

# STAFF PROPOSALS

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	Page 2
Public Outreach and Opportunity for Input .....	Page 2
General Topics and Updates .....	Page 2
General Winter Conditions.....	Page 2
Active Duty Military Tags.....	Page 3
Wildlife Inspection Stations.....	Page 3
Cooperative Travel Management Areas.....	Page 3
Hunting Seasons and Species Specific Information.....	Page 4
Big Game Hunting Season Review.....	Page 4
Proposed General Season Bag Limits and Dates .....	Page 5
Proposed Application and Tag Sale Deadlines .....	Page 5
Proposed Controlled Hunt Tag Summary .....	Page 7
Bear Season Summaries and Recommendations.....	Page 8
Cougar Season Summaries and Recommendations.....	Page 14
Bighorn Sheep Season Summaries and Recommendations .....	Page 17
Rocky Mountain Goat Season Summaries and Recommendations.....	Page 21
Premium Hunt Summaries and Recommendations .....	Page 23
Pronghorn Antelope Season Summaries and Recommendations.....	Page 29
Deer Season Summaries and Recommendations .....	Page 36
Elk Season Summaries and Recommendations.....	Page 56
Western Gray Squirrel Season Recommendations.....	Page 81

## **INTRODUCTION**

This document contains information regarding the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (department) proposed seasons and regulation changes for the 2023 Big Game Regulations, including tables for the 2023 controlled hunt tag numbers. The 2023 Oregon Big Game Regulations are expected to be printed and available at License Agents, department offices, and online in November 2022.

Soon after distribution of the 2023 Big Game Regulations, the process of developing seasons and regulations for 2024 will begin. Following is the tentative Big Game Regulation development timeline for 2024 seasons which also reflects the process preceding the current staff proposals.

- November 2022 - March 2023: District staff conduct field surveys
- April 1, 2023: Deadline for canceling 2023 hunts or making emergency tag changes
- May 15, 2023: District staff deadline for draft 2024 tag proposals
- June 2023: Division meets with Biologists to discuss 2024 seasons, tag numbers, and regulations
- July 2023: Districts conduct public outreach/meetings
- August 2023: Commission packet due to Wildlife Division Administrators
- September 2023: Commission Adoption of 2024 hunting seasons and tag numbers
- November 2023: 2024 Big Game Regulations delivered to vendors and available online

## **PUBLIC OUTREACH AND OPPORTUNITY FOR INPUT**

On July 11, the department posted the initial draft proposals and draft controlled hunt tag tables resulting from the annual coordination with wildlife districts. During the month of July, district staff held 17 public meetings across the state to present draft proposals and gather feedback from local constituents. One meeting consisted of a video posted online with an opportunity to email questions to the local biologists, and the remainder were in-person. Biologists encouraged participants to provide written comments directly to the department and Commission but also provided written summaries from the local outreach meetings to Wildlife Division staff.

## **GENERAL TOPICS and UPDATES**

### **General Winter Conditions**

Western Oregon: Winter 2021–2022 followed an unusually hot, dry summer. By mid-September, the entire state of Oregon was in drought with 99% of Oregon classified as severe to extreme drought. December 2021 brought above average rain and snow followed by mild temperatures and dry conditions through February. A late, wet spring resulted in northwest Oregon becoming drought free although much of southwest Oregon remains in drought. No significant overwinter mortality was observed in western Oregon deer and elk populations.

Eastern Oregon: The east side of Oregon experienced an extremely hot and dry summer in 2021 with severe to extreme drought conditions across the region. Summer forage conditions were poor. Most eastern Oregon watersheds experienced above average snowfall in December 2021 and early January 2022 before conditions moderated for the remainder of the winter. The prolonged, wet spring of 2022 reduced drought conditions in parts of eastern Oregon but severe drought conditions remain in central and southern portions of the region. Surveys conducted in spring 2022 indicate lower than normal deer fawn and elk calf ratios in much of the region.

Statewide: Drought conditions dominated Oregon during the summer and fall of 2021. Winter conditions were relatively harsh early in the winter but moderated with very little precipitation occurring from the second half of January through March. A wet spring improved forage conditions heading into the summer of 2022, however, approximately half of Oregon remains in severe to exceptional drought.

### **Active Duty Military Tags**

Oregon has a program that provides an opportunity for active duty members of the uniformed services that are Oregon residents stationed outside of Oregon, to obtain a controlled deer, elk, or spring bear tag while on leave during the season. This program recognizes that some service members are not able to participate in the controlled hunt drawing because of uncertainty regarding the ability to get leave during a particular hunting season. This program provides an opportunity for these service members to experience a hunt or to spend time in the field with friends and family if they are home on leave during a qualifying hunting season. Tags available for this program are limited and are issued first come first served.

The department is proposing to establish dates to begin accepting active duty military tag requests each year. For spring bear hunts, requests for tags would be accepted beginning March 1 and for deer and elk hunts applications would be accepted beginning July 1. This change would delay the request for tags until after controlled hunt results are released. The department is also proposing to increase the minimum number of tags necessary for deer and elk hunts to be eligible for active duty military tags to a minimum of 100 tags, increased from 60 tags, for hunts allowing harvest of buck or bulls with two or more antler points. This proposal ensures that quality controlled hunt opportunities remain available for service members while maintaining support for this program.

### **Wildlife Inspection Stations**

The department is proposing modification of administrative rules to enact House Bill 3152, which was passed by the 2021 Legislative Assembly. This bill authorizes the department to conduct wildlife inspection stations for the purpose of monitoring for diseases, infections, or infestations that may be harmful to wildlife. Initially, inspection stations will be focused on monitoring for chronic wasting disease. Any vehicle transporting wildlife parts is subject to inspection of the wildlife parts if they encounter an inspection station. If a vehicle transporting wildlife parts fails to stop, the operator is subject to a citation for a Class A violation. Vehicles that are not transporting wildlife parts are not required to stop at an inspection station. Additionally, the staff proposal will not result in the mandatory check-in of harvested deer and elk.

### **Cooperative Travel Management Areas**

The department is proposing date changes to several Cooperative Travel Management Areas

(TMAs). Changes to TMAs also require approval by the respective land management agencies. Modifications being considered include:

- Expand the effective period of the Rager TMA in the Ochoco unit to begin on August 20. The intent of this change would be to protect wildlife habitat and decrease disturbance of elk resulting in increased elk utilization of public lands.
- Expand the effective period of the Camp Creek TMA in the Northside unit to include archery seasons. Based on feedback received during the district public meetings, additional roads will be opened to motor vehicle travel to facilitate retrieval of harvested game through all of the seasons.
- Improve consistency in northeast Oregon TMAs. TMAs affect motor vehicle use by both hunters and nonhunters. However, many nonhunters may not be aware of season dates for the various hunting seasons. Utilizing set date restriction periods rather than referencing the opening day of various seasons would improve the understanding of TMA restrictions for nonhunting recreationists. For the Chesnimnus, Imnaha, Starkey, Catherine Creek, Pine Creek, Keating, and Sumpter units, the following staff proposals are being considered:
  - Modify the Clear Creek, Trail Creek, Indian Creek/Gorham Butte, Dark Canyon, and Chesnimnus TMAs effective period to August 20 through November 20.
  - Modify the Lake Fork – Dutchman, Okanogan – Fish, and Patrick Creek TMAs effective period to August 20 through November 20 and May 1 through July 1.
  - Modify the Grouse-Lick-Canal Creek TMA effective period to August 20 – December 1.
  - Extend the McCarty Winter Range closure effective period to December 15 through April 30. This closure currently ends on March 31.
- Addition of the Bald-Angel TMA in the Catherine Creek and Keating units. This addition would improve awareness and enforcement of existing US Forest Service restrictions.
- Expansion of the Mecham, Little Catherine Creek, Noregaard, Shamrock, Whiskey Creek TMAs to year-round pursuant to the agreement with Manulife and the Access and Habitat project renewal.

## **HUNTING SEASONS and SPECIES SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

### **Big Game Hunting Season Review**

The department initiated a project to thoroughly review the Big Game Hunting Regulations, beginning with “regulation simplification” for the 2018 Regulations. In addition to simplifying the regulations, the Big Game Hunting Season Review project has been focused on ensuring that hunting opportunity is allocated fairly and consistent with hunter preferences, and hunting seasons are relevant to current issues and populations. The review included extensive public outreach and opportunity for input prior to recommending changes to the Commission. For 2023, review efforts were focused on developing a controlled youth archery elk opportunity and to evaluate late season deer hunting opportunities in western Oregon. Resulting staff proposals can be found in the species highlights below and in the controlled hunt tables for **Deer, Elk, Pronghorn, Bighorn Sheep, Rocky Mountain Goat, and Black Bear**, which include draft changes to 2023 tag numbers, deleted hunts, new hunts, etc.

### **Proposed General Season Bag Limits and Dates**

Annually most big game season dates follow a cycle in which they progress one day earlier each year, then “jump” a week later, starting the cycle over again. A key date is the opening of the buck deer “Any Legal Weapon” (ALW) season, which has been the first Saturday in October since 2020. Most other standard seasons are then keyed off this starting date. Under this framework, 2023 is the year where the season jumps a week later with the first Saturday in October falling on October 7 which is the latest opening date possible. Thus for 2023, most big game hunts are proposed to be adjusted six days later than in 2022 (Table 1).

One general season hunt area change is proposed for 2023. Staff proposes adding the Powers unit to the late deer season component (Nov. 18 – Dec. 10) of the General Archery Season in southwestern Oregon. Weapons will be restricted to traditional archery equipment only during the late season and bag limit will be one buck black-tailed deer.

### **Proposed Application and Tag Sale Deadlines**

Controlled hunt application deadlines are set to occur the same date each year (Table 2). Tag sale deadlines (Table 3) are set at 11:59 pm the day before each respective season opens, except general bear and general cougar tags which have the same tag sale/pickup deadline as ALW buck deer.

The deadline for hunters to apply for deer, elk, pronghorn, bighorn sheep, and Rocky Mountain goat controlled hunts is May 15 (Table 2), with revisions or corrections to applications allowed through June 1. Draw results are currently released on June 20.

The department is proposing to reduce the amount of time applicants have to revise controlled hunt applications and move up the controlled hunt draw results release date. The proposal would move the application revision deadline to May 25, providing applicants at least 10 days to make revisions to their applications. Draw results would be released on June 12. This proposal would not change the May 15 application deadline or affect the spring bear application process.

Table 1. Proposed general season dates and bag limits for 2023.

<b>Species/Season</b>	<b>Bag Limit</b>	<b>Proposed 2023 Dates</b>
<b>DEER</b>		
Western Any Legal Weapon General Deer	Buck with visible antler	Oct. 7 – Nov. 10
<b>BEAR (Cubs, sows with cubs protected)</b>		
General Fall Bear Season	1 Bear	Aug. 1 – Dec. 31
Additional Statewide Bear	1 Bear	Aug. 1 – Dec. 31
<b>COUGAR (Spotted kittens and females with spotted kittens are protected)</b>		
Statewide Tag	1 Cougar	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31
Additional Statewide Tag	1 Cougar	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31
<b>ELK (Note: Antler restrictions apply in certain units)</b>		
Coast First	Any Bull <sup>a</sup>	Nov. 18 – 21
Coast Second	Any Bull or Spike Only <sup>a</sup>	Nov. 25 – Dec. 1
West Cascade	Any Bull <sup>a</sup>	Nov. 11 – Nov. 17
Rocky Mtn. Second	Any Bull or Spike Only <sup>a</sup>	Nov. 11 – 19
General Season Elk Damage Tag	Antlerless Elk	Western Oregon and elk de-emphasis areas, Aug. 1 – Mar. 31; Eastern Oregon outside elk de-emphasis areas Aug. 1 – Nov. 30
<b>ARCHERY (Note: Antler restrictions apply in certain units)</b>		
Western General Bow Deer	Buck with visible antler or One Deer (varies by Unit) <sup>b</sup>	Sept. 2 – Oct. 1
NW Deer Late Season	Buck with visible antler or One Deer (varies by Unit) <sup>b</sup>	Nov. 25- Dec. 17
SW Deer Late Season	Buck with visible antler or One Deer (varies by Unit) <sup>b</sup>	Nov. 18 – Dec. 10
Elk	Legal Bull, (varies by Unit) <sup>a</sup>	Sept. 2 – Oct. 1
<b>WESTERN GRAY SQUIRREL</b>		
North-Central Oregon	3/day - 6 in possession	Sept. 15 – Oct. 31
Remainder of Oregon	5/day - 15 in possession	Sept. 1 – Nov. 15

<sup>a</sup> Bag limit for archery hunters and hunters with disabilities permits may be changed to include antlerless elk.

<sup>b</sup> Bag limit for archery hunters and hunters with disabilities permits may be changed to include antlerless deer

Table 2. Controlled hunt application and tag sale deadlines proposed for 2023.

<b>Controlled Hunt Drawing</b>	<b>Application Deadline</b>	<b>Tag Claim Deadline</b>
Spring Bear Draw	February 10	Day Before Hunt Opens
Big Game Draw <sup>a</sup>	May 15	Day Before Hunt Opens

<sup>a</sup> Excludes Spring Bear.

Table 3. General season tag sale deadlines in place for 2022 and proposed for 2023.

<b>Species or Season</b>	<b>2022 Deadline</b>	<b>2023 Deadline</b>
Bear	Sept. 30	Oct. 6
Additional Bear	See Footnote*	See Footnote*
Cougar	Sept. 30	Oct. 6
Additional Cougar	See Footnote*	See Footnote*
Deer & Elk Archery	Aug. 26	Sept. 1
Western Deer Any Legal Weapon	Sept. 30	Oct. 6
West Cascade Elk	Nov. 4	Nov. 10
General Coast 1 <sup>st</sup> Season	Nov. 11	Nov. 17
General Coast 2 <sup>nd</sup> Season	Nov. 18	Nov. 24
Rocky Mt. 2nd Elk	Nov. 4	Nov. 10
General Antlerless Elk Damage Season	No Deadline	No Deadline

\*May be purchased after deadline if first general season tag was purchased by the deadline.

### **Proposed Controlled Hunt Tag Summary**

Total proposed controlled hunt tag numbers for 2023 seasons 150,143 (Table 4) are an increase of 1% from 148,776 in 2022. Within species, number of controlled tags proposed are not changing for pronghorn (0%) and elk (0%). Proposed controlled tags are increasing slightly for deer (2%), Rocky Mountain Goat (3%), and bear (2%). Proposed controlled tags for bighorn sheep are increasing 14% driven primarily by an increase in proposed number of ewe tags in the Deschutes and John Day River hunt areas. Species-specific information and details are provided in the controlled hunt tag tables for respective species below.

Table 4. Proposed controlled hunt tag numbers for 2023-2024.

Species	Series	Weapon/Type	2022 tags	Proposed 2023 tags	% Change 2020-2021
Deer	100	ALW <sup>1</sup>	42,255	42,623	1%
		Muzzleloader	2,642	2,722	3%
		Bow	15,793	15,857	0%
		Youth	147	184	25%
	600	ALW <sup>1</sup>	8,040	8,680	8%
		Youth	1,354	1,392	3%
		L Premium	ALW	67	67
	<b>Total</b>			<b>70,298</b>	<b>71,525</b>
Elk	200	ALW <sup>1</sup>	45,663	46,051	1%
		Muzzleloader	1,936	2,250	15%
		Bow	16,775	16,386	-5%
		Youth	1,308	1,336	0%
	M Premium	ALW <sup>1</sup>	64	64	0%
	<b>Total</b>			<b>65,746</b>	<b>66,087</b>
Pronghorn	400	ALW <sup>1</sup>	1,400	1,406	0%
		Muzzleloader	127	138	9%
		Bow	451	436	-3%
		Youth	35	37	-0%
	N Premium	ALW <sup>1</sup>	27	26	0%
<b>Total</b>			<b>2,040</b>	<b>2,043</b>	<b>0%</b>
Bighorn	500	California Ram	69	72	4%
		California Ewe	12	22	83%
		Rocky Mt Ram	6	5	-17%
	<b>Total</b>			<b>86</b>	<b>99</b>
Mtn Goat	900	ALW <sup>1</sup>	29	30	3%
	<b>Total</b>			<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
Bear	700	ALW <sup>1</sup>	10,258	10,420	2%
		Youth	204	207	1%
	<b>Total</b>			<b>10,462</b>	<b>10,627</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>148,776</b>	<b>150,143</b>	<b>1%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Any Legal Weapon Season (ALW)

## **Bear Season Summaries and Recommendations**

### **2021 Spring Bear Harvest**

Due to the onset of Covid-19 in early 2020, ODFW offered 2020 spring bear hunters the ability to return, exchange, or receive a voucher for their tag and ultimately 7,737 spring bear tags were sold. With hunters being more familiar with Covid-19 protocols and process, 8,878 spring bear tags were sold a year later in 2021. Mandatory harvest surveys indicate 5,527 hunters participated (62% participation rate) and 743 bears were taken during the 2021 Spring Bear Controlled Hunts (down from reported harvest of 925 in 2020). The success rate of Controlled Spring Bear hunters was 13% across all hunts and was back to normal after a rare high of 18% in 2020. Harvest per days hunted also returned to normal rates of 1 bear per 49 days hunted (vs 1 bear per 38 days in 2020). The majority of the bears reported harvested were males (73%).

## **2021 General Fall Bear Harvest**

The number of general season black bear tags issued increased from 62,104 (61,014 General Season tags, 1,090 Additional tags) in 2020 to 65,354 (64,231 General Season tags, 1,123 Additional tags) in 2021. Mandatory harvest surveys indicate 1,681 bears were taken during the 2021 General Fall Bear season and 20,992 hunters participated (32% participation rate). Of the bears harvested, 96 were harvested with an Additional Fall Bear Tag (6% total harvest). Participation, success, and harvest per days hunted were similar to the 2020 General Fall Bear harvest. Reported harvest indicated 68% of the General Fall Bear harvest in 2021 consisted of males and total harvest continued to be higher in western Oregon (62% of harvest) than eastern Oregon.

## **Bear Population Monitoring**

### ***Indices***

Continued monitoring of harvested bear ages, as directed by the 2012 Bear Management Plan (Plan) and consistent with other states, suggests bear populations are not being over-harvested. According to the age criteria in the Plan, a bear population is considered over-harvested when the median age of all harvested bears is  $\leq 3.0$ , the median age for harvested males is  $\leq 2.0$ , and the median age of harvested females is  $\leq 4.0$ . In 2021, the median age for all harvested bears was 4.0, the median age for harvested males was 4.0, and the median age for females was 5.0 (identical values to 2020). Therefore, these criteria indicate over-harvest is not currently occurring. Based on check-ins, 68% of the bears taken by hunters (spring + fall) in 2021 were males.

In addition to assessing level of harvest based on median ages, the 2012 Bear Management Plan directs the department to monitor the 3-year average percent of adult males (greater than or equal to 5 years old) of all known mortalities and percent of all females in all known mortalities to help ascertain take levels (light, moderate, or high based on Plan criteria). The 2019-2021 average for adult males in documented mortalities was 27% and is indicative of a moderate take levels (light  $>35\%$ , moderate 25-35%, heavy  $<25\%$ ). For females (greater than or equal to 1 years old), the 2019-2021 average percent of all mortalities was 30%. These values are indicative of moderate take levels (light  $<30\%$ , moderate 30-40%, heavy  $>40\%$ ). In 2021, 70% of the bears taken by hunters (spring + fall) were males.

### ***Modeling***

The use of tetracycline (an antibiotic) as a biomarker in a black bear population estimation technique was implemented statewide in 2005 and protocols modified in 2009. Following a statistical evaluation and challenges to use of tetracycline for wildlife research, the technique was ended in 2018 but with the intent to replace it with another monitoring tool. To fill the void, the department contracted with the statistics group Speedgoat to build an integrated population model (IPM). Completed in 2022, the IPM uses multiple sources of Oregon black bear data collected by the department to produce population estimates for each of four bear regions (NW, SW, South Central, NE). The most complete dataset during model building was 2020 and the sum of the regions totaled around 34,000 ( $\pm 5,000$ ) black bears statewide for that year. The model also allows the department to make predictions regarding future population estimates by modifying various sources of mortality and variability in model parameters. As directed by the Plan, the department will continue to use the beforementioned indices in addition to the new IPM to monitor bear populations in Oregon.

## Check-ins

Due to previous low black bear tooth return rates, the department implemented a mandatory check-in of bear skulls beginning in 2008 as directed by the Plan. Specifically, successful hunters are required to bring the unfrozen skull of any bear they harvest to a department office or a designated check-in site within 10 days of harvesting their bear. A tooth is collected and sent to a lab for aging. This information is important for monitoring population structure and as part of efforts to develop a methodology for estimating black bear populations. Due to Covid-19 concerns, the physical check-in requirement for bears was temporarily lifted in Spring 2020 and remained in place until department offices re-opened for public visitation in Spring 2022. Hunters were still required to report their harvest but through non-contact means including phone and email. A total of 1,581 bears were checked-in in 2021 (Table 5), a large dip in check-in rate due to the temporary rule changes in 2020 and 2021. Nonetheless, staff worked with hunters to safely acquire biological information and tooth samples through mail or by appointment when possible and were able to obtain a tooth sample for roughly 63% of check-ins.

## Complaints and Other Mortalities

The total number of complaints recorded for black bear decreased slightly from 563 in 2020 to 535 in 2021 (Table 6). The majority of complaints received fell into four main categories of human/pet safety, livestock/agriculture, nuisance/structural damage, or garbage. The number of bears killed as a result of damage to timber, livestock, or property decreased slightly from 282 in 2020 to 257 in 2021. Most conflict-related mortality (90%) continues to occur in western Oregon, where human and bear populations are highest, resulting in damage, human safety concerns, and nuisance problems.

Table 5. Trend in reported bear harvest and actual bear check-ins, 2005–2021.

Note: physical check-ins were not required in 2020 and 2021 due to Covid-19 safety protocols; mandatory check-in was first implemented in 2008.

Year	Spring			Fall			Total		
	Harvest	Check-In	Check-In Rate	Harvest	Check-In	Check-In Rate	Harvest	Check-In	Check-In Rate
2005	371	127	34%	716	185	26%	1,087	312	29%
2006	307	112	36%	989	237	24%	1,296	349	27%
2007	477	138	29%	748	246	33%	1,225	384	31%
2008	363	357	98%	911	826	91%	1,274	1,183	93%
2009	461	386	84%	698	841	120%	1,159	1,227	106%
2010	448	464	104%	1,235	1,183	96%	1,683	1,647	98%
2011	488	444	91%	931	906	97%	1,419	1,350	95%
2012	464	426	92%	1,155	894	77%	1,619	1,320	82%
2013	460	420	91%	1,081	824	76%	1,541	1,244	81%
2014	553	510	92%	1,088	836	77%	1,641	1,346	82%
2015	577	533	92%	1,028	833	81%	1,605	1,366	85%
2016	580	549	95%	1,003	825	82%	1,583	1,374	87%
2017	607	545	90%	1,134	943	83%	1,741	1,488	85%
2018	627	594	95%	1,103	935	85%	1,730	1,529	88%
2019	724	674	93%	1,484	1,145	77%	2,208	1,819	82%
2020	925	748	81%	1,608	1,026	64%	2,503	1,774	71%
2021	743	614	83%	1,681	967	58%	2,424	1,581	65%

## 2023 Spring Bear Season/Tag Recommendations

The department is proposing 10,627 controlled tags in 18 hunts for 2023, 165 more tags than 2022 (Table 7). Changes from 2022 are limited to a proposed tag increase for the 741A White River-Hood hunt (from 300 to 330) to account for ongoing damage issues and adjustments in tag numbers for several other hunts to account for unpurchased tags. In the White River and Hood Wildlife Management Units (WMU) and elsewhere, robust bear populations are sufficient to allow for the increase in tags and potential harvest without any long-term impacts to bear populations.

## 2023 General Bear Season Recommendations

General Fall Bear Season dates are Aug. 1 to Dec. 31 statewide and staff propose maintaining those dates. Hunters may purchase and fill an additional fall bear tag if they fill their first tag; however, hunters must purchase the general season tag prior to the deadline to be eligible to purchase an additional tag. This additional fall bear tag hunt area is applicable statewide and is consistent with the additional cougar tag. Staff propose maintaining a statewide hunt area for the additional fall bear tag.

Table 6. Trends in black bear complaints, damage, harvest, and other mortality in Oregon during 2002– 2021. Complaint and mortality data are current through 08/02/2022. Numbers may change as late data are added.

Year	Number of Complaints <sup>a</sup>	Number of Tags Sold <sup>b</sup>	Mortalities				Total
			Hunter-Harvest <sup>c</sup>	Damage <sup>d</sup>	Human Safety <sup>e</sup>	Other <sup>f</sup>	
2002	479	46,980	1,196	181	39	18	1,434
2003	326	48,130	1,167	190	24	18	1,399
2004	326	43,716	.	221	15	20	.
2005	298	44,785	1,087	274	19	19	1,399
2006	275	46,482	1,296	199	18	15	1,528
2007	323	51,720	1,225	207	10	18	1,460
2008	602	53,847	1,188	272	49	55	1,564
2009	365	50,387	1,236	222	22	54	1,534
2010	921	57,711	1,647	394	30	86	2,157
2011	465	55,305	1,350	372	23	48	1,793
2012	382	56,243	1,320	283	17	36	1,656
2013	337	57,850	1,244	317	11	37	1,609
2014	457	58,334	1,346	322	13	54	1,735
2015	371	58,324	1,367	245	7	55	1,674
2016	335	61,357	1,378	281	15	45	1,719
2017	464	61,593	1,488	267	33	46	1,834
2018	308	62,551	1,529	161	26	47	1,763
2019	525	68,899	1,819	274	40	47	2,180
2020	563	69,841	1,774	282	32	40	2,113
2021	539	74,232	1,581	257	33	62	1,933

<sup>a</sup> Number of complaints received during the calendar year. Sightings not associated with damage or a public safety concern are not included as complaints.

<sup>b</sup> Includes controlled spring, general fall, and additional tags (including Sports Pac licenses).

<sup>c</sup> No harvest survey conducted during 2004. Hunter-harvest data based on mandatory check-in during 2008–present. Additional bear tags not surveyed 2005–2007.

<sup>d</sup> Number of animals killed as a result of damage during a calendar year.

<sup>e</sup> Animals killed as a result of real or perceived threat to humans or pets.

<sup>f</sup> Includes roadkill, accidental, found dead, nuisance, or illegal kill.

<b>Table 7. Recommendations for 2023 Spring Bear Hunts and Tag Numbers.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Proposed 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adjusted 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Proposed 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adjusted 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
<b>Any Weapon Hunts</b>											
710A	710A	NW Oregon	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 - 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 - 05/31/2023	1,300	1,365	1,300	1430	
717A	717A	Alea - Stott Mtn	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 - 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 - 05/31/2023	250	275	250	275	
722A	722A	SW Oregon	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 - 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 - 05/31/2023	4,400	4,840	4,400	4840	
731A	731A	South Central	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 - 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 - 05/31/2023	450	495	450	495	
741A	741A	White Rvr - Hood	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 - 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 - 05/31/2023	300	330	330	363	Tag increase to addressing continued damage issues.
746A	746A	S Blue Mtns	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 - 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 - 05/31/2023	700	770	700	770	
752A	752A	Starkey-Ukiah	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 - 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 - 05/31/2023	250	250	250	250	
754A	754A	Mt. Emily-Walla Walla	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 - 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 - 05/31/2023	200	210	200	220	
756	756	Wenaha Unit	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 - 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 - 05/31/2023	250	263	250	275	
757A	757A	Sled Springs - Chesnimnus	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 - 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 - 05/31/2023	275	289	275	303	
759A	759A	Snake Rvr Unit	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 - 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 - 05/31/2023	400	436	400	440	
760A	760A	Minam-Imnaha	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 - 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 - 05/31/2023	250	265	250	275	
762A	762A	Pine Cr - Keating - Catherine Cr	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 - 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 - 05/31/2023	400	428	400	440	
764	764	Lookout Mtn Unit	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 - 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 - 05/31/2023	40	42	40	44	
<b>Any Weapon Hunt Total Tags</b>							<b>9,465</b>	<b>10,258</b>	<b>9,495</b>	<b>10,420</b>	

<b>Table 7 Continued. Recommendations for 2023 Spring Bear Hunts and Tag Numbers.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Proposed 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adjusted 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Proposed 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adjusted 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
<b>Youth Hunts</b>											
754T	754T	Mt. Emily-Walla Walla Youth	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 – 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 – 05/31/2023	20	22	20	22	
756T	756T	Wenaha Unit Youth	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 – 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 – 05/31/2023	50	50	50	50	
757T	757T	Sled Springs-Chesnimnus Youth	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 – 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 – 05/31/2023	80	80	80	80	
760T	760T	Minam-Imnaha Youth	One black bear	One black bear	04/01/2022 – 05/31/2022	04/01/2023 – 05/31/2023	50	52	50	55	
<b>Youth hunt Total Tags</b>							<b>200</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>207</b>	
<b>Grand Total Spring Bear Tags</b>							<b>9,665</b>	<b>10,462</b>	<b>9,695</b>	<b>10,627</b>	

\* Tag numbers adjusted up by each hunt's 4-yr average un-redemption rate to compensate for un-redeemed tags (max adjustment = 10%).

## Cougar Season Summaries and Recommendations

### Population Overview

The department uses a deterministic, density-dependent population model (Keister and Van Dyke 2002) to estimate annual cougar abundance in Oregon from 1987 to present at the statewide level, and 1994 to present at the zone level. Like most state-level population models for cougars, this model relies on mortality data (harvest and non-harvest) to develop estimates. The statewide population across all age classes for 2021 was estimated to be 6,987 and has been increasing slowly since 2006. As cougar zones near estimated carrying capacity, this growth will continue to remain low and/or slow with current observed mortality rates. No cougar zones reached their respective quotas (i.e. mortality caps) in 2021 (Table 8) suggesting further continued population growth when not at carrying capacity.

Table 8. Total cougar mortalities documented by Cougar Management Zone for 2015-2021.

Zone	Zone Quota	Total Mortality						
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
A Coast/N Cascades	180	117	177	157	193	160	136	161
B SW Cascades	200	98	131	140	156	111	96	124
C SE Cascades	80	25	42	43	40	23	20	12
D Columbia Basin	100	41	27	38	39	30	24	22
E Blue Mtns.	270	106	114	142	117	125	102	86
F SE Oregon	140	42	55	51	45	42	46	31
Total	970	427	546	571	591	491	424	436

Also included in the 2017 Cougar Management Plan, when the average proportion of 3+ year old female cougars in the total mortality exceeds 35% in a zone, the department considers a zone cougar population to be exceeding mortality levels. In the past decade, no cougar zone has exceeded these criteria (Table 9).

Table 9. Three-year averages of annual proportions of adult ( $\geq 3$  year old) females of known ages for all sources of mortality by cougar management zone in Oregon, 2008–2021.

Year	Zone					
	A: Coast/N. Cascades	B: SW Cascades	C: SE Cascades	D: Columbia Basin	E: Blue Mountains	F: SE Oregon
2008–2010	17.2	18.9	11.4	26.4	26.7	24.3
2009–2011	17.1	18.5	13.8	27.1	28.6	22.6
2010–2012	15.9	14.1	16.4	23.5	25.9	22.0
2011–2013	13.7	14.0	21.0	20.0	22.0	21.1
2012-2014	12.1	12.4	20.2	17.4	21.5	14.4
2013-2015	12.2	12.7	16.6	22.6	22.2	12.3
2014-2016	14.0	12.1	19.0	21.3	23.9	15.0
2015-2017	16.1	13.4	20.1	18.5	22.7	20.1
2016-2018	19.1	12.5	22.4	16.8	23.1	25.0
2017-2019	18.1	13.6	16.7	17.8	22.7	19.6
2018-2020	16.7	11.6	12.3	15.1	20.4	16.8
2019-2021	14.9	13.5	18.9	18.3	20.0	13.6

## **Target Areas**

Four Cougar Target Areas were initiated in 2016 with three (East Umpqua, Interstate, and Steens) concluding in 2018 and one in 2020 (Warner). Summary reports for this most recent round of target areas have been posted to the ODFW website (<https://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/cougar/>). No new Cougar Target Areas are underway nor being proposed at this time.

## **Trends in Harvest, Conflict, and Mortalities**

A noticeable bump in cougar tags issued was observed in 2021 with sales increasing from 66,097 in 2020 to 72,740 in 2021 (Table 10). However, hunt mortalities decreased to 254, the lowest observed since 2015 (Table 10). Cougar tags sold as part of a Sports Pac continue to comprise the majority of cougar tags issued. Table 10 provides information regarding trends in damage complaints and known cougar mortalities from 2002 through 2021. The total number of statewide damage complaints and cougars taken for human safety remained low in 2021 but cougars taken due to damage saw a small uptick in number (Table 10). All non-hunting cougar mortalities decreased to 144 in 2020.

## **2023 General Cougar Season Recommendations**

There are no proposed changes to the 2023 cougar season length (January 1-December 31) and no proposed changes to the 2023 cougar zone quotas (i.e., mortality caps).

Table 10. Trends in cougar complaints, damage, harvest, and other mortality in Oregon during 2002–2021. Complaint and mortality data current through 8/2/2022. Numbers may change as late data are added.

Year	Number of Complaints <sup>a</sup>	Tags Sold <sup>b</sup>	Mortalities					Total
			Hunter-Harvest	Damage <sup>c</sup>	Human Safety <sup>d</sup>	Administrative Removals <sup>e</sup>	Other <sup>f</sup>	
2002	765	32,126	229	111	25	0	35	400
2003	697	34,135	248	111	28	0	25	412
2004	545	34,071	265	95	28	0	35	423
2005	622	38,079	224	125	28	0	30	407
2006	451	38,719	289	106	26	0	32	453
2007	453	41,813	309	114	21	52	41	537
2008	515	43,211	272	109	23	34	54	492
2009	432	45,375	274	110	31	21	37	473
2010	465	48,776	240	99	25	79	39	482
2011	500	50,889	241	139	23	71	32	506
2012	419	53,698	253	130	46	56	45	530
2013	359	55,072	292	148	24	36	31	531
2014	404	56,114	209	124	27	0	25	385
2015	444	57,387	233	133	23	0	44	433
2016	421	58,091	268	152	18	71	37	546
2017	462	57,950	292	151	27	60	41	571
2018	669	61,030	270	175	39	68	39	591
2019	569	64,237	280	135	36	4	36	491
2020	538	66,097	274	113	15	0	26	428
2021	491	72,740	254	134	20	0	28	436

<sup>a</sup>Number of complaints received during the calendar year. Sightings not associated with damage or public safety concerns are not included.

<sup>b</sup>Includes general and additional tags (including Sports Pac licenses).

<sup>c</sup>Number of animals killed as a result of damage during a calendar year.

<sup>d</sup>Animals killed as a result of real or perceived threat to humans or pets.

<sup>e</sup>Administrative removals on cougar target areas (2007–present only).

<sup>f</sup>Includes roadkill, accidental, found dead, and illegal kill.

<sup>g</sup>Hunting season changed to calendar year.

## **Bighorn Sheep Season Summaries and Recommendations**

### **Population Overview**

California bighorn are found primarily in the high desert mountains, buttes, and uplifts of southeast Oregon and in the John Day and Deschutes River canyon systems. Except for a few herds in far southeastern Oregon most bighorn populations continue to remain relatively stable. Several California bighorn herds in southeastern Oregon continue to struggle with effects of the bacteria (*Mycoplasma ovipneumonia*, (*Movi*)) which causes pneumonia like respiratory disease. The statewide California bighorn population estimate is 4,200 – 4,500 animals.

Rocky Mountain bighorn are found primarily in northeast Oregon, populations are estimated to be 800 – 900. Latent respiratory disease health issues also persist in some herds of Rocky Mountain bighorns. ODFW continues its collaboration with the Hells Canyon Restoration Initiative (HCI) in the tri-state area of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. Through this process the department is aggressively researching the bighorn sheep disease issue and evaluating active management solutions. The HCI now supports a resident landowner outreach position focused on solutions to interactions between wild and domestic sheep in the area.

In February 2020, disease was found in the Lookout Mountain herd near Baker City. In response to this disease, the department cancelled all the tags in the two hunts occurring in this herd. In October 2020, the same strain of *Movi* causing disease in the Lookout Mountain bighorns was found in the Burnt River population of California bighorns. The department in the second year of testing animals in these populations to determine the prevalence and extent of the disease. Animals repeated testing positive for *Movi* will be removed from the population.

### **2021 Bighorn Harvest**

Oregon bighorn hunters continued to enjoy high success rates. All five Rocky Mountain bighorn tag holders harvested sheep (100%), and the special auction tag and special raffle tag holders both took Rocky Mountain bighorns. Sixty-seven California bighorn sheep rams were taken by 68 ram tag holders (99% success). Last year (2021) was the first year the department authorized hunting opportunities for ewes (females) with 5 tags each available in the John Day River and Deschutes River populations. Ewe harvest is a tool to help manage population size with less disease risk than translocation. Persons drawing bighorn tags with a ewe bag limit are not subject to the once-in-a-lifetime restriction that applies to hunters drawing controlled bighorn tags with a ram bag limit. For 2021, 70% of the 10 ewe tags were filled. Five of the 73 bighorn ram tags and 1 of the 10 bighorn ewe tags were issued to non-resident hunters for an overall nonresident allocation of 8%.

### **Bighorn Sheep Tag Recommendations**

One Rocky Mountain bighorn hunt (556) will be deleted for 2023. This hunt is part of a rotation among the states of Oregon and Washington and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

For 2023, the department is proposing 99 Bighorn Sheep tags (72 California ram, 22 California ewe, 5 Rocky Mountain ram) in 31 hunts (28 California, 3 Rocky Mountain; Table 11). Accounting for tags lost due to the cancelled hunt in Burnt River, proposals for 2023 represent an increase of 13 tags (15%) with most of the increase due to ewe tags. Five ram tags (four California, one Rocky Mountain) and two ewe tags are proposed for non-resident hunters (7.1% percent of total bighorn sheep tags proposed).

Table 11. Recommended 2023 Bighorn Sheep Hunts and Tags. Bag limit for the hunt as indicated.

2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	2022		Proposed 2023		2023 Notes & Changes
						Resident	Non-Resident	Resident	Non-Resident	
Rocky Mountain Bighorn Hunts										
	Wenaha		One bighorn sheep ram	8/15/2022 – 10/31/2022		1	0	0	0	Delete hunt for 2023 season. CTUIR Rotation.
559A1	N Snake Rvr *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	8/15/2022 – 10/31/2022	8/15/2023 – 10/31/2023	2	0	2	0	
559A2	S Snake Rvr *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	8/15/2022 – 10/31/2022	8/15/2023 – 10/31/2023	1	0	1	0	
560B	Bear Creek *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	8/15/2022 – 10/31/2022	8/15/2023 – 10/31/2023	1	1	1	1	
Rocky Mountain Bighorn Total						5	1	4	1	
California Bighorn Hunts										
543A1	John Day Rvr No. 1 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	10/15/2022 – 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 – 10/29/2023	7	0	8	0	Increasing mature ram population.
543A2	John Day Rvr No. 2 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	10/29/2022 – 11/6/2022	11/4/2023 – 11/12/2023	5	2	5	2	
543A3	John Day Rvr No. 3 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	11/12/2022 – 11/20/2022	11/18/2023 – 11/26/2023	7	0	7	0	
543B1	E Deschutes Rvr No. 1 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	9/10/2022 – 9/18/2022	9/16/2023 – 9/24/2023	2	0	3	0	Increasing mature ram population.
543B2	E Deschutes Rvr No. 2 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	10/15/2022 – 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 – 10/29/2023	2	0	2	0	
543B3	E Deschutes Rvr No. 3 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	10/29/2022 – 11/6/2022	11/4/2023 – 11/12/2023	2	0	2	0	
543C1	W Deschutes Rvr No. 1 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	9/10/2022 – 9/18/2022	9/16/2023 – 9/24/2023	3	0	4	0	Increasing mature ram population.
543C2	W Deschutes Rvr No. 2 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	10/15/2022 – 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 – 10/29/2023	3	0	3	0	
543C3	W Deschutes Rvr No. 3 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	10/29/2022 – 11/6/2022	11/4/2023 – 11/12/2023	3	0	3	0	

Table 11 continued. Recommended 2023 Bighorn Sheep Hunts and Tags. Bag limit for the hunt as indicated.

2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	2022		Proposed 2023		2023 Notes & Changes
						Resident	Non- Resident	Resident	Non- Resident	
543D1	John Day Rvr Ewe *	One Female Bighorn (Ewe)	One Female Bighorn (Ewe)	9/19/2022 – 10/14/2022	9/25/2023 – 10/20/2023	7	0	14	1	Increasing ewe harvest to manage population size.
543D2	Deschutes Rvr Ewe *	One Female Bighorn (Ewe)	One Female Bighorn (Ewe)	9/19/2022 – 10/14/2022	9/25/2023 – 10/20/2023	4	1	6	1	Increasing ewe harvest to manage population size.
546A	Aldrich *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	8/15/2022 – 10/31/2022	8/15/2023 – 10/31/2023	3	0	3	0	
546B	McClellan *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	8/15/2022 – 10/31/2022	8/15/2023 – 10/31/2023	2	0	2	0	
548	Heppner Unit (Potamus)	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	8/15/2022 – 10/31/2022	8/15/2023 – 10/31/2023	2	0	1	0	Decrease in tags due to CTUIR Rotation of harvest.
566A	Riverside *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	8/15/2022 – 9/14/2022	8/15/2023 – 9/14/2023	1	0	1	0	
568A1	Sheepshead Mtns No. 1 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	8/15/2022 – 9/14/2022	8/15/2023 – 9/14/2023	1	0	1	0	
568A2	Sheepshead Mtns No. 2 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	9/15/2022 – 10/14/2022	9/15/2023 – 10/14/2023	1	0	1	0	
568B1	E Whitehorse No. 1 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	8/15/2022 – 9/14/2022	8/15/2023 – 9/14/2023	2	0	2	0	
568B2	E Whitehorse No. 2 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	9/15/2022 – 10/14/2022	9/15/2023 – 10/14/2023	2	0	2	0	
569A1	Steens Mtn No. 1 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	8/15/2022 – 9/14/2022	8/15/2023 – 9/14/2023	3	0	3	0	
569A2	Steens Mtn No. 2 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	9/15/2022 – 10/14/2022	9/15/2023 – 10/14/2023	3	0	3	0	
569B	N Catlow Rim *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	8/15/2022 – 9/14/2022	8/15/2023 – 9/14/2023	1	0	2	0	Increasing mature ram population.
570B1	E Beatys Butte/ Alvord Peaks No. 1 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	8/15/2022 – 9/14/2022	8/15/2023 – 9/14/2023	2	0	2	0	

Table 11 continued. Recommended 2023 Bighorn Sheep Hunts and Tags. Bag limit for the hunt as indicated.

2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	2022		Proposed 2023		2023 Notes & Changes
						Resident	Non- Resident	Resident	Non- Resident	
570B2	E Beatys Butte/ Alvord Peaks No. 2 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	9/15/2022 – 10/14/2022	9/15/2023 – 10/14/2023	1	1	2	1	Increasing mature ram population.
570C	Coleman – E Guano *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	8/15/2022 – 9/14/2022	8/15/2023 – 9/14/2023	1	0	1	0	
574	Warner Unit	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	8/15/2022 – 9/14/2022	8/15/2023 – 9/14/2023	2	0	2	0	
575A1	S Central No. 1 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	8/15/2022 – 9/14/2022	8/15/2023 – 9/14/2023	1	1	1	1	
575A2	S Central No. 2 *	One bighorn sheep ram	One bighorn sheep ram	9/15/2022 – 10/14/2022	9/15/2023 – 10/14/2023	2	0	2	0	
California Bighorn Total						75	5	88	6	
Grand Total Bighorn Tags						80	6	92	7	
Non-Resident Percentage =							7.0%		7.1%	

## **Rocky Mountain Goat Season Summaries and Recommendations**

### **Population Overview**

Rocky Mountain goat populations have remained stable or increased in recent years. The total population is estimated to be ~1,200 animals, with the largest established populations found in the Wallowa and Elkhorn Mountains. One population is found in the Cascades, primarily on Mount Jefferson and Three Fingered Jack. This population was impacted by the Lionshead fire in September 2020. However, recent surveys reveal that while the distribution of goats in the population has changed post fire, the overall population size was unaffected.

### **2021 Rocky Mountain Goat Seasons**

Rocky Mountain goat hunters continue to have high success rates, and the required field orientation provided by biologists continues to be useful for helping hunters minimize harvest of female goats. In 2021, the Commission authorized 29 Rocky Mountain goat tags in 16 controlled hunts and two special tags (one auction tag and one raffle tag). Twenty-seven of 29 controlled tag holders and both special tag holders were successful for an overall success rate of 94%. Five goats scored over 50 inches Boone and Crockett green score with one exceptional goat over 54.

### **Rocky Mountain Goat Tag Recommendations**

For 2023, the department is proposing 30 Rocky Mountain goat tags in 16 hunts (Table 12). Two tags (6.7%) will be issued to non-resident hunters.

Table 12. Recommended 2023 Rocky Mountain goat hunts and tags.

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	Proposed 2023 Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	Proposed 2023 Dates	2022 Tags		2023 Tags		2023 Notes and Comments
							Resident	Non-Resident	Resident	Non-Resident	
946A	946A	Strawberry Mtn *	One Rocky Mountain Goat	One Rocky Mountain Goat	09/01/2022 – 10/31/2022	9/1/2023 – 10/31/2023	2	0	2	0	
950A1	950A1	Elkhorn No 1 *	One Rocky Mountain Goat	One Rocky Mountain Goat	08/01/2022 – 08/31/2022	8/1/2023 – 8/31/2023	3	0	3	0	
950A2	950A2	Elkhorn No 2 *	One Rocky Mountain Goat	One Rocky Mountain Goat	09/01/2022 – 09/30/2022	9/1/2023 – 9/30/2023	1	1	2	1	Increasing Population
950A3	950A3	Elkhorn No 3 *	One Rocky Mountain Goat	One Rocky Mountain Goat	10/01/2022 – 10/31/2022	10/1/2023 – 10/31/2023	3	0	3	0	
953A	953A	S Wallowa Mtn *	One Rocky Mountain Goat	One Rocky Mountain Goat	08/01/2022 – 10/31/2022	8/1/2023 – 10/31/2023	1	0	1	0	
956A	956A	N Wenaha *	One Rocky Mountain Goat	One Rocky Mountain Goat	09/01/2022 – 10/31/2022	9/1/2023 – 10/31/2023	1	0	1	0	
959A1	959A1	Hat Point No 1 *	One Rocky Mountain Goat	One Rocky Mountain Goat	09/01/2022 – 09/30/2022	9/1/2023 – 9/30/2023	1	1	1	1	
959A2	959A2	Hat Point No 2 *	One Rocky Mountain Goat	One Rocky Mountain Goat	10/01/2022 – 10/31/2022	10/1/2023 – 10/31/2023	3	0	3	0	
959B1	959B1	S Snake Rvr No 1 *	One Rocky Mountain Goat	One Rocky Mountain Goat	09/01/2022 – 09/30/2022	9/1/2023 – 9/30/2023	2	0	2	0	
959B2	959B2	S Snake Rvr No 2 *	One Rocky Mountain Goat	One Rocky Mountain Goat	10/01/2022 – 10/31/2022	10/1/2023 – 10/31/2023	2	0	2	0	
960A1	960A1	E Hurricane Cr *	One Rocky Mountain Goat	One Rocky Mountain Goat	09/01/2022 – 10/31/2022	9/1/2023 – 10/31/2023	1	0	1	0	
960A2	960A2	W Hurricane Cr *	One Rocky Mountain Goat	One Rocky Mountain Goat	09/01/2022 – 10/31/2022	9/1/2023 – 10/31/2023	1	0	1	0	
960B1	960B1	Goat Mtn No. 1 *	One Rocky Mountain Goat	One Rocky Mountain Goat	09/01/2022 – 09/30/2022	9/1/2023 – 9/30/2023	2	0	2	0	
960B2	960B2	Goat Mtn No. 2 *	One Rocky Mountain Goat	One Rocky Mountain Goat	10/01/2022 – 10/31/2022	10/1/2023 – 10/31/2023	2	0	2	0	
960C	960C	Cooper Cr *	One Rocky Mountain Goat	One Rocky Mountain Goat	09/01/2022 – 10/31/2022	9/1/2023 – 10/31/2023	1	0	1	0	
961A	961A	Imnaha Unit (Cusick Mtn) *	One Rocky Mountain Goat	One Rocky Mountain Goat	09/01/2022 – 10/31/2022	9/1/2023 – 10/31/2023	1	0	1	0	
<b>Grand Total Tags</b>							<b>27</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Non-Resident Percentage =</b>								<b>6.9%</b>		<b>6.6%</b>	

## Premium Hunt Summaries and Recommendations

In 2015, the Commission adopted three new controlled hunt series creating the “Premium Hunts”: one series for deer, one series for elk, and one series for pronghorn. Interest in Premium hunts continues to increase slightly with a total number of first choice applications of 80,401 in 2022, including 30,591 applications for deer, 31,827 for elk, and 17,983 for pronghorn. Sales rate for the 2021 Premium Hunt tags was high with only six tags which were not purchased (four elk tags, two pronghorn tag; Table 13).

Premium tag holders continue to have high success rates compared to other controlled and general season tag holders. Premium deer tag holders had 79% success, premium elk tag holders 67%, and premium pronghorn tag holders 71% success. Seventy-four percent of successful hunters with premium deer tags harvested a 4 point or larger buck and 67% of premium elk tag holders harvested a 6 point or larger bull (Table 13). All successful premium pronghorn tag holders harvested a buck.

Table 13. Hunter effort and harvest for Premium Hunts in 2021.

Species	Sold		Reports	Hunted		Total Days	Days/ Hunter	Antlerless/ Doe	Spike/ Buck*	2 Pt	3 Pt	4 Pt+	5 Pt	6 Pt+	Total Harvest
	Avail	Sold		No	Yes										
Deer	67	67	64	1	63	732	12	1	0	4	8		37		50
Elk	64	60	53	1	52	841	16	0	2	0	0	2	8	22	34
Pronghorn	27	25	23	2	21	156	7	0	14						15

\*Buck applies to pronghorn, otherwise the column represents spike deer and elk.

4 Pt+ applies to deer with 4 or more points on one antler

6 Pt+ applies to elk with 6 or more points on one antler

There are 67 Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) in Oregon, 20 in western Oregon, and 47 east of the crest of the Cascade Mountain Range. Most of the Premium Hunts are for a single WMU, a few are for two adjacent WMUs. For 2023, one Premium Deer Tag is proposed for each of the 67 WMUs. Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge will be open for the Beatys Butte (L70) and Juniper (L71) premium deer tags for the Refuge portions within the respective units. One Premium Elk Tag is proposed for each WMU except for three hunt areas that include two WMUs, the Owyhee/Whitehorse hunt area, Steens Mtn/Beatys Butte hunt area, and Juniper/Wagontire hunt area, resulting in 64 elk tags. There are 27 Premium Pronghorn Tags proposed (Table 14), one tag fewer than 2021 as a result of a staff proposal to replace the East Beatys Butte and West Beatys Butte hunts with a single tag Beatys Butte hunt covering the entire unit. In total there are 158 premium tags proposed; deer (67 tags), elk (64 tags), and pronghorn (27 tags).

Table 14. Hunt number, hunt area, bag limit and number of tags for the 2023 Controlled Premium Hunts. Season dates for all premium hunts is Aug. 1, 2023 – Nov. 30, 2023.

<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Unit</b>	<b>2023 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Tags</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
<b>Premium Deer Hunts</b>				
L10	Saddle Mtn	One deer	1	
L11	Scappoose	One deer	1	
L12	Wilson	One deer	1	
L14	Trask	One deer	1	
L15	Willamette	One deer	1	
L16	Santiam	One deer	1	
L17	Stott Mtn	One deer	1	
L18	Alsea	One deer	1	
L19	McKenzie	One deer	1	
L20	Siuslaw	One deer	1	
L21	Indigo	One deer	1	
L22	Dixon	One deer	1	
L23	Melrose	One deer	1	
L24	Tioga	One deer	1	
L25	Sixes	One deer	1	
L26	Powers	One deer	1	
L27	Chetco	One deer	1	
L28	Applegate	One deer	1	
L29	Evans Creek	One deer	1	
L30	Rogue	One deer	1	
L31	Keno	One deer	1	
L32	Klamath Falls	One deer	1	
L33	Sprague	One deer	1	
L34	Upper Deschutes	One deer	1	
L35	Paulina	One deer	1	
L36	Maury	One deer	1	
L37	Ochoco	One deer	1	
L38	Grizzly	One deer	1	
L39	Metolius	One deer	1	
L40	Maupin	One deer	1	
L41	White River	One deer	1	
L42	Hood	One deer	1	

Table 14 Continued. Hunt number, hunt area, bag limit and number of tags for the 2023 Controlled Premium Hunts. Season dates for all premium hunts is Aug. 1, 2023 – Nov. 30, 2023.

<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Unit</b>	<b>2023 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Tags</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
L43	Biggs	One deer	1	
L44	Columbia Basin	One deer	1	
L45	Fossil	One deer	1	
L46	Murderers Creek	One deer	1	
L47	Northside	One deer	1	
L48	Heppner	One deer	1	
L49	Ukiah	One deer	1	
L50	Desolation	One deer	1	
L51	Sumpter	One deer	1	
L52	Starkey	One deer	1	
L53	Catherine Creek	One deer	1	
L54	Mt Emily	One deer	1	
L55	Walla Walla	One deer	1	
L56	Wenaha	One deer	1	
L57	Sled Springs	One deer	1	
L58	Chesninnus	One deer	1	
L59	Snake River	One deer	1	
L60	Minam	One deer	1	
L61	Imnaha	One deer	1	
L62	Pine Creek	One deer	1	
L63	Keating	One deer	1	
L64	Lookout Mtn	One deer	1	
L65	Beulah	One deer	1	
L66	Malheur River	One deer	1	
L67	Owyhee	One deer	1	
L68	Whitehorse	One deer	1	
L69	Steens Mt	One deer	1	
L70	Beatys Butte	One deer	1	
L71	Juniper	One deer	1	
L72	Silvies	One deer	1	
L73	Wagontire	One deer	1	
L74	Warner	One deer	1	
L75	Interstate	One deer	1	
L76	Silver Lake	One deer	1	
L77	Fort Rock	One deer	1	
<b>Premium Deer</b>			<b>67</b>	

Table 14 Continued. Hunt number, hunt area, bag limit and number of tags for the 2023 Controlled Premium Hunts. Season dates for all premium hunts is Aug. 1, 2023 – Nov. 30, 2023.

<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Unit</b>	<b>2023 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Tags</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
<b>Premium Elk Hunts</b>				
M10	Saddle Mtn	One elk	1	
M11	Scappoose	One elk	1	
M12	Wilson	One elk	1	
M14	Trask	One elk	1	
M15	Willamette	One elk	1	
M16	Santiam	One elk	1	
M17	Stott Mt	One elk	1	
M18	Alsea	One elk	1	
M19	McKenzie	One elk	1	
M20	Siuslaw	One elk	1	
M21	Indigo	One elk	1	
M22	Dixon	One elk	1	
M23	Melrose	One elk	1	
M24	Tioga	One elk	1	
M25	Sixes	One elk	1	
M26	Powers	One elk	1	
M27	Chetco	One elk	1	
M28	Applegate	One elk	1	
M29	Evans Creek	One elk	1	
M30	Rogue	One elk	1	
M31	Keno	One elk	1	
M32	Klamath Falls	One elk	1	
M33	Sprague	One elk	1	
M34	Upper Deschutes	One elk	1	
M35	Paulina	One elk	1	
M36	Maury	One elk	1	
M37	Ochoco	One elk	1	
M38	Grizzly	One elk	1	
M39	Metolius	One elk	1	
M40	Maupin	One elk	1	
M41	White River	One elk	1	
M42	Hood	One elk	1	
M43	Biggs	One elk	1	
M44	Columbia Basin	One elk	1	

Table 14 Continued. Hunt number, hunt area, bag limit and number of tags for the 2023 Controlled Premium Hunts. Season dates for all premium hunts is Aug. 1, 2023 – Nov. 30, 2023.

<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Unit</b>	<b>2023 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Tags</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
M45	Fossil	One elk	1	
M46	Murderers Creek	One elk	1	
M47	Northside	One elk	1	
M48	Heppner	One elk	1	
M49	Ukiah	One elk	1	
M50	Desolation	One elk	1	
M51	Sumpter	One elk	1	
M52	Starkey	One elk	1	
M53	Catherine Creek	One elk	1	
M54	Mt Emily	One elk	1	
M55	Walla Walla	One elk	1	
M56	Wenaha	One elk	1	
M57	Sled Springs	One elk	1	
M58	Chesnimnus	One elk	1	
M59	Snake River	One elk	1	
M60	Minam	One elk	1	
M61	Imnaha	One elk	1	
M62	Pine Creek	One elk	1	
M63	Keating	One elk	1	
M64	Lookout Mtn	One elk	1	
M65	Beulah	One elk	1	
M66	Malheur River	One elk	1	
M67	Owyhee/Whitehorse	One elk	1	
M69	Steens Mt/B Butte	One elk	1	
M71	Juniper/Wagontire	One elk	1	
M72	Silvies	One elk	1	
M74	Warner	One elk	1	
M75	Interstate	One elk	1	
M76	Silver Lake	One elk	1	
M77	Fort Rock	One elk	1	
<b>Premium Elk</b>			<b>64</b>	

Table 14 Continued. Hunt number, hunt area, bag limit and number of tags for the 2023 Controlled Premium Hunts. Season dates for all premium hunts is Aug. 1, 2023 – Nov. 30, 2023.

<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Unit</b>	<b>2023 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Tags</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
<b>Premium Pronghorn Hunts</b>				
N32	Klamath Falls	One pronghorn	1	
N33	Sprague	One pronghorn	1	
N35	Paulina	One pronghorn	1	
N36	Maury	One pronghorn	1	
N37	Ochoco	One pronghorn	1	
N38	Grizzly	One pronghorn	1	
N40	Maupin/Biggs	One pronghorn	1	
N44	Columbia Basin	One pronghorn	1	
N45	Fossil/Heppner	One pronghorn	1	
N46	Murderers Creek	One pronghorn	1	
N47	Northside	One pronghorn	1	
N51	Sumpter	One pronghorn	1	
N63	Keating	One pronghorn	1	
N64	Lookout Mtn	One pronghorn	1	
N65	Beulah	One pronghorn	1	
N66	Malheur River	One pronghorn	1	
N67	Owyhee	One pronghorn	1	
N68	Whitehorse	One pronghorn	1	
N69	Steens Mtn	One pronghorn	1	
N70A	E Beatys Butte			Deleting hunt for the 2023 season.
N70B	W Beatys Butte			Deleting hunt for the 2023 season.
N70	Beatys Butte	One pronghorn	1	New hunt in the 2023 season.
N71	Juniper	One pronghorn	1	
N72	Silvies	One pronghorn	1	
N73	Wagontire	One pronghorn	1	
N74	Warner	One pronghorn	1	
N75	Interstate	One pronghorn	1	
N77	Fort Rock/Silver Lake	One pronghorn	1	
<b>Premium Pronghorn Total</b>			<b>27</b>	
<b>Grand Total Premium Tags</b>			<b>158</b>	

## **Pronghorn Season Summaries and Recommendations**

### **Pronghorn Population Overview**

Pronghorn are very sensitive to environmental conditions and population trends reflect variable summer and winter conditions across the landscape during the last year. Populations in Baker, Malheur and northern Harney counties continue their slow recovery from winter 2016– 2017. The persistent extreme drought conditions in southeastern and portions of central Oregon are also resulting in some changes to pronghorn distributions as the animals adjust to changing water and forage conditions on the landscape. Currently pronghorn populations are estimated to be 16,000 to 19,000 remaining relatively stable for the past three years.

### **2021 Pronghorn Harvest**

Mandatory harvest survey data indicate that in general, pronghorn hunters continue to enjoy good success. Any Legal Weapon hunters (1,184) harvested 871 pronghorn (74% success), muzzleloader hunters (45) took 26 animals (57% success), and archery hunters (275) took 92 (33% success). Youth hunters had the highest success rates of all hunters with 24 hunters taking 21 pronghorn (88% success).

### **Pronghorn Tag Recommendations**

A number of season changes are proposed for the 2022 pronghorn hunts in the Beatys Butte WMU. All respective East and West Beatys Butte any legal weapon hunts are being deleted and are being replaced with two Beatys Butte unit-wide hunts. The West Beatys Butte Archery hunt is being deleted and replaced with a unit-wide Beatys Butte archery hunt. The East Bettys Butte muzzleloader hunt also is proposed for deletion. This muzzleloader hunting opportunity is being replaced by a new hunt in the Steens Mountain WMU. These season changes are in response to consistent changes in animal distribution, likely in response to persistent drought.

The department is proposing 2,017 tags in 54 hunts for 2023, an increase of 4 tags from 2022 tag numbers (Table 15). The slight change in tag numbers is due to changes in average tag redemption rates.

<b>Table 15. Recommended 2023 pronghorn hunts and tags.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
<b>Any Weapon Hunts</b>											
435	435	Paulina Unit	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	15	16	15	17	
436	436	Maury Unit	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	25	27	25	28	
437	437	Ochoco Unit	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/26/2023 - 09/03/2023	80	84	75	83	Date change to align with expanded TMA closure.
438	438	Grizzly Unit	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	8	9	6	7	Private land access issue with low hunter success. Population estimates are low.
440A1	440A1	Columbia Plateau No. 1	One doe or fawn pronghorn	One doe or fawn pronghorn	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	50	55	50	55	
440A2	440A2	Columbia Plateau No. 2	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	25	25	25	25	
445A	445A	Fossil Unit No. 1	One doe or fawn pronghorn	One doe or fawn pronghorn	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	25	28	25	28	
445B	445B	Fossil Unit No. 2	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	10	11	10	11	
446	446	Murderers Cr Unit	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	50	54	50	54	
447	447	Northside - Ritter	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	7	7	7	7	
451	451	Sumpster Unit	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	5	5	5	5	
462	462	Pine Cr - Keating	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	5	5	5	5	
464	464	Lookout Mtn Unit	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	7	8	7	7	
465	465	Beulah Unit	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/20/2022 - 09/04/2022	08/26/2023 - 09/10/2023	10	11	10	11	

<b>Table 15 Continued. Recommended 2023 pronghorn hunts and tags.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
466A1	466A1	Malheur Rvr Unit No. 1	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	70	75	70	77	
466A2	466A2	Malheur Rvr Unit No. 2	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/24/2022 - 09/01/2022	08/30/2023 - 09/07/2023	70	75	70	77	
466B	466B	Harney Basin	One doe or fawn pronghorn	One doe or fawn pronghorn	09/03/2022 - 09/18/2022	09/09/2023 - 09/24/2023	30	33	30	33	
467	467	Owyhee Unit	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	50	54	50	55	
468	468	Whitehorse Unit	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/20/2022 - 09/04/2022	08/26/2023 - 09/10/2023	120	131	120	132	
469A	469A	Steens Mtn	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	100	106	80	86	Reduction to accommodate new Muzzleloader hunt
470A		E Beatys Butte	One buck pronghorn		08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	-	35	37	0	0	Deleting hunt for the 2023 season. Combining E & W Beatys Butte hunt.
470B1		W Beatys Butte No. 1	One buck pronghorn		08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	-	40	42	0	0	Deleting hunt for the 2023 season. Combining E & W Beatys Butte hunt.
470B2		W Beatys Butte No. 2	One buck pronghorn		08/24/2022 - 09/01/2022	-	40	42	0	0	Deleting hunt for the 2023 season. Combining E & W Beatys Butte hunt.
	470A	Beatys Butte No. 1		One buck pronghorn	-	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023			70	77	New hunt in the 2023 season.
	470B	Beatys Butte No. 2		One buck pronghorn	-	08/30/2023 - 09/07/2023			70	77	New hunt in the 2023 season.
470C	470C	Hart Mtn	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	09/10/2022 - 09/16/2022	09/16/2023 - 09/22/2023	40	41	40	42	
471A	471A	Juniper	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/20/2022 - 09/04/2022	08/26/2023 - 09/10/2023	60	63	60	62	
472A1	472A1	Silvies Unit No. 1	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	40	42	40	44	
472A2	472A2	Silvies Unit No. 2	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/24/2022 - 09/01/2022	08/30/2023 - 09/07/2023	40	42	40	44	

<b>Table 15 Continued. Recommended 2023 pronghorn hunts and tags.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
472B	472B	Riley	One doe or fawn pronghorn	One doe or fawn pronghorn	09/03/2022 - 09/18/2022	09/09/2023 - 09/24/2023	25	27	25	28	
473A	473A	N Wagontire	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	35	36	35	38	
473B	473B	S Wagontire	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	15	15	15	15	
474A	474A	Warner Unit No. 1	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	60	62	50	51	Buck ratios are low. Existing animals are concentrated around limited water, causing issues.
474B	474B	Warner Unit No. 2	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/24/2022 - 09/01/2022	08/30/2023 - 09/07/2023	60	62	50	53	Buck ratios are low. Existing animals are concentrated around limited water, causing issues.
475A	475A	E Interstate	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	25	26	25	28	
476A	476A	Fort Rock - Silver Lake	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	40	44	40	44	
<b>Total Any Legal Weapon Tags</b>							<b>1,317</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>1,295</b>	<b>1,406</b>	

<b>Table 15 Continued. Recommended 2023 pronghorn hunts and tags.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
<b>Bow Hunts</b>											
435R	435R	Paulina Unit Bow	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/27/2022 - 09/04/2022	09/02/2023 - 09/10/2023	5	6	5	6	
436R	436R	Maury Unit Bow	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/27/2022 - 09/04/2022	09/02/2023 - 09/10/2023	25	28	20	22	Low hunter success rate. Hunter satisfaction issue.
464R	464R	Lookout Mtn Unit Bow	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	09/03/2022 - 09/11/2022	09/09/2023 - 09/17/2023	10	11	10	11	
466R	466R	Malheur Rvr Unit Bow	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	09/03/2022 - 09/11/2022	09/09/2023 - 09/17/2023	50	55	50	55	
467R	467R	Owyhee Unit Bow	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/27/2022 - 09/04/2022	09/02/2023 - 09/10/2023	40	44	40	44	
470R1	470R1	Hart Mtn Bow	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/04/2022 - 08/12/2022	08/10/2023 - 08/18/2023	20	21	20	22	
470R2		W Beatys Butte Bow	One pronghorn either sex		09/02/2022 - 09/09/2022	-	35	38	0	0	Deleting hunt for the 2023 season. Combining E & W Beatys Butte hunt.
	470R	Beatys Butte Bow		One buck pronghorn	-	09/18/2023 - 09/27/2023			35	39	New hunt in the 2023 season.
473R	473R	Wagontire Bow	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/27/2022 - 09/04/2022	09/02/2023 - 09/10/2023	5	6	5	6	
474R	474R	Warner Unit Bow	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/04/2022 - 08/12/2022	08/10/2023 - 08/18/2023	45	49	35	38	Buck ratios are low. Existing animals are concentrated around limited water, causing issues.
475R1	475R1	E Interstate Bow	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	09/03/2022 - 09/11/2022	09/09/2023 - 09/17/2023	50	55	50	55	
475R2	475R2	Gerber Reservoir Bow	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/06/2022 - 08/14/2022	08/12/2023 - 08/20/2023	125	138	125	138	
477R	477R	E Slope Bow	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	50	55	50	55	
<b>Total Archery Tags</b>							<b>410</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>436</b>	

<b>Table 15 Continued. Recommended 2023 pronghorn hunts and tags.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
<b>Muzzleloader Hunts</b>											
435M	435M	Paulina Unit Muzzleloader	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/27/2022 - 09/04/2022	09/02/2023 - 09/10/2023	5	6	5	6	
	469M	Steens Mtn Muzzleloader		One buck pronghorn	-	08/30/2023 - 09/07/2023			30	33	New hunt in the 2023 season.
470M		E Beatys Butte Muzzleloader	One buck pronghorn		08/24/2022 - 09/01/2022	-	20	22	0	0	Deleting hunt for the 2023 season. Combining E & W Beatys Butte hunt.
473M	473M	Wagontire Unit Muzzleloader	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/27/2022 - 09/04/2022	09/02/2023 - 09/10/2023	10	11	10	11	
475M	475M	Gerber Reservoir Muzzleloader	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	09/03/2022 - 09/11/2022	09/09/2023 - 09/17/2023	40	44	40	44	
476M	476M	Fort Rock - Silver Lake Muzzleloader	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	09/03/2022 - 09/11/2022	09/09/2023 - 09/17/2023	40	44	40	44	
<b>Total Muzzleloader Tags</b>							<b>115</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>138</b>	

<b>Table 15 Continued. Recommended 2023 pronghorn hunts and tags.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
<b>Youth Hunts</b>											
432T	432T	Swan Lake Youth	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	3	3	3	3	
453T	453T	Catherine Cr Unit Youth	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	07/31/2022 - 08/30/2022	08/01/2023 - 08/31/2023	3	3	3	3	
470T	470T	Hart Mtn Youth	One buck pronghorn	One buck pronghorn	08/13/2022 - 08/21/2022	08/19/2023 - 08/27/2023	3	3	3	3	
475T	475T	Gerber Reservoir Youth	One pronghorn either sex	One pronghorn either sex	08/20/2022 - 08/28/2022	08/26/2023 - 09/03/2023	25	26	25	28	
<b>Total Youth Tags</b>							<b>34</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>37</b>	
<b>Grand Total Pronghorn Tags</b>							<b>1,876</b>	<b>2,013</b>	<b>1,899</b>	<b>2,017</b>	

\* Tag numbers adjusted up by each hunt's 4-yr average un-redemption rate to compensate for un-redeemed tags (max adjustment = 10%).

## **Deer Season Summaries and Recommendations**

### **Population Overview**

The total estimated population for mule deer in Oregon showed only a slight decline (-0.2%) for 2022 to an estimated 160,000 – 165,000. When looking at populations at the WMU level, however, population trends vary across the landscape. Of the 49 WMU or portions of WMUs where populations are delineated, 23 showed declining populations, 19 showed increasing populations, and 7 showed very little change in population size. Relative to current population management objective (MO), mule deer are below MO in all WMUs except for West Biggs.

Western Oregon black-tailed deer populations are historically monitored utilizing spotlight surveys and hunter harvest data. Recent data analyses by the West Region Wildlife Research team using radio-marked adult doe black-tailed deer indicates survival rates have increased compared to the 1990's. Current adult doe annual survival estimates range between 71% and 84% including deer from both the Coast and Cascade Ranges. Data from radio-collared newborn fawns suggest early fawn survival is within reported ranges for deer. Mortality is high for the first 40-45 days but tends to stabilize at about 100 days. Additional data provided using genetic sampling suggests deer densities averages 6 deer/km<sup>2</sup> for all sampled WMUs combined, ranging from a low of 3.6 deer/km<sup>2</sup> to a high of 9.2 deer/km<sup>2</sup>. Genetic sampling also provides the opportunity to more rigorously estimate the number of bucks in a population. Genetic results have found observed male:female ratios >60 males:100 females compared to the typical 20-25 bucks:100 females observed with spotlight surveys. When these new data (densities, adult and juvenile survival, buck ratios) are used as input parameters for in newer, more rigorous, population models, results suggest western Oregon black-tailed deer populations may no longer be in decline and optimistically are increasing in some WMUs.

### **Mule Deer Movements & Survival Monitoring**

Since winter 2014–2015 the department has monitored 1,576 adult mule deer and 423 mule deer fawns with GPS collars throughout eastern Oregon to delineate herd range boundaries and monitor annual and overwinter survival. Analysis indicates eastern Oregon contains 22 primary herd ranges that encompass the area used by deer on an annual cycle. There is some limited movement across these herd range population boundaries although some herd ranges include localized herds that do not migrate very long distances.

Survival varies dramatically across Oregon's landscape and through time. Generally speaking this variation reflects variation in late winter-early spring moisture patterns and prevailing summer drought patterns and temperatures. These subsequently affect forage growth and nutrition availability, fawn production, and deer survival. Typically, 80% annual adult survival is needed to maintain a deer population. Average annual adult survival increased from 81% in the 2020-2021 biological year to 86% during the 2021–2022 biological year, ranging from 80% to 91% in areas with a sufficient number of collared animals. Average over-winter fawn survival also increased, from 56% during winter 2020-2021 to 72% during winter 2021-2022. However, as a result of last summer's early extreme temperatures and persistent drought over much of the mule deer range, relatively fewer fawns went into winter. Thus, annual recruitment was still less than desired.

### **Mule Deer Management Plan Update**

The department of Fish and Wildlife initiated the process of updating the 2003 Mule Deer Management Plan. Topics of consideration were solicited from department staff in February 2022

and from Sports Group Leaders in March 2022. Based on the feedback we received, a draft table of contents was compiled in June. The table of contents is divided into 5 main sections including: 1) Introduction/Background, 2) Oregon Mule Deer History, 3) Mule Deer Biology and Ecology, 4) Mule Deer Management Concepts and Issues, and 5) Economic and Social Values. The department will be sharing updates on this process via the department webpage and soliciting further public input as this plan is developed.

Since the development of the previous Mule Deer Management Plan, the department has conducted several projects that provided new and important information about mule deer populations, habitat, and movements. Wildlife management units (WMU) were historically used as the geographic unit for mule deer population monitoring and management. Recent data from mule deer fitted with GPS radio collars from across their range in Oregon provides a more informed understanding of how populations are distributed on summer and winter ranges, and how they migrate between those ranges. Considering this new information, the updated Plan will introduce more biologically meaningful herd ranges for mule deer.

Most herd ranges are comprised of multiple WMUs in order to include the summer range, winter range, and migratory routes for mule deer populations. Delineation of herd ranges such that data collected for population vital rates in winter and hunter harvest reports from summer-autumn apply to the same populations is critical for developing appropriate management recommendations. The WMU will remain the primary unit for allocating mule deer hunting effort and monitoring the associated harvest.

### **Mule Deer Limited Landowner Preference Tags**

In 2013, House Bill 2027A authorized the Commission to limit Landowner Preference (LOP) tags for mule deer buck hunting in WMUs where the mule deer population is below the Management Objective (MO). Beginning in 2015, LOP tags for mule deer buck hunts (100 Series) in WMUs with estimated populations below 100% of the population MO were limited to five tags or 10% of the total controlled hunt tags authorized for each hunt, whichever is greater. In March 2017, the Commission adopted revised formulas with the total number of LOP tags available in a hunt based on how close the population is to the MO. For the 2022 LOP Mule Deer drawing that occurred in June 2022, four WMUs dropped to a lower tier reducing the percentage of deer tags available for the LOP drawing, and four WMUs raised to a higher tier increasing the number of tags available in the drawing.

Districts Wildlife Biologists are working on finalizing mule deer population estimates for 2022. When the population estimates are finalized, the number of LOP Mule Deer Tags available for each hunt in 2023 will be determined and the information will be made available to landowners and the public. Registered landowners will also receive tag number information in the packet of LOP materials sent out by Licensing staff during February of each year. Final LOP Mule Deer tag numbers will be adopted by Temporary Rule prior to the May 2023 controlled hunt draw.

### **Damage Tag Exchanges, Emergency Hunts and Harvest**

The Department has several options available to assist landowners that may be experiencing damage to agricultural crops caused by deer. Use of hunting to remove animals and re-distribute animals is among those options. Landowners can exchange controlled tags and LOP tags for use on their property. In extreme cases an emergency hunting season can be established allowing the landowner to use other hunters to assist with damage abatement caused by deer on their property.

Relatively few agricultural conflicts have occurred in recent years specifically due to deer (Table 16). Number of tag exchanges in the last three years has declined from 85 in 2019-2020 to 53 in 2021-2022. Only one emergency hunt was conducted during 2020-2021 with 5 tags issued. Associated harvest to reduce conflict also has declined in recent years; from 49 in 2019-2020 to 27 in 2021-2022.

Table 16. Number of deer tags and harvest issued to address conflict in Oregon during the August 1 to March 31 seasons.

Area	2019 - 2020			2020 - 2021			2021 - 2022		
	Exchange Tags	Emergency Hunt	Harvest	Exchange Tags	Emergency Hunt	Harvest	Exchange Tags	Emergency Hunt	Harvest
NW Oregon	24	0	9	21	0	10	38	0	17
SW Oregon	6	0	3	10	0	4	0	0	0
North Central	32	0	29	27	0	25	15	0	10
Central	7	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
South Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NE Oregon	12	0	3	11	5	6	0	0	0
SE Oregon	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>

## 2021 Deer Season Harvest

The 2021 hunting seasons represent the first year where eastern Oregon archery mule deer hunting transitioned from a general season to 100% controlled hunting. Western Oregon remained a general archery season for black-tailed deer. During this transition, eastern Oregon controlled bow tags also became the only opportunity for those hunters drawing those tags, meaning archery deer hunters needed to choose between hunting in a controlled hunt or during the western Oregon general season. Despite public outreach, it was expected these changes would catch some archery deer hunters unaware during the first year. The department is committed to monitoring the effects of these changes over the next few years as hunters continue to adjust to this change. The total number of general season and controlled bow deer tags purchased declined from 32,615 in 2020 to 24,079 in 2021.

In eastern Oregon, bow hunter numbers declined 46% from 14,795 in 2020 to 8,041 in 2021. Associated harvest in eastern Oregon declined 29% from 2,614 in 2020 to 1,859 in 2021. However, those hunters participating in eastern Oregon controlled bow hunts experienced an increase in hunter success rate in 2021 (23%), up from an 18% hunter success rate in 2020 when eastern Oregon bow deer hunting was primarily a general season. The observed declines in participation during this first year of transition is likely due to the need for hunters to make a choice on where they desire to primarily hunt interacting with the loss of ability to move between eastern and western Oregon. Hunters drawing a controlled hunt in eastern Oregon tag could not hunt western Oregon general season and vice versa. Most controlled bow deer hunts were undersubscribed in 2021 with 36 hunts having leftover tags available for purchase beginning July

1. Of those hunts, 17 sold out of tags and 19 hunts still had leftover tags remaining at the start of the archery season.

Based on mandatory harvest survey results, the number of general early season bow hunters in western Oregon decreased 20% from 6,664 in 2020 to 5,355 in 2021 with a corresponding 18% decrease in harvest from 765 deer in 2020 to 625 deer in 2021. General western Oregon early season bow hunter success slightly increased from 11% in 2020 to 12% in 2021. General late season bow hunters declined 21% from 8,115 in 2020 to 6,391 in 2021 with a 27% decline in harvest from 1,803 in 2020 to 1,318 in 2021.

Based on mandatory harvest survey results, Western General Season black-tailed deer ALW hunter participation increased 6% to 66,978 hunters in 2021 (63,131 in 2020), with a 5% increase in harvest to 20,354 deer in 2021 (30% success). Spike bucks, included in the Western General Season bag limit beginning with the 2020 season, accounted for 12% (2,418 spikes, down 1% from 2020) of the total buck harvest in the general ALW season.

The number of controlled ALW and muzzleloader deer hunters decreased 6% from 43,615 in 2020 to 41,152 in 2021. Corresponding harvest increased 2% from 15,378 in 2020 to 15,626 animals for an overall controlled deer hunting success rate of 32%.

### **General Deer Season Summaries and Recommendations**

As was noted earlier most seasons will be moving six days later in the calendar. This includes all the general bow seasons and the Western General ALW deer season. One general season hunt area change is proposed for 2023. Staff proposes adding the Powers unit to the Staff proposes adding the Powers unit to the late deer season component (Nov. 18 – Dec. 10) of the General Archery Season in southwestern Oregon. Weapons will be restricted to traditional archery equipment only during the late season and bag limit will be one buck black-tailed deer.

### **Controlled Buck and Antlerless Deer Tag Recommendations**

A number of changes are proposed for the 100 series controlled buck hunts. The department proposes deleting the Starkey Experimental Forest controlled buck deer hunt (152B). One new early August controlled archery buck deer hunt is proposed that includes the Dixon, Applegate, Evans Creek, and Rogue units. Hunters drawing this tag would not be able to participate in the western Oregon General Archery season. One new youth buck hunt in Mt. Emily and two new controlled any legal weapon late season buck deer hunts in western Oregon also are proposed for 2023. Season dates for most other controlled buck hunts will shift six days later. In total, department proposals represent a 1% increase in 100 series controlled buck deer tags to 61,386 for 2023 (Table 17).

No hunt structure changes are proposed for the 600 series controlled antlerless deer hunts except for a six day shift in season dates later in the calendar. Overall, the department is proposing a 7% increase in controlled antlerless deer tags for 2023 (Table 18). This increase is taking advantage of increases in black-tailed deer populations in northwestern Oregon.

**Table 17. Recommended 2023 buck deer hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
<b>Any Weapon Hunts</b>											
	112	Wilson Unit		One buck with visible antler	-	11/04/2023 - 11/30/2023			15	17	New hunt in the 2023 season.
119A	119A	W High Cascade	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	09/10/2022 - 09/18/2022	09/16/2023 - 09/24/2023	3,000	3,300	3,000	3300	
	122	Dixon Unit		One buck with visible antler	-	11/18/2023 - 12/10/2023			15	17	New hunt in the 2023 season.
123A	123A	Umpqua	One white-tailed or black-tailed buck with visible antler	One white-tailed or black-tailed buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	20	22	20	22	
123B	123B	N Bank Habitat	One white-tailed buck with visible antler or one black-tailed deer	One white-tailed buck with visible antler or one black-tailed deer	12/24/2022 - 12/30/2022	12/30/2023 - 01/05/2024	3	3	3	3	
131	131	Keno Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	750	825	750	825	
132	132	Klamath Falls Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	750	810	750	825	
133	133	Sprague Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	450	495	450	495	
134	134	Upper Deschutes Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	1,800	1,980	1,800	1980	
135	135	Paulina Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	900	990	900	990	
136	136	Maury Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	300	327	250	275	Buck ratios below management objective. Fawn ratios and population estimates are low.
137	137	Ochoco Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	2,050	2,255	2,050	2255	
138	138	Grizzly Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	800	856	700	770	Buck ratios below management objective. Fawn ratios and population estimates are low.

**Table 17 Continued. Recommended 2023 buck deer hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
139	139	Metolius Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	220	220	220	220	
140	140	Maupin Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	400	440	400	440	
141A	141A	Hood-White River	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	09/10/2022 - 09/18/2022	09/16/2023 - 09/24/2023	75	83	75	83	
141B	141B	White River Unit No. 1	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	1,100	1,210	1,100	1210	
141C	141C	White River Unit No. 2	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	11/12/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/18/2023 - 12/03/2023	10	10	10	10	
142A	142A	Hood Unit No. 1	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	450	495	450	495	
142B	142B	Hood Unit No. 2	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	11/12/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/18/2023 - 12/03/2023	10	10	10	10	
143A	143A	E Biggs	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	700	770	700	770	
143B	143B	W Biggs	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	700	763	700	770	
143C	143C	John Day Canyon	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	20	20	10	11	Low hunter satisfaction. Limited access to public land.
144	144	Columbia Basin Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	1,800	1,980	1,800	1980	
145	145	Fossil Unit No. 1	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	1,600	1,760	1,600	1760	
145A	145A	Fossil Unit No. 2	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	10	10	10	10	
146	146	Murderers Cr Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	800	880	800	880	
147	147	Northside Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	800	880	800	880	
148	148	Hepppner Unit No. 1	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	2,610	2,610	2,600	2860	
148A	148A	Hepppner Unit No. 2	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	10	10	10	10	
149	149	Ukiah Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	1,350	1,485	1,350	1485	
150	150	Desolation Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	700	770	700	770	

**Table 17 Continued. Recommended 2023 buck deer hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
151	151	Sumpter Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	750	825	750	825	
152A	152A	Starkey	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	350	385	350	385	
152B	152B	Starkey Exp Forest	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	Deleted in 2023 -	0	0	0	0	Delete hunt for 2023 season. Low population, manage for study objectives.
153	153	Catherine Cr Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	260	276	300	330	Buck and fawn ratios good.
154A	154A	E Mt Emily	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	100	109	100	110	
154B	154B	W Mt Emily	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	350	385	350	385	
154C	154C	Mt Emily	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	11/12/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/18/2023 - 12/03/2023	10	10	10	10	
155	155	Walla Walla Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	200	218	225	248	Buck ratios above management objective.
156	156	Wenaha Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	350	385	290	319	Decline in population estimates. Below buck ratios management objective.
157	157	Sled Springs Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	1,500	1,650	1,500	1650	
157A	157A	Lower Wallowa Valley	One white-tailed deer	One white-tailed deer	11/14/2022 - 11/23/2022	11/20/2023 - 11/29/2023	50	55	50	55	
158	158	Chesninnus Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	400	440	400	440	
159	159	Snake Rvr Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	300	330	300	330	
160	160	Minam Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	450	495	450	495	
161	161	Imnaha Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	750	825	750	825	
162	162	Pine Cr Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	175	193	175	193	
163	163	Keating Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	300	330	300	330	

**Table 17 Continued. Recommended 2023 buck deer hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
164	164	Lookout Mtn Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	200	214	200	218	
165	165	Beulah Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	1,100	1,210	1,200	1320	Buck ratios is above management objective.
166	166	Malheur Rvr Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	950	1,045	1,000	1100	Buck ratios is above management objective.
167	167	Owyhee Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	250	270	275	303	Buck ratios is above management objective.
167A	167A	NE Owyhee	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	80	88	80	88	
168A	168A	Trout Cr Mtns	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	50	53	55	61	Buck ratios is above management objective.
168B	168B	E Whitehorse	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	225	248	225	248	
169A	169A	Steens Mtn Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	250	258	265	292	Buck ratios is above management objective. Stable population and hunter success.
170A	170A	Beatys Butte	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	125	138	125	138	
171A	171A	N Juniper	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	100	110	100	110	
171B	171B	S Juniper	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	75	83	75	83	
172	172	Silvies Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	700	749	750	825	Buck ratios is above management objective.
173	173	Wagontire Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	130	138	130	143	
174A	174A	N Warner	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	35	35	35	35	
174B	174B	S Warner	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	160	176	160	176	
175	175	Interstate Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	850	850	850	935	Emergency tag reduction in 2022 due to wildfire impacts.

**Table 17 Continued. Recommended 2023 buck deer hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
176	176	Silver Lake Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	1,400	1,540	1,200	1320	Buck ratios below management objective. Fawn ratios and population estimates are low. Wildfire impacts also to be considered.
177	177	Fort Rock Unit	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	1,700	1,870	1,700	1870	
							<b>38,863</b>	<b>42,255</b>	<b>38,773</b>	<b>42,623</b>	
<b>Bow Hunts</b>											
123R1	123R1	Umpqua Bow	One white-tailed buck with visible antler or one black-tailed deer	One white-tailed buck with visible antler or one black-tailed deer	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	50	55	50	55	
123R2	123R2	N Bank Habitat Bow	One white-tailed buck with visible antler or one black-tailed deer	One white-tailed buck with visible antler or one black-tailed deer	09/10/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/16/2023 - 10/01/2023	10	10	10	10	
	130R	Rogue-Siskiyou Early Bow		One buck with visible antler	-	08/01/2023 - 08/15/2023			50	55	New hunt in the 2023 season.
131R1	131R1	Keno Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	250	275	250	275	
131R2	131R2	Keno Unit Late Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/31/2022 - 11/19/2022	10/30/2023 - 11/19/2023	100	108	100	110	
132R	132R	Klamath Falls Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	200	220	200	220	
133R	133R	Sprague Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	50	55	50	55	
134R	134R	Upper Deschutes Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	450	495	450	495	
135R	135R	Paulina Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	350	385	350	385	

**Table 17 Continued. Recommended 2023 buck deer hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
136R	136R	Maury Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	100	110	80	88	Buck ratios below management objective. Fawn ratios and population estimates are low.
137R	137R	Ochoco Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	400	440	400	440	
138R	138R	Grizzly Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	700	770	700	769	
139R1	139R1	Metolius Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	240	264	240	264	
139R2	139R2	Metolius Unit Late Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	11/01/2022 - 11/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/30/2023	15	15	15	15	
141R	141R	Hood - White Rvr Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	550	605	550	605	
144R	144R	Columbia Plateau Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	400	440	400	440	
145R	145R	Fossil Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	250	275	250	275	
146R	146R	Murderers Creek Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	670	737	670	737	
147R	147R	Northside Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	700	770	700	770	
148R	148R	Heppner Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	1,100	1,210	1,100	1210	
149R	149R	Ukiah Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	700	770	700	770	
150R	150R	Desolation Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	570	627	570	627	
151R	151R	Sumpter Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	520	572	520	572	
152R	152R	Starkey Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	700	770	700	770	
153R	153R	Catherine Cr Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	450	495	450	495	
154R	154R	N Blue Mtns Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	400	440	400	440	

**Table 17 Continued. Recommended 2023 buck deer hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
157R	157R	Sled Springs Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	175	193	175	193	
158R	158R	Chesnimnus Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	210	231	210	231	
159R	159R	Snake Rvr Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	120	132	120	132	
160R	160R	Minam Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	125	138	125	138	
161R	161R	Imnaha Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	280	308	280	308	
162R	162R	Pine Cr Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	340	374	340	374	
163R	163R	Keating Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	250	275	250	275	
164R	164R	Lookout Mtn Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	140	154	140	154	
165R1	165R1	Beulah Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	400	440	400	440	
165R2	165R2	Beulah Unit Late Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	11/12/2022 - 11/30/2022	11/18/2023 - 11/30/2023	15	15	15	15	
166R	166R	Malheur Rvr Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	400	440	400	440	
167R	167R	Owyhee Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	100	110	100	110	
168R1	168R1	E Whitehorse Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	125	138	125	138	
168R2	168R2	Trout Cr Mtns Traditional Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	100	100	100	100	
169R	169R	Steens Mtn Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	100	110	100	110	
170R1	170R1	Hart Mtn No.1 Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/04/2022 - 08/12/2022	08/10/2023 - 08/18/2023	15	17	15	17	
170R3	170R2	Hart Mtn No.2 Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	11/04/2022 - 11/10/2022	11/10/2023 - 11/16/2023	15	16	15	17	

**Table 17 Continued. Recommended 2023 buck deer hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
170R	170R	Beatys Butte Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	50	55	50	55	
171R	171R	Juniper Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	50	55	50	55	
172R	172R	Silvies Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	600	660	600	660	
173R	173R	Wagontire Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	40	44	40	44	
174R1	174R1	N Warner Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	35	37	35	39	
174R2	174R2	S Warner Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	65	72	65	72	
175R	175R	Interstate Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	270	270	270	297	Emergency tag reduction in 2022 due to wildfire impacts.
176R	176R	Silver Lake Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	125	138	125	138	
177R	177R	Fort Rock Unit Bow	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	325	358	325	358	
							<b>14,395</b>	<b>15,793</b>	<b>14,425</b>	<b>15,857</b>	
<b>Muzzleloader Hunts</b>											
114M	114M	Trask Unit Muzzleloader	One deer	One deer	11/05/2022 - 11/18/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/24/2023	200	220	200	220	
119M	119M	McKenzie Unit Muzzleloader	One deer	One deer	11/12/2022 - 11/23/2022	11/18/2023 - 11/29/2023	350	385	350	385	
121M	121M	Indigo Unit Muzzleloader	One deer	One deer	11/12/2022 - 11/23/2022	11/18/2023 - 11/29/2023	150	165	150	165	
123M1	123M1	Melrose Unit Muzzleloader	One deer	One deer	11/12/2022 - 11/20/2022	11/18/2023 - 11/26/2023	120	132	120	132	

**Table 17 Continued. Recommended 2023 buck deer hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
123M2	123M2	N Bank Habitat Muzzleloader	One white-tailed buck with visible antler or one black-tailed deer	One white-tailed buck with visible antler or one black-tailed deer	11/26/2022 - 12/02/2022	12/02/2023 - 12/08/2023	3	3	3	3	
125M	125M	Sixes Unit Muzzleloader	One deer	One deer	11/12/2022 - 11/25/2022	11/18/2023 - 12/01/2023	55	61	75	83	Population estimates increasing.
127M	127M	Chetco Unit Muzzleloader	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	11/12/2022 - 12/04/2022	11/18/2023 - 12/10/2023	35	37	35	39	
128M	128M	Applegate Unit Muzzleloader	One deer	One deer	11/12/2022 - 12/04/2022	11/18/2023 - 12/10/2023	300	309	300	323	
132M	132M	Klamath Falls Unit Muzzleloader	One deer	One deer	10/31/2022 - 11/08/2022	11/06/2023 - 11/14/2023	20	22	20	21	
139M	139M	Metolius Unit Muzzleloader	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	20	21	20	22	
141M	141M	Hood- N White Rvr Muzzleloader	One deer	One deer	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	20	22	20	21	
145M	145M	Flatiron Muzzleloader	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	60	66	60	66	
148M	148M	Ditch Cr Muzzleloader	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	140	154	155	171	Capacity for additional opportunity.
151M	151M	Baker Muzzleloader	One white-tailed deer	One white-tailed deer	11/14/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/20/2023 - 12/03/2023	80	80	80	80	

**Table 17 Continued. Recommended 2023 buck deer hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
152M	152M	Grande Ronde Muzzleloader	One white-tailed deer	One white-tailed deer	11/14/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/20/2023 - 12/03/2023	470	517	470	517	
157M	157M	Sled Springs Unit Muzzleloader	One white-tailed deer	One white-tailed deer	11/28/2022 - 12/11/2022	12/04/2023 - 12/17/2023	220	242	220	242	
166M	166M	N Malheur Muzzleloader	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	40	44	50	55	Buck ratios are above management objectives.
168M	168M	NE Whitehorse Muzzleloader	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	11/12/2022 - 11/30/2022	11/18/2023 - 11/30/2023	20	20	20	20	
170M	170M	Hart Mtn Muzzleloader	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/01/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/18/2023	15	15	15	15	
172M	172M	Silvies Unit Muzzleloader	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	40	42	50	54	Buck ratios are above management objectives.
175M	175M	Interstate Unit Muzzleloader	One deer	One buck with visible antler	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	20	22	20	22	
176M	176M	Silver Lake/E Ft. Rock Muzzleloader	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	60	63	60	66	
							<b>2,438</b>	<b>2,642</b>	<b>2,493</b>	<b>2,722</b>	
<b>Youth Hunts</b>											
131T	131T	Keno Youth	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	09/26/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/02/2023 - 10/18/2023	20	20	20	22	
132T	132T	Klamath Falls Youth	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	09/26/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/02/2023 - 10/18/2023	20	20	20	22	
133T	133T	Sprague Youth	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	09/26/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/02/2023 - 10/18/2023	20	20	20	22	

Table 17 Continued. Recommended 2023 buck deer hunts and tags.											
2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
141T	141T	The Dalles Watershed Youth	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	11/12/2022 - 11/23/2022	11/18/2023 - 11/29/2023	7	7	7	8	
	154T	Mt Emily Unit Youth		One buck with visible antler	-	10/02/2023 - 10/18/2023			20	22	New hunt in the 2023 season.
174T	174T	Warner Unit Youth	One deer	One deer	09/26/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/02/2023 - 10/18/2023	20	20	20	22	
175T	175T	Interstate Unit Youth	One deer	One deer	09/26/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/02/2023 - 10/18/2023	20	20	20	22	
176T	176T	Silver Lake Youth	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	09/26/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/02/2023 - 10/18/2023	20	20	20	22	
177T	177T	Fort Rock Youth	One buck with visible antler	One buck with visible antler	09/26/2022 - 10/12/2022	10/02/2023 - 10/18/2023	20	20	20	22	
							<b>147</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>184</b>	
							<b>55,843</b>	<b>60,837</b>	<b>55,858</b>	<b>61,386</b>	

\* Tag numbers adjusted up by each hunt's 4-yr average un-redemption rate to compensate for un-redeemed tags (max adjustment = 10%).

**Table 18. Recommended 2023 controlled doe deer hunts and proposed tag numbers.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
<b>Any Weapon Hunts</b>											
610	610	Saddle Mtn Unit	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	250	260	380	411	
611	611	Scappoose Unit	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	20	20	20	20	
612	612	Wilson Unit	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	200	204	240	258	
614	614	Trask Unit	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	300	330	500	532	
615	615	Willamette Unit	One deer	One deer	09/01/2022 - 02/28/2023	09/01/2023 - 02/29/2024	3,100	3,308	3,100	3410	
616A1	616A1	NW Santiam	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	50	50	50	50	
616A2	616A2	SW Santiam	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	50	50	50	50	
617	617	Stott Mtn Unit	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	75	75	100	106	
618	618	Alsea Unit	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	75	75	100	106	
619	619	W McKenzie	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	550	578	550	605	
620	620	Siuslaw Unit	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	80	84	80	86	
620A	620A	Camas Swale	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	300	324	250	275	Declining hunter interest.
621	621	W Indigo	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	130	140	130	142	
622A	622A	W Dixon	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	30	32	30	33	
623	623	Melrose Unit	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	250	263	250	275	
623A	623A	Central Melrose	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	1,000	1,100	1,000	1100	
623B1	623B1	N Bank Habitat No. 1	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/15/2022 - 10/21/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/27/2023	25	28	25	28	
623B2	623B2	N Bank Habitat No. 2	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	11/12/2022 - 11/18/2022	11/18/2023 - 11/24/2023	25	28	25	28	

**Table 18 Continued. Recommended 2023 controlled doe deer hunts and proposed tag numbers.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
623B3	623B3	N Bank Habitat No. 3	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	12/10/2022 - 12/16/2022	12/16/2023 - 12/22/2023	25	27	25	28	
624	624	Tioga Unit	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	100	100	100	110	
625	625	Sixes Unit	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	100	103	100	110	
626	626	Powers Unit	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	70	70	70	75	
627	627	Chetco Unit	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	35	35	35	36	
628	628	Applegate Unit	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	35	35	35	38	
629	629	Evans Cr Unit	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/04/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/10/2023	25	25	25	26	
638A	638A	Lower Willow Cr Agri	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/15/2022 - 11/30/2022	10/15/2023 - 11/30/2023	10	10	10	11	
641A	641A	The Dalles Orchard	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	08/27/2022 - 09/04/2022	09/02/2023 - 09/10/2023	20	22	20	22	
641B	641B	Wamic Bench	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	5	6	5	6	
642	642	Hood Unit Agri	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	10	10	10	11	
643	643	Biggs Unit Private	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	20	20	20	22	
644	644	Columbia Basin Unit	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	30	33	30	33	
644A1	644A1	Umatilla NWR No. 1	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	08/27/2022 - 08/31/2022	09/02/2023 - 09/06/2023	15	15	15	17	
644A2	644A2	Umatilla NWR No. 2	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	09/10/2022 - 09/14/2022	09/16/2023 - 09/20/2023	15	15	15	17	
644A3	644A3	Umatilla NWR No. 3	One deer	One deer	10/01/2022 - 10/05/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/11/2023	3	3	3	3	
645	645	Fossil Unit Private	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	20	20	20	22	
647B	647B	Middle Fork John Day	One antlerless white-tailed deer	One antlerless white-tailed deer	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	25	26	25	28	

<b>Table 18 Continued. Recommended 2023 controlled doe deer hunts and proposed tag numbers.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
648A	648A	Heppner Private	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	20	20	20	22	
649B	649B	W Blue Mtns	One white-tailed deer	One white-tailed deer	11/19/2022 - 12/11/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/17/2023	60	60	80	88	Tag increase reflects recovery from disease (EHD) outbreak.
657A	657A	Flora	One antlerless white-tailed deer	One antlerless white-tailed deer	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	50	55	50	55	
657B	657B	Lower Wallowa Valley	One antlerless white-tailed deer	One antlerless white-tailed deer	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	100	110	100	110	
660A	660A	Upper Wallowa Valley	One antlerless white-tailed deer	One antlerless white-tailed deer	10/15/2022 - 12/18/2022	10/21/2023 - 12/24/2023	200	218	200	220	
665A	665A	SE Beulah Agri	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	20	20	20	22	
667A	667A	NE Owyhee Agri	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	20	22	20	22	
679A	679A	Harney Basin Agri	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	10	11	10	11	
							<b>7,553</b>	<b>8,040</b>	<b>7,943</b>	<b>8,680</b>	
<b>Youth Hunts</b>											
610T	610T	Saddle Mtn Unit Youth	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/06/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/12/2023	75	83	75	83	
611T	611T	Scappoose Unit Youth	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/06/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/12/2023	45	50	50	55	
612T	612T	Wilson Unit Youth	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/06/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/12/2023	75	83	75	83	
614T1	614T1	Trask Unit Youth	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/06/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/12/2023	75	83	75	81	
614T2	614T2	Upper Tualation-Trask Youth	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	12/03/2022 - 12/25/2022	12/09/2023 - 12/31/2023	40	40	40	44	Weekends only. Open Dates: Dec 9-10, 16-17,23-24,30-31
616T1	616T1	SW Santiam Youth	One deer	One deer	11/12/2022 - 11/23/2022	11/18/2023 - 11/29/2023	50	50	50	50	
616T2	616T2	NW Santiam Youth	One deer	One deer	11/12/2022 - 11/23/2022	11/18/2023 - 11/29/2023	30	30	30	33	

**Table 18 Continued. Recommended 2023 controlled doe deer hunts and proposed tag numbers.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
617T	617T	Stott Mtn Unit Youth	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/06/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/12/2023	48	50	50	50	
618T	618T	Alsea Unit Youth	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/06/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/12/2023	50	50	50	50	
619T	619T	McKenzie Unit Youth	One deer	One deer	11/12/2022 - 11/23/2022	11/18/2023 - 11/29/2023	100	100	100	110	
620T1	620T1	Siuslaw Unit Youth	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/01/2022 - 11/06/2022	10/07/2023 - 11/12/2023	50	50	50	50	
620T2	620T2	Territorial Youth	One deer	One deer	11/05/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/11/2023 - 12/03/2023	10	10	10	10	Weekends only. Open Dates: Nov 11-12, 18-19, 25-26, Dec 2-3
621T	621T	N Indigo Youth	One deer	One deer	11/12/2022 - 11/23/2022	11/18/2023 - 11/29/2023	75	75	75	83	
623T1	623T1	N Bank Habitat Area No. 1 Youth	One white-tailed buck with visible antler or one black-tailed deer	One white-tailed buck with visible antler or one black-tailed deer	10/01/2022 - 10/09/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/15/2023	20	20	20	22	
623T2	623T2	N Bank Habitat Area No. 2 Youth	One black-tailed deer	One black-tailed deer	10/29/2022 - 11/06/2022	11/04/2023 - 11/12/2023	30	31	30	32	
623T3	623T3	Melrose Youth	One black-tailed deer	One black-tailed deer	12/15/2022 - 01/05/2023	12/21/2023 - 01/11/2024	40	44	40	44	
625T	625T	Sixes Unit Youth	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	12/15/2022 - 01/05/2023	12/21/2023 - 01/11/2024	70	77	70	77	
627T	627T	Chetco Unit Youth	One deer	One deer	12/15/2022 - 01/05/2023	12/21/2023 - 01/11/2024	25	25	25	28	
628T	628T	Applegate Unit Youth	One deer	One deer	12/15/2022 - 01/05/2023	12/21/2023 - 01/11/2024	25	26	25	28	
629T	629T	Evans Cr Unit Youth	One deer	One deer	12/15/2022 - 01/05/2023	12/21/2023 - 01/11/2024	55	61	55	61	
630T	630T	Rogue Unit Youth	One deer	One deer	12/15/2022 - 01/05/2023	12/21/2023 - 01/11/2024	55	61	55	61	
640T	640T	Mid-Columbia Private Youth	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	11/19/2022 - 12/31/2022	11/25/2023 - 01/06/2024	30	32	30	33	
644T1	644T1	Umatilla NWR Youth	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	08/20/2022 - 08/24/2022	08/26/2023 - 08/30/2023	8	8	8	8	

**Table 18 Continued. Recommended 2023 controlled doe deer hunts and proposed tag numbers.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
644T2	644T2	Umatilla Co Private Youth	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	11/12/2022 - 12/04/2022	11/18/2023 - 12/10/2023	40	44	40	44	
648T	648T	Morrow Co Youth	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	11/19/2022 - 12/04/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/10/2023	40	44	40	44	Boundary change to include Gilliam county.
651T1	651T1	Baker No. 1 Youth	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	10/22/2022 - 10/30/2022	10/28/2023 - 11/05/2023	15	16	15	17	
651T2	651T2	Baker No. 2 Youth	One antlerless white-tailed deer	One antlerless white-tailed deer	10/22/2022 - 10/30/2022	10/28/2023 - 11/05/2023	30	33	30	33	
665T	665T	Malheur Co Youth	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	08/01/2022 - 10/31/2022	08/01/2023 - 10/31/2023	50	50	50	50	
679T	679T	Harney Basin Youth	One antlerless deer	One antlerless deer	09/10/2022 - 09/18/2022	09/16/2023 - 09/24/2023	25	28	25	28	
							<b>1,281</b>	<b>1,354</b>	<b>1,288</b>	<b>1,392</b>	
							<b>8,834</b>	<b>9,394</b>	<b>9,231</b>	<b>10,072</b>	

\* Tag numbers adjusted up by each hunt's 4-yr average un-redemption rate to compensate for un-redeemed tags (max adjustment = 10%).

## **Elk Season Summaries and Recommendations**

Controlled seasons have historically been used for most of the eastern Oregon ALW bull and either sex hunts, some western Oregon ALW bull hunts, and a limited number of archery bull elk hunts. Controlled bull hunting is the most effective method of achieving the bull ratio Management Objective (MO) in areas with high bull vulnerability, in areas where high hunter numbers in general seasons have led to lower than desired bull ratios, or where hunter numbers need limited to improve hunting quality. Antlerless hunts are generally the most effective method to address damage and reduce populations which are over population MO. Antlerless elk hunting opportunity with firearms is primarily by controlled hunts, with the notable exception for the General Season Antlerless Elk Damage hunts, which were implemented in 2020 in areas of persistent damage from elk.

### **Population Overview**

Rocky Mountain elk populations continued to do well in eastern Oregon. Seventeen of 35 units or areas (49%) where wintering elk population Management Objectives (MOs) are established have populations at or over MO. Two areas, the Maupin-Biggs-Columbia Basin units and the East Beulah area are elk de-emphasis areas. The eastern Oregon population estimate of approximately 70,876 elk is slightly below (96%) the Rocky Mountain elk total population MO of 73,650 animals.

Roosevelt elk populations, however, continue to struggle in some areas of western Oregon. Only the Sixes WMU is above MO. Three areas in western Oregon, the Willamette, Applegate, and Melrose WMUS, are elk de-emphasis areas. While not all WMUs were surveyed in 2022, the estimated Western Oregon elk population is ~56,500, 79% of the established MO of 70,850.

### **Damage Tags, LOP Exchanges, Emergency Hunts and Harvest**

The Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 2027 in 2013 directing the Department to create and implement a statewide Oregon Landowner Damage Program to address agricultural damage caused by elk. As implemented the elk damage tag program has no minimum acreage requirements. Further, the program does not limit the total number of tags a landowner may acquire but no more than 5 tags may be valid at any given time for a specific landowner. The total number of tags issued for an individual landowner is dependent on the type, severity, and persistence of elk damage. Additionally, the option for landowners to exchange unused LOP tags 1 for 2 was removed.

Since the first year of the program, elk damage tag allocated annually fluctuated between 3,000 to 3,400 per year through 2019-2020. Number of tags allocated under this program have since began to decline with 2,030 tags provided in 2020-2021, and 1,887 tags provided in 2021-2022 (Table 19). Associated harvest under the elk damage tag program has also fluctuated, ranging between 1,500 and 1,800 annually through 2019-2020. And similar to the trend in tags allocated to landowners, harvest has subsequently declined to 1,171 in 2020-21, and 974 in 2021-22 (Table 19).

The observed declines in in landowner use of the elk damage tag program is most pronounced in north-central and northeastern Oregon. Number of tags allocated to landowners in north central Oregon has declined 51% and associated harvest has declined 68% since 2019-2020. For northeastern Oregon, tags allocated has declined 51% and harvest has declined 50% for the same

period. Declines are most likely due to implementation of the General Season Antlerless Elk Damage Tag in agricultural areas with chronically high levels of conflict with elk.

Table 19. Number of elk tags and harvest issued to address conflict in Oregon during Aug 1 to March 31 seasons.

Area	2019 - 2020				2020 - 2021				2021 - 2022			
	Exchange Tags	Damage Tags	Emergency Hunt	Harvest	Exchange Tags	Damage Tags	Emergency Hunt	Harvest	Exchange Tags	Damage Tags	Emergency Hunt	Harvest
NW Oregon	14	639	14	400	3	610	0	413	6	572	0	343
SW Oregon	0	260	0	123	0	251	0	137	0	229	0	92
North Central	0	310	0	179	0	176	0	75	0	153	0	57
Central	0	114	0	46	13	128	0	57	8	113	1	43
South Central	5	11	0	11	8	9	0	4	7	7	0	2
NE Oregon	7	1,583	8	806	0	794	12	467	0	770	0	406
SE Oregon	2	34	0	6	4	62	0	18	22	43	0	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>2,951</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1,571</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>2,030</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1,171</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>1,887</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>974</b>

## 2021 Elk Harvest

Based on mandatory harvest survey results, 100,310 elk hunters harvested 18,368 elk for an overall success rate of 18% (Table 20). General season success was lower than controlled season success ranging from 6% in the West Cascade any legal weapon season to 13% in the 1<sup>st</sup> Coast any legal weapon and the General Bow season for elk. Varying weather conditions led to high variability in success rates.

Table 20. Number of hunters, harvest and success rates for elk during the 2021 Oregon elk seasons.

Hunt/Weapon Type	2021 Hunters	2021 Harvest	2021 Success Rate
<b>General Seasons</b>			
Rocky Mountain 2 <sup>nd</sup>	5,618	521	9%
Coast 1 <sup>st</sup>	8,058	872	11%
Coast 2 <sup>nd</sup>	6,194	655	11%
Cascade	6,665	433	6%
Bow	26,482	3,450	13%
General Season Antlerless Elk Damage Tag	4,046	1,819	45%
<b>Controlled Seasons</b>	<b>39,028</b>	<b>9,268</b>	<b>24%</b>
<b>All Surveyed Elk Hunts</b>	<b>96,091</b>	<b>147,018</b>	<b>18%</b>

## **General Elk Season Summaries and Recommendations**

As was noted earlier, most season will be moving six days later in the calendar. This includes all the general bow and general ALW elk except for the General Season Antlerless Elk Damage seasons (GSAEDT). Seasons for the GSAEDT are set dates either from 1 Aug. to 30 Nov., or from 1 Aug. to 31 March depending on the hunt area. There are no changes to hunt areas proposed for general elk season for 2023.

## **Controlled Elk Hunt Recommendations**

There are a number of changes proposed to control elk hunts for 2023 (Table 21). Two antlerless elk hunts and one youth elk hunt no longer needed to address damage are being deleted.

As a follow-up from the September 2021 Commission meeting, staff was directed to meet with interested stakeholders to develop a youth archery elk hunting opportunity which would address concerns with several WMUs in eastern Oregon going to controlled hunting. The intent was to provide a youth hunter with an ability to potentially move between hunt areas with family members who may have controlled tags. Department staff worked with field biologists and convened a series of public meetings to consider options. The review and work group meetings were successful, and staff is proposing a new youth archery controlled elk hunt valid in all WMUs except Walla Walla, Wenaha, Mt. Emily, Sled Springs and Chesnimnus.

The Cascade muzzleloader elk hunt will be moved one week later to create a break between the general season and this hunt. One new late season ALW hunt with a one elk bag limit is proposed in Lookout Mountain WMU. And finally, two new antlerless elk hunts are proposed, one ALW hunt in the Starkey WMU, and one muzzleloader hunt in the Catherine Creek WMU. Season dates for most of the existing controlled elk hunts will shift 6 days later for 2023. Overall, the department is proposing no change to total controlled elk tag numbers for 2023 (Table 21).

<b>Table 21. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
<b>Any Weapon Hunts</b>											
210	210	Saddle Mtn Unit	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 03/31/2023	12/01/2023 - 03/31/2024	10	10	10	11	
210A1	210A1	W Saddle Mtn No. 1	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 12/31/2022	12/01/2023 - 12/31/2023	40	44	40	42	
210A2	210A2	W Saddle Mtn No. 2	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 01/31/2023	01/01/2024 - 01/31/2024	40	44	40	43	
210B1	210B1	Central Saddle Mtn No. 1	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 12/31/2022	12/01/2023 - 12/31/2023	35	39	35	38	
210B2	210B2	Central Saddle Mtn No. 2	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 01/31/2023	01/01/2024 - 01/31/2024	35	39	35	37	
210C1	210C1	Upper Nehalem No. 1	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 01/31/2023	12/01/2023 - 01/31/2024	75	75	75	80	
210C2	210C2	Upper Nehalem No. 2	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	02/01/2023 - 03/31/2023	02/01/2024 - 03/31/2024	75	75	75	78	
210D	210D	Lower Columbia	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 03/31/2023	12/01/2023 - 03/31/2024	50	55	75	82	Addressing private land damage.
210X	210X	Saddle Mtn Unit No. 1	One 3pt + bull elk	One 3pt + bull elk	11/12/2022 - 11/15/2022	11/18/2023 - 11/21/2023	1,200	1,320	1,200	1320	
210Y	210Y	Saddle Mtn Unit No. 2	One 3pt + bull elk	One 3pt + bull elk	11/19/2022 - 11/25/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/01/2023	1,200	1,320	1,200	1320	
211	211	Scappoose Unit	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 03/31/2023	01/01/2024 - 03/31/2024	25	25	25	28	
211A1	211A1	North Plains No. 1	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 03/31/2023	12/01/2023 - 03/31/2024	40	40	40	44	
211A2	211A2	North Plains No. 2	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 12/31/2022	12/01/2023 - 12/31/2023	35	39	35	39	

**Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
211A3	211A3	North Plains No. 3	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 01/31/2023	01/01/2024 - 01/31/2024	20	22	20	22	
211A4	211A4	North Plains No. 4	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	02/01/2023 - 03/31/2023	02/01/2024 - 03/31/2024	30	33	30	33	
211B	211B	N Central Scappoose	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 03/31/2023	01/01/2024 - 03/31/2024	30	30	30	32	
211C	211C	Banks	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 03/31/2023	01/01/2024 - 03/31/2024	35	39	35	39	
212	212	Wilson Unit	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 03/31/2023	12/01/2023 - 03/31/2024	10	10	10	11	
212A1	212A1	Miami-Nehalem No. 1	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 01/31/2023	12/01/2023 - 01/31/2024	35	35	35	37	
212A2	212A2	Miami-Nehalem No. 2	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	02/01/2023 - 03/31/2023	02/01/2024 - 03/31/2024	35	35	35	38	
212B	212B	Buick Canyon	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/15/2022 - 03/31/2023	12/15/2023 - 03/31/2024	10	10	10	11	
214	214	Trask Unit	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 03/31/2023	12/01/2023 - 03/31/2024	10	10	10	10	
214A1	214A1	W Trask No. 1	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 01/31/2023	12/01/2023 - 01/31/2024	30	30	30	31	
214A2	214A2	W Trask No. 2	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	02/01/2023 - 03/31/2023	02/01/2024 - 03/31/2024	30	30	30	33	
214B1	214B1	Central Trask No. 1	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 02/14/2023	01/01/2024 - 02/14/2024	15	16	15	17	
214B2	214B2	Central Trask No. 2	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	02/15/2023 - 03/31/2023	02/15/2024 - 03/31/2024	15	16	15	15	
214C	214C	SE Trask	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 03/31/2023	12/01/2023 - 03/31/2024	50	50	50	50	
214D1	214D1	NE Trask No. 1	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 03/31/2023	12/01/2023 - 03/31/2024	20	20	20	22	
214D2	214D2	NE Trask No. 2	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 03/31/2023	01/01/2024 - 03/31/2024	20	20	20	22	

Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.											
2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
214E	214E	Panther Cr	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 03/31/2023	01/01/2024 - 03/31/2024	15	16	15	16	
215A	215A	Willamette Plus	One elk (Spike or antlerless elk from Aug. 28 - Oct. 31 in Monroe Subunit.)	One elk (Spike or antlerless elk from Sept. 2 - Oct. 31 in Monroe Subunit.)	08/01/2022 - 03/31/2023	08/01/2023 - 03/31/2024	75	75	75	83	
216B	216B	SW Santiam	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 03/31/2023	12/01/2023 - 03/31/2024	10	10	10	11	
216D	216D	NW Santiam	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 03/31/2023	12/01/2023 - 03/31/2024	45	50	50	50	
217A	217A	W Stott Mtn	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 03/31/2023	01/01/2024 - 03/31/2024	35	35	35	35	
217B	217B	E Stott Mtn	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 03/31/2023	01/01/2024 - 03/31/2024	10	11	10	11	
218A	218A	N Alsea	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 03/31/2023	01/01/2024 - 03/31/2024	35	39	35	37	
218B	218B	S Alsea	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 03/31/2023	01/01/2024 - 03/31/2024	35	39	35	39	
218C	218C	Central Alsea	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 03/31/2023	01/01/2024 - 03/31/2024	40	41	40	44	
219A	219A	W McKenzie	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 02/28/2023	01/01/2024 - 02/29/2024	45	50	45	50	
219B	219B	Pengra	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/01/2022 - 03/31/2023	08/01/2023 - 03/31/2024	10	11	10	11	
219C	219C	Oakridge Private Lands	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 02/28/2023	01/01/2024 - 02/29/2024	20	21	20	22	
220	220	Siuslaw Unit	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 03/31/2023	01/01/2024 - 03/31/2024	120	120	120	132	
221A	221A	NW Indigo	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/17/2022 - 12/25/2022	12/23/2023 - 12/31/2023	20	22	20	22	
221C	221C	Harness Mtn	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	02/01/2023 - 02/28/2023	02/01/2024 - 02/29/2024	20	21	20	22	

<b>Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
221D	221D	S Indigo Private Lands	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 02/28/2023	12/01/2023 - 02/29/2024	10	10	10	11	
221E	221E	Mosby	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	02/01/2023 - 02/28/2023	02/01/2024 - 02/29/2024	15	15	15	16	
222A	222A	Dixon Unit Private	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/15/2022 - 03/31/2023	11/15/2023 - 03/31/2024	10	11	10	11	
223A	223A	Melrose Unit	one elk	one elk	08/01/2022 - 03/31/2023	08/01/2023 - 03/31/2024	10	10	10	11	
224C	224C	Tioga Unit Private	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 02/28/2023	12/01/2023 - 02/29/2024	25	25	25	27	
224X	224X	Tioga Unit No. 1	One 3pt + bull elk	One 3pt + bull elk	11/12/2022 - 11/16/2022	11/18/2023 - 11/22/2023	900	900	900	900	
224Y	224Y	Tioga Unit No. 2	One 3pt + bull elk	One 3pt + bull elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	900	900	900	900	
225A	225A	N Sixes	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 02/28/2023	12/01/2023 - 02/29/2024	200	200	200	220	
225B	225B	Curry Private	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 02/28/2023	12/01/2023 - 02/29/2024	20	20	20	22	
225X	225X	Sixes Unit No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/12/2022 - 11/16/2022	11/18/2023 - 11/22/2023	140	140	140	154	
225Y	225Y	Sixes Unit No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	140	140	140	154	
226A	226A	Powers Unit Private	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 02/28/2023	12/01/2023 - 02/29/2024	20	20	20	22	
226X	226X	Powers Unit No. 1	One spike elk	One spike elk	11/12/2022 - 11/16/2022	11/18/2023 - 11/22/2023	400	400	300	330	Bull ratios below management objective.
226Y	226Y	Powers Unit No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	100	105	85	92	Bull ratios below management objective.
227X	227X	Chetco Unit No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/12/2022 - 11/16/2022	11/18/2023 - 11/22/2023	70	77	70	77	
227Y	227Y	Chetco Unit No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	70	76	70	77	
228A	228A	Applegate-Evans Cr	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/15/2022 - 03/31/2023	11/15/2023 - 03/31/2024	20	20	20	22	

<b>Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
230A	230A	W Rogue	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/15/2022 - 03/31/2023	11/15/2023 - 03/31/2024	25	25	25	28	
231X	231X	SE Cascades	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	800	880	800	880	
232X	232X	Klamath Falls Unit No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	70	77	70	77	
232Y	232Y	Klamath Falls Unit No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	50	55	50	55	
233X	233X	Sprague No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	200	220	200	220	
233Y	233Y	Sprague No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	100	110	100	110	
234B	234B	Tumalo	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 12/31/2022	11/25/2023 - 01/06/2024	60	64	60	66	
234X	234X	E Central Cascades	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	1,350	1,485	1,350	1485	
235A	235A	Badlands	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 10/15/2022	08/15/2023 - 10/15/2023	40	42	40	44	
235X	235X	Paulina - E Fort Rock No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	450	495	450	495	
235Y	235Y	Paulina - E Fort Rock No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	300	330	300	330	
236A	236A	Maury - Hampton Butte	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 11/15/2022	08/15/2023 - 11/15/2023	10	10	10	11	
236X	236X	Maury Unit No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	25	28	20	22	Population is below management objective.
236Y	236Y	Maury Unit No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	25	27	20	22	Population is below management objective.
237A	237A	Ochoco Unit Private	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	300	330	300	330	

Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.											
2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
237X	237X	Ochoco Unit No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	200	214	175	190	Bull ratios below management objectives, low calf ratios.
237Y	237Y	Ochoco Unit No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	200	206	175	189	Bull ratios below management objectives, low calf ratios.
238A	238A	Grizzly Grassland	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	400	440	400	440	
238B1	238B1	Grizzly Private No. 1	one elk	one elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	100	110	100	110	
238B2	238B2	Grizzly Private No. 2	one elk	one elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	125	138	125	138	
238X	238X	Grizzly Unit No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	60	64	60	66	
238Y	238Y	Grizzly Unit No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	60	61	60	66	
241A	241A	The Dalles Watershed	One elk	One elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	30	33	30	33	
241B	241B	White Rvr - Hood	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	50	52	50	55	
241C	241C	White Rvr Unit Private	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/01/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/01/2023 - 12/31/2023	150	165	180	198	Addressing private land issues. Population over management objective.
241X	241X	White Rvr - Hood No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	500	550	500	550	Boundary expansion to include lands to Deschutes River.
241Y	241Y	White Rvr - Hood No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	1,100	1,210	1,100	1210	Boundary expansion to include lands to Deschutes River.
242	242	Hood Unit Private	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/01/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/01/2023 - 12/31/2023	75	83	75	83	
244	244	Columbia Plateau	One elk Oct. 27 - Nov. 30, One antlerless elk Dec. 1 - Mar. 31	One elk Nov. 1 - Nov. 30, One antlerless elk Dec. 1 - Mar. 31	10/26/2022 - 03/31/2023	11/01/2023 - 03/31/2024	1,000	1,100	1,000	1100	

Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.											
2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
245A1	245A1	N Fossil Private No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	110	121	110	121	
245A2	245A2	N Fossil Private No. 2	One elk	One elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	185	204	185	204	
245B1	245B1	S Fossil Private No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	110	121	110	121	
245B2	245B2	S Fossil Private No. 2	One elk	One elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	230	253	230	253	
245C	245C	Fossil Unit	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	50	55	50	55	
245D	245D	Fossil Unit Private	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/01/2022 - 03/31/2023	08/01/2023 - 03/31/2024	625	688	625	688	
245X	245X	Fossil Unit No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	300	330	300	330	
245Y	245Y	Fossil Unit No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	300	330	300	330	
246	246	Murderers Cr Unit	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	400	440	400	440	
246A	246A	W Murderers Cr	One elk	One elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	450	495	450	495	
246B	246B	E Murderers Cr	One elk	One elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	250	275	250	275	
246C	246C	Murderers Cr Private Lands Plus	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/01/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/01/2023 - 12/31/2023	175	193	175	193	
246X	246X	Murderers Cr Unit	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	425	468	425	468	
247	247	Northside Unit	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	300	330	300	330	

<b>Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
247A1	247A1	Northside Unit Private No. 1	One elk	One elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	150	165	150	165	
247A2	247A2	Northside Unit Private No. 2	One elk	One elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	150	165	150	165	
247B	247B	W Northside	One elk	One elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	275	300	275	303	
247C	247C	E Northside	One elk	One elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	375	409	400	440	Bull ratio above management objective.
247D1	247D1	Northside - Ritter Private No.1	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/01/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/01/2023 - 12/31/2023	600	600	600	600	
247D2	247D2	Northside - Ritter Private No.2	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 03/31/2023	01/01/2024 - 03/31/2024	150	150	150	150	
247X	247X	Northside Unit	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	375	413	375	413	
248A1	248A1	Heppler Unit No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	600	660	600	660	
248A2	248A2	Heppler Unit No. 2	One spike elk	One spike elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	650	715	650	715	
248B1	248B1	Ritter No. 1	One elk	One elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	125	138	125	138	
248B2	248B2	Ritter No. 2	One elk	One elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	200	220	200	220	
248C	248C	Monument	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/01/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/01/2023 - 12/31/2023	70	73	90	99	Addressing increasing damage issues.
248D	248D	Heppler Unit	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	20	20	20	33	
248E	248E	Willow Creek	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 12/31/2022	12/01/2023 - 12/31/2023	20	20	20	22	

**Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
249A1	249A1	Ukiah Unit No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	400	436	425	468	Population estimates are above management objective.
249A2	249A2	Ukiah Unit No. 2	One spike elk	One spike elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	900	990	900	990	
249B	249B	Central Ukiah	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	50	52	50	55	
249C	249C	South Ukiah	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	50	54	50	55	
	249D	North Ukiah		One antlerless elk	-	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023			50	55	New hunt in 2023 season.
250X	250X	Desolation Unit	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	1,000	1,100	1,000	1100	
251A	251A	N Sumpter	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	700	770	750	825	
251B1	251B1	S Sumpter No. 1	One elk	One elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	125	138	125	138	
251B2	251B2	S Sumpter No. 2	One elk	One elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	125	138	125	138	
251C	251C	S Sumpter	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	10/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	10/21/2023 - 12/31/2023	175	193	175	193	
251D1	251D1	Elkhorn Mtn No. 1	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	08/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	20	21	20	22	
251D2	251D2	Elkhorn Mtn No. 2	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	20	21	20	22	
252A1	252A1	Starkey Unit No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	325	358	350	385	Increase in bull ratio.
252A2	252A2	Starkey Unit No. 2	One spike elk	One spike elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	900	990	900	990	
252B	252B1	Starkey Unit Private	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	200	220	200	220	
	252B2	Starkey Unit		One antlerless elk	-	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023			250	275	New hunt in 2023 season.
252C1	252C1	Starkey Experimental Forest No. 1	New Hunt 2022	One antlerless elk	08/27/2022 - 09/11/2022	09/02/2023 - 09/17/2023	40	44	15	17	No more population reduction needed. Managing to meet study objectives.

**Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
252C2	252C2	Starkey Experimental Forest No. 2	one elk	one elk	09/17/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/23/2023 - 10/01/2023	12	12	12	12	
253A	253A	S Catherine Cr	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	25	28	50	55	Population is over management objective.
253B	253B	Mt Harris	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/17/2022 - 12/31/2022	12/23/2023 - 01/06/2024	100	110	100	110	
253X	253X	Catherine Cr Unit	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	250	275	275	303	Unit can support additional opportunity.
254X	254X	Mt Emily Unit No. 1	One spike elk	One spike elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	600	660	600	660	
254Y1	254Y1	Mt Emily Unit No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/19/2023	55	57	55	58	
254Y2	254Y2	Mt Emily Unit No. 3	One spike elk	One spike elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	300	330	300	330	
255A	255A	Mill Cr Watershed	One elk	One elk	10/29/2022 - 11/06/2022	11/04/2023 - 11/12/2023	20	20	20	20	
255X	255X	Walla Walla Unit No. 1	One spike elk	One spike elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	300	330	300	330	
255Y1	255Y1	Walla Walla Unit No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/19/2023	25	26	25	26	
255Y2	255Y2	Walla Walla Unit No. 3	One spike elk	One spike elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	175	193	175	193	
256A	256A	Bartlett Bench	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/01/2022 - 10/31/2022	08/01/2023 - 10/31/2023	20	22	20	22	
256X	256X	Wenaha Unit No. 1	One Spike Elk	One Spike Elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	350	385	350	385	
256Y1	256Y1	Wenaha Unit No. 2	One Bull Elk	One Bull Elk	10/26/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/19/2023	40	40	40	40	
256Y2	256Y2	Wenaha Unit No. 3	One Spike Elk	One Spike Elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	200	220	200	220	

<b>Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
257A	257A	Elk Cr	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/01/2022 - 08/31/2022	08/01/2023 - 08/31/2023	15	15	15	15	
257B	257B	Flora	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/01/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/01/2023 - 12/31/2023	75	83	75	83	
257C	257C	Sled Springs Unit	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	120	132	120	132	
257X	257X	Sled Springs Unit No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	500	540	500	550	
257Y	257Y	Sled Springs Unit No. 2	One spike elk	One spike elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	400	440	400	440	
258A1	258A1	Zumwalt No. 1	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/20/2022 - 09/09/2022	08/26/2023 - 09/15/2023	75	83	65	72	Decreasing population and calf survival. Damage at tolerance levels.
258A2	258A2	Zumwalt No. 2	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	09/10/2022 - 09/30/2022	09/16/2023 - 10/06/2023	75	83	65	72	Decreasing population and calf survival. Damage at tolerance levels.
258A3	258A3	Zumwalt No. 3	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	10/01/2022 - 10/25/2022	10/07/2023 - 10/31/2023	75	83	65	72	Decreasing population and calf survival. Damage at tolerance levels.
258A4	258A4	Zumwalt No. 4	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/14/2022 - 12/16/2022	11/20/2023 - 12/22/2023	75	83	65	72	Decreasing population and calf survival. Damage at tolerance levels.
258A5	258A5	Zumwalt No. 5	New Hunt 2022	One antlerless elk	12/17/2022 - 01/15/2023	12/23/2023 - 01/21/2024	75	83	65	72	Decreasing population and calf survival. Damage at tolerance levels.
258X	258X	Chesnimnus Unit No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	350	385	350	385	
258Y	258Y	Chesnimnus Unit No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	350	385	350	385	
259X	259X	Snake Rvr Unit No. 1	One spike elk	One spike elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	200	220	175	193	Declining population estimates. Bull below management objective. Low calf ratio.
259Y	259Y	Snake Rvr Unit No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	210	231	185	204	Declining population estimates. Bull below management objective. Low calf ratio.
260X	260X	Minam Unit No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	450	495	450	495	

<b>Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
260Y	260Y	Minam Unit No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	450	495	450	495	
261	261	Imnaha Unit	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	30	33	30	33	
261A		Clear Lake - Deadhorse	One antlerless elk		12/01/2022 - 12/31/2022	-	30	33	0	0	Hunt deleted for 2023 season.
261X	261X	Imnaha Unit	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	275	303	275	303	
262	262	Pine Cr Unit	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	175	193	175	193	
262X	262X	Pine Cr Unit	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	300	330	300	330	
263	263	Keating Unit	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	80	86	80	88	
263X	263X	Keating Unit	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	225	248	225	248	
264A1	264A1	Lookout Mtn Unit No. 1	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	10/15/2022 - 11/30/2022	10/21/2023 - 12/06/2023	150	165	150	165	
264A2	264A2	Lookout Mtn Unit No. 2	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 01/31/2023	12/01/2023 - 01/31/2024	150	165	150	165	
	264A3	Lookout Mtn Unit No. 3		One elk	-	12/21/2023 - 12/31/2023			100	110	New hunt in 2023 season.
264X	264X	Lookout Mtn Unit No. 1	One elk	One elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	150	165	125	138	Opportunity shifted to new 264A3 hunt.
264Y	264Y	Lookout Mtn Unit No. 2	One elk	One elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	150	165	125	138	Opportunity shifted to new 264A3 hunt.
265A1	265A1	W Beulah No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	350	385	350	385	
265A2	265A2	W Beulah No. 2	One elk	One elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	200	214	200	220	

**Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
265A3	265A3	W Beulah No. 3	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	100	110	100	110	
265B1	265B1	E Beulah No. 1	One elk	One elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	400	440	400	440	
265B2	265B2	E Beulah No. 2	One elk	One elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	400	440	400	440	
265B3	265B3	E Beulah No. 3	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 12/31/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/31/2023	350	382	350	385	
265C	265C	Bully Cr	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/01/2022 - 02/28/2023	08/01/2023 - 02/29/2024	125	125	125	125	
266A1	266A1	Drewsey Valley No. 1	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 09/30/2022	08/15/2023 - 09/30/2023	80	88	80	88	
266A2	266A2	Drewsey Valley No. 2	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/01/2022 - 11/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/30/2023	30	33	30	33	
266B	266B	N Malheur Rvr	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	275	303	275	303	
266C	266C	S Malheur Rvr	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 09/30/2022	08/15/2023 - 09/30/2023	150	165	150	165	
266X	266X	N Malheur Rvr No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	375	413	375	413	
266Y	266Y	N Malheur Rvr No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	375	413	375	413	
267	267	Owyhee Unit	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	10/15/2022 - 01/31/2023	10/21/2023 - 01/31/2024	75	76	75	83	
268A	268A	E Whitehorse	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	10/15/2022 - 01/31/2023	10/21/2023 - 01/31/2024	75	83	75	83	Boundary change to include entire Whitehorse Unit.
271A1	271A1	Silvies - N Juniper No. 1	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 09/30/2022	08/15/2023 - 09/30/2023	125	138	125	138	
271A2	271A2	Silvies - N Juniper No. 2	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/01/2022 - 11/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/30/2023	100	106	125	138	Population is above management objective. Desirable hunt with room for additional cow harvest.
271B1	271B1	N Juniper No. 1	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/01/2022 - 12/31/2022	12/01/2023 - 12/31/2023	30	33	30	33	

**Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
271B2		N Juniper No. 2	One antlerless elk		01/01/2023 - 01/31/2023	-	30	33	0	0	Deleted for the 2023 season. Primarily to address damage that is no longer an issue.
272A	272A	Silvies Unit	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/19/2022 - 11/27/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023	400	440	400	440	
272B		W Silvies	One antlerless elk		12/03/2022 - 12/11/2022	-	50	55	0	0	Deleted for the 2023 season.
272X	272X	Silvies Unit No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	415	457	415	457	
272Y	272Y	Silvies Unit No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	410	447	410	451	
273A	273A	North Wagontire	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 09/30/2022	08/15/2023 - 09/30/2023	25	28	25	28	
274X	274X	Warner Unit No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	50	55	50	55	
274Y	274Y	Warner Unit No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	50	55	50	55	
275X	275X	Interstate Unit No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	300	330	250	275	Wildfire impacts
275Y	275Y	Interstate Unit No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	150	165	100	110	Wildfire impacts
276X	276X	Silver Lake Unit No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/26/2022 - 10/30/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/05/2023	350	350	350	350	
276Y	276Y	Silver Lake Unit No. 2	One bull elk	One bull elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	200	200	200	200	
277A	277A	North Lake	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/01/2022 - 03/31/2023	10/01/2023 - 03/31/2024	150	150	150	150	Date shift to remove conflict with archery hunters on private land.
278A1	278A1	High Desert No. 1	One elk	One elk	10/26/2022 - 11/01/2022	11/01/2023 - 11/07/2023	400	440	400	440	
278A2	278A2	High Desert No. 2	One elk	One elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	400	440	400	440	
							<b>42,072</b>	<b>45,663</b>	<b>42,192</b>	<b>46,051</b>	
<b>Bow Hunts</b>											
	200R	Statewide Youth Bow		One elk	-	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023			300	330	

**Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
216R1	216R1	Santiam Unit Traditional Bow (Long or recurve bow ONLY; compound bows prohibited)	One elk** outside all USFS lands **One bull inside all USFS lands	One elk** outside all USFS lands **One bull inside all USFS lands	09/26/2022 - 09/30/2022	10/02/2023 - 10/06/2023	50	55	50	55	Low hunter interest.
216R2	216R2	Santiam Unit Late Bow	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/26/2022 - 12/11/2022	12/02/2023 - 12/17/2023	650	715	200	220	
217R	217R	Stott Mtn Unit Late Bow	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/26/2022 - 12/11/2022	12/02/2023 - 12/17/2023	250	275	250	275	
218R	218R	Alsea Unit Late Bow	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/26/2022 - 12/11/2022	12/02/2023 - 12/17/2023	500	550	500	550	Low hunter interest and access issues.
219R	219R	McKenzie Unit Late Bow	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/26/2022 - 12/11/2022	12/02/2023 - 12/17/2023	250	275	150	165	Low hunter interest and access issues.
221R	221R	N Indigo Late Bow	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	11/26/2022 - 12/11/2022	12/02/2023 - 12/17/2023	150	165	75	83	
224R	224R	Tioga Unit Late Bow	One 3pt + bull elk	One 3pt + bull elk	12/31/2022 - 01/15/2023	01/06/2024 - 01/21/2024	100	110	100	110	Bull ratios below management objective.
226R	226R	Powers Unit Bow	One elk	One elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	60	63	55	59	
230R	230R	W Rogue Unit Late Bow	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 02/28/2023	01/01/2024 - 02/29/2024	50	55	50	55	
234R	234R	Upper Deschutes Unit Bow	One elk	One elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	85	92	85	94	Population estimates are below management objective.
236R	236R	Maury Unit Bow	One elk	One elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	60	66	50	55	Bull ratios below management objective and poor calf ratios.
237R	237R	Ochoco Unit Bow	One elk	One elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	600	648	550	605	
239R	239R	Metolius Unit Bow	One elk	One elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	85	94	85	94	

**Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
246R	246R	Murderers Cr Bow		One Elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	1,030	1,030	1,030	1030	
247R	247R	Northside Bow		One Elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	1,055	1,055	1,055	1055	
248R1	248R1	Heppler Unit Bow No. 1	One elk	One elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	100	105	100	110	
248R2	248R2	Heppler Unit Bow No. 2		One bull elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	1,600	1,600	1,600	1600	
249R1	249R1	Ukiah Unit Bow No. 1	One elk	One elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	200	214	200	220	
249R2	249R2	Ukiah Unit Bow No. 2		One bull elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	1,300	1,300	1,300	1300	
250R1	250R1	Desolation Unit Bow		One bull elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	1,085	1,085	1,085	1085	
250R2	250R2	N Fork Traditional Bow	One bull elk	One bull elk	09/26/2022 - 09/30/2022	10/02/2023 - 10/06/2023	100	110	100	110	
251R	251R	N Sumpter Bow		One elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	530	530	530	530	
252R	252R	Starkey Unit Bow		One bull elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	1,300	1,300	1,300	1300	
253R1	253R1	Eagle Cap Zone		One bull elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	1,795	1,795	1,795	1795	
253R2	253R2	Eagle Cap Traditional Bow		One bull elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	200	200	200	200	
254R1	254R1	Mt Emily Unit Bow No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	55	55	55	55	
254R2	254R2	Mt Emily Unit Bow No. 2	One spike elk	One spike elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	160	176	160	176	
255R1	255R1	Walla Walla Unit Bow No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	25	25	25	25	

<b>Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
255R2	255R2	Walla Walla Unit Bow No. 2	One spike elk	One spike elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	50	55	50	55	
256R1	256R1	Wenaha Unit Bow No. 1	One bull elk	One bull elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	40	40	40	40	
256R2	256R2	Wenaha Unit Bow No. 2	One spike elk	One spike elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	150	165	150	165	
257R1	257R1	Sled Springs Unit Bow No. 1	One elk	One elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	200	208	200	216	
257R2	257R2	Sled Springs Unit Bow No. 2	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	150	165	150	165	
258R1	258R	Chesnimnus Unit Bow	One elk	One elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	300	324	300	329	
259R	259R	Snake Rvr Unit Bow		One bull elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	270	270	270	270	
265R	265R	W Beulah Bow		One elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	500	500	500	500	
266R	266R	N Malheur Rvr Bow		One elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	450	450	450	450	
272R	272R	Silves Unit Bow		One elk	08/27/2022 - 09/25/2022	09/02/2023 - 10/01/2023	855	855	855	855	
							<b>16,390</b>	<b>16,775</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>16,386</b>	
<b>Muzzleloader Hunts</b>											
200M	200M	Cascade Muzzleloader	One elk** outside all USFS lands **One bull inside all USFS lands	One elk** outside all USFS lands **One bull inside all USFS lands	11/12/2022 - 11/18/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/01/2023	900	900	900	990	Date change. Creates break after general ALW bull season.

<b>Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
214M	214M	NE Trask Muzzleloader	One elk	One elk	12/14/2022 - 12/31/2022	12/14/2023 - 12/31/2023	40	42	40	44	
224M	224M	Tioga Unit Muzzleloader	One bull elk	One bull elk	12/03/2022 - 12/18/2022	12/09/2023 - 12/24/2023	200	220	250	275	Bull ratio increase is anticipated.
234M	234M	E Cascade Muzzleloader	One elk	One elk	11/05/2022 - 11/13/2022	11/11/2023 - 11/19/2023	180	196	180	198	
235M	235M	Paulina - E Fort Rock Muzzleloader	One elk	One elk	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	50	55	50	55	
248M	248M	Pole Cr Muzzleloader	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	25	27	25	27	
251M1	251M1	Elkhorn No. 1 Muzzleloader	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/01/2022 - 10/15/2022	08/01/2023 - 10/15/2023	50	55	50	55	
251M2	251M2	Elkhorn No. 2 Muzzleloader	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	10/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	10/16/2023 - 12/31/2023	50	55	50	55	
	253M	Catherine Creek Unit Muzzleloader		One antlerless elk	-	11/25/2023 - 12/03/2023			150	165	New hunt in 2023 season.
260M	260M	Eagle Cap Muzzleloader	One bull elk	One bull elk	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	50	55	50	55	
265M	265M	E Grant Muzzleloader	One elk	One elk	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	175	193	175	193	

<b>Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
278M	278M	High Desert Muzzleloader	One elk	One elk	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	125	138	125	138	
							<b>1,845</b>	<b>1,936</b>	<b>2,045</b>	<b>2,250</b>	
<b>Youth Hunts</b>											
210T	210T	Saddle Mtn Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	10	10	10	10	
211T	211T	Scappoose Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	20	20	20	20	
212T1	212T1	Wilson Unit No. 1 Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	10	10	10	10	
212T2	212T2	Wilson Unit No. 2 Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/17/2022 - 12/25/2022	12/23/2023 - 12/31/2023	40	41	40	42	
212T3	212T3	Wilson Unit No. 3 Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	12/24/2022 - 01/01/2023	12/30/2023 - 01/07/2024	40	42	40	44	
214T	214T	Trask Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	10	10	10	10	
216T	216T	Santiam Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	20	20	20	20	
217T	217T	Stott Mtn Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	15	15	15	15	
218T	218T	Alsea Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	15	15	15	15	
219T	219T	McKenzie Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	20	20	20	20	
220T	220T	Siuslaw Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	15	15	15	15	
221T1	221T1	Indigo Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	20	20	20	20	
221T2	221T2	Sutherlin Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	01/01/2023 - 01/31/2023	08/15/2023 - 01/31/2024	20	21	20	22	

<b>Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
222T	222T	Dixon Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	10	10	10	10	
223T	223T	Melrose Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 03/31/2023	08/15/2023 - 03/31/2024	10	10	10	10	
224T	224T	Tioga Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	30	30	30	30	
225T	225T	Sixes Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	75	78	75	83	
226T	226T	Powers Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	25	25	25	25	
227T	227T	Chetco Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	10	10	10	10	
228T	228T	Applegate-Evans Cr Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	10	10	10	10	
230T1	230T1	Rogue Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	30	30	30	30	
230T2	230T2	W Rogue Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 03/31/2023	08/15/2023 - 03/31/2024	35	35	35	35	
231T	231T	Keno Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	20	20	20	20	
233T	233T	Sprague Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	15	15	15	15	
234T	234T	E Cascade Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	50	50	50	50	
235T	235T	Paulina - E Fort Rock Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	30	30	30	30	
236T	236T	Maury Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	10	10	10	10	
237T1	237T1	Ochoco Unit No. 1 Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	10	10	10	10	
237T2	237T2	Ochoco Unit No. 2 Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	10/15/2022 - 10/23/2022	10/21/2023 - 10/29/2023	100	100	100	100	

<b>Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.</b>											
<b>2022 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt #</b>	<b>2023 Hunt Name</b>	<b>2022 Bag Limit</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Season Dates</b>	<b>2023 Season Dates</b>	<b>Prop. 2022 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2022 Tags*</b>	<b>Prop. 2023 Tags</b>	<b>Adj. 2023 Tags*</b>	<b>2023 Notes &amp; Changes</b>
238T	238T	Grizzly Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	10	10	10	10	
241T	241T	White Rvr - Hood Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	10	10	30	30	Population is over management objective.
244T	244T	Umatilla Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	50	50	50	50	
245T	245T	Fossil Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	50	50	50	50	
246T1	246T1	Murderers Cr - Northside Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	50	50	50	50	
246T2		Flat Cr Youth	One antlerless elk		08/15/2022 - 08/26/2022	-	20	22	0	0	Delete hunt for 2023 season. Primarily addressed damage that is no longer an issue.
248T	248T	Heppner Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	50	50	50	50	
250T	250T	Desolation Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	20	21	20	22	
251T	251T	Baker Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	100	100	100	100	
252T1	252T1	Starkey Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	20	20	30	30	Population is over management objective.
252T2	252T2	Glass Hill Youth	One elk	One elk	11/19/2022 - 12/31/2022	11/25/2023 - 12/31/2023	3	3	3	3	
253T	253T	Catherine Cr Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	20	20	30	30	Population is over management objective.
257T	257T	Sled Springs Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	10	10	10	10	
258T	258T	Chesnimnus Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	10	10	10	10	

**Table 21 Continued. Recommended 2023 elk hunts and tags.**

2022 Hunt #	2023 Hunt #	2023 Hunt Name	2022 Bag Limit	2023 Proposed Bag Limit	2022 Season Dates	2023 Season Dates	Prop. 2022 Tags	Adj. 2022 Tags*	Prop. 2023 Tags	Adj. 2023 Tags*	2023 Notes & Changes
259T	259T	Snake Rvr Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	10	10	10	10	
260T	260T	Minam Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	10	10	10	10	
261T	261T	Imnaha Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	25	25	25	25	
264T	264T	Lookout Mtn Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	40	40	40	40	
265T	265T	Beulah Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	20	20	20	20	
266T	266T	N Malheur Rvr Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	10	10	10	10	
272T	272T	Silvies Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	10	10	10	10	
276T	276T	Silver Lake Unit Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	15	15	15	15	
278T	278T	High Desert Youth	One antlerless elk	One antlerless elk	08/15/2022 - 12/31/2022	08/15/2023 - 12/31/2023	10	10	10	10	
							<b>1,298</b>	<b>1,308</b>	<b>1,318</b>	<b>1,336</b>	
							<b>61,605</b>	<b>65,682</b>	<b>61,555</b>	<b>66,023</b>	

\* Tag numbers adjusted up by each hunt's 4-yr average un-redemption rate to compensate for un-redeemed tags (max adjustment = 10%).

**Western Gray Squirrel Season Recommendations**

There are no changes proposed to 2023 western gray squirrel seasons (Table 22). Western gray squirrel season information is included in both the Big Game Regulations and the Game Bird Regulations because in many areas western gray squirrel are hunted along with upland game birds.

Table 22. Proposed western gray squirrel seasons and bag limits for 2023.

<b>Hunt</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Bag Limit</b>	<b>2022 Dates</b>	<b>Proposed 2023 Dates</b>
North-Central Oregon	34, 35, 39, 41, 42	3/day - 6 in possession	Sept. 15 - Oct. 31	Sept. 15 - Oct. 31
Remainder of Oregon	*10-33, 36-38, 40, 43-77	5/day - 15 in possession	Sept. 1 - Nov. 15	Sept. 1 - Nov. 15

\*That portion of Unit 30 (Rogue) south of Rogue River and South Fork of Rogue River and north of Highway 140 is open year-round with no bag limit.