

Agenda Item 13

Baiting Deer and Elk

WAC 232-12-239, 232-12-245, 232-12-246



Washington Department of
FISH and WILDLIFE

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Wildlife Program

Background

- 2015-17 3-year package issue
- Directed staff to look into the issue further for 2016.
- Focus Group
- Public Hearing



Bins of Fruit Sometimes Used as Bait

Summary of Public Input

- Very polarizing.
- Identified volume as the major issue.
- Majority of public comments supported the use of bait.
- 2014 Random survey of deer and elk hunters showed lack of support for the use of bait

Potential Rules: No Change

Allows use of bait for deer and elk hunting.



Photo: Wisconsin DNR

Bait Pile of Corn and Apples

Potential Rules:

232-12-246

- Allows baiting, but limits to 10 gallons.
- Exempts scents and agriculture/food plots

Floor Change:

Re-word (2) "Except as otherwise provided in this section, it is unlawful to hunt for deer and elk using any type of bait placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, scattered, or otherwise used for the purpose of attracting deer or elk with the intent to hunt them, if the volume of bait accessible to wildlife exceeds 10 gallons (1.34 cubic feet)."

Rationale: focuses on baiting with intent to hunt and clarifies that the bait limit would apply to what is accessible to wildlife at any one time.

Potential Rules:

232-12-246

- Allows baiting, but limits to 10 gallons.
- Exempts scents and agriculture/food plots

Floor Change:

Add 4 (e) "As authorized by a department permit issued to address a management objective."

Rationale: Allows for the department to permit baiting to achieve a management objective

Potential Rules:

232-12-245

- Allows baiting, but limits to 10 gallons and 200 yards apart.
- Exempts scents and agriculture/food plots

Floor Change:

Re-word (2) "Except as otherwise provided in this section, it is unlawful to hunt for deer and elk using any type of bait placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, scattered, or otherwise used for the purpose of attracting deer or elk with the intent to hunt them, if the volume of bait accessible to wildlife exceeds 10 gallons (1.34 cubic feet)."

Rationale: focuses on baiting with intent to hunt and clarifies that the bait limit would apply to what is accessible to wildlife at any one time.

Potential Rules:

232-12-245

- Allows baiting, but limits to 10 gallons and 200 yards apart.
- Exempts scents and agriculture/food plots

Floor Change:

(3) re-word to read "Bait sites of an individual license holder cannot be placed within 200 yards from another known bait site or another bait site of the same license holder"

Rationale: incorporates "knowledge" of a bait site and limits a license holder to one site within 200 yards.

Potential Rules:

232-12-245

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- Exempts scents and agriculture/food plots

Floor Change:

Add 4 (e) "As authorized by a department permit issued to address a management objective."

Rationale: Allows for the department to permit baiting to achieve a management objective

Potential Rules: 232-12-239

Eliminates the use of bait for deer and elk hunting.

Floor Change: 3 (e) "As authorized by a department permit issued to address a management objective."

Rationale: Allows for the department to permit baiting to achieve a management objective

Questions

