



Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Elk Damage on Private Land

Senate and House
Natural Resource Committees
March 28, 2019



State of Oregon

Wildlife Policy (ORS 496.012)

...wildlife shall be managed to prevent serious depletion
... and to provide optimum recreational and aesthetic
benefits

Coequal goals of wildlife management:

- Optimum population levels
- Develop and manage lands & waters for production and public enjoyment of wildlife
- Orderly and equitable utilization
- Public access
- Compatible with primary uses of the land
- Optimum recreational benefits
- Decisions for social, economic & recreational use



Legislative Assembly Findings on Wildlife Damage (ORS 610.055)

... appropriate measures must be taken to assist farmers, ranchers and others in resolving wildlife damage problems.

Department Wildlife Damage Policy:

- Advice/Repellents
- Hazing
- Barriers/Fencing
- Habitat Programs
 - Regional Habitat Biologists
 - Green Forage
 - Access and Habitat Projects
- Harvest Management





Harvest Management

Hunting Seasons:

- For large scale take of elk
- Used for population control or reduction
- Can be a localized area or several wildlife units

Landowner Preference Tags:

- Used for both recreation and damage control during hunting seasons

Oregon Landowner Damage Program:

- Allows issuance of tags for landowner's property
- Allows landowner to pick who receives a tag
- Can customize hunt dates
- No limit on tags other than no more than 5 at a time
- Very popular with landowner community



Harvest Management (continued)

Emergency Hunts:

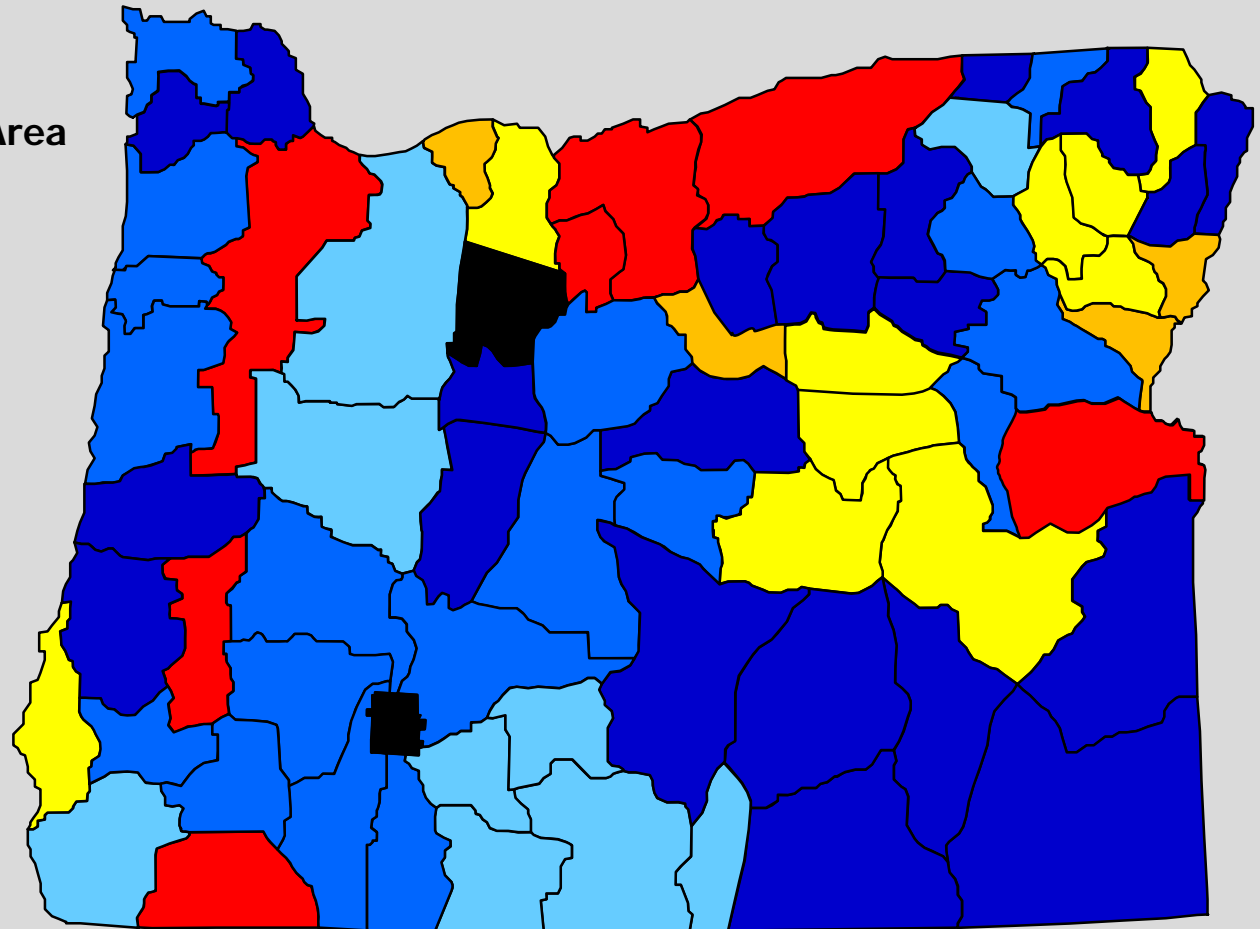
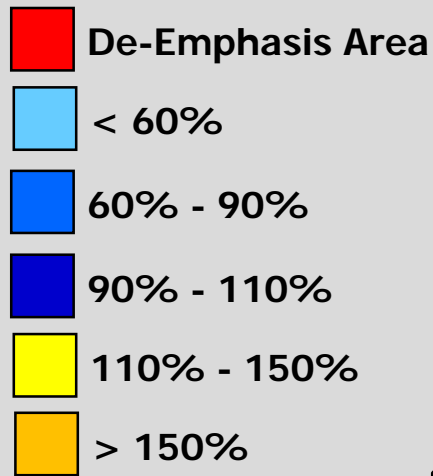
- Use of hunters to take animals in damage situations
- Can customize dates or hunt areas
- Can combine multiple landowners
- Hunters taken off a list; landowner does not control who receives a tag

Kill permits:

- Specific tool with limited utility
- Best in situations where take of one or a few animals will solve damage
- Can be used 24 hours a day
- May be best if take is necessary in area with safety concerns



Percent of Elk Population Objective by Wildlife Management Unit in 2018





Questions?

