



# 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:

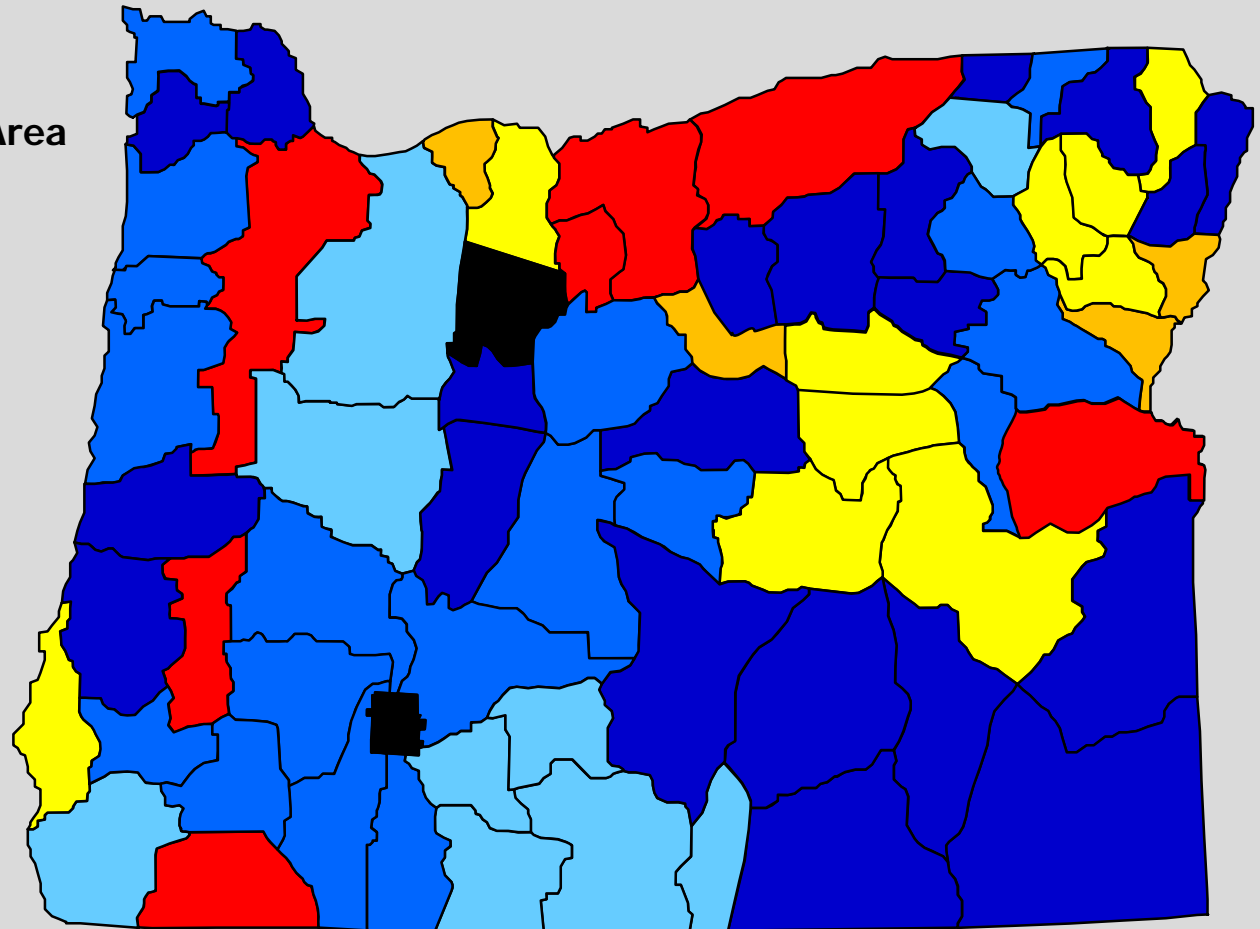
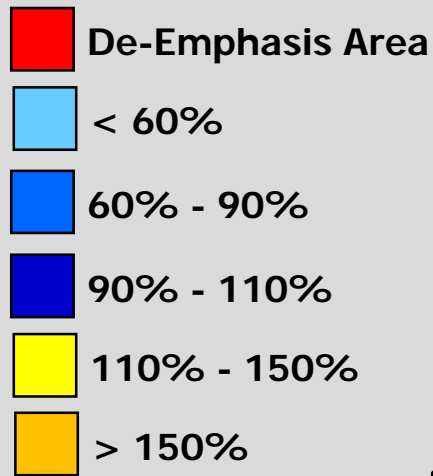
- Use of hunters to take animals in damage situations
- Can customize dates or hunt areas
- Can combine multiple landowners
- Hunters taken off a list; landowner does not control who receives a tag

## 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?

