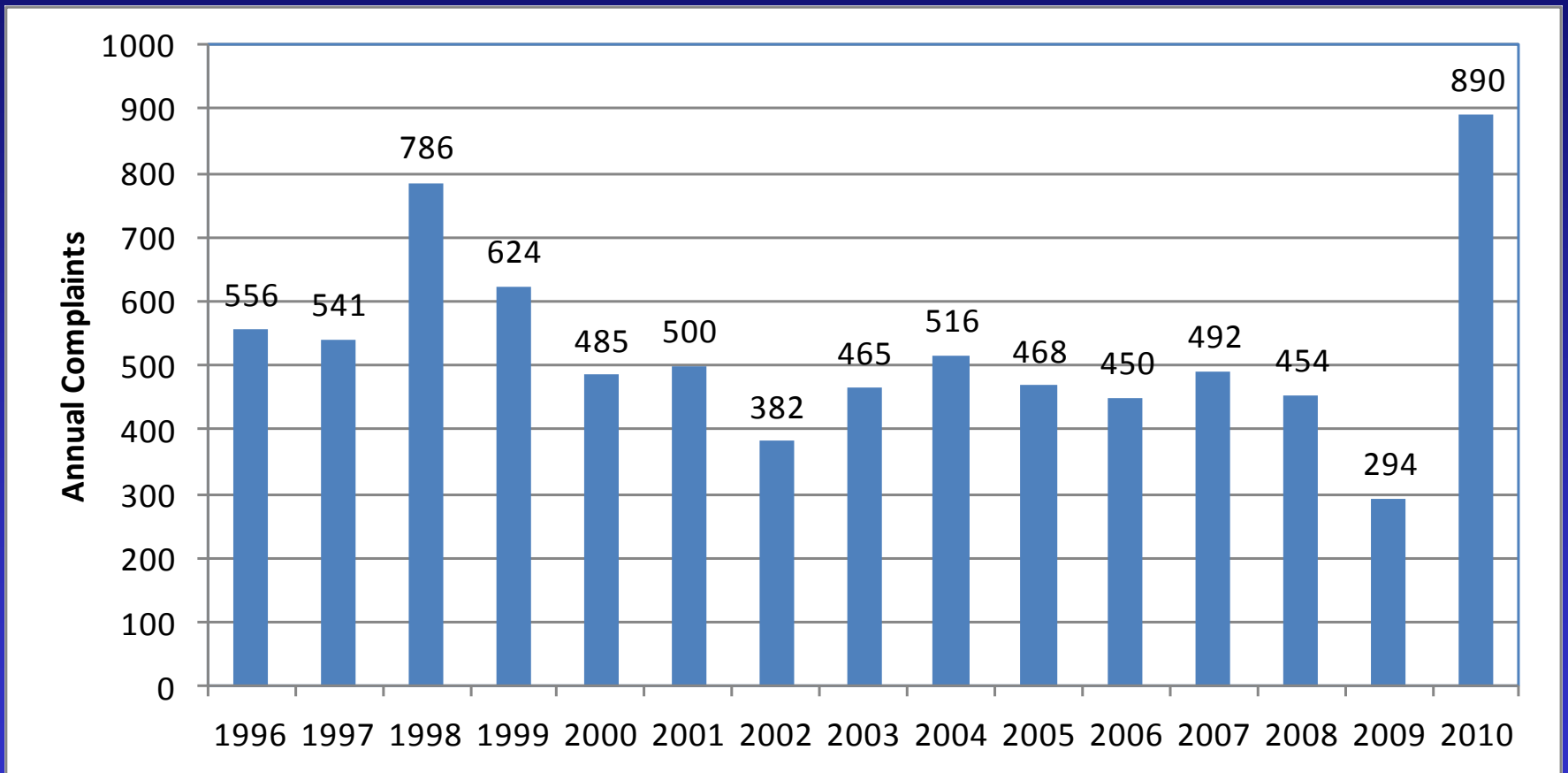
# South Cascades BBMU



# Fall Bear Harvest



# Confirmed Bear Complaints



# Recommendation

## Status quo

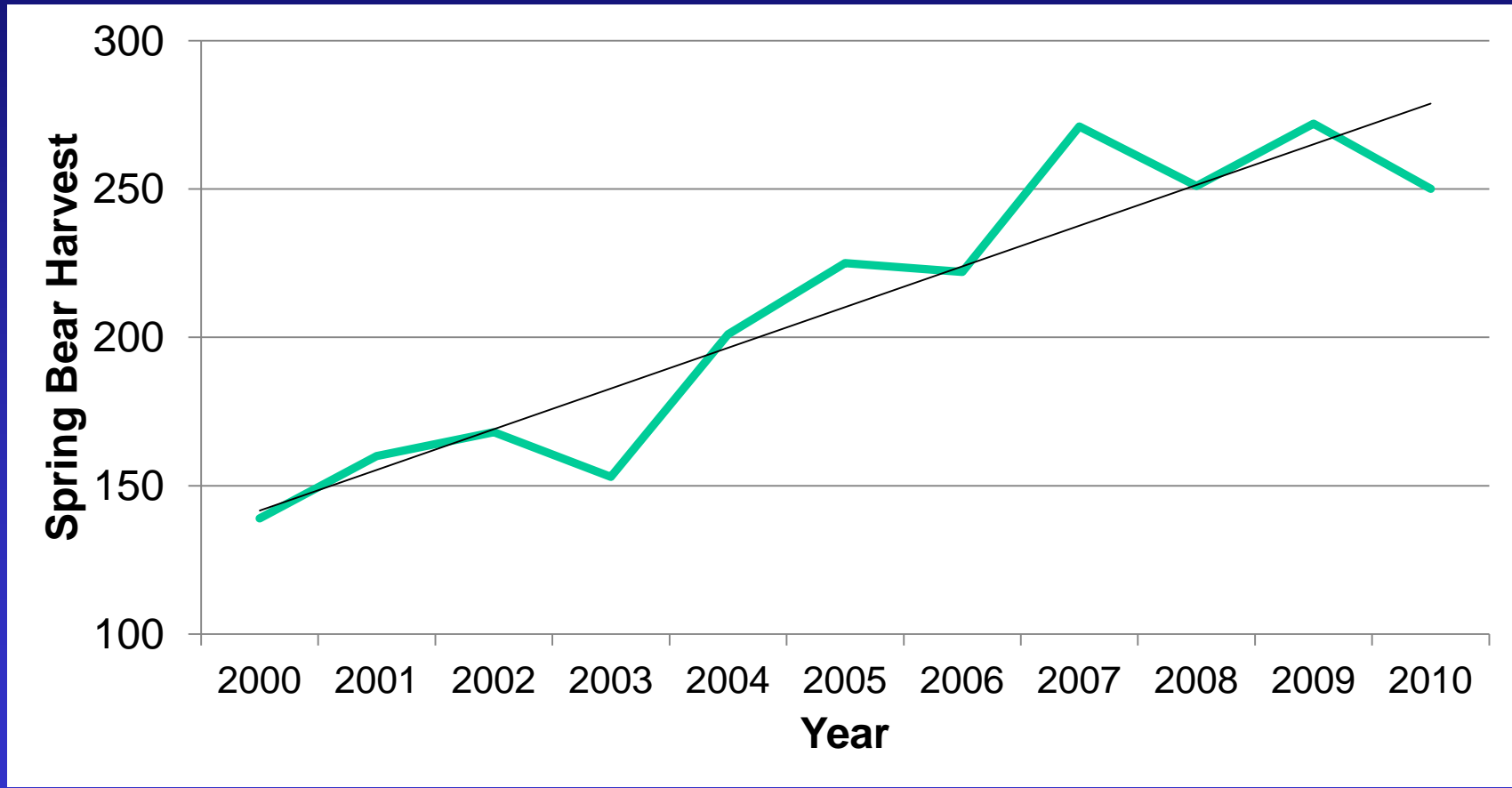
Fall Black Bear		
Hunt Zone	Hunt Dates	Hunt Area GMUs
Coastal	Aug. 1-Nov. 15	GMUs 501, 504, 506, 530, 601, 602, 603, 607-621, 636-651, 658-663, 672-684
Puget Sound	Aug. 1-Nov. 15	GMUs 407, 410, 454, 624, 627, 633, 652, 666, 667
North Cascades	Aug. 1-Nov. 15	GMUs 418-450, 460
South Cascades	Aug. 18-Nov. 15	GMUs 466, 485*, 503, 505, 510-520, 524, 550-574, 653, 654
Okanogan	Aug. 18-Nov. 15	GMUs 203, 209-243
East Cascades	Aug. 1-Nov. 15	GMUs 244-247, 249-251, 328, 329-368, 382, 388, 578
Northeastern A	Sept. 1-Nov. 15	GMUs 101-121, 204
Northeastern B	Aug. 18-Nov. 15	GMUs 124-130
Blue Mountains	Sept. 1-Nov. 15	GMUs 145-154, 162-186
Columbia Basin	Aug. 1-Nov. 15	GMUs 133, 136, 139, 142, 248, 254, 260-290, 371-381
Long Island	Sept. 1-Nov. 15	GMU 699**

# Spring Bear Seasons



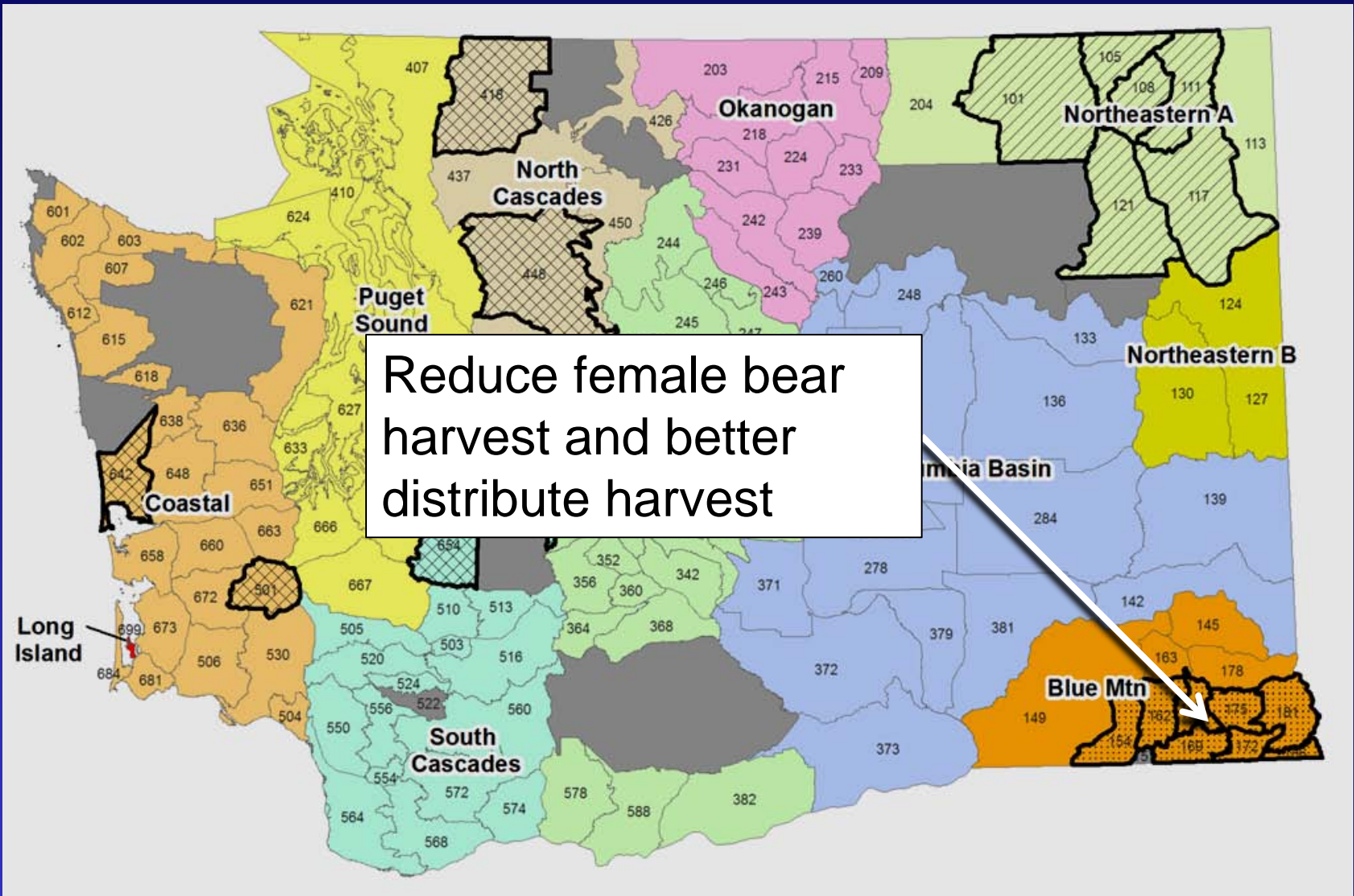
# Statewide Spring Bear Harvest

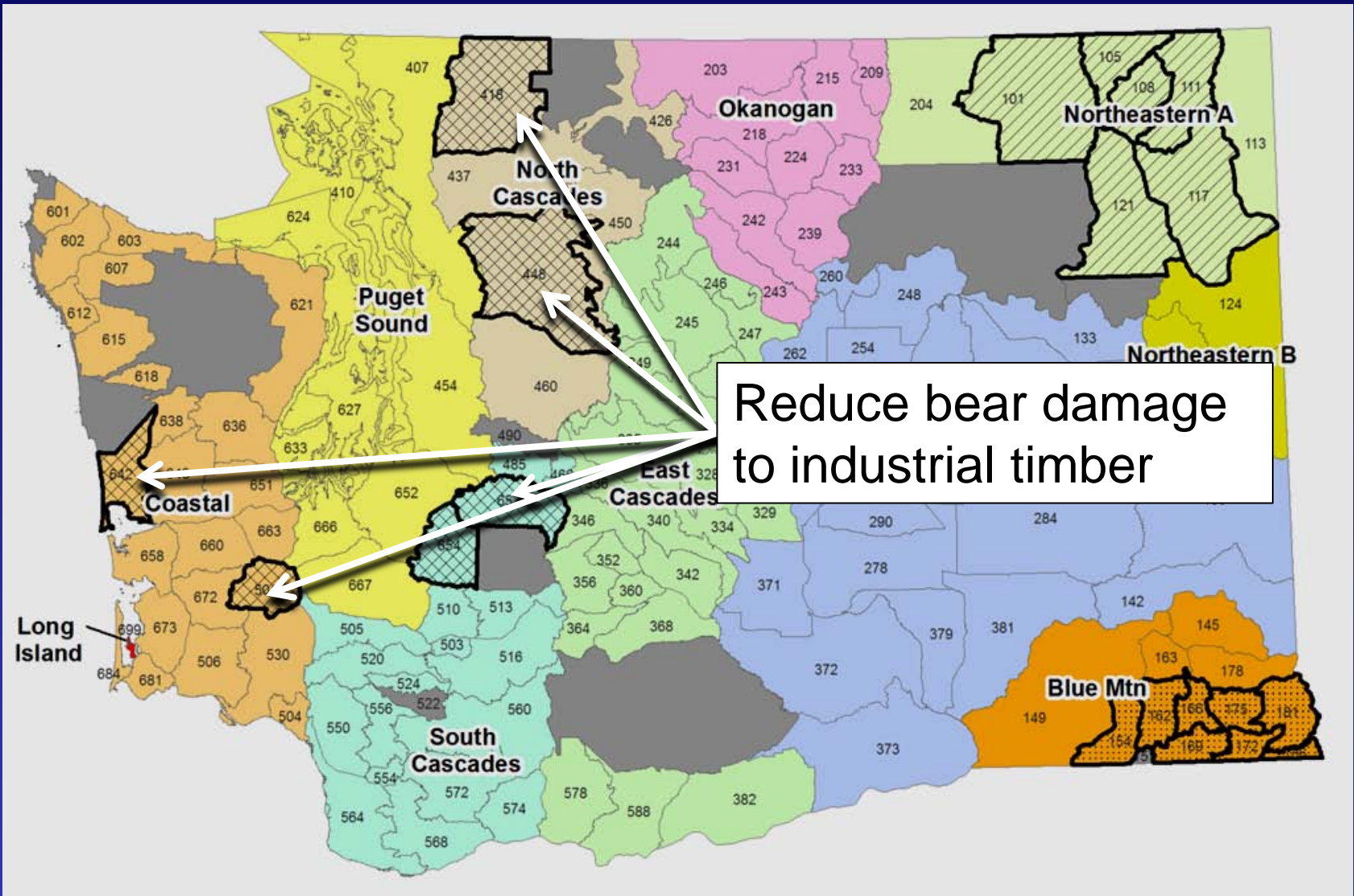
## Spring Seasons and Tree Depredation Kills

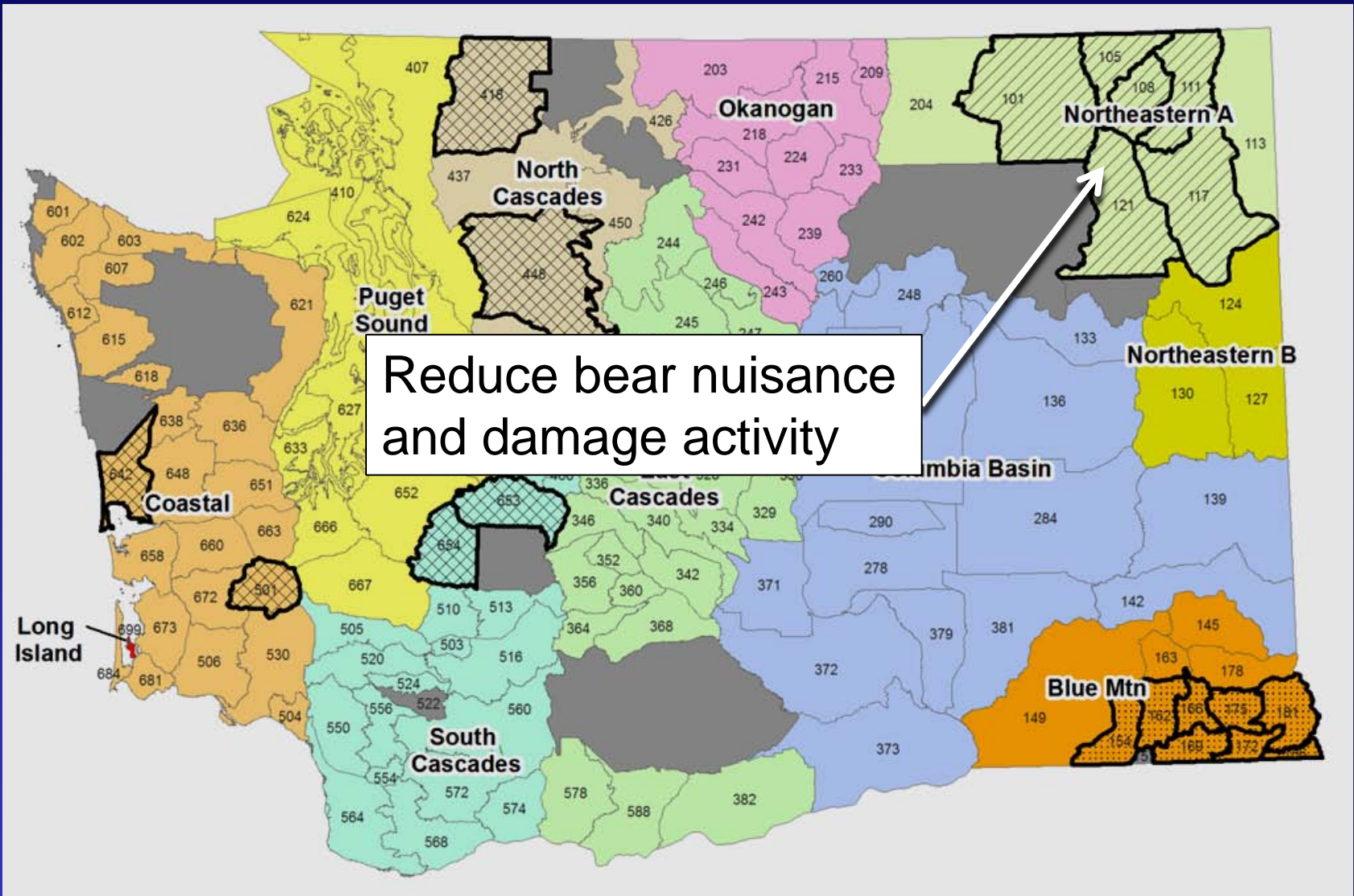


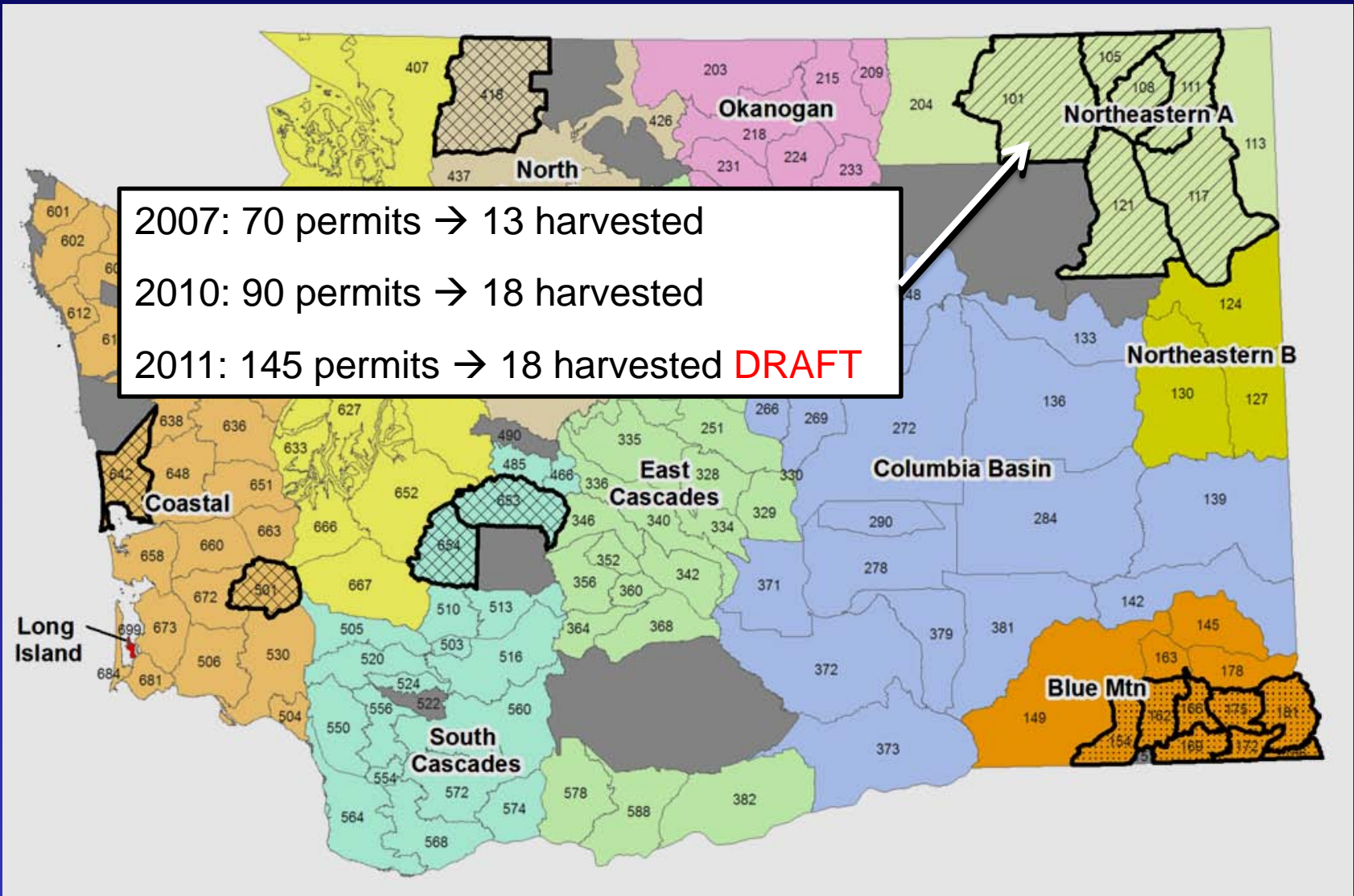












# Recommendation

Status quo, except remove the Lincoln hunt area. The participating landowner has opted out of the bear damage hunt.

Hunt Choice	Hunt Name	Hunt Area	2013 Hunt Dates <sup>b</sup>	Permits	2012 Apps/ Avg Pts
7000	Sherman	GMU 101	April 1-June 15	25	
7001	Kelly Hill	GMU 105	April 1-June 15	25	
7002	Douglas	GMU 108	April 1-June 15	20	
7003	Aladdin	GMU 111	April 1-June 15	25	
7004	49 Degrees North	GMU 117	April 1-June 15	25	
7005	Huckleberry	GMU 121	April 1-June 15	25	
7006	Blue Creek	GMU 154	April 15-May 31	15	
7007	Dayton	GMU 162	April 15-May 31	15	
7008	Tucannon	GMU 166	April 15-May 31	5	
7009	Wenaha	GMU 169	April 15-June 15	45	
7010	Mt. View	GMU 172	April 15-May 31	15	
7011	Lick Creek	GMU 175	April 15 - May 31	15	
7012	Couse	GMU 181	April 15-May 31	4	
7013	Grande Ronde	GMU 186	April 15-May 31	5	
7014	North Skagit <sup>a</sup>	That portion of GMU 418 that is designated as the hunt area by DNR, Sierra Pacific, and Grandy Lake Timber company.	April 15-May 31	20	
7015	Monroe <sup>a</sup>	That portion of GMU 448 that is designated as the hunt area by DNR, Green Crow, and Longview Timber Lands.	April 15-May 31	25	
7016	Copalis <sup>a</sup>	That portion of GMU 642 that is designated as the hunt area by Rayonier Timber Company.	April 15-June 15	100	
7017	Kapowsin <sup>a</sup>	That portion of GMUs 653 and/or 654 that is designated as the hunt area by Hancock Forest Management and International Forestry.	April 15-June 15	150	
<del>7018</del>	<del>Lincoln<sup>a</sup></del>	<del>That portion of GMU 501 that is designated as the hunt area by participating commercial timber landowners.</del>	<del>April 15-June 15</del>	<del>75</del>	

# Questions