

14. ELK GENERAL AND SPECIAL PERMIT SEASONS AND REGULATIONS– RULE ACTION

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Summary

Meeting dates: April 12, 2013

Agenda item 14: Elk General and Special Permit Seasons and Regulations – **Rule Action**

Presenter(s): Jerry Nelson, Ph.D., Deer and Elk Section Manager, Wildlife Program

Background summary:

Staff will brief the Commission on proposed amendments to WAC 232-28-358 2012-2014 Elk general seasons and definitions and WAC 232-28-360 2013 Elk special permits.

Updates will be provided on:

- Antlerless elk hunting opportunities for GMUs 352 and 356
 - Reduction of bull special permits in the Blue Mountains
 - Status of the Colockum elk herd
 - Hoof disease issues for elk in SW Washington
-

Policy issue(s) you are bringing to the Commission for consideration:

- Continue sustainable hunting seasons for elk.
 - Adjust elk special permits in response to elk population changes and elk damage complaints.
-

Public involvement process used and what you learned:

Notification was made to approximately 600 individuals and organizations informing them of the opportunity to provide comment on the proposed regulations. Additionally these individuals and organizations were informed of the opportunity to provide testimony at the March 1-2, 2013 Commission Meeting in Moses Lake.

Action requested:

Amend WAC 232-28-358 and WAC 232-28-360 as proposed.

Draft motion language:

I move to amend WAC 232-28-358 and WAC 232-28-360 as proposed.

Justification for Commission action:

- To maximize hunting opportunity consistent with achieving population objectives.
 - To address damage complaints and problems using hunter harvest.
-

Communications Plan:

Washington State Register
News Releases
Hunting Pamphlet
Agency Website

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order 12-70, filed 5/2/12, effective 6/2/12)

WAC 232-28-358 2012-2014 Elk general seasons and definitions.

It is unlawful to fail to comply with bag, possession, and season limits ~~except as~~ described below. ~~Violations~~ A violation of this section ~~are~~ is punishable under RCW 77.15.410, Unlawful hunting of big game--Penalty.

Bag Limit: One (1) elk per hunter during the license year, except where otherwise permitted by ~~fish and wildlife commission~~ department rule. Any combination of seasons, tags, and permits set by the ~~fish and wildlife commission~~ department will not exceed a maximum of two (2) elk per hunter during the license year.

Hunting Method: Elk hunters must select only one of the hunting methods: ~~(modern firearm, archery, or muzzleloader)~~.

Elk Tag Areas: Elk hunters must choose either Eastern or Western Washington to hunt in and buy the appropriate tag for that area.

Any Bull Elk Seasons: Open only to the taking of elk with visible antlers; ~~(bull calves are illegal)~~.

Antler Point: To qualify as an antler point, the point must be at least one inch long, measured on the longest side.

Branch: A branch is defined as any projection off the main antler beam that is at least one inch long, measured on the longest side,

and longer than it is wide.

Spike Bull Antler Restrictions: Bull elk taken in ~~spike--only~~ game management units (GMUs) must have at least one antler with no branches originating more than ~~four-4~~ inches above where the antler attaches to the skull.

~~Spike Only~~Spike-only GMUs: 145-154, 162-186, 249, and 336-368.

True Spike--Bull Antler Restrictions: ~~Neither antler of Bull-bull~~ elk taken in ~~these units~~GMUs 251, and 328-335 ~~must~~can have ~~both antlers with no~~ branching originating more than ~~four-4~~ inches above where the antlers attach to the skull. Under the ~~true--~~spike restriction, ~~the~~ taking ~~of~~ an elk that has two points on one side or ~~has~~ antler points within one inch of the definitions regarding length of point, or point of origination, is an infraction under RCW ~~7.84.030~~77.15.160. All other types of violations of the ~~true--~~spike restriction are subject to current penalties and assessments under RCW 77.15.410 and 77.15.420.

~~True Spike~~True-spike GMUs: 251, 328-335.

~~3-Point~~3-point Antler Restrictions: Legal bull elk must have at least 3 antler points on one side, with at least 2 antler points above the ear. Eye guards are antler points when they are at least one inch long. Antler restrictions apply to all hunters during any open season.

~~3-Point~~3-point GMUs: All of Western Washington, except for GMUs 454, 564, 568, 574, 578, 652 for archers, 666, 684, and Elk Area 4941.

~~Permit Only~~Permit-only Units: The following GMUs are closed to elk hunting during general elk seasons: 157, 371, 418, 485, 522, 524,

556, 621, 636, and 653, ~~and Elk Area 3068~~.

GMUs Closed to Elk Hunting: 437 (except for Elk Area 4941) and 490.

Areas with Special Restrictions: There are modern firearm restrictions in GMU 334 and portions of GMU 660. GMU 554 is open only for early archery and muzzleloader seasons. Elk Area 6064 in GMU 638 (Quinault) is open to master hunters only.

Elk Tag Areas

Eastern Washington: All 100, 200, and 300 GMUs. ~~except permit only for all hunters in GMUs 157 and 371. Modern firearms are restricted in GMU 334.~~

EA - Eastern Washington Archery Tag

EF - Eastern Washington Modern Firearm General Elk Tag

EM - Eastern Washington Muzzleloader Tag

Western Washington: All 400, 500, and 600 GMUs. ~~except closed in GMU 437 (except for Elk Area 4941), 490, and modern firearm restrictions in portions of GMU 660. GMU 554 is open only for early archery and muzzleloader seasons. Elk Area 6064 in GMU 638 (Quinault) is open to master hunters only. Elk hunting by permit only in GMUs 418, 485, 522, 524, 556, 621, and 636.~~

WA - Western Washington Archery Tag

WF - Western Washington Modern Firearm General Elk Tag

WM - Western Washington Muzzleloader Tag

Modern Firearm General Elk Seasons

License Required: A valid big game hunting license with an elk tag

option.

Tag Required: ~~Valid~~ A valid modern firearm elk tag as listed below ~~on his/her person~~ for the area hunted.

Hunting Method: May use modern firearm, bow and arrow, or muzzleloader, but only during modern firearm seasons.

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	2012 Dates	2013 Dates	2014 Dates	Legal Elk
Eastern Washington	EF	101, 105, 108, 111, 113, 117, 121, 204	Oct. 27 - Nov. 4	Oct. 26 - Nov. 3	Oct. 25 - Nov. 2	Any bull
		145 through 154, 162 through 186, 249, 336 through 368	Oct. 27 - Nov. 4	Oct. 26 - Nov. 3	Oct. 25 - Nov. 2	Spike bull
		251, 328, 329, 334, 335	Oct. 27 - Nov. 4	Oct. 26 - Nov. 3	Oct. 26 - Nov. 2	True spike bull
		Elk Area 3722*	Sept. 8-23	Sept. 7-22	Sept. 6-21	Antlerless only
		124 through 142, 372, 382, 388	Oct. 27 - Nov. 4	Oct. 26 - Nov. 3	Oct. 25 - Nov. 2	Any elk
		203, 209 through 248, 250, 254 through 290, 373, 379, 381	Oct. 27 - Nov. 15	Oct. 26 - Nov. 15	Oct. 25 - Nov. 15	Any elk
		Elk Area 2033	Sept. 4-30	Sept. 3-30	Sept. 2-30	Antlerless only
		Master Hunters Only: 371, Elk Area 3912	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2013	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2014	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2015	Antlerless only
		Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911**	Nov. 10 - Dec. 16	Nov. 9 - Dec. 15	Nov. 8 - Dec. 14	Antlerless only
		Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911** 2nd tag.	Aug. 1 - Oct. 26	Aug. 1 - Oct. 25	Aug. 1 - Oct. 24	Antlerless only
		Master Hunters Only: 127, 130	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Antlerless only
		<p>*GMU 372 and Elk Area 3722 are mainly private property. Hunters hunters are not advised to try hunting these areas without making prior arrangements for access.</p> <p>**Master Hunters who hunt in Elk Area 3911 may purchase a master hunter, Elk Area 3911, second elk transport tag. Only one (1) antlerless elk may be taken from Elk Area 3911 unless drawn for an antlerless elk special permit. Any legal weapon may be used. Master hunter, Elk Area 3911, second elk transport tags will be valid only for Elk Area 3911 from August 1 - October 26, 2012, August 1 - October 25, 2013, and August 1 - October 24, 2014. All hunters participating in the Elk Area 3911 hunt must wear hunter orange.</p>				
Western Washington	WF	407, 460, 466, 503, 505 through 520, 530, 550, 560, 568, 572, 574, 578, 601 through 618, 624 (except for Elk Area 6071), 627 through 633, 638 through 652, 654 through 684. Except master hunters only in Elk Area 6064.	Nov. 3-14	Nov. 2-13	Nov. 1-12	3 pt. min.
		501, 504	Nov. 3-14	Nov. 2-13	Nov. 1-12	3 pt. min. or antlerless

	448, 564, 666	Nov. 3-14	Nov. 2-13	Nov. 1-12	Any elk
	454	Nov. 3-14	Nov. 2-13	Nov. 1-12	Any bull

Archery General Elk Seasons

License Required: A valid big game hunting license with an elk tag option.

Tag Required: ~~Valid~~ A valid archery elk tag as listed below ~~on his/her person~~ for the area hunted.

Hunting Method: Bow and arrow only, as defined under WAC 232-12-054.

Special Notes: Archery tag holders can hunt only during archery seasons and must hunt with archery equipment (WAC 232-12-054). Archery elk hunters may apply for special bull permits. Please see permit table for tag eligibility for all elk permits.

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	2012 Dates	2013 Dates	2014 Dates	Legal Elk
Early Archery General Elk Seasons						
Eastern Washington	EA	101 through 142, 243, 247, 249, 250, 373, 379, 381, 388	Sept. 4-16	Sept. 3-15	Sept. 2-14	Any elk
		162, 166 through 172, 186((,352,356))	Sept. 4-16	Sept. 3-15	Sept. 2-14	Spike bull
		328, 329, 335	Sept. 4-16	Sept. 3-15	Sept. 2-14	True spike bull
		145, 149, 154, Elk Area 1010, Elk Area 1013, 163, 175, 178, 181, 334, 336, 340, ((346,)) <u>352, 356, 364</u>	Sept. 4-16	Sept. 3-15	Sept. 2-14	Spike bull or antlerless
Western Washington	WA	448, 454, 564, 652, 666	Sept. 4-16	Sept. 3-15	Sept. 2-14	Any elk
		407, 501 through 505, 520, 550, 554, 560, 568, 572, 574, 578, 624, except for Elk Area 6071, Elk Area 6061, 654, 660, 667 through 673, 681, 684, 699	Sept. 4-16	Sept. 3-15	Sept. 2-14	3 pt. min. or antlerless
		460, 466, 506, 510, 513, 516, 530, 601, 602, 603, 607, 612 through 618, 627, 633, 638 through 648, 651, 658, 663. Master hunters only in Elk Area 6064.	Sept. 4-16	Sept. 3-15	Sept. 2-14	3 pt. min.
Late Archery General Elk Seasons						

Eastern Washington	EA	101, 105, 108, 117, 121, 204	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Any bull
		124, 127, 373, 388	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Any elk
		178	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	Nov. 20 - Dec. 8	Antlerless only
		Elk Area 1010, 163	Dec. 9 - Jan. 30, 2013	Dec. 9 - Jan. 30, 2014	Dec. 9 - Jan. 20, 2015	Antlerless only
		203, 209 through 248, 250, 254 through 290, 379, 381. Must wear hunter orange.	Oct. 21 - Nov. 15	Oct. 27 - Nov. 15	Oct. 26 - Nov. 15	Any elk
		Master Hunters Only: 371, Elk Area 3912. Must wear hunter orange.	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2013	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2014	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2015	Antlerless only
		Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911**. Must wear hunter orange.	Nov. 10 - Dec. 16	Nov. 9 - Dec. 15	Nov. 8 - Dec. 14	Antlerless only
		Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911** 2nd tag. Must wear hunter orange.	Aug. 1 - Oct. 26	Aug. 1 - Oct. 25	Aug. 1 - Oct. 24	Antlerless only
		<u>Master Hunters Only: 127, 130</u>		<u>Dec. 9-31</u>	<u>Dec. 9-31</u>	<u>Antlerless only</u>
		328, 334, 335	Nov. 21 - Dec. 8	Nov. 27 - Dec. 8	Nov. 26 - Dec. 8	True spike bull or antlerless
		336, 346, 352, 364, Elk Area 3681	Nov. 21 - Dec. 8	Nov. 27 - Dec. 8	Nov. 26 - Dec. 8	Spike bull or antlerless
Western Washington	WA	407, 503, 505, 667, 672, 681, and 699. Master hunters only in Elk Area 6064 portion of GMU 638.	Nov. 21 - Dec. 15	Nov. 27 - Dec. 15	Nov. 26 - Dec. 15	3 pt. min. or antlerless
		448, 454, 564, 666	Nov. 21 - Dec. 15	Nov. 27 - Dec. 15	Nov. 26 - Dec. 15	Any elk
		603, 612, 615, 638, 648	Nov. 21 - Dec. 15	Nov. 27 - Dec. 15	Nov. 26 - Dec. 15	3 pt. min.
		506, 520, 530	Nov. 21 - Dec. 15	Nov. 27 - Dec. 15	Nov. 26 - Dec. 15	Antlerless only
		<p>*GMU 372 and Elk Area 3722 are mainly private property. Hunters Hunters are not advised to try hunting these areas without making prior arrangements for access.</p> <p>**Master Hunters who hunt in Elk Area 3911 may purchase a master hunter, Elk Area 3911, second elk transport tag. Only one (1) antlerless elk may be taken from Elk Area 3911 unless drawn for an antlerless elk special permit. Any legal weapon may be used. Master hunter, Elk Area 3911, second elk transport tags will be valid only for Elk Area 3911 from August 1 - October 26, 2012, August 1 - October 25, 2013, and August 1 - October 24, 2014. All hunters participating in the Elk Area 3911 hunt must wear hunter orange.</p>				

Muzzleloader General Elk Seasons

License Required: A valid big game hunting license with an elk tag option.

Tag Required: ~~Valid~~ A valid muzzleloader elk tag as listed below ~~on his/her person~~ for the area hunted.

Hunting Method: Muzzleloader, as defined under WAC 232-12-051, or bow and arrow, as defined under WAC 232-12-054.

Special Notes: Muzzleloader tag holders can only hunt during the muzzleloader seasons. Only hunters with tags identified in the Special Elk Permits tables may apply for special elk permits.

Hunt Area	Elk Tag Area	Game Management Units (GMUs)	2012 Dates	2013 Dates	2014 Dates	Legal Elk
Early Muzzleloader General Elk Seasons						
Eastern Washington	EM	101 through 121, 247	Oct. 6-12	Oct. 5-11	Oct. 4-10	Any bull
		124 through 142, 245, 250	Oct. 6-12	Oct. 5-11	Oct. 4-10	Any elk
		172, 336 through 342, 352 through 360, 368	Oct. 6-12	Oct. 5-11	Oct. 4-10	Spike bull
		335, Elk Area 2051	Oct. 6-12	Oct. 5-11	Oct. 4-10	True spike bull
Western Washington	WM	448, 454, 564, 666, 684	Oct. 6-12	Oct. 5-11	Oct. 4-10	Any elk
		460, 513, 530, 554, 568, 574, 578, 602, 603, 607, 627, 633, 638 except Elk Area 6064, 642, 660, 663, 672	Oct. 6-12	Oct. 5-11	Oct. 4-10	3 pt. min.
		501, 503, 504, 652, except Elk Area 6013 closed to antlerless, 654, 667	Oct. 6-12	Oct. 5-11	Oct. 4-10	3 pt. min. or antlerless
Late Muzzleloader General Elk Seasons						
Eastern Washington	EM	130 through 142	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Any elk
		204	Oct. 27 - Nov. 15	Oct. 26 - Nov. 15	Oct. 25 - Nov. 15	Any bull
		203, 209 through 248, 250, 254 through 290, 373, 379, 381. Must wear hunter orange.	Oct. 27 - Nov. 15	Oct. 26 - Nov. 15	Oct. 25 - Nov. 15	Any elk
		Master Hunters Only: 371, Elk Area 3912. Must wear hunter orange.	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2013	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2014	Aug. 1 - Jan. 20, 2015	Antlerless only
		Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911**. Must wear hunter orange.	Nov. 10 - Dec. 16	Nov. 9 - Dec. 15	Nov. 8 - Dec. 14	Antlerless only
		Master Hunters Only: Elk Area 3911** 2nd tag. Must wear hunter orange.	Aug. 1 - Oct. 26	Aug. 1 - Oct. 25	Aug. 1 - Oct. 24	Antlerless only
		Master Hunters Only: 127, 130		Dec. 9-31	Dec. 9-31	Antlerless only
Western Washington	WM	501, 503, 504, 505, 652 except Elk Area 6013 closed to antlerless.	Nov. 21 - Dec. 8	Nov. 27 - Dec. 8	Nov. 26 - Dec. 8	3 pt. min. or antlerless
		448, 454, 564, 666, 684	Nov. 21 - Dec. 15	Nov. 27 - Dec. 15	Nov. 26 - Dec. 15	Any elk
		568, 574, 578	Nov. 21-30	Nov. 27-30	Nov. 26-30	3 pt. min.

	550, 601, 618, 658, 667	Nov. 21 - Dec. 15	Nov. 27 - Dec. 15	Nov. 26 - Dec. 15	3 pt. min.
	<p>**Master Hunters who hunt in Elk Area 3911 may purchase a master hunter, Elk Area 3911, second elk transport tag. Any legal weapon may be used. Only one (1) antlerless elk may be taken from Elk Area 3911 unless drawn for an antlerless elk special permit. Master hunter, Elk Area 3911, second elk transport tags will be valid only for Elk Area 3911 from August 1 - October 26, 2012, August 1 - October 25, 2013, and August 1 - October 24, 2014. All hunters participating in the Elk Area 3911 hunt must wear hunter orange.</p>				

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047. 12-11-005 (Order 12-70), § 232-28-358, filed 5/2/12, effective 6/2/12.]

WAC 232-28-358 2012-2014 Elk general seasons and definitions.

RECOMMENDED ADJUSTMENTS

The following adjustments are proposed since the Code Reviser (CR 102) filing and are already included in your notebook.

Pages 1-8

- Several technical amendments were made throughout this section to improve the clarity and accuracy of the rule.

Page 2

- Under True Spike Bull Antler Restrictions, the wrong GMUs are listed that have the True Spike Restriction. GMUs 145-154, 162-186, 249, and 336-368 should be deleted from the True Spike section and replaced with 251 and 328-335. This change corrects an error that was created by the WAC overhaul process.

SUMMARY OF WRITTEN PUBLIC INPUT

WAC 232-28-358 2012-2014 Elk general seasons and definitions.

COMMENTS	AGENCY RESPONSE
<p>Restoring antlerless elk opportunities for archery hunters in Yakima County, specifically in GMU's 352 (Nile) and 356 (Bumping). Adoption of this proposal will further reduce already dismal harvest success rates for muzzle loader hunters in these GMU's. It is obviously an attempt to pacify the archery hunters, who began a concerted lobbying campaign 2 years ago, after their antlerless elk opportunities were rescinded by WDFW.</p> <p>The Commission must leave the rule as it is today. The muzzle loaders are not allowed to harvest antlerless elk in any Yakima County GMU's without having successfully drawn a special permit. There are only 20 such permits awarded for GMU 352 (Nile) and 30 for GMU 356 (Bumping) to muzzleloaders. These numbers are extremely low, and have been for many years, due to low elk numbers in these units. To re-open antlerless elk harvesting to archery hunters during the general season will further decimate elk numbers in the units.</p> <p>The muzzle loader elk season follows the archery elk season, so muzzle loaders are stuck with "what's left" after archery season anyway. This proposal, if adopted, will further decrease the muzzle loader's opportunity to harvest antlerless elk, even WITH a special permit. In all fairness, the muzzle loaders deserve at least a slim chance of success in these units. There is no logical reason that the archery hunters should have any advantage over the muzzle loaders. We're all equal contributors when it comes to license and tag fees and should enjoy equal opportunity. I ask the commission to disregard the archery hunter's extensive lobbying efforts (they significantly outnumber the muzzle loaders) and make a responsible decision that helps preserve elk populations and provides equal hunting opportunity to both groups.</p>	<p>The opportunities recommended by the Regional biologists are based on the annual aerial surveys conducted, as well as past patterns of harvest and success rates for all user groups. In 2010, Region 3 recommended the antlerless part of the early, archery opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356 be put on temporary hold as a result of lower than desired numbers of elk counted in the aerial surveys. This was always seen as a temporary measure until the elk numbers in those GMUs responded appropriately. At that same time, to offset the loss of early season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356 but not in GMU 346. As an aside, late season antlerless opportunity for archery has always been offered in GMU 346 for this entire time period (2000-2012) and there is no recommendation to change that opportunity.</p>
<p>Yes to antlerless elk for archery in GMU 352 & 356. Change archery elk dates to 8-21 the dates WDFW have chosen dates that are not in the rut and meat loss to heat.</p>	<p>The majority of people that have commented are in favor of restoring the pre-2010 antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356. The Department has no plans to recommend a change the early archery structure adopted at the beginning of the current 3-year package which starts the Tuesday after Labor Day and runs for 13 days including two weekends.</p>

COMMENTS	AGENCY RESPONSE
<p>I am writing to express my support for the change to the archery elk season in Goose Prairie (Bumping and Nile units). I appreciate the change that re-establishes this area to the season that had been in place until it was abruptly, and without much warning, changed 3 years ago. I do however wish the DFW biologist would have seen the benefit of keeping the Little Naches open as well. It would have helped to spread out the archery pressure and harvest over a larger range, thus minimizing impact on all of the areas. However if forced to choose between the two, I definitely think that this change benefits the most people.</p>	<p>The majority of people that have commented are in favor of restoring the pre-2010 antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356. In 2010, to offset the loss of early archery season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356 but not in GMU 346. As an aside, late season antlerless opportunity for archery has always been offered in GMU 346 for this entire time period (2000-2012) and there is no recommendation to change that opportunity.</p>
<p>Here is my proposal for big game rig consideration. Disallow hunting for Deer/elk with large trophy's, to a certain degree. IE a max point restriction or authorize additional Doe tags. This would be temporary in order to allow trophy animals to breed and circulate their genes to yield quality animals in the years to come.</p>	<p>This would be an unnecessary restriction. The Department has implemented similar minimum restrictions for deer and elk in a number of locations. However, implementing a maximum antler restriction and maintaining a general season would likely prevent enough younger age class animals to recruit into the older age class that you are interested in fostering.</p>
<p>Change GMU area 352 to antlerless or 3 point minimum in early or late archery season.</p>	<p>The recommendation for the season structure in 352 is to restore the spike bull and antlerless opportunity in the early season. We are not recommending a change to the late season.</p>
<p>I agree and support modifying the regulations to allow antlerless elk hunt in GMU 352 (Nile) and Bumping Lake GMU. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	<p>Thank you for your support.</p>
<p>I do not agree with letting archery hunters hunt Nile and Bumping areas during a late season without giving muzzleloaders more hunts. Archery hunters already have ample time to hunt, many more days than muzzleloaders. Muzzleloaders used to have a couple of late 3 day seasons in the Ahtanum, Cowoche and Bald Mt. areas but have lost those seasons while archery hunters still have late hunting areas. If new later seasons are implemented all weapons should be given a chance not just archery hunters. We can't just keep feeling sorry for the archery hunters because of lower success rates, that is their choice to hunt with archery equipment. Have some late quality bull tags for people with more than 7 pts or something like that rather than the archery hunters have more time, they have enough time, early and late seasons.</p>	<p>There aren't any changes to late archery opportunities being recommended for those units.</p> <p>Late archery opportunity in Nile (GMU 352) is already in place and there is no recommendation to change that.</p> <p>In 2010, the Commission removed early season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356 in response to lower than desired number in those units. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356</p>

COMMENTS	AGENCY RESPONSE
<p>The proposed rules take away significant opportunity for the Eastern Washington Elk hunters. The permits in 352-356 were the same as the previous harvest so there is no gain or loss of harvest in that regard. Adding the general antlerless is great. Removing GMU 346 will prevent older and disabled hunters from having much needed access to territory with easy access, The little Naches hunting area is covered with roads that can get hunters in and out easily when they have limited mobility. Why are you shortening Late Season Archery by one week in 2014? This will reduce harvest opportunity and an increase in hunters because of the shortened hunting season will have many negative impacts on the animals and the territory.</p>	<p>In 2010, to offset the loss of early archery season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356 but not in GMU 346. As an aside, late season antlerless opportunity for archery has always been offered in GMU 346 for this entire time period (2000-2012) and there is no recommendation to change that opportunity.</p>
<p>Late season EA elk dates in 14 and 15 are shortened by a week, again, taking away opportunity for no visible reason</p>	<p>Unsure what your comments are referencing. There is no Elk Area 14 or 15. There are no recommendations to shorten season lengths. Any season length changes are a result of calendar date adjustments.</p>
<p>I have hunted in the Nile GMU (352) every year since 1992. This year while hunting the Spike-Only season, I experienced seeing many more cows and calves than I have seen for the last 5 years. The Spike-Only rule appears to have worked and now I believe the population is back to normal. I would strongly support a return to the either-sex season.</p>	<p>That is the recommendation. Thank you for your support.</p>
<p>I have just seen the proposal to add cow tags in game management units 352 and 356. Does anyone get out of the office and see what is happening in those areas??? You have been facing a declining population for several years and they are still declining! On top of that you now have an aging population! We will soon lose those herds if something is not done. And now you propose killing off more cows when you need to be increasing the numbers!! Or do you want to kill off more elk since you severely overgrazed the area with sheep this past year??? The forest service acknowledged overgrazing in early August but in October the sheep were still in the area!!!! With depressed herds, and an aging herd in 352 and 356, the last thing we need to do is add seasons or permits! Please wake up the biologist and tell him to go out and see what is happening!!!</p>	<p>In 2010, to offset the loss of early archery season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356 but not in GMU 346.</p>
<p>Restoring antlerless elk opportunities for archery hunters in Yakima County, specifically in Game Management Units 352 (Nile) and 356 (Bumping). The public notice says nothing about closing Unit 346; and essentially returning to the old hunting rules. At a minimum change 346 to spike only. Opening the 346 unit was welcomed by my family since we have hunted all units in that area and like the opportunity to move to different units. The three areas open at the same time allows some privacy from other hunters. After all, archery is a primitive weapon and too many hunters in a small area defeats the point. High hunter density is a problem for archery hunters</p>	<p>In 2010, to offset the loss of early archery season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356 but not in GMU 346. As an aside, late season antlerless opportunity for archery has always been offered in GMU 346 for this entire time period (2000-2012) and there is no recommendation to change that opportunity.</p>

COMMENTS	AGENCY RESPONSE
<p>To whom it may concern, Specifically in reference to the proposed change for Archery Elk opportunities in the Bumping and Nile GMUs. I oppose the change to the Archery Elk rules going "Spike or antlerless" from the current "Spike and antlerless draw" based on the following: This will increase the antlerless harvest for archers tremendously in both Units thus decreasing opportunities for the other two hunting disciplines who are lucky enough to be drawn for an antlerless tag. If the Game biologist feel there are too many cows in these 2 units and want to reduce numbers, it would be fair to all hunting disciplines to increase tags for everyone instead of allowing the Archers an unfair advantage. According to the WDFW Game Harvest Report for 2011 (2012 hasn't been released yet) : Archers in the Nile had an 8.8% success rate compared to Muzzleloaders 0.0% and Modern's 2.7% Archers in the Bumping had a 0.8% success rate compared to Muzzleloaders 2.0% and Modern's 1.5%. In order to "even the playing field" and based on the Stats above, I feel that the antlerless issue should be resolved by proportionately increasing tags in each group. Not giving all the advantage to just one discipline.</p>	<p>In 2010, to offset the loss of early archery season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356 but not in GMU 346. The recommendation for antlerless special permits in these two GMUs for modern firearm and muzzleloader is status quo.</p>
<p>Why can't any of us disabled hunters, hunt antlers?</p>	<p>Hunters with disabilities can take advantage of the same general seasons and apply for the same special permit hunts as other hunters.</p>
<p>Going through fire arm safety with my son they stated that elk herds were at their highest in years, and looking at wild life reports there is a high calf count in the pass years. This new permit thing seems to be a way to make money not regulate herds. Looking at reports of cows taken by archery in 356 in past years to me looked very low. In closing my family went for rifle this year for the first time in 16 years and out of 5 people we got 2 spike bulls and were happy but all would rather get one cow out of five and not have to worry about all the high amounts of rifle hunters in the woods. I would like to see the Antlerless back without permit. Thank you for your time.</p>	<p>The change that you are requesting is in the recommendations. In 2010, to offset the loss of early archery season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356.</p>
<p>Dear Sirs, Regarding archery and elk season in area 356, Bumping Lake, I am writing to express my support in returning the cow tags, to accompany the spike tags, to the area. This is preferable the current status of spike only tags. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	<p>The change that you are requesting is in the recommendations. In 2010, to offset the loss of early archery season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356.</p>

COMMENTS	AGENCY RESPONSE
<p>Entirely closing GMU 346 Little Naches will eliminate the majority of that area's access to hunt Elk. GMU 356 Bumping doesn't provide adequate road access. Leaving only the Nile unit to realistically hunt for all that traditionally hunted the 3 GMU's. Closing GMU 346 Naches will consolidate the hunters in that region, which is not desirable.</p>	<p>In 2010, to offset the loss of early archery season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356 but not in GMU 346. As an aside, late season antlerless opportunity for archery has always been offered in GMU 346 for this entire time period (2000-2012) and there is no recommendation to change that opportunity.</p>
<p>To whom it may concern: i would love to see this hunt come back to the bumping unit. I say yes to antlerless and spikes in unit 356 bumping. Thank you for letting me express my sentiments!</p>	<p>The change that you are requesting is in the recommendations. In 2010, to offset the loss of early archery season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356.</p>
<p>I noticed GMU 346- Little Naches is being proposed for closure for general early season archery. I would like to voice my opposition to this measure. Are the elk numbers really that bad such that there will no cow harvest? I do not even see that there is a special permit for antlerless.</p>	<p>In 2010, to offset the loss of early archery season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356 but not in GMU 346. As an aside, late season antlerless opportunity for archery has always been offered in GMU 346 for this entire time period (2000-2012) and there is no recommendation to change that opportunity.</p>

COMMENTS	AGENCY RESPONSE
<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I am writing in support of restoring antlerless elk to the general archery tag in GMU's 352 & 356. If numbers are or have been a concern, archery hunters have traditionally had very little impact on populations of antlerless elk.</p> <p>The restriction in the mentioned units over the last few years to spike only on the general archery tag has kept me from hunting elk in Washington. I spent several seasons packing into the Bumping Unit and loved the area and the hunt. However, with the restriction, I haven't hunted there since 2009. Yes, I've continued to buy my WA tags in hopes of drawing a quality elk tag, but having not drawn, I've instead spent my hunting time and hunting money for the local economies in Idaho where there was greater opportunity for success.</p> <p>If the antlerless option is restored I will once again spend my September archery hunt in WA.</p>	<p>The change that you are requesting is in the recommendations. In 2010, to offset the loss of early archery season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356.</p>
<p>Dear WDFW. I would like to voice my approval for restoring antlerless elk opportunities in the Yakima County.</p> <p>I have hunted Elk for over 30 years and have only harvested one Bull Elk on a special Muzzle loader permit. I have been hunting with a bow for 4 years. Due to the closure of the unit for Antlerless Elk opportunity I have decided not to pursue hunting elk for the 2013/2014 season.</p> <p>This would change, should you decide to offer antlerless opportunity for the area. Hunting only a spike bull in the area is along the same lines as winning the lottery. Success rates for archery are extremely low for elk and offering an antlerless opportunity would encourage me to buy a 2013 elk tag. As the success rate extremely low for bow hunters this decision should minimally affect the harvest numbers in the area. I would encourage you to consider restoring the antlerless elk opportunities in the area. Otherwise I will be sitting out next season.</p>	<p>If the change that you are referring to is in GMUs 352 and 356, that is in the recommendations.</p> <p>In 2010, to offset the loss of early archery season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356.</p>
<p>I have hunted either muzzleloader or modern firearm elk seasons in the Bumping Unit 5 of the last 8 years. Since antlerless harvests were curtailed for Archery hunters in 2010, the quality of hunting has improved vastly in this unit in terms of the numbers of cows and bulls present.</p> <p>Anecdotally, previous seasons with archery antlerless harvests reduced the numbers present on opening days of firearm seasons by about two-thirds compared to the last 3 years. To resume that apparent level of hunting disturbance seems wrong and probably contributes to the unseemly "Elk Fence slaughters", which periodically occur for firearm seasons within the Cowiche and Wenas units. Hunting pressure has been better allocated under current regs.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>	<p>The majority of people that have commented are in favor of restoring the pre-2010 antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356. In 2010, to offset the loss of early archery season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356.</p>

COMMENTS	AGENCY RESPONSE
<p>I would like to see some balance in user groups in both deer and elk hunting. Every user group should have the same amount of days to be allowed to hunt. In the case of archers if there are early and late seasons such as deer and elk they need to choose either early or late (they can't hunt both) that would have an impact on the amount of hunters in their areas. On public land hunter densities are too high. Re-instate early and late seasons for muzzleloaders and make them opt out in which they would prefer. Once again hunter densities are way too high. If user groups would like to hunt both early and late they need to be drawn for a new multi-season permit which would enable them to hunt both. There is currently a multi season permit which the holder can hunt all weapons. That permit can continue as is.</p>	<p>Limiting user groups to either an early season or a late season would require extensive discussions as part of a 3-year package process. You can submit your suggestions during that scoping process. The next 3-year package will be 2015-2017. The Department is not recommending any changes along these lines.</p>
<p>Currently, WDFW issues 54 tags for quality buck hunts out of the Desert Unit (GMU 290). Additionally, an auction tag, 3 deer raffle tag, north-central raffle tag, mule deer tag, 5 incentive tags and a hunter ed instructor tag is also given to hunt the unit. That is a combination of 64 bucks coming out of one unit that is fairly small in size when you remove the water and private agriculture fields. I feel this hard to justify as a "quality" hunt. Overharvest of mature big bucks is occurring in this unit from WDFW regulations and is a huge concern; this is not including the poaching issue that occurs in this unit year-round. Please reduce the number of quality tags and seasons out there. If you cannot reduce it, please look into it. You would be amazed by their annual count of mature mule deer bucks.</p>	<p>A fair number of tags are offered for this unit but for the last 10 years the average harvest has been 20 bucks (range 16-32), primarily because archers have low success rates. Regional staff considers a reduction in buck harvest to be unwarranted. Currently, the B:D ratio reflects a conservative harvest per the Game Management Plan. If survey and harvest metrics suggest a problem Regional staff will certainly be recommending a change.</p>
<p>I have never understood why Archers and Muzzleloaders get pigeonholed in some units and never get to hunt all of the state like rifle hunters. We all pay the same fees so why does one group get everything and the others get basically scraps? If you are worried about harvest reduce the number of days for the hunt, but let's treat everyone the same.</p>	<p>Aside from possibly 3 or 4 units archers can all the same units that modern firearm hunters can. Depending on the species, muzzleloaders can hunt about 80% to 90% of the units that modern firearm can. If you have a specific unit in mind, please contact the appropriate Regional Wildlife Program Manager and that decision can be part of the next 3-year hunting season process.</p>
<p>Gentlemen, I can't believe you want to give archery hunters more antlerless opportunities in Units 352 Nile and 356 Bumping. You already gave archery hunters Unit 346 Little Naches during the rut which is the premier unit in the Yakima area. You have taken the late Unit 346 Little Naches from the muzzleloaders and have drastically reduced the number of muzzleloading antlerless permits in Nile, Bumping, and Bethel. Muzzleloading hunters are the only user group that doesn't have antlerless deer permits for over 65 hunters. I guess muzzleloaders don't have the enough political clout to deserve equal opportunity.</p>	<p>The majority of people that have commented are in favor of restoring the pre-2010 antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356. In 2010, to offset the loss of early archery season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356.</p> <p>We can explore additional senior, antlerless deer opportunities as part of the next 3-year package process.</p>

COMMENTS	AGENCY RESPONSE
<p>I would love to see GMU's 352 (Nile) and 356 (Bumping) go back to antlerless elk ONLY if GMU 346 (Little Naches or Peaches Ridge) goes back to quality branched bull. Peaches Ridge used to be a great hunt until it was opened to general archery elk hunters now it's a mad house! We need more areas to have quality hunts with less hunting pressure. I finally drew Peaches quality bull tag the first year it was open to the general and it was a horrible hunt with people everywhere and this was way in the back country, could not imagine what it was like around the roads.</p>	<p>The majority of people that have commented are in favor of restoring the pre-2010 antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356. In 2010, to offset the loss of early archery season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356.</p>
<p>I have a disability and hunt in the Nile and Bumping with modern firearm. Why aren't you giving modern firearm the same opportunities as the bow hunters?</p>	<p>In general archery hunters tend to have lower success rates and therefore typically get more days to hunt.</p>
<p>what do you think about an antlerless archery hunt in the mashel unit for elk you guys did it one year then switched to muzzleloader maybe you could go half and half on the tags or one year archery then one year muzzleloader just an idea thanks</p>	<p>We think that is a good idea. In fact, there already is an antlerless archery elk hunt in the Mashel unit (GMU 654) and we are not recommending changing that at this time. You're welcome.</p>
<p>After reviewing the proposal to allow archery cow elk to be harvested I believe it should be allowed for the whole month of September state wide. Thanks</p>	<p>A relatively high number of GMUs are currently open for antlerless archery opportunity. We try to maximize opportunity whenever possible, while still meeting our post-hunt management objectives. A broad, sweeping change of statewide antlerless opportunity for the entire month of September would likely not be something that we would entertain as a management strategy that would allow us to meet management objectives in all locations.</p>
<p>I would just like to give my opinion on making the bumping and Nile antlerless. We hunted the bumping last year for archery and we were into elk every day. We saw a lot of sign and animals; we covered a lot of ground. My opinion is that there are enough elk to support changing to antlerless.</p>	<p>The change that you are requesting is in the recommendations. In 2010, to offset the loss of early archery season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356.</p>
<p>I suggest you move elk season to the first week end of Nov. to give us modern fire hunters a break between muzzle loaders, bow hunters, and modern fire arm deer hunters.</p>	<p>At this time the calendar is full with no room to shift user groups as you've described. In addition history has shown that the increased vulnerability of eastern Washington elk moving in response to snow events will result in a higher harvest than can be sustained over the long-term.</p>
<p>It is a shame that the WDFW has chosen to include the local area in the general elk season with the taking of 'any elk' allowed (GMU 124). How is it that we can ever hope to see an increase in the herd size if this is the policy of the WDFW?</p>	<p>GMU 124 is not a unit where we are managing for high numbers of elk. Hence the any elk season structure.</p>
<p>And 460 elk herd is very large need to have a late hunt.</p>	<p>The suggestion for a late hunt for elk in GMU 460 can be submitted as part of the scoping process in the next 3-year package, 2015-2017.</p>

COMMENTS	AGENCY RESPONSE
<p>Please consider global climate change and adjust 2013-2014 deer and elk hunting season to start later in the year. Mid-October is like mid-Sept. recently, with warm and dry conditions. Please set deer and elk seasons to open at least one week later than in past years. Hunting success for 2011 in the Pearrygin Unit was 11.15% for modern firearm and 2.6 % for elk in the Umtanum unit. In 2010 hunter success was 10.6% for deer and 2% for elk in these units. These results makes a hunter wonder why he/she is buying a license and tags. The last decade has been the warmest in history. This trend is not likely to reverse any time soon so we can expect, short sleeve weather and fire restrictions on every opening day of deer hunting season from here on out unless we change the season openers to a later date. Please seriously consider this suggestion.</p>	<p>The suggestion for later seasons in response to climate change can be submitted as part of the scoping process in the next 3-year package, 2015-2017.</p>
<p>Dear Commissions, Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposals. I would like to ask you to reconsider your proposal on the late muzzleloader season of areas 568,574 and 578. The proposal is recommending a four (4) day late season hunt, 27th-30th. Normally the season opens a day before Thanksgiving and closes the last day of November. Since Thanksgiving is on the 28th this year and late next year, I ask the commission to consider opening season on Wednesday the 20th a week before Thanksgiving. This has been done in the past and worked well for all muzzleloaders in the area.</p>	<p>This season structure is designed to shift with the calendar adjustments and the start is the day before Thanksgiving and end on a set date. Last year Thanksgiving was a week earlier. Over time the season will lengthen each year and then ultimately it resets back to 4 days.</p>
<p>I am writing to ask that you take a look at the late muzzleloader season that is proposed for GMU 568,574, and 578 in 2013. In the proposed regulations it is listed as a 4 day season. In the past, this has been a 10 day late season hunt. I have only hunted with muzzleloader the last couple of years and have found it to be enjoyable. Prior to that I hunted with modern firearm.</p> <p>There were many reasons to switch weapons, one of them being that the seasons were comparable in length to modern firearm season and there were fewer people hunting with muzzleloader. I feel that if you shorten the season to 4 days, you will have more people going to modern firearm (which I will do reluctantly) and away from muzzleloader, which in my opinion creates a worse situation for the modern firearm hunters. To me, it makes sense to spread the hunters out equally if possible and shortening seasons will not accomplish that.</p>	<p>This season structure is designed to shift with the calendar adjustments and the start is the day before Thanksgiving and end on a set date. Last year Thanksgiving was a week earlier. Over time the season will lengthen each year and then ultimately it resets back to 4 days.</p>

COMMENTS	AGENCY RESPONSE
<p>WAC 232-28-358 2012-2014 Elk general seasons and definitions. Archery General Elk Seasons. Eastern Washington Why delete the opportunity of archery hunting spike bull or antlerless in GMU 346? Strongly support the Legal Elk in GMU 352 and 356 as Spike Bull or Antlerless. But recommend GMU 346 not be deleted. The archery hunting pressure will be limited in GMU 346 because the archery hunters will now be able to hunt in GMU 353 and 356. Last year the pressure was tremendous because of the closure of 353, 356, road closures due to the road wash-outs. The hunting opportunity could be spread across 3 GMUs. Please keep all 3 GMUs open to spike bull and antlerless.</p>	<p>Your comment probably pertains to GMU 352, there is no GMU 353. In 2010, to offset the loss of early archery season antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352, 356, Region 3 recommended opening an early antlerless opportunity in GMU 346. Records show that opportunity hadn't been offered in the previous ten years (2000-2009) and probably hadn't been offered much longer than that if ever. Now that the elk numbers in GMUs 352 and 356 have responded, the Department is recommending returning to the pre-2010 structure for the early archery season that allowed antlerless opportunity in GMUs 352 and 356 but not in GMU 346. As an aside, late season antlerless opportunity for archery has always been offered in GMU 346 for this entire time period (2000-2012) and there is no recommendation to change that opportunity.</p>
<p>3 plus years ago WDFW eliminated the late bull only archery season in GMU 506. I commented on this proposed changed and your justification was due to the high bull harvest in this unit. I do not believe you had any harvest data that showed that the late archery bull only elk season had any significant impact on the archery bull harvest success. I live in this unit (Salmon Creek) and hunted it exclusively, it was not an either sex unit and there was little to no hunting pressure. I am not aware off any late archery bull harvest on the west side of GMU 506 in the last five (5) years that it was open to bull harvest. This hunt provided a quality opportunity for those that chose to hunt it. Subsequently, the early Elk archery season has been reduced by a day incrementally over the last two years for the same reason. I now suspect that the elimination of the bull only hunting opportunity was your attempt to reduce bull harvest without reducing hunting days, but reductions were required in following years to achieve the balance you were seeking and required to provide. I and several others with like hunting interest would like to see this season reimplemented even if it would be for say a seven day period sometime in early mid-December as it would not have any major impact on late bull harvest. Perhaps a split of 506 would help you achieve this. Say west side with a bull only season and the east side without. The mainline at the top of KM on SR 4 could provide a good boundary for this split. I understand why you eliminated the bull only season in 506, and later reduced the early archery seasons. If the reduction in days has provided the balance for bull harvest with the other user groups we would like to see the bull only season in 506 restored. Any efforts on your part to restore a short late archery bull only season on the west side of 506 would be greatly appreciated.</p>	<p>The suggestion for late archery bull season in GMU 506 can be submitted as part of the scoping process in the next 3-year package, 2015-2017.</p>

SUMMARY OF ORAL PUBLIC INPUT
 Taken at the Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
 March 1, 2013

WAC 232-28-358 “2012-2014 Elk general seasons and definitions.”

COMMENTS	AGENCY RESPONSE
<p>Several citizens provided testimony regarding hoof disease in elk in southwest Washington.</p>	<p>Reports of lameness and deformed hooves in free-ranging Roosevelt elk have been observed in southwest Washington since the mid 1990’s. This problem appears to be concentrated in the lowlands in the lower Cowlitz River Valley, but reports have been increasing in number and geographic scope, and hunters are regularly seeing and sometimes harvesting elk with this condition.</p> <p>One of the challenges in understanding hoof disease in animal populations is that there are over 40 types of hoof diseases of domestic livestock that are known. The type observed in southwest Washington elk does not appear to match with any known hoof diseases in domestic or wild animals and does not seem to be affecting domestic livestock in the area.</p> <p>Because of the complexity of this situation, additional investigation is needed to help us better understand and manage this problem. WDFW biological and veterinary staff have been working with veterinary experts throughout the country, and abroad, to develop sampling and testing plans for identifying the cause of hoof disease in southwest Washington elk.</p> <p>Regarding the public’s concerns about the safety of meat from elk with hoof disease, as with all wild animals, WDFW cannot guarantee the safety of game meat. As a general guideline, if the animal appeared and behaved normally before it was shot; the meat appears and smells normal; good hygiene and common sense practices were used during butchering, storage, and preparation; and the meat is thoroughly cooked before consuming it; then most likely the meat is safe to eat. WDFW advises against harvesting any animal that appears sick. And while no specific investigation regarding meat from elk with hoof disease in southwest Washington has occurred, we have not had any reports of the public becoming ill from eating the meat of elk in southwest Washington. WDFW will keep hunters informed as more information is obtained. Check the Elk Hoof Disease section of the Wildlife Health page at http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/health/ .</p>

COMMENTS	AGENCY RESPONSE
I ask the Commission to make it illegal to bait big game species, especially deer and elk.	The baiting of deer and elk has been a point of discussion for previous three-year package scoping efforts. To date there has not been an overwhelming majority of the hunting public that supported this restriction for deer and elk. The topic will likely be part of the discussion again for the upcoming 2015-2017 three-year package.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order 12-70, filed 5/2/12, effective 6/2/12)

WAC 232-28-360 ((2012)) 2013 Elk special permits. It is unlawful to fail to comply with the bag, possession, and season limits ~~except as~~ described below. ~~Violations~~ A violation of this section ~~are~~ is punishable under RCW 77.15.410, Unlawful hunting of big game-Penalty.

Special Elk Permit Hunting Seasons (Open to Permit Holders Only)

Hunters must purchase an elk hunting license prior to ~~purchase~~ of purchasing a permit application. Hunters may only apply for permits consistent with the tag required for the hunt choice; however, Multiple Season Permit holders may apply for Eastern or Western Washington archery, muzzleloader, or modern firearm permit hunts. Applicants must have purchased the proper tag for these hunts. The elk tag prefixes required to apply for each hunt are shown in the following table. Hunters drawn for a special permit hunt must comply with weapon restrictions, dates, and other conditions listed for the hunt. Hunters drawn for a special permit designated "Any tag" under the "Weapon/Tag" restriction must use equipment consistent with the requirements of their transport tag and license.

Quality						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Turnbull	EA, EF, EM	Any	Oct. ((22)) 21 - Nov. 24	Any bull	Elk Area 1015	1

Prescott	EF	Any	Sept. 24-28	Any bull	GMU 149	1
Prescott	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Any bull	GMU 149	4
Blue Creek	EF	Any	Sept. 24-28	Any bull	GMU 154	1
Blue Creek	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Any bull	GMU 154	<u>54</u>
Watershed	EA, EF, EM	Any	Oct. ((27)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	3 pt. min. or antlerless	GMU 157	45
Dayton	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Any bull	GMU 162	<u>2612</u>
Ten Ten	EF	Any	Sept. 24-28	Any bull	Elk Area 1010, GMU 163	1
Ten Ten	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1010, GMU 163	<u>125</u>
Tucannon	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Any bull	GMU 166	<u>4412</u>
Wenaha West	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1008	<u>159</u>
Wenaha East	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1009	<u>2412</u>
Mountain View	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Any bull	GMU 172	<u>2015</u>
Lick Creek	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Any bull	GMU 175	<u>106</u>
Peola	EF	Any	Sept. 24-28	Any bull	GMU 178	1
Peola	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Any bull	GMU 178	((2)) <u>1</u>
Couse	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Any bull	GMU 181	((3)) <u>1</u>
Mission	EF	Any	Sept. ((17-24)) <u>16-20</u>	Any bull	GMU 251	1
Colockum	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Any bull	GMUs 328, 329, 335	<u>71</u>
Colockum	EF	Any	Sept. ((24-28)) <u>23-27</u>	Any bull	GMUs 328, 329, 335	1
Teanaway	EF	Any	Sept. ((24-28)) <u>23-27</u>	Any bull	GMU 335	1
Peaches Ridge	EF	Any	Sept. ((24-28)) <u>23-27</u>	Any bull	GMUs 336, 346	1
Observatory	EF	Any	Sept. ((24-28)) <u>23-27</u>	Any bull	GMUs 340, 342	1
Little Naches	EF	Any	Oct. 1-((10)) <u>11</u>	Any bull	GMU 346	10
Goose Prairie	EF	Any	Sept. ((24-28)) <u>23-27</u>	Any bull	GMUs 352, 356	1
Bethel	EF	Any	Sept. ((24-28)) <u>23-27</u>	Any bull	GMU 360	1
Rimrock	EF	Any	Sept. ((24-28)) <u>23-27</u>	Any bull	GMU 364	1
Cowiche	EF	Any	Sept. ((24-28)) <u>23-27</u>	Any bull	GMU 368	1
Nooksack	WF	Any	Oct. 8 - Nov. 16	Any bull	GMU 418 and Elk Area 4941	5
Green River	WF	Any	((Nov. 12-18)) Oct. 27 - Nov. 2	Any bull	GMU 485	6
Wahkiakum	WF	Any	Sept. ((17)) <u>16-30</u>	Any bull	GMUs 506, 530	1
Packwood	WF	Any	Sept. ((17)) <u>16-30</u>	Any bull	GMU 516	1

Toutle	WF	Any	Sept. ((17-30)) 24-28 23-27 and Nov. ((3-14)) 2-13	Any bull	GMU 556	4
Toutle	WF	Any	Nov. ((3-14)) 2-13	Any bull	GMU 556	((129)) 10099
Lewis River	WF	Any	Sept. ((47)) 16-30	Any bull	GMU 560	2
Siouxon	WF	Any	Sept. ((47)) 16-30	Any bull	GMU 572	2
Carlton	WF	Any	Sept. ((47)) 16-30	Any bull	Elk Area 5057	5
West Goat Rocks	WF	Any	Sept. ((47)) 16-30	Any bull	Elk Area 5058	5
Mt. Adams	WF	Any	Sept. ((47)) 16-30	Any bull	Elk Area 5059	5
Mudflow	WF	Any	Nov. ((3-9)) 2-8	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	5
Peninsula	WF	Any	Sept. 24-28	3 pt. min.	GMUs 602, 607, 612	1
Clearwater	WF	Any	Oct. ((8-12)) 7-11	3 pt. min.	GMU 615	2
Matheny	WF	Any	Oct. 1-((42)) 11	3 pt. min.	GMU 618	3
Quinault	WF	Any	Sept. 16-20	3 pt. min.	GMU 638	5
Wynoochee	WF	Any	Oct. ((8-12)) 7-11	3 pt. min.	GMU 648	1
Satsop	WF	Any	Oct. ((8-12)) 7-11	3 pt. min.	GMU 651	1
Dungeness	WF	Any	Oct. ((8-12)) 7-11	3 pt. min.	Elk Area 6071	2
White River	WF	Any	Sept. ((24-28)) 23-27	Any bull	GMU 653	1
Prescott	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMU 149	2
Blue Creek	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMU 154	3
Dayton	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMU 162	44 7
Ten Ten	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	Elk Area 1010, GMU 163	83
Tucannon	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMU 166	8
Wenaha West	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	Elk Area 1008	53
Wenaha East	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	Elk Area 1009	44 5
Mountain View	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMU 172	11
Lick Creek	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMU 175	44 16
Peola	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMU 178	1
Couse	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMU 181	1
Colockum	EA	Any	Sept. ((4-16)) 3-15	Any bull	GMUs 328, 329, 335	62
Peaches Ridge	EA	Any	Sept. ((4-16)) 3-15	Any bull	GMUs 336, 346	101 106
Observatory	EA	Any	Sept. ((4-16)) 3-15	Any bull	GMUs 340, 342	130 110
Goose Prairie	EA	Any	Sept. ((4-16)) 3-15	Any bull	GMUs 352, 356	656 2

Bethel	EA	Any	Sept. ((4-16)) <u>3-15</u>	Any bull	GMU 360	2935
Rimrock	EA	Any	Sept. ((4-16)) <u>3-15</u>	Any bull	GMU 364	9794
Cowiche	EA	Any	Sept. ((4-16)) <u>3-15</u>	Any bull	GMU 368	4924
Klickitat Meadows	EA	Any	Oct. ((11-21)) <u>12-20</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 3068	4
Nooksack	WA	Any	Sept. 1-23 and Dec. 1-31	Any bull	GMU 418 and Elk Area 4941	3
Toutle	WA	Any	Sept. ((8-23)) <u>7-22</u> and Dec. 1-15	Any bull	GMU 556	((80)) 5065
Mudflow	WA	Any	Sept. ((5-14)) <u>3-9</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	5
((Olympic	WA	Any	Sept. 4-16	3-pt. min.	GMU 621, EXCEPT for Elk Area 6071	5))
White River	WA	Any	Sept. 4-16	Any bull	GMU 653	4314
Prescott	EM	Any	Oct. 1-((42)) <u>11</u>	Any bull	GMU 149	1
Blue Creek	EM	Any	Oct. 1-((42)) <u>11</u>	Any bull	GMU 154	1
Dayton	EM	Any	Oct. 1-((42)) <u>11</u>	Any bull	GMU 162	53
Ten Ten	EM	Any	Oct. 1-((42)) <u>11</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1010, GMU 163	62
Tucannon	EM	Any	Oct. 1-((42)) <u>11</u>	Any bull	GMU 166	32
Wenaha West	EM	Any	Oct. 1-((42)) <u>11</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1008	32
Wenaha East	EM	Any	Oct. 1-((42)) <u>11</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 1009	32
Mountain View	EM	Any	Oct. 1-((42)) <u>11</u>	Any bull	GMU 172	86
Lick Creek	EM	Any	Oct. 1-((42)) <u>11</u>	Any bull	GMU 175	21
Peola	EM	Any	Oct. 1-((42)) <u>11</u>	Any bull	GMU 178	1
Couse	EM	Any	Oct. 1-((42)) <u>11</u>	Any bull	GMU 181	1
Mission	EM	Any	((Oct. 1-10)) <u>Sept. 30 - Oct. 9</u>	Any bull	GMU 251	1
Colockum	EM	Any	Oct. 1-10	Any bull	GMUs 328, 329, 335	1
Peaches Ridge	EM	Any	Oct. 1-10	Any bull	GMUs 336, 346	2625
Observatory	EM	Any	Oct. 1-10	Any bull	GMUs 340, 342	2419
Goose Prairie	EM	Any	Oct. 1-10	Any bull	GMUs 352, 356	4513
Bethel	EM	Any	Oct. 1-10	Any bull	GMU 360	4411
Rimrock	EM	Any	Oct. 1-10	Any bull	GMU 364	4314
Cowiche	EM	Any	Oct. 1-10	Any bull	GMU 368	406
Klickitat Meadows	EM	Any	Oct. 1-10	Any bull	Elk Area 3068	4
Nooksack	WM	Any	Sept. 24 - Oct. 7 and Nov. 24-30	Any bull	GMU 418	3
Toutle	WM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Any bull	GMU 556	((28)) 2021

Mudflow	WM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) 5-11	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	5
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Bulls						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Prescott	EF	Any	Nov. 17-30	Any bull	GMU 149	2
Prescott	EF	Any	Dec. 1-15	Any bull	GMU 149	2
Prescott	EF	Any	Dec. 16-31	Any bull	GMU 149	2
Grande Ronde	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) 21 - Nov. ((4)) 3	Any bull	GMU 186	1
Mission	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) 21 - Nov. ((4)) 3	Any bull	GMU 251	1
Teanaway	EF	Any	Dec. 17-31	Any bull	GMU 335	10
Peaches Ridge	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) 21 - Nov. ((4)) 3	Any bull	GMUs 336, 346	120115
Observatory	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) 21 - Nov. ((4)) 3	Any bull	GMUs 340, 342	6466
Goose Prairie	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) 21 - Nov. ((4)) 3	Any bull	GMUs 352, 356	7468
Bethel	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) 21 - Nov. ((4)) 3	Any bull	GMU 360	6351
Rimrock	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) 21 - Nov. ((4)) 3	Any bull	GMU 364	120124
Cowiche	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) 21 - Nov. ((4)) 3	Any bull	GMU 368	2220
Alkali	EF	Any	Oct. 12 - Nov. 1	Any bull	GMU 371	10
Kliekitat Meadows	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) 21 - Nov. ((4)) 3	Any bull	Elk Area 3068	4
Nooksack	WF	Any	Oct. 8 - Nov. 18	Spike only	GMU 418 and Elk Area 4941	6
Margaret	WF	Any	Sept. ((17)) 23-30 and Nov. ((3)) 2-14	Any bull	GMU 524	4
Margaret	WF	Any	Nov. ((3)) 2-14	Any bull	GMU 524	((50)) 7573
Upper Smith Creek	WF	Any	Oct. ((20-16)) 19-25	Any bull	Elk Area 5064	2
Mount Whittier	WF	Any	Oct. ((20-26)) 12-18	Any bull	Elk Area 5065	1
Olympic	WF	Any	Nov. 3-14	3 pt. min.	GMU 621, EXCEPT for Elk Area 6071	2016
Skokomish	WF	Any	Nov. 3-14	3 pt. min.	GMU 636	3
White River	WF	Any	Nov. 3-14	Any bull	GMU 653	2421
Grande Ronde	EA	Any	Sept. 1-19	Any bull	GMU 186	1
Teanaway	EA	Any	Nov. 21 - Dec. 8	Any bull	GMU 335	8
Alkali	EA	Any	Sept. 1- ((22)) 21	Any bull	GMU 371	5
Nooksack	WA	Any	Sept. 1-23 and Dec. 1-31	Spike only	GMU 418 and Elk Area 4941	3
Margaret	WA	Any	Sept. ((8-23)) 7-22 and Dec. 1-15	Any bull	GMU 524	((29)) 50

Upper Smith Creek	WA	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5064	2
Lewis River	WA	Any	Nov. ((24)) <u>27</u> - Dec. ((4)) <u>8</u>	3 pt. min.	GMU 560	5
Siouxon	WA	Any	Nov. ((24)) <u>27</u> - Dec. ((4)) <u>8</u>	3 pt. min.	GMU 572	5
Olympic	WA	Any	Sept. 4-16	3 pt. min.	GMU 621 EXCEPT Elk Area 6071	<u>56</u>
Skokomish	WA	Any	Sept. 4-16	3 pt. min.	GMU 636	2
Grande Ronde	EM	Any	Oct. 1-((42)) <u>11</u>	Any bull	GMU 186	1
Teanaway	EM	Any	Dec. 9-16	Any bull	GMU 335	<u>467</u>
Alkali	EM	Any	Sept. ((23)) <u>22</u> - Oct. ((42)) <u>11</u>	Any bull	GMU 371	10
Nooksack	WM	Any	Sept. 24 - Oct. 7 and Nov. 24-30	Spike only	GMU 418 and Elk Area 4941	3
Margaret	WM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11-12</u>	Any bull	GMU 524	((44)) <u>2521</u>
Upper Smith Creek	WM	Any	Oct. ((43-19)) <u>12-18</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5064	2
Mount Whittier	WM	Any	Oct. ((43-19)) <u>5-12-11</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5065	1
Yale	WM	Any	Nov. ((24)) <u>27</u> - Dec. 15	3 pt. min.	GMU 554	15
Olympic	WM	Any	Oct. 6-12	3 pt. min.	GMU 621, EXCEPT for Elk Area 6071	<u>54</u>
Skokomish	WM	Any	Oct. 6-12	3 pt. min.	GMU 636	<u>43</u>
White River	WM	Any	Oct. 6-12	Any bull	GMU 653	<u>34</u>

Antlerless Elk						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
North Half	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 101, 105, 204	10
Stevens	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 108, 121	10
Aladdin	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMU 111	15
Selkirk	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMU 113	20
49 Degrees North	EF	Any	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u> and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMU 117	20
Turnbull	EF	Any	Oct. ((23-28)) <u>22-27</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	6
Turnbull	EF	Any	Oct. ((30)) <u>29</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	6
Turnbull	EF	Any	Nov. ((6-14)) <u>5-10</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	6
Mayview-Peola	EF	Any	Oct. ((43-21)) <u>12-20</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 145, 178	10
Mayview-Peola	EF	Any	Oct. ((27)) <u>26</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 145, 178	40
Blue Creek	EF	Any	Oct. ((43-21)) <u>12-20</u>	Antlerless	GMU 154	10
Prescott	EF	Any	Oct. ((27)) <u>26</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMU 149	20

Blue Creek	EF	Any	Oct. ((27)) <u>26</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMU 154	((25)) <u>2010</u>
Marengo-Dayton	EF	Any	Oct. ((27)) <u>26</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMU 163 and Elk Area 1010	75
Mountain View	EF	Any	Oct. ((27)) <u>26</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1013	((5)) <u>10</u>
Dayton	EF	Any	Oct. ((27)) <u>26</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1016	((40)) <u>25</u>
Lick Creek	EF	Any	Oct. ((27)) <u>26</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMU 175	15
Couse	EF	Any	Oct. ((2-12)) <u>1-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 181	30
Malaga	EF	Any	Sept. ((12-22)) <u>11-21</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	10
Malaga	EF	Any	Nov. ((5)) <u>4</u> - Dec. 31	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	30
Colockum	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>30</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329	<u>40190</u>
West Bar	EF	Any	Oct. ((27-31)) <u>26-30</u>	Antlerless	GMU 330	5
West Bar	EF	Any	((Nov. 1-4)) Oct. <u>31</u> - Nov. <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMU 330	5
Teanaway	EF	Any	Dec. 17-31	Antlerless	GMU 335	30
Taneum	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>30</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMU 336	200
Manastash	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>30</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMU 340	275
Umtanum	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>30</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMU 342	250
Little Naches	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>30</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMU 346	250
Nile	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>30</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMU 352	20
Bumping	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>30</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMU 356	25
Bethel	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>30</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMU 360	20
Rimrock	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>30</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMU 364	250
Cowiche	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>30</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	GMU 368	250
Alkali	EF	Any	Oct. ((13)) <u>12</u> - Nov. ((2)) <u>1</u>	Antlerless	GMU 371	20
Klickitat Meadows	EF	Any	Oct. ((31)) <u>30</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 3068	5
North Bend	WF	Any	Nov. ((3-14)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 4601	7
Mossyrock	WF	Any	Nov. ((3-14)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	GMU 505	50
Willapa Hills	WF	Any	Nov. ((3-14)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	GMU 506	35
Winston	WF	Any	Nov. ((3-14)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	GMU 520	150
Winston	WF	Any	Jan. 1-16, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	GMU 520	((200)) <u>150</u>
Margaret	WF	Any	Nov. ((21-30)) <u>19-27</u> and Jan. 1-16, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	GMU 524	140
Ryderwood	WF	Any	Nov. ((3-14)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	GMU 530	100
Coweeman	WF	Any	Nov. ((3-14)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	GMU 550	((240)) <u>200</u>

Coweeman	WF	Any	Jan. 1-16, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	GMU 550	((200)) <u>100</u>
Toutle	WF	Any	Nov. ((21-30)) <u>19-27</u> and Jan. 1-16, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	GMU 556	((240)) <u>200</u>
Lewis River	WF	Any	Nov. ((3-14)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	GMU 560	((100)) <u>75</u>
Washougal	WF	Any	Nov. ((3-14)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	GMU 568	((75)) <u>50</u>
Siouxon	WF	Any	Nov. ((3-14)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	GMU 572	((30)) <u>20</u>
Wind River	WF	Any	Nov. ((3-14)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	GMU 574	((75)) <u>50</u>
West Klickitat	WF	Any	Nov. ((3-14)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	GMU 578	((150)) <u>100</u>
Toledo	WF	Any	Nov. ((3-14)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5029	50
Green Mt.	WF	Any	Nov. ((3-14)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5051	10
Boistfort	WF	Any	Nov. ((3-14)) <u>2-13</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5054	75
Wildwood	WF	Any	Jan. 16-30, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5061	<u>5025</u>
Upper Smith Creek	WF	Any	Oct. ((20-26)) <u>19-25</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5064	4
Mount Whittier	WF	Any	Oct. ((20-26)) <u>12-18</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5065	2
Mudflow	WF	Any	Nov. ((7-13)) <u>2-8</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	10
Raymond	WF	Any	Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 6010	10
Raymond	WF	Any	Jan. 1-20, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6010	5
Raymond	WF	Any	Feb. 1-28, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6010	5
Puyallup	<u>WF WA WM</u>	<u>Any</u>	<u>Jan. 1-20, 2014</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>Elk Area 6013</u>	<u>510</u>
North Minot	WF	Any	Oct. 20-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 6067	5
Hanaford	WF	Any	Nov. 3-14	Antlerless	Elk Area 6069	5
North River	WF	Any	Nov. 6-11	Antlerless	GMU 658	10
Deschutes	WF	Any	Jan. 10-20, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	GMU 666	10
Williams Creek	WF	Any	Nov. 6-14	Antlerless	GMU 673	50
Turnbull	EA	Any	Sept. ((4-16)) <u>3-15</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	14
Dayton	EA	Any	Sept. 4-16	Antlerless	Elk Area 1016	((20)) <u>15</u>
Malaga	EA	Any	((Sept. 1-7)) <u>Aug. 31 - Sept. 6</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	15
Colockum	EA	Any	Sept. ((4-16)) <u>3-15</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329	<u>50140</u>
((Nile	EA	Any	Sept. 4-16	Antlerless	GMU 352	50
Bumping	EA	Any	Sept. 4-16	Antlerless	GMU 356	50))
<u>Klickitat Meadows</u>	<u>EA</u>	<u>Any</u>	<u>Oct. ((11)) <u>12-21</u></u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>Elk Area 3068</u>	<u>9</u>
Alkali	EA	Any	Sept. 1-((22)) <u>21</u>	Antlerless	GMU 371	5

North Bend	WA	Any	Sept. 4-16	Antlerless	Elk Area 4601	10
<u>Skagit River</u>	<u>WA</u>	<u>Any</u>	<u>Sept. 4-16</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>Elk Area 4941</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Skagit River</u>	<u>WA</u>	<u>Any</u>	<u>Nov. 21 - Dec. 15</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>Elk Area 4941</u>	<u>5</u>
Margaret	WA	Any	Sept. ((8-23)) <u>7-22</u> and Dec. 1-15	Antlerless	GMU 524	70
Toutle	WA	Any	Sept. ((8-23)) <u>7-22</u> and Dec. 1-15	Antlerless	GMU 556	((400)) <u>80</u>
Upper Smith Creek	WA	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5064	4
Mudflow	WA	Any	Sept. ((5-11)) <u>3-9</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	10
Lewis River	WA	Any	Nov. ((24)) <u>27</u> - Dec. ((4)) <u>8</u>	Antlerless	GMU 560	((15)) <u>10</u>
Siouxon	WA	Any	Nov. ((24)) <u>27</u> - Dec. ((4)) <u>8</u>	Antlerless	GMU 572	5
Wynoochee	WA	Any	Nov. 21 - Dec. 15	Antlerless	GMU 648	150
North Half	EM	Any	Oct. ((4-7)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 101, 105, 204	10
Stevens	EM	Any	Oct. ((4-7)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 108, 121	10
Aladdin	EM	Any	Oct. ((4-7)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 111	10
Selkirk	EM	Any	Oct. ((4-7)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 113	10
49 Degrees North	EM	Any	Oct. ((4-7)) <u>5-11</u> and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMU 117	20
Turnbull	EM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	9
Turnbull	EM	Any	Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	9
Dayton	EM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1016	((25)) <u>15</u>
Blue Creek	EM	Any	Dec. 9 - Jan. 20, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	GMU 154	((40)) <u>25</u>
Mountain View	EM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1013	5
Lick Creek	EM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 175	10
Mayview-Peola	EM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 145, 178	20
Couse	EM	Any	Dec. 1-31	Antlerless	GMU 181	((30)) <u>15</u>
((Couse	<u>EM</u>	<u>Any</u>	<u>Jan. 1-20, 2013</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>GMU 181</u>	<u>30</u>)
Malaga	EM	Any	Oct. ((13-26)) <u>12-25</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 2032	35
Colockum	EM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMUs 328, 329	<u>3040</u>
West Bar	EM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 330	5
Taneum	EM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 336	100
Manastash	EM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 340	100
Umtanum	EM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 342	250
Nile	EM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 352	20

Bumping	EM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 356	30
Bethel	EM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 360	20
Cowiche	EM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 368	250
Alkali	EM	Any	Sept. ((23)) <u>22</u> - Oct. ((12)) <u>11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 371	10
Teanaway	EM	Any	Dec. 9-16	Antlerless	GMU 335	10
Klickitat Meadows	EM	Any	Oct. 1 ((10)) <u>11</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 3068	5
North Bend	WM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 4601	5
Skagit River	WM	Any	Oct. 5-11	Antlerless	Elk Area 4941	5
Skagit River	WM	Any	Nov. 21 - Dec. 15	Antlerless	Elk Area 4941	5
Stella	WM	Any	Jan. 1-((46)) <u>15</u> , ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	GMU 504	75
Toledo	WM	Any	Dec. 8-20	Antlerless	Elk Area 5029	60
Mossyrock	WM	Any	Jan. 1-((46)) <u>15</u> , ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5052	((45)) <u>8</u>
Boistfort	WM	Any	Jan. 1-((46)) <u>15</u> , ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5054	75
Willapa Hills	WM	Any	((Dec. 8-20)) <u>Oct. 5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 506	15
Green Mt.	WM	Any	Jan. 1-((46)) <u>15</u> , ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5051	30
Wildwood	WM	Any	Jan. 1-15, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5061	5025
Mudflow	WM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	10
Winston	WM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 520	90
Margaret	WM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 524	70
Ryderwood	WM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 530	50
Coweeman	WM	Any	Nov. ((21)) <u>27</u> - Dec. ((15)) <u>8</u>	Antlerless	GMU 550	((90)) <u>50</u>
Yale	WM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 554	40
Yale	WM	Any	Nov. ((21)) <u>27</u> - Dec. 15	Antlerless	GMU 554	35
Toutle	WM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 556	((100)) <u>80</u>
Lewis River	WM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 560	((50)) <u>35</u>
Washougal	WM	Any	Nov. ((21-30)) <u>27</u> - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 568	((50)) <u>35</u>
Siouxon	WM	Any	Oct. ((6-12)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	GMU 572	((15)) <u>10</u>
Wind River	WM	Any	Nov. ((21-30)) <u>27</u> - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 574	((100)) <u>50</u>
West Klickitat	WM	Any	Nov. ((21-30)) <u>27</u> - Dec. 8	Antlerless	GMU 578	((150)) <u>75</u>
Upper Smith Creek	WM	Any	Oct. ((13-19)) <u>12-18</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5064	4
Mount Whittier	WM	Any	Oct. ((13-19)) <u>5-11</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5065	2

((North Minot	WM	Any	Oct. 6-12	Antlerless	Elk Area 6067	40))
Mashel	WM	Any	Jan. 1-15, ((2013)) 2014	Antlerless	Elk Area 6054	25
North River	WM	Any	Nov. 21 - Dec. 15	Antlerless	GMU 658	20

Youth - Only youth hunters may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt.						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Dayton	EF	Youth	Oct. 26 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 162	5
Lick Creek	EF	Youth	Oct. 26 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 175	5
North Bend	WF, WM, WA	Youth	Nov. 3-9	Antlerless	Elk Area 4601	5
Toledo	WF, WM, WA	Youth	Aug. 1-7	Antlerless	Elk Area 5029	20
Mudflow	WF, WM, WA	Youth	Nov. ((19-)) 25 - Dec. 1	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	3
Mudflow	WF, WM, WA	Youth	Nov. ((19-)) 25 - Dec. 1	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	4
((Dungeness	WF, WM, WA	Youth	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31	Any bull	Elk Area 6071, north of HWY 101	10 ^{HC}))

65+ Senior - Only hunters 65 and older may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt.						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Aladdin	EF	65+	Oct. ((27)) 26 - Nov. ((4)) 3	Antlerless	GMU 111	5
Northeast	EF	65+	Oct. ((27)) 26 - Nov. ((4)) 3 and Dec. 16-31	Antlerless	GMUs 113, 117	10
Prescott	EF	65+	Oct. ((27)) 26 - Nov. ((4)) 3	Antlerless	GMU 149	5
Blue Creek	EF	65+	Oct. ((27)) 26 - Nov. ((4)) 3	Antlerless	GMU 154	5
Dayton	EF	65+	Oct. ((27)) 26 - Nov. ((4)) 3	Antlerless	GMUs 162, 163	((40)) 5
((Lick Creek	EF	65+	Oct. 27 - Nov. 4	Antlerless	GMU 175	5))
Peola	EF	65+	Oct. ((27)) 26 - Nov. ((4)) 3	Antlerless	GMU 178	5
Taneum	EF	65+	Oct. ((31)) 30 - Nov. ((14)) 10	Antlerless	GMU 336	25
Manastash	EF	65+	Oct. ((31)) 30 - Nov. ((14)) 10	Antlerless	GMU 340	25
Umtanum	EF	65+	Oct. ((31)) 30 - Nov. ((14)) 10	Antlerless	GMU 342	25
Cowiche	EF	65+	Oct. ((31)) 30 - Nov. ((14)) 10	Antlerless	GMU 368	25
Alkali	EF	65+	Oct. ((13)) 12 - Nov. ((2)) 1	Antlerless	GMU 371	5
Margaret	WF, WM, WA	65+	Nov. ((21-30)) 19-27	Antlerless	GMU 524	20
Toledo	WF, WM, WA	65+	Aug. 15-21	Antlerless	Elk Area 5029	20
Centralia Mine	WF	65+	Jan. 5-6, ((2013)) 2014	Antlerless	Elk Area 6011	4
Centralia Mine	WF	65+	Jan. 12-13, ((2013)) 2014	Antlerless	Elk Area 6011	4

Hanaford	WF, WM, WA	65+	Jan. 1-15, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6069	5
Hanaford	WF, WM, WA	65+	Jan. 16-30, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 6069	5

Hunters with Disabilities - Only hunters with disabilities may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt.						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Turnbull	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((44-24)) <u>12-19</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	6
Observatory	EF, EM	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((22)) <u>21</u> - Nov. ((4)) <u>3</u>	Any bull	GMUs 340, 342	5
Little Naches	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. 1-((40)) <u>11</u>	Any bull	GMU 346	5
Little Naches	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((34)) <u>30</u> - Nov. ((14)) <u>10</u>	Antlerless	GMU 346	5
Alkali	EF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((13)) <u>12</u> - Nov. ((2)) <u>1</u>	Any bull	GMU 371	5
Corral Canyon	EF, EM, EA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Sept. ((23-30)) <u>22-29</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 3721	2
Toledo	WF, WM, WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Aug. 8-14	Antlerless	Elk Area 5029	20
Mudflow	WF, WM, WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. ((22-30)) <u>21-27</u>	Antlerless	Elk Area 5099	4
Mudflow	WF, WM, WA	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Sept. ((17-23)) <u>16-22</u>	Any bull	Elk Area 5099	4
Centralia Mine	WF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. 6-7	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Elk Area 6011	4
Centralia Mine	WF	Hunters w/ Disabilities	Oct. 13-14	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Elk Area 6011	4

Master Hunter - Only master hunters may apply. Weapon must be consistent with weapon/tag restriction noted for hunt. Additional weapon restrictions may be conditioned on local situation for each hunt. For those hunts ((allowing)) requiring the purchase of a second tag, only one elk may be killed in the unit under the authorization of the permit.						
Hunt Name	Weapon/Tag	Hunters	Hunt Dates	Special Restrictions	Boundary	Permits
Turnbull	Any elk tag	Master Hunter	Dec. 10-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 1015	6
Region 1 North	EF, EA, EM 2nd <u>elk tag required</u>	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2012)) <u>2013</u> - Mar. 31, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	Designated areas in Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille counties	10 ^{HC}
Region 1 Central	EF, EA, EM 2nd <u>elk tag required</u>	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2012)) <u>2013</u> - Mar. 31, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	Designated areas in Spokane and Lincoln counties	20 ^{HC}
Region 1 South	EF, EA, EM/ 2nd <u>elk tag required</u>	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2012)) <u>2013</u> - Mar. 31, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	Designated areas in Whitman, Walla Walla, Columbia, Garfield, and Asotin counties	10 ^{HC}
Region 2	Any elk tag/2nd <u>elk tag required</u>	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2012)) <u>2013</u> - Mar. 31, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 2	50 ^{HC}
Fairview	Any elk tag/2nd <u>elk tag required</u>	Master Hunter	Nov. 1 - Feb. 28, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in GMUs 328-368	40 ^{HC}
Region 3	Any elk tag/2nd <u>elk tag required</u>	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2012)) <u>2013</u> - Mar. 31, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 3	((75)) <u>25</u> ^{HC}
Rattlesnake Hills	Any elk tag/2nd <u>elk tag required</u>	Master Hunter	Aug. 1 - Feb. 28, ((2013)) <u>2014</u>	Antlerless	Designated Areas in GMU 372	20 ^{HC}
North Bend	Any elk tag/2nd <u>elk tag required</u>	Master Hunter	Aug. 15 - Mar. 31	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Elk Area 4601	25

((Skagit River	Any elk tag/2nd tag	Master Hunter	Aug. 15–Mar. 31	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Elk Area 4941	15))
Region 4 North	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2012)) 2013 - Mar. 31, ((2013)) 2014	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Whatcom and Skagit counties	2030 ^{HC}
Region 4 South	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2012)) 2013 - Mar. 31, ((2013)) 2014	Antlerless	Designated Areas in King and Snohomish counties	10 ^{HC}
Green Mt.	Any elk tag	Master Hunter	Jan. ((17)) 16-30, 2014	Antlerless	Elk Area 5051	20
Mossyrock	Any elk tag	Master Hunter	Jan. ((17)) 16-30, 2014	Antlerless	Elk Area 5052	10
Pumice Plains	Any elk tag	Master Hunter	Oct. ((13-19)) 12-18	Antlerless	Elk Area 5063	2
Pumice Plains	Any elk tag	Master Hunter	Oct. ((20-26)) 19-25	Antlerless	Elk Area 5063	5
Toledo	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 22-28	Antlerless	Elk Area 5029	20
Toledo	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag required	Master Hunter	Dec. 21-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 5029	50
Trout Lake**	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag required	Master Hunter	Dec. 15-31	Antlerless	Elk Area 5062	3
Trout Lake**	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag required	Master Hunter	Jan. 1-((14, 2013)) 15, 2014	Antlerless	Elk Area 5062	3
Trout Lake**	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag required	Master Hunter	Jan. ((15)) 16-30, ((2013)) 2014	Antlerless	Elk Area 5062	3
Region 5	Any western elk tag/2nd elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2012)) 2013 - Mar. 31, ((2013)) 2014	Antlerless	Designated areas in Region 5	40 ^{HC}
North River	Any elk tag/2nd elk tag required	Master Hunter	Dec. 16, ((2012)) 2013 - Feb. 28, ((2013)) 2014	Antlerless	Designated Areas in GMU 658	10 ^{HC}
((Raymond	Any elk tag/2nd tag	Master Hunter	Oct. 1, 2012–Mar. 31, 2013	Antlerless	Elk Area 6010	5 ^{HC}))
Region 6	WF, WA, WM /2nd elk tag required	Master Hunter	Aug. 1, ((2012)) 2013 - Mar. 31, ((2013)) 2014	Antlerless	Designated Areas in Region 6	((50)) 60 ^{HC}

** May only hunt on privately owned lands. Must use only archery or legal shotgun (10 or 12 gauge; slugs only).

HC This is a damage hunt administered by a WDFW designated hunt coordinator. Successful applicants will be contacted on an as-needed basis to help with specific sites of elk damage on designated landowner's property. Not all successful applicants will be contacted in any given year, depending on elk damage activity for that year.

Hunter Education Instructor Incentive Permits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Special elk permits will be allocated through a random drawing to those hunter education instructors that who qualify. – Permit hunters must use archery equipment during archery seasons, muzzleloader equipment or archery equipment during muzzleloader seasons, and any legal weapon during modern firearm seasons. Hunter orange is required during modern firearm seasons. – Qualifying hunter education instructors must be certified and have been in active status for a minimum of three consecutive years, inclusive of the year prior to the permit drawing. – Instructors who are drawn, accept a permit denoted with (*) below, and are able to participate in the hunt, will not be eligible for those specific incentive permits for a period of ten years thereafter. – Permittees may purchase a second license for use with the permit hunt only. – Qualified hunter education instructors may only receive one incentive permit each year.

Area	Dates	Restrictions	GMUs	Permits
Region 3	All general season and permit seasons established for GMUs included with the permit. Not eligible for seasons and permits for auction hunts; raffle hunts; and hunts for master hunters, youth hunters, hunters with disabilities, <u>or</u> hunters 65 years and older, unless the hunter education instructor legally qualifies for such hunts.	Any elk	GMUs 336-368	((2)) <u>1</u> *
<u>Region 3</u>		<u>Any elk</u>	<u>GMUs 336-368</u>	<u>1</u>
Region 5		Any elk	All 500 series GMUs EXCEPT GMU 522	((4)) <u>3</u> *
<u>Region 5</u>		<u>Any elk</u>	<u>All 500 series GMUs EXCEPT GMU 522</u>	<u>1</u>
Region 6		3 pt. min.	GMUs 654, 660, 672, 673, 681	1*

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047. 12-11-005 (Order 12-70), § 232-28-360, filed 5/2/12, effective 6/2/12.]

WAC 232-28-360 2013 Elk special permits.

RECOMMENDED ADJUSTMENTS

The following adjustments are proposed since the Code Reviser (CR 102) filing and are already included in your notebook.

Pages 22-35

- Several technical amendments were made throughout this section to improve the clarity and accuracy of the rule.

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- Under Quality, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the number of permits for the Blue Creek hunt, from Oct. 21 to Nov. 3, was changed from 5 to 4 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, the Watershed hunt, from Oct. 21 to Nov. 3, antlerless elk were removed as a legal animal; now the legal animal is a 3 pt. minimum bull. The majority of hunters that participate in this hunt harvest bulls. To remain consistent with the Quality concept and to reduce some complications with harvest data reporting the proposal is to shift the legal animal to 3 pt. minimum bulls.
- Under Quality, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the number of permits for the Dayton hunt, from Oct. 21 to Nov. 3, was changed from 26 to 12 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the number of permits for the Ten Ten hunt, from Oct. 21 to Nov. 3, was changed from 12 to 5 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the number of permits for the Tucannon hunt, from Oct. 21 to Nov. 3, was changed from 14 to 12 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the number of permits for the Wenaha West hunt, from Oct. 21 to Nov. 3, was changed from 15 to 9 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.

- Under Quality, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the number of permits for the Wenaha East hunt, from Oct. 21 to Nov. 3, was changed from 21 to 12 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the number of permits for the Mountain View hunt, from Oct. 21 to Nov. 3, was changed from 20 to 15 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the number of permits for the Lick Creek hunt, from Oct. 21 to Nov. 3, was changed from 10 to 6 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the number of permits for the Colockum hunt, from Oct. 21 to Nov. 3, was changed from 7 to 1 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.

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- Under Quality, Western Modern Firearm (WF), the date for the Toutle hunt, Sept. 24-28 should be changed to Sept. 23- 27. This change corrects a typographical error.
- Under Quality, Western Modern Firearm (WF), the number of permits for the Toutle hunt, from Nov. 2-13, was changed from 100 to 99 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Western Modern Firearm (WF), the Dungeness hunt, Oct. 7-11, was eliminated due to the hunt not being an effective method of achieving the reductions that are needed.
- Under Quality, Eastern Archery (EA), the number of permits for the Dayton hunt, from Sept. 1-19, was changed from 14 to 7 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Archery (EA), the number of permits for the Ten Ten hunt, from Sept. 1-19, was changed from 8 to 3 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Archery (EA), the number of permits for the Wenaha West hunt, from Sept. 1-19, was changed from 5 to 3 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Archery (EA), the number of permits for the Wenaha East hunt, from Sept. 1-19, was changed from 11 to 5 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.

- Under Quality, Eastern Archery (EA), the number of permits for the Lick Creek hunt, from Sept. 1-19, was changed from 11 to 16 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Archery (EA), the number of permits for the Clockum hunt, Sept. 3-15, was changed from 6 to 2 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Archery (EA), the number of permits for the Peaches Ridge hunt, from Sept. 3-15, was changed from 101 to 106 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Archery (EA), the number of permits for the Observatory hunt, from Sept. 3-15, was changed from 130 to 110 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Archery (EA), the number of permits for the Goose Prairie hunt, from Sept. 3-15, was changed from 65 to 62 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.

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- Under Quality, Eastern Archery (EA), the number of permits for the Bethel hunt, from Sept. 3-15, was changed from 29 to 35 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Archery (EA), the number of permits for the Rimrock hunt, from Sept. 3-15, was changed from 97 to 94 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Archery (EA), the number of permits for the Cowiche hunt, from Sept. 3-15, was changed from 19 to 24 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Archery (EA), the Klickitat Meadows hunt, Oct. 12-20, was eliminated due to land ownership changing. New landowners will not be allowing access. The hunts and the elk area are proposed to be eliminated.
- Under Quality, Western Archery (WA), the number of permits for the Toutle hunt, from Sept. 7-22 and Dec. 1-15, was changed from 50 to 65 due to... the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Western Archery (WA), the number of permits for the White River hunt, from Sept. 4-16, was changed from 13 to 14 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.

- Under Quality, Eastern Muzzleloader (EM), the number of permits for the Dayton hunt, from Oct. 1-11, was changed from 5 to 3 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Muzzleloader (EM), the number of permits for the Ten Ten hunt, from Oct. 1-11, was changed from 6 to 2 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Muzzleloader (EM), the number of permits for the Tucannon hunt, from Oct. 1-11, was changed from 3 to 2 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Muzzleloader (EM), the number of permits for the Wenaha West hunt, from Oct. 1-11, was changed from 3 to 2 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Muzzleloader (EM), the number of permits for the Wenaha East hunt, from Oct. 1-11, was changed from 3 to 2 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Muzzleloader (EM), the number of permits for the Mountain View hunt, from Oct. 1-11, was changed from 8 to 6 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Muzzleloader (EM), the number of permits for the Lick Creek hunt, from Oct. 1-11, was changed from 2 to 1 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Muzzleloader (EM), the number of permits for the Peaches Ridge hunt, from Oct. 1-10, was changed from 26 to 25 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Muzzleloader (EM), the number of permits for the Observatory hunt, from Oct. 1-10, was changed from 21 to 19 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Muzzleloader (EM), the number of permits for the Goose Prairie hunt, from Oct. 1-10, was changed from 15 to 13 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Muzzleloader (EM), the number of permits for the Bethel hunt, from Oct. 1-10, was changed from 14 to 11 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.

- Under Quality, Eastern Muzzleloader (EM), the number of permits for the Rimrock hunt, from Oct. 1-10, was changed from 13 to 14 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Muzzleloader (EM), the number of permits for the Cowiche hunt, from Oct. 1-10, was changed from 10 to 6 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Quality, Eastern Muzzleloader (EM), the Klickitat Meadows hunt, Oct. 1-10, was eliminated due to land ownership changing. New landowners will not be allowing access. The hunts and the elk area are proposed to be eliminated.

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- Under Quality, Western Muzzleloader (WM), the number of permits for the Toutle hunt, from Oct. 5-11, was changed from 20 to 21 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Bulls, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the number of permits for the Peaches Ridge hunt, from Oct. 21-Nov. 3, was changed from 120 to 115 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Bulls, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the number of permits for the Observatory hunt, from Oct. 21-Nov. 3, was changed from 64 to 66 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Bulls, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the number of permits for the Goose Prairie hunt, from Oct. 21-Nov. 3, was changed from 74 to 68 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Bulls, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the number of permits for the Bethel hunt, from Oct. 21-Nov. 3, was changed from 63 to 51 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Bulls, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the number of permits for the Rimrock hunt, from Oct. 21-Nov. 3, was changed from 120 to 124 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Bulls, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the number of permits for the Cowiche hunt, from Oct. 21-Nov. 3, was changed from 22 to 20 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Bulls, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the Klickitat Meadows hunt, Oct. 21-Nov. 3, was eliminated due to land ownership changing. New landowners will not be allowing access. The hunts and the elk area are proposed to be eliminated.

- Under Bulls, Western Modern Firearm (WF), the number of permits for the Margaret hunt, from Nov. 2-14, was changed from 75 to 73 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Bulls, Western Modern Firearm (WF), the number of permits for the Olympic hunt, from Nov. 3-14, was changed from 20 to 16 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year
- Under Bulls, Western Modern Firearm (WF), the number of permits for the White River hunt, from Nov. 3-14, was changed from 24 to 21 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.

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- Under Bulls, Western Archery (WA), the number of permits for the Olympic hunt, from Sept. 4-16, was changed from 5 to 6 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Bulls, Eastern Muzzleloader (EM), the number of permits for the Teanaway hunt, from Dec. 9-16, was changed from 16 to 7 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Bulls, Western Muzzleloader (WM), the season dates for the Margaret hunt were changed to Oct. 5-12 and the number of permits was changed from 25 to 21 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Bulls, Western Muzzleloader (WM), the season dates for the Mount Whittier hunt were changed to Oct. 5-11 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Bulls, Western Muzzleloader (WM), the number of permits for the Olympic hunt, from Oct. 6-12 were changed from 5 to 4 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Bulls, Western Muzzleloader (WM), the number of permits for the Skokomish hunt, from Oct. 6-12 was changed from 1 to 3 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.
- Under Bulls, Western Muzzleloader (WM), the number of permits for the White River hunt, from Oct. 6-12 was changed from 3 to 4 due to the special permit allocation formula calculated different special permit numbers from the previous year.

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- Under the Antlerless Elk, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the number of permits for the Blue Creek hunt, from Oct. 26-Nov. 3, was changed from 20 to 10. This change corrects an error in the original filing.
- Under the Antlerless Elk, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the Colockum hunt, Oct. 30-Nov. 3, the number of permits was changed from 40 to 190 due to March aerial surveys indicating the total population was well above objective.
- Under Antlerless Elk, Eastern Modern Firearm (EF), the Klickitat Meadows hunt, Oct. 30-Nov. 3, was eliminated due to land ownership changing. New landowners will not be allowing access. The hunts and the elk area are proposed to be eliminated.

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- Under Antlerless Elk, Western Modern Firearm (WF), the number of permits for the Wildwood hunt, from Jan. 16-30, was changed from 50 to 25 due to reduced damage complaints.
- Under Antlerless Elk, Western Modern Firearm (WF), the number of permits for the Puyallup hunt, from Jan. 1-20, was changed from 5 to 10 due to increasing damage concerns in this area. Also, in the weapon/tag column, WA and WM were added to allow archery and muzzleloader hunters to apply for this hunt in addition to the modern firearm hunters. This approach in this location best meets the needs of landowners and better addresses damage issues.
- Under the Antlerless Elk, Eastern Archery (EA), for the Colockum hunt, Sept. 3-15, the number of permits was changed from 50 to 140 due to March aerial surveys indicating the total population was well above objective.
- Under Antlerless Elk, Eastern Archery (EA), the Klickitat Meadows hunt, Oct. 12-21, was eliminated due to land ownership changing. New landowners will not be allowing access. The hunts and the elk area are proposed to be eliminated.

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- Under Antlerless Elk, Eastern Muzzleloader (EM), the number of permits for the Colockum hunt, from Oct. 5-11, was changed from 30 to 40 due to March aerial surveys indicating total population was well above objective.

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- Under Antlerless Elk, Eastern Muzzleloader (EM), the Klickitat Meadows hunt, Oct. 1-11, was eliminated due to land ownership has changed. New landowners will not be allowing access. The hunts and the elk area are proposed to be eliminated.
- Under Antlerless Elk, Western Muzzleloader (WM), the number of permits for the Wildwood, from Jan. 1-15, was changed from 50 to 25 due to reduced damage complaints.

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- Under Master Hunter, Any tag, the number of permits for the Region 4 North hunt, from Aug. 1, 2013- Mar. 31, 2014, was changed from 20 to 30 to increase pressure on elk damaging agricultural crops, especially in the Skagit River Valley.

SUMMARY OF WRITTEN PUBLIC INPUT

WAC 232-28-360 2014 Elk special permits

COMMENTS	AGENCY RESPONSE
<p>Open the Quinault valley for draw tags for cow elk –make the Quinault valley open for trophy bull hunts ONLY. The bulls maybe make it to a rag horn 3 point and nothing more. Or even just close the valley down to hunting all together for a couple years except damage hunts.</p>	<p>We can provide your concerns to the Region 6 staff but at this time, the need for such a change is not being entertained and would likely be a big enough change that it would require waiting for the 2015-2017 3-year package discussion.</p>
<p>I wish we could go back to the way it was before. I will be 58 years old the year and have been trying to draw a branched antler permit for observatory A for 12 years now. It would be nice to draw while I still have my health...Thanks.</p>	<p>We wish we could go back to the way it was before, too. Unfortunately with loss of habitat and increasing pressures on elk numbers we can't. Special permits are a random draw despite the number of points you have. Hopefully you will be successful this year. Good luck.</p>
<p>To whom it may concern, would like to see a change in the special hunt drawings. I do not want to commit to modern fire arm in an area. If I do not draw that tag maybe I would like to hunt archery in a different area.</p>	<p>This has been suggested before and discussed in the previous 3-year package process. The current system reduces crowding by not allowing what you have described on the general broad scale.</p> <p>More than half of the hunting constituency that we have received comment from in past 3-year packages also voice concerns about crowding especially when it comes to selecting areas and weapon types for elk hunting.</p> <p>To currently accomplish your idea you should take advantage of the multi-season permit draw that the Department conducts. A multi-season permit would allow you to accomplish everything you've described here. Applications are on sale now. See page 80 of the 2012 Big Game Pamphlet for more details. The application deadline is March 31, 2013.</p>
<p>It would be nice to see the cow elk season expanded. Meaning that it would start on Monday of the general season than on Wednesday.</p>	<p>You didn't specify which GMU but we can take comment on such a proposal during the next 3-year package process, 2015-2017.</p>



PROPOSED RULE MAKING

CR-102 (June 2012)

(Implements RCW 34.05.320)

Do **NOT** use for expedited rule making

Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Preproposal Statement of Inquiry was filed as WSR 12-19-007 on 9/6/12; WSR 12-20-084 on 10/3/12; and WSR 12-23-013 on 11/9/12; or

Expedited Rule Making--Proposed notice was filed as WSR _____; or

Proposal is exempt under RCW 34.05.310(4) or 34.05.330(1).

Original Notice

Supplemental Notice to WSR _____

Continuance of WSR _____

Title of rule and other identifying information: (Describe Subject)

The subject of this proposed rule-making effort is the amendment of hunting seasons and regulations for 2013-2014, archery equipment regulations, and rules governing the importation of dead non-resident wildlife for the purposes of disease control. See Attachment A for a complete listing of rules.

Hearing location(s):
 Moses Lake Civic Center
 401 S. Balsam
 Moses Lake, Washington 98837

Date: March 1-2, 2013 Time: 8:30 a.m.

Submit written comments to:

Name: Wildlife Program Commission Meeting Public Comments

Address: 600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Fax: (360) 902-2162 by (date) February 15, 2013

Assistance for persons with disabilities: Contact

Tami Lininger by February 22, 2013

TTY (800) 833-6388 or (360) 902-2267

Date of intended adoption: on or after April 12, 2013
(Note: This is **NOT** the effective date)

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

See Attachment A.

Reasons supporting proposal:

See Attachment A.

Statutory authority for adoption: RCWs 77.12.047; 77.12.150; and 77.12.240

Statute being implemented: RCWs 77.12.047; 77.12.150; and 77.12.240

Is rule necessary because of a:

Federal Law? Yes No

Federal Court Decision? Yes No

State Court Decision? Yes No

If yes, CITATION:

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: January 23, 2013
TIME: 11:05 AM

WSR 13-03-152

DATE
January 23, 2013

NAME (type or print)
Lori Preuss

SIGNATURE

TITLE
Rules Coordinator

(COMPLETE REVERSE SIDE)

Agency comments or recommendations, if any, as to statutory language, implementation, enforcement, and fiscal matters:

When filing the permanent rule-making order (CR-103P), the WAC sections containing rule amendments will be consolidated into one or two Order Typing Service (OTS) documents.

Name of proponent: (person or organization) Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

- Private
- Public
- Governmental

Name of agency personnel responsible for:

Name	Office Location	Phone
Drafting..... Nate Pamplin	Natural Resources Building, Olympia	(360) 902-2693
Implementation.... Nate Pamplin	Natural Resources Building, Olympia	(360) 902-2693
Enforcement..... Bruce Bjork	Natural Resources Building, Olympia	(360) 902-2373

Has a small business economic impact statement been prepared under chapter 19.85 RCW or has a school district fiscal impact statement been prepared under section 1, chapter 210, Laws of 2012?

Yes. Attach copy of small business economic impact statement or school district fiscal impact statement.

A copy of the statement may be obtained by contacting:

Name:

Address:

phone () _____

fax () _____

e-mail _____

No. Explain why no statement was prepared.

These rules do not directly regulate small business.

Is a cost-benefit analysis required under RCW 34.05.328?

Yes A preliminary cost-benefit analysis may be obtained by contacting:

Name:

Address:

phone () _____

fax () _____

e-mail _____

No: Please explain: This proposal is not related to hydraulics rules.

ATTACHMENT A

WAC 232-12-021 Importation and retention of dead nonresident wildlife.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

The states and provinces listed in this WAC have confirmed chronic wasting disease (CWD) in their wild, free-ranging populations of cervids. This proposal would add the states of Texas and Missouri to those states where additional processing of deer, elk, and moose carcasses is required before they can be brought into Washington.

Reasons supporting proposal:

The proposal reduces the risk of CWD being imported into Washington State via carcasses of animals harvested in other states. Reducing disease risk helps in sustaining deer, elk, and moose hunting opportunities in Washington.

WAC 232-12-054 Archery requirements – Archery special use permits.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: This proposed amendment is intended to further the discussion on allowing illuminated nocks for archery equipment.

Reasons supporting proposal: This proposal facilitates public discussion of new technologies and consideration of acceptable fair chase and ethical standards for hunting.

WAC 232-28-248 Special closures and firearm restriction areas.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: This proposed amendment is part of the effort to streamline, reorganize, and update rules in the WAC Overhaul Project currently underway. Anticipated effects are minimal; this project involves merely rewording and clarifying a rule already in existence.

Reasons supporting proposal: The department needs these changes to increase efficiency, functionality, and clarity of the rules within its Administrative Code.

WAC 232-28-273 2012-2014 Moose seasons and permit quotas.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

This amendment clarifies that the exemption from the once-in-a-lifetime moose restriction is also applicable if the hunter applies in the future for a hunt in the permit categories of antlerless moose: raffle, auction, or master hunter. Additionally, this amendment reduces the number of master-hunter moose permits.

Reasons supporting proposal:

The proposed change in language reduces ambiguity regarding who may apply for a moose permit. The reduction in master hunter moose permits reflects the expected number of hunters needed in 2013 and beyond, based on the experience of recent years.

WAC 232-28-286 2013, 2014, and 2015 Spring black bear seasons and regulations.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

The purpose for amending the 2013-15 spring black bear hunting seasons is to expand opportunity in the north Puget Sound. These spring seasons are mainly established to address damage caused by bears to commercially grown trees. The hunt utilizes recreational hunters to harvest black bears in areas where

chronic tree damage and other property damage has been documented and allows the department to disperse harvest geographically and target male bears. This strategy helps ensure long-term sustainability in the black bear population and provides recreational opportunity for hunters.

Reasons supporting proposal: Spring bear hunting helps address commercial tree damage issues and provides recreational hunting opportunity. In the past, most black bear damage was addressed using depredation permits where the landowner would contract with a hunter using dogs to kill multiple bears near areas with tree damage. Depredation permit hunters were taking an increasing number of bears each year, and over 150 bears were being killed annually. The spring black bear season allows recreational hunters to better target the areas receiving damage and allows hunters rather than contractors to harvest bears.

WAC 232-28-296 Landowner hunting permits.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

The purpose of this proposal is to expand the number of special hunting opportunities available on private lands for hunters and to maintain the number of cooperating landowners.

Reasons supporting proposal: Several years ago, the Fish and Wildlife Commission developed a policy to expand the private lands available to the general public for hunting. One of the programs that was authorized is the Landowner Hunting Permit Program. This program encourages landowners to provide opportunity to the general hunter in exchange for customized hunting seasons and the ability to generate funding to offset the cost of providing public access.

WAC 232-28-334 Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions -- Region four.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

This proposal changes the management area designation of the Puget Sound Islands from Deer Areas to Game Management Units (GMUs). The proposed amendments will allow the Department to better track harvest removals specific to the islands.

Reasons supporting proposal:

This proposal will allow the Department to better track harvest removals specific to the Puget Sound Islands rather than having those removals lumped with mainland GMUs.

WAC 232-28-336 Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions -- Region six.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

The purpose of the proposal is to designate Anderson Island as a Game Management Unit rather than a Deer Area. The proposed language will allow the Department to better track harvest removals specific to the island.

Reasons supporting proposal:

The proposed changes will allow the Department to better track harvest removals specific to the Anderson Island rather than having those removals lumped with a mainland GMU.

WAC 232-28-337 Elk area descriptions.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

The purpose of the proposal is to separate Elk Area descriptions from Deer Area descriptions. The proposal also removes one Elk Area that is no longer needed and adjusts the boundary of two other Elk

Areas to make them more effective in dealing with wildlife conflict. Additional language modifications have been made to improve clarity.

Reasons supporting proposal:

Elk Areas help direct hunters at a scale smaller than the GMU when needed. Elk Areas also help staff address local wildlife conflict problems. Some of the language modifications in this proposed amendment are part of the effort to streamline, reorganize, and update rules in the WAC Overhaul Project currently underway.

WAC 232-28-342 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 Small game and other wildlife seasons and regulations.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

The purpose of this proposal is to add GMU 145 to the late fall turkey season. This GMU was inadvertently omitted during the three-year season-setting process. This proposal also modifies bag-limit language pertaining to fall turkey permit seasons. The change to the bag-limit language clarifies that hunters who kill a turkey during the permit seasons may still participate in the other fall seasons open to all hunters.

References to the western Washington Dungeness pheasant release site are also removed under the western Washington pheasant seasons.

Reasons supporting proposal:

GMU 145 is surrounded by other GMUs open during the late fall season. The intent was to include this unit in the three-year proposal. The department supports providing opportunity in this unit.

Turkey populations are healthy or increasing in areas where fall general seasons are in place, and the department is encouraging additional harvest and recreational opportunity in these areas. Allowing harvest during the general seasons by those who draw permits poses no concern for the population.

Clallam County owns the Dungeness release site and has decided to no longer allow use of the area for upland bird hunting. For this reason, removing references to this site is appropriate.

WAC 232-28-357 2012-2014 Deer general seasons and definitions.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

The purpose of this proposal is to retain general-season deer hunting opportunity. The purpose is also to balance the hunting opportunity between user groups; increase opportunity when deer populations allow; and reduce opportunity when declining deer numbers warrant a change.

Reasons supporting proposal: The proposed amendment provides recreational deer hunting opportunity and protects deer from overharvest. The amendment would maintain sustainable general deer hunting season opportunities for 2013; address deer damage problems; and provide for deer population control when needed.

WAC 232-28-358 2012-2014 Elk general seasons and definitions.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

The purpose of this proposal is to retain general-season elk hunting opportunity. The purpose is also to balance the hunting opportunity between user groups; increase opportunity when elk populations allow; and reduce opportunity when declining elk numbers warrant a change.

Reasons supporting proposal: This proposal provides recreational elk hunting opportunity and protects elk from overharvest. The proposed amendment would maintain sustainable general elk hunting season

opportunities for 2013; address elk damage problems; and provide for elk population control when needed.

WAC 232-28-359 2013 Deer special permits.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

The purpose of this proposal is to retain special-permit deer hunting opportunity. The purpose is also to balance the hunting opportunity between user groups; increase opportunity when deer populations allow; and reduce opportunity when declining deer numbers warrant a change.

Reasons supporting proposal: This proposal provides recreational deer hunting opportunity and protects deer from overharvest. The proposed amendment would maintain sustainable deer special-permit hunting season opportunities for 2013; address deer damage problems; and provide for deer population control when needed.

WAC 232-28-360 2013 Elk special permits.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

The purpose of this proposal is to retain special-permit elk hunting opportunity. The purpose is also to balance the hunting opportunity between user groups; increase opportunity when elk populations allow; and reduce opportunity when declining elk numbers warrant a change.

Reasons supporting proposal: This proposal provides recreational elk hunting opportunity and protects elk from overharvest. The proposed amendment would maintain sustainable elk special-permit hunting season opportunities for 2013; address elk damage problems; and provide for elk population control when needed.

WAC 232-28-622 Big horn sheep seasons and permit quotas.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

Hunters may apply for a bighorn sheep permit even if they've previously harvested a bighorn sheep in Washington if the earlier harvest was a bighorn sheep killed under a ewe-only hunt permit, a raffle permit, or an auction permit. Language in this amendment clarifies whether the exemption from the once-in-a-lifetime bighorn sheep restriction is also applicable if the hunter applies in future for a hunt in these categories.

Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep populations in the Blue Mountains area of south-eastern Washington have been reduced in past years due to the lingering effects of pneumonia outbreaks. Pneumonia was detected in the Asotin herd in 2012, and biologists expect this herd to decline over the next few years, although a few older rams remain in this herd.

Reasons supporting proposal:

The change in language reduces ambiguity regarding who may apply for a bighorn sheep permit. The reduction in hunting permits for the Blue Mountain area will reduce pressure on a herd that is experiencing a disease problem, and increase the chances for a high quality ram taken from this herd by the winner of the Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep raffle.

WAC 232-28-623 2012-2014 Mountain goat seasons and permit quotas.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

Language in this amendment clarifies whether the exemption from the once-in-a-lifetime mountain goat restriction is also applicable if the hunter applies in future for a hunt in these categories.

The proposed amendment also clarifies the names and descriptions of mountain goat hunt areas in Region 4, around Mt. Baker, and establishes legal descriptions of open mountain goat hunt areas.

Reasons supporting proposal:

Changes in language reduce ambiguity regarding who may apply for a bighorn sheep permit; remove inconsistency between the WAC, pamphlet, and instructional letters sent to permit holders; and clarify hunting unit boundaries for mountain goats in the Mt. Baker area.

WAC 232-28-624 Deer area descriptions.

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

The purpose of the proposal is to separate Deer Area descriptions from Elk Area descriptions to improve the clarity of these rules. The proposal also removes the Puget Sound Islands that were previously described as Deer Areas. The Department is proposing that those islands be described as Game Management Units (GMUs) in the future. Additional language modifications have been made to improve clarity.

Reasons supporting proposal:

Deer Areas help direct hunters at a scale smaller than the GMU and help staff address wildlife conflict problems. Some of the language modifications in this proposed amendment are part of the effort to streamline, reorganize, and update rules in the WAC Overhaul Project currently underway.