



Fish and Wildlife
Commission Meeting
April 20, 2018, Astoria
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2018-19 Proposed Upland Game Bird Regulations

Exhibit B

Upland Game Bird Regulations

- **Brief Overview: population status, harvest surveys**
- **Regulation framework**
- **Turkey legal hunting methods**
- **Special hunting opportunities:**
 - Youth hunts, workshops, fee pheasant hunts
- **Controlled hunt for sage-grouse**

2018-19 Upland Game Bird Outlook

Population Status

- Too early for fall population forecasts
- Last spring production was above average, but harvest was down in the fall
- Relatively mild winter with below average snowpack
- Wait to see what weather spring brings, but may dry out earlier than last year due to reduced snowpack

Upland Game Bird Framework

- In fourth year of upland game bird framework
- Established through public process
- Basis for regulation framework
 - Annual variation in populations is normal
 - Hunting effort is largely self-regulating
 - Hunting mortality small part of annual mortality

2018-19 Upland Game Bird Season Proposals

UPLAND GAME BIRDS	OPEN AREA	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMIT
Forest Grouse, Partridge, Pheasant, Quail – follows seasons in frameworks			
Spring Turkey	Statewide	Apr. 15 – May 31	1
Fall Turkey – Western OR	17 W. OR WMUs	Oct. 15 – Dec. 31	1
Fall Turkey – Blue Mtns	12 E. OR WMUs	Oct. 6 – Dec. 31	1
Fall Turkey – Northeast	13 E. OR WMUs	Oct. 6 – Dec. 31	
Fall Turkey – White Rvr (Controlled)	White Rvr unit & part of Biggs unit	Oct. 6 – Oct. 21	

Turkey Legal Hunting Methods

- **Currently “unlawful to hunt wild turkeys with a shotgun larger than 10 gauge or smaller than 20 gauge”**
- **Remove minimum gauge restriction**
- **Simply regulations to match other game birds**
 - **“No one may hunt game birds with a shotgun larger than 10 gauge”**
- **Recent advances in ammunition**
- **Remove barrier to participation**

Special Hunting Opportunities



2018 Proposed Youth Hunts for Pheasants

HUNT AREA	DATES	HUNTER CAPACITY
Fern Ridge Wildlife Area	Sept. 8 & 9	75
Central Oregon (Near Madras)	Sept. 8 & 9	80
Denman Wildlife Area	Sept. 15 & 16	85
John Day (private land)	Sept. 15 & 16	30
Klamath Wildlife Area	Sept. 15 & 16	80
Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area	Sept. 15 & 16	35
White River Wildlife Area	Sept. 15 & 16	20
Sauvie Island Wildlife Area	Sept. 15 & 16	50
Irrigon Wildlife Area	Sept. 22 & 23	15
E. E. Wilson Wildlife Area	Sept. 29 & 30	70

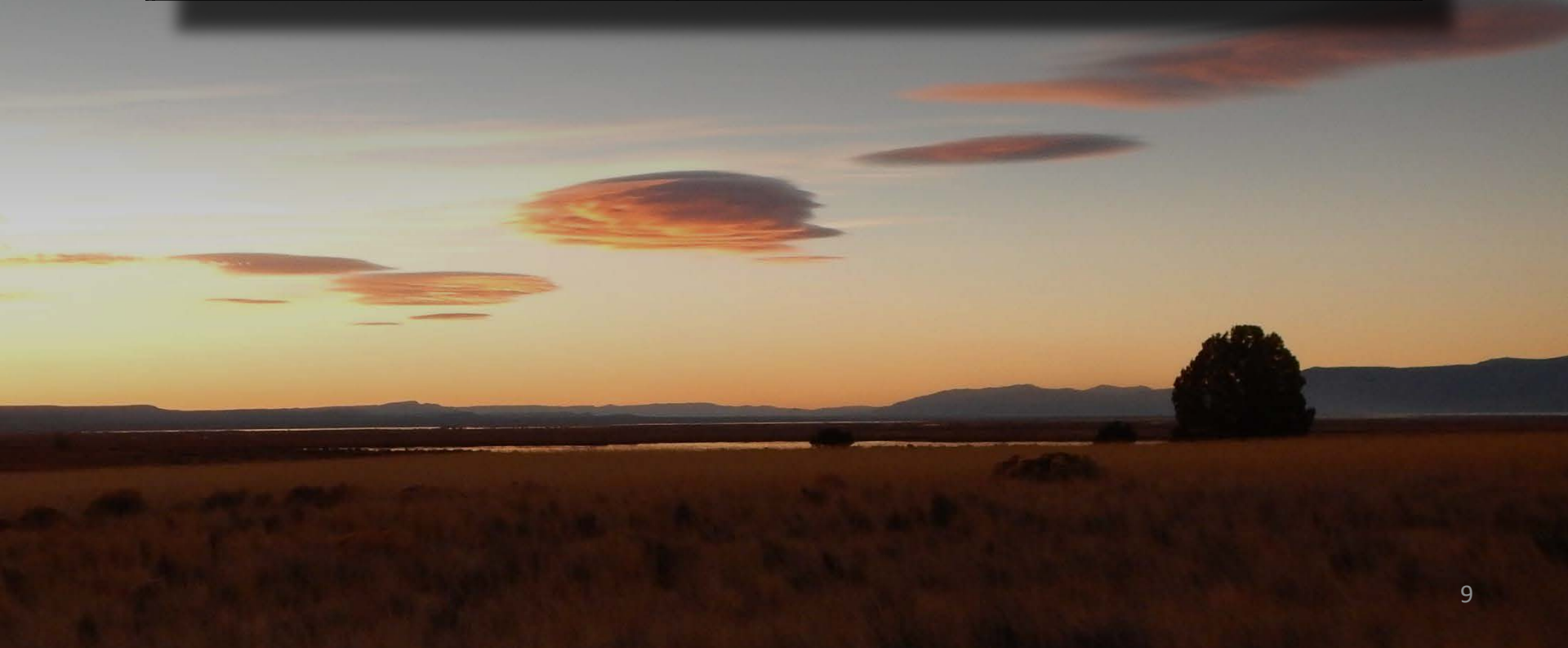
Special Hunting Opportunities

2018 Proposed Western Oregon Fee Pheasant Hunts

HUNT AREA	DATES
Fern Ridge Wildlife Area	Sept. 10 – Oct. 7
Sauvie Island Wildlife Area	Sept. 17 – Sept. 30
Denman Wildlife Area	Sept. 17 – Oct. 5
E. E. Wilson Wildlife Area	Oct. 1 – Oct. 31

Special Hunting Opportunities

2018 Proposed Pheasant Hunting Workshops	
HUNT AREA	DATES
Sauvie Island Wildlife Area	Sept. 8 & 9
E. E. Wilson Wildlife Area	Sept. 15 & 16



Current Status of Sage-Grouse



Controlled Sage-Grouse Season

- Season Dates: Sept. 8 - 16
- Daily/Season Bag Limit: 2 sage-grouse
- Application Deadline: Aug. 20
- Open Area: 9 WMUs
 - Closure of Juniper unit this year
- Proposed Permits: ???

Will adopt permit #'s by temporary rule in early August

Questions?



Migratory Game Birds



**2018-19 Hunting Season and Regulation Proposals
For Consideration by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
April 20, 2018**

Presentation Overview

- Regulation setting process
- Status quo seasons
- Season and bag limit change proposals
- Department lands rules



Decision Making Processes

- Season frameworks established by the USFWS in consultation with the Flyways
- Adaptive Harvest Management
 - ❖ Western Mallard Model
 - ❖ Pintail, scaup, canvasback, mourning dove, and band-tailed pigeon harvest strategies
- Many hunting regulations are also federal rule



A brown dog, possibly a Weimaraner, is sitting in a field of tall grass and reeds. In the foreground, two ducks are resting on the grass. The background shows a wide field leading to a line of trees and rolling hills under a clear sky.

Season and Bag Limit Proposals

Most Unchanged from Last Year

Status Quo Seasons and Bag Limits

- Mourning Dove
- Band-tailed Pigeon
- Coot
- Wilson's Snipe
- September Canada Goose
- General Goose
- Brant
- Crow



Duck Season and Bag Limits

- Seasons status quo
- Return pintail bag limit to 2 per day
 - ❖ National Harvest Strategy continues to be a high priority for Pacific Flyway

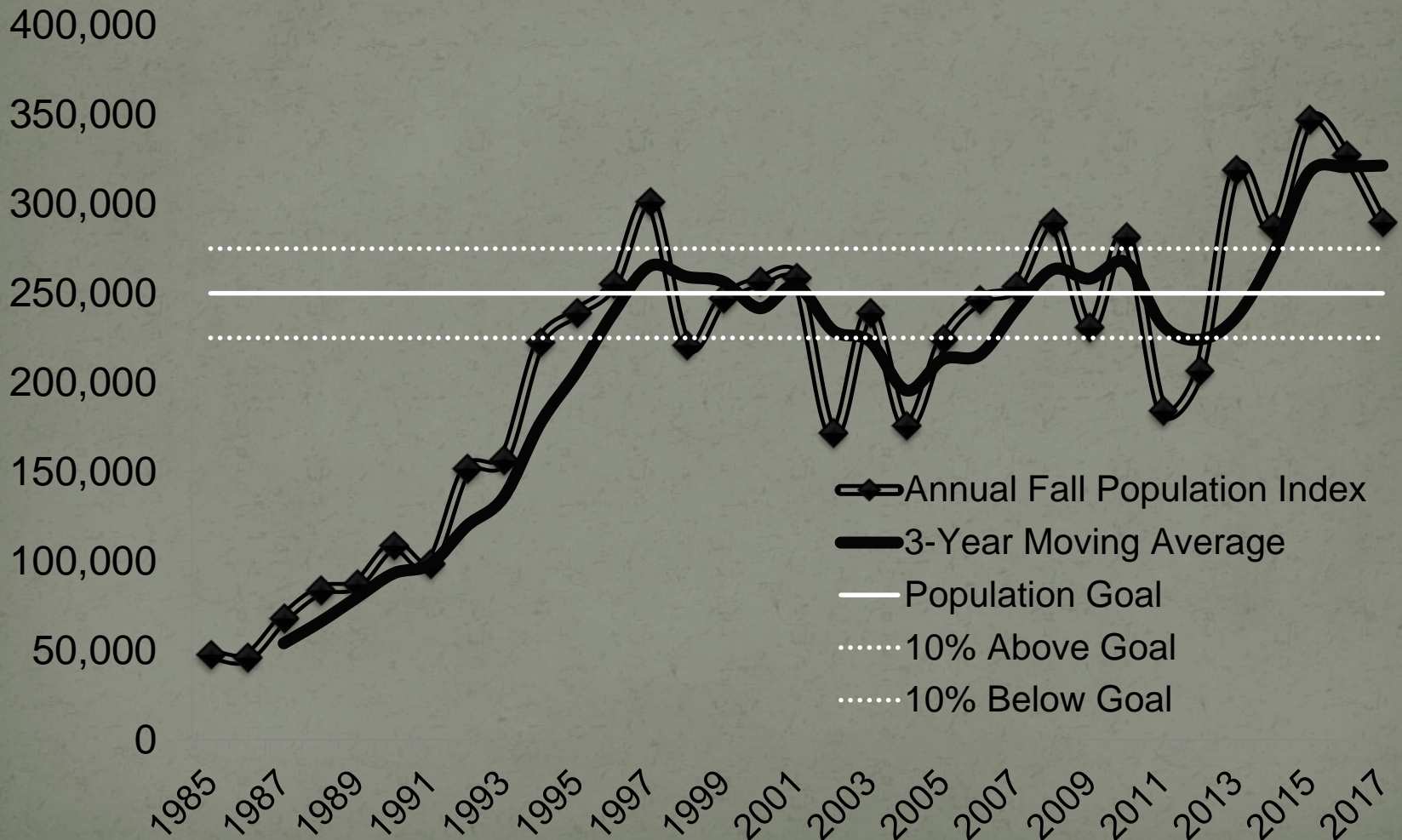


Northwest Permit Zone

- Cackling geese remain over objective
- Agricultural depredation remains major concern
- Management plan & USFWS allow for bag limit increase
- However...
 - ❖ Population may have peaked
 - ❖ Next survey in June 2018

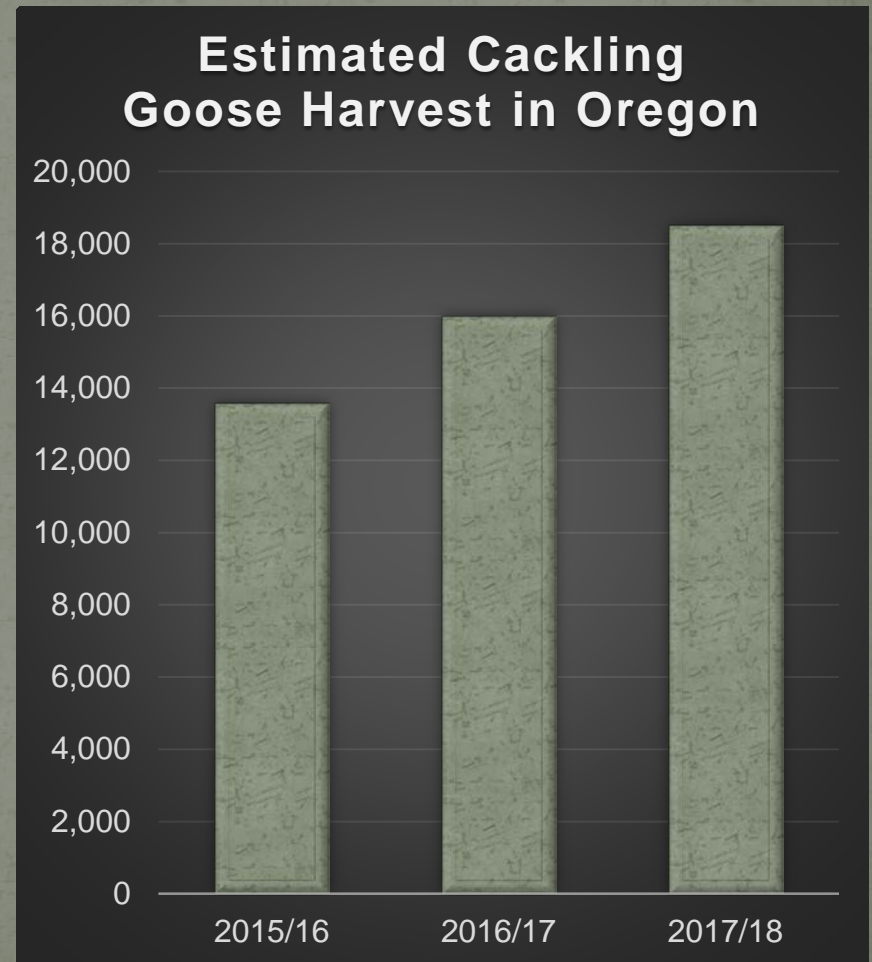


Cackling Goose Population Indices



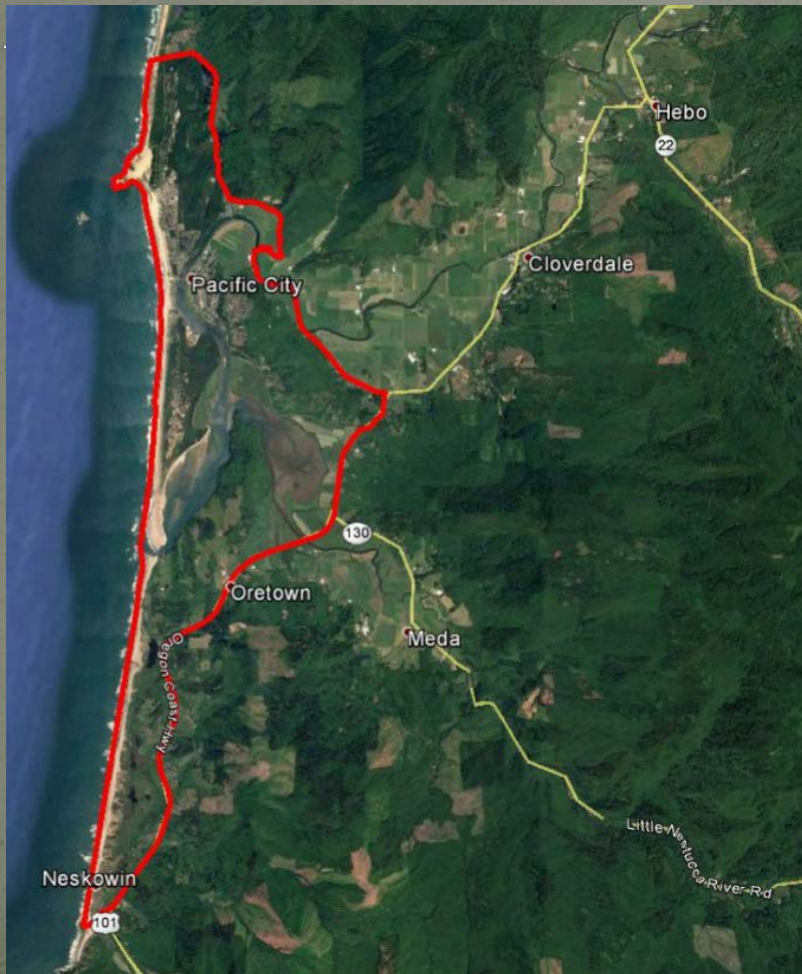
2018-19 Bag Limit Proposal

- Status Quo – 4 Canada geese per day
- If 2018 index > 2017:
 - ❖ Increase bag limit to 6 Canada geese per day by Temporary Rule
- Notify hunters via news release, social media, etc.

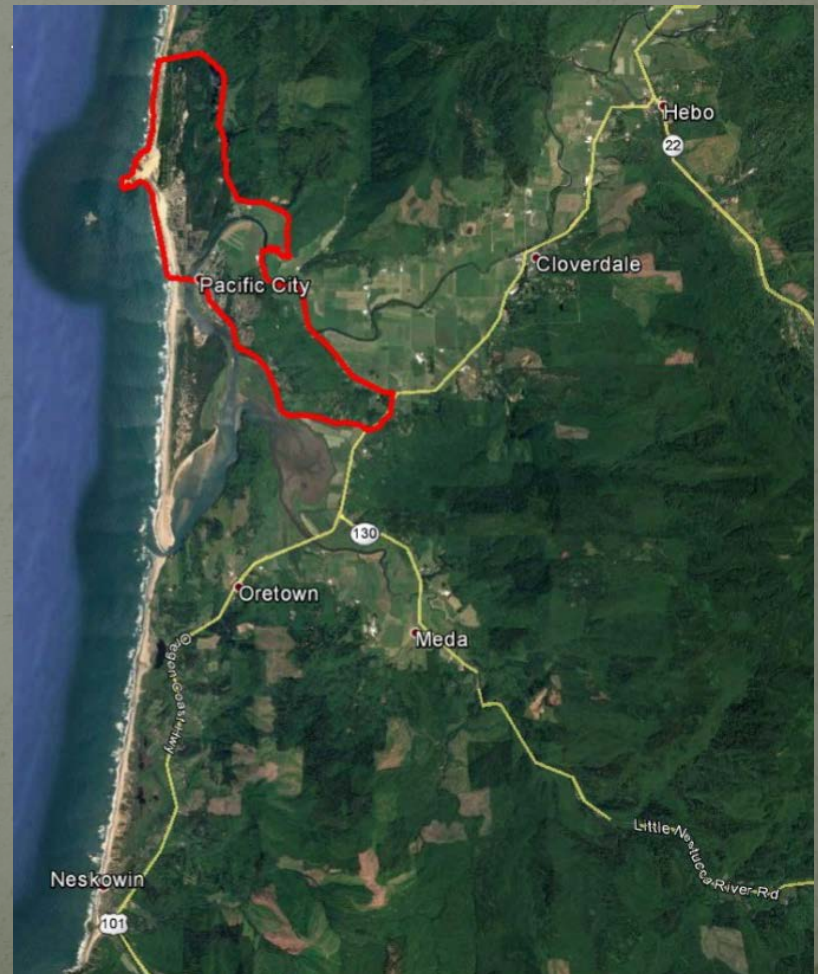


Tillamook County Closure

Current Closed Zone



Proposed Closed Zone





Other Regulations

Department Lands – OAR Division 008

Division 008

- Clarify that general use rules apply to all Department lands
 - ❖ Not just named Wildlife Areas
- Consolidate rules regarding dogs
- Standardize camping rules



Questions?

