

LUMMI NATION
REGULAR (SUBSISTENCE) Off-Reservation BIG GAME
HUNTING REGULATION # 2026-27
Hunting Year (HY) 09/01/2026 – 08/31/2027
Effective 09-01-2026

AUTHORITY This regulation is issued pursuant to Paragraph 10.17.090, Hunting Regulations of the Lummi Code of Laws, Title 10. Violation of this regulation constitutes a violation of Title 10 Ordinance of the Lummi Code of Laws, 10 is punishable under Chapter 10.06.070, and Chapter 10.17. **Hunters must comply with all requirements of Title 10 and this Regulation.**

GENERAL CLOSURE The Lummi Reservation and all other areas within the territory under the Lummi Nation's hunting jurisdiction are closed to the hunting of big game animals unless those areas are specifically opened by regulation. Areas opened by regulation are only open to hunting of big game in accordance with Title 10 of the Lummi Code of Laws, and all applicable regulations. Any animals found to have been taken in violation of this Regulation are subject to confiscation from, and forfeiture by, the hunter.

PERMIT / IDENTIFICATION All persons hunting under the authority of the Lummi Nation must comply with Title 10 of the Lummi Code of Laws. The following are authorized to issue and validate permits: 1) Lummi Fisheries and Natural Resources Commission Officers, 2) Director of Natural Resources, 3) Deputy Director of Natural Resources, 4) Natural Resources Administrative Assistant, 5) Wildlife Program Manager, and 6) Wildlife Technician. Permits shall be issued to eligible members of the Lummi Nation upon payment of a non-refundable administrative fee of \$5.00. (This fee is waived for elder hunters). Permits and tags shall be valid from the first day of issue or the start of the hunting year, whichever is later, and, unless otherwise specified, shall expire one half hour after sunset on the last day of the season in the hunting year. **In addition to the current permit and tags, hunters must also have a valid Tribal ID with them at all times when hunting.**

GAME TAGS / REPORTING FORMS A Lummi tribal subsistence tag is required for hunting under this Regulation. Tags are obtained from the Natural Resources Department and must be validated at the time of issue by an individual authorized in the Permit/Identification section of these regulations. Each tag consists of two parts: the carcass tag and the reporting form tag. They are issued as a joined pair and are required for hunting deer, elk, or mountain goat* under this Regulation. Each hunter possessing a valid hunting permit will be allowed up to 1 elk, 2 deer, and 1 mountain goat. Designated hunters are allowed only 1 designated hunt at a time. It shall be unlawful for a hunter to hunt more than one designated hunt at a time.

CARCASS TAGS & RETURNING TAGS & HARVEST REPORT Successful hunters must immediately remove from the carcass tag the designated notches corresponding to the month and day of the kill. Reporting form tags, with the harvest report filled in by the hunter, and the date of the kill notched out must be returned to the Natural Resources Department main office before another tag will be issued. LNR Wildlife Program will also accept photos of properly notched tags and the harvested animal as a harvest report. Send these to 360-410-1783 or hunting@lummi-nsn.gov. LNR is piloting a new way to return and report tags using a QR code or web link. A QR code and web link will be included on each issued permit and will allow you to report tags under that specific permit until the expiration date of the permit/tags. Scan the code or use the link to complete tag returns and harvest reports. Since this is a new tool for the LNR database, please let Wildlife staff know if there are any glitches or issues. All reporting form tags, whether an animal was harvested or not, must be returned within 30 days after the expiration date of the tag or by March 31st of the Hunting Year, whichever is earlier. Failure to return tags is subject to a fine of not less than \$50 and will jeopardize the ability of the permittee to obtain tags the following hunting season, including GMU 418 special elk tags. A permittee who loses a tag will be relieved of a monetary penalty, if they file an affidavit of tag loss, including a harvest report, by March 31st of the Hunting Year. Failure to report a lost tag in a timely manner will result in withholding further issuance of tags to the permittee until all applicable fines are paid and harvest reports are filed.

AREAS OPEN Hunting under these regulations is allowed within the boundaries of Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Game Management Units (GMUs) listed in this section except on lands within those units which are: a) conspicuously posted "NO HUNTING", or; b) within 1,000 feet of an occupied building or area, or; c) national, state, county, or municipal parks or national monuments, or; d) closed due to extreme fire danger. Hunting on small private lands is prohibited unless the hunter has prior written permission from the landowner granting access to hunt big game animals and these lands are within the areas open by the Lummi Nation Big Game Hunting Regulations. Any violation of these conditions will be considered a violation of Title 10 Ordinance sections 10.17.140 and 10.06.080.

AREAS OPEN FOR ELK, DEER, AND MOUNTAIN GOAT REGULAR HUNTS

REGIONS 4 & 6 ELK

GMU - Name	Opens 30 min before sunrise	Closes 30 min after sunset	Allowed Harvest
407 - North Sound	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Either Sex
418 - Nooksack *	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	CLOSED
426 - Diablo	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Either Sex
437 - Sauk	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Bull Preferred #
448 - Stillaguamish	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Bull Only
450 - Cascade	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Either Sex
460 - Snoqualmie	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Bull Only
454 - Issaquah	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Either Sex
466 - Stampede	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Bull Only

485 - Green River	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Bull Only
490 - Cedar River	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Bull Only
653 - White River	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Bull Only

GMU 437 is open for either sex; hunters are REQUESTED to take bulls

* Open by special tag drawing only for any bull, raghorns preferred

NOTE: Hunters are NOT permitted to shoot or take elk with collars. If a collared elk is accidentally harvested, please contact the LNR Wildlife Program, (360) 410-1783 to turn in the collar.

418 SPECIAL ELK TAG NOTICES: Unlike some prior years, the hunting season for the GMU 418 special bull elk lottery tag holders will commence on September 01. Additional handling provisions for the GMU 418 elk harvested during the time period of 9/01 – 9/30 should be followed and are recommended for all hunters to ensure the safe handling of wild game meat and avoid wastage. **Having fire safe equipment such as an extinguisher and a shovel or digging tool during September is highly recommended to stay fire safe while hunting and is required on some lands to hunt.**

- Only eligible hunters 18 years of age or older at the time of the pre-season drawing are eligible to participate in the GMU 418 Special Elk Drawing and Hunt
- All elk harvested during this time period must be field dressed by skinning, gutting, and icing as soon as possible after the kill.
- All animals must be transported to a local butcher shop within 3 hours of the commencing of vehicular transport.
- Animals in transit to a local butcher must be kept iced during transportation.
- Hunters are responsible for providing all materials and equipment necessary for complying with this Regulation.
- Hunters must notify the LNR designee Emily Wirtz (360) 410-1783 and the on duty LPD NR officer (360) 312-2274, if they have harvested an animal under these provisions and are unable to comply with the timing requirements.
- The Wildlife Program (WP) would like to harvest organs from the head/neck of the bulls, if possible, for disease surveillance purposes.
- If hoof deformities are noticed, the WP would like to collect all 4 hooves for disease surveillance purposes.
- From freshly dead elk, the WP would like to collect a small piece of footpad or a very thin tip of the ear or ear punch for a Western Washington elk genetic study.

REGIONS 4 & 6 DEER

GMU - Name	Opens 30 min before sunrise	Closes 30 min after sunset	Allowed Harvest
407 - North Sound	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Either Sex
410 - Island	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Either Sex
418 - Nooksack #	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Either Sex
426 - Diablo	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Either Sex
437 - Sauk	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Either Sex

448 - Stillaguamish	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Either Sex
450 - Cascade	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Either Sex
460 - Snoqualmie	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Either Sex
454 - Issaquah	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Either Sex
466 - Stampede	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Buck Only
485 - Green River	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Buck Only
490 - Cedar River	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Either Sex
653 - White River	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	Buck Only

Some areas of 418 are closed or inaccessible to big game hunting, please check maps and signs to ensure you are in open areas for hunting.

REGIONS 4 & 6 MOUNTAIN GOAT

***SPECIAL NOTICES:** General closure is in effect for mountain goats in all GMUs. Hunting for mountain goats is by special request only.

GMU - Name	Opens 30 min before sunrise	Closes 30 min after sunset	Allowed Harvest
418 - Nooksack	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	CLOSED
426 - Diablo	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	CLOSED
448 - Stillaguamish	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	CLOSED
450 - Cascade	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	CLOSED
460 - Snoqualmie	09/01/2026	02/28/2027	CLOSED

NOTE: As a population rebuilding measure, hunters are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED (but not required) to take billies instead of nannies whenever possible to assist in recovery of chronically depressed stocks in all GMUs. For assistance with verifying billies vs. nannies, please ask the LNR WP for educational information on sex identification.

BAG LIMITS The permit is limited to a maximum one (1) elk and two (2) deer per Hunting Year. (1) Mountain goat would be permitted only under special request and conditions described above. All other game species are addressed in other regulations.

TRANSPORTING BIG GAME A valid Lummi Tribal regular big game hunting carcass tag, with the date of the kill notched out, must be attached to the animal prior to and during transport. The head of the animal should accompany the carcass during transportation.

WASTAGE PROHIBITED Pursuant to section 10.17.180, it is unlawful for any citizen of the Lummi Nation, or other member of a federally-recognized tribe, who kills or otherwise possesses any game or predator animal covered under the Lummi Nation's hunting regulations to leave any portion of the meat, or other part of the animal customarily retained for use, in the field or otherwise allow wastage or spoilage thereof.

LIMPING ELK Hunters may take visibly limping elk that they have reason to suspect may be suffering from hoof disease for the health of the herd and consideration for that individual. The hunter must coordinate with Wildlife Staff to sample hooves for disease surveillance. The hunter can be issued a replacement elk tag to use in the remainder of the regular hunting season. If the limping elk was in otherwise good condition and the hunter wishes to donate all or half of the meat to Commods, the LNR Wildlife Program will pay for the meat processing.

SALVAGE TAGS Deer and elk killed by motor vehicles off-Reservation may be salvaged through the free Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife online permit form:

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/b7bed6fbffe43d89f07158b8b4a47ae?hide=footer>

If you salvage roadkill on the Lummi Reservation, contact Wildlife Staff to get a salvage tag for the animal. If the animal is freshly dead and in otherwise good condition and you wish to donate all or half the meat to Commods, the LNR Wildlife Program will pay for the meat processing.

CARCASS DISPOSAL It is the responsibility of the hunter to ensure a harvested big game carcass is disposed of in a manner that is sanitary and out of view of the general public. If a tribal member needs assistance with proper carcass disposal, please contact the LNR Wildlife Program. Disposal should occur away from public roads, trails, and waterways.

HUNTERS UNDER AGE 18 Persons under the age of 12 may accompany a hunter but are not allowed to use a weapon of any kind. Persons 12 to 17 years of age must be accompanied by an adult 18 years or older while hunting. **All hunters under the age of 18 must provide proof of successful completion of an approved hunters / firearm safety course prior to obtaining a hunting permit or tags.**

DISEASE SURVEILLANCE AND RESEARCH The Wildlife Program (WP) has developed a Disease Management Program with increasing concerns about disease presence and spread in wildlife species. For any deer, elk, or mountain goat harvested, the WP would like to collect organs from the fresh carcasses of harvested animals, especially from the head and neck. Please contact Emily Wirtz at 360-410-1783 after harvest, so that the WP can send staff to collect samples for disease monitoring and surveillance. Priority samples include:

- Organs from the head/neck of the harvested ungulates, especially bulls and bucks
- All 4 hooves of ungulates with noticeable hoof deformities
- From freshly dead elk, collect a small piece of footpad or a very thin tip of the ear or ear punch for a Western Washington elk genetic study.

Supplies and protocols can be provided by LNR Wildlife staff.

All parts of the animal the hunter would like to preserve for traditional/cultural purposes will be preserved.

HUNTING HOURS Hunting is allowed only from thirty minutes before official sunrise until thirty minutes after official sunset daily. The official times are posted daily at <https://sunrise-sunset.org/us/bellingham-wa>.

The use of artificial lighting ("spotlighting") is prohibited for any regular / subsistence hunts.

FIREARM PROHIBITIONS The following is a synopsis of firearm prohibitions:

1. Fully automatic weapons are prohibited.
2. Shotguns smaller than 20 gauge or shot sizes smaller than #1 buckshot are prohibited.
3. Rifle bore diameter smaller than .240 or barrel lengths less than 16 inches are prohibited.
4. Bullets weighing less than 85 grains are prohibited.
5. Bullets other than mushrooming or expanded type are prohibited.
6. Muzzle loaders other than those described in Title 10 Code of Law section 10.17.140 are prohibited.
7. Discharge of firearms intended as a hunting activity within 1,000 feet of any building frequented by humans is forbidden, except that a pistol may be used to dispatch a downed animal.

BOW AND ARROW REGULATIONS The following regulations apply to hunting big game with bow and arrow.

1. A bow shall have at least 40 pounds of pull measured at 28 inches or less draw length.
2. Arrows shall have sharp broadhead blade(s) at least $\frac{7}{8}$ inches wide. The breadth must be barbless and completely closed at the back end of the blade(s) by a smooth line toward the feather end of the shaft and such line shall have no angle toward the point.
3. Except the use of an Indian type of broadhead made from flint or obsidian (volcanic glass) may be used provided that it does not have a well-defined barb and is slightly sloped or tapered from the widest point toward the feather $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{7}{8}$ wide.
4. Mechanical broadheads are permitted.

CROSSBOW REGULATIONS The following regulations apply to hunting big game with a crossbow.

1. A crossbow shall have a draw weight that is more than 125 pounds and a trigger safety that works properly.
2. Arrows shall have sharp broadhead blade(s) at least $\frac{7}{8}$ inches wide. The breadth must be barbless and completely closed at the back end of the blade(s) by a smooth line toward the feather end of the shaft and such line shall have no angle toward the point.
3. Mechanical broadheads are permitted.

SAFETY REGULATIONS The following is a summary of safety regulations and requirements.

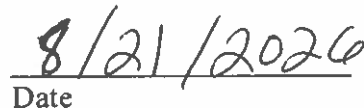
1. No loaded weapons within or on the vehicle
2. No shooting from vehicles except as allowed for disabled persons in Title 10.
3. No hunting while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
4. No shooting along or across public roadways.
5. Discharge of firearms intended as a hunting activity within 1,000 feet of any building frequented by humans is forbidden, except that a pistol may be used to dispatch a downed animal.

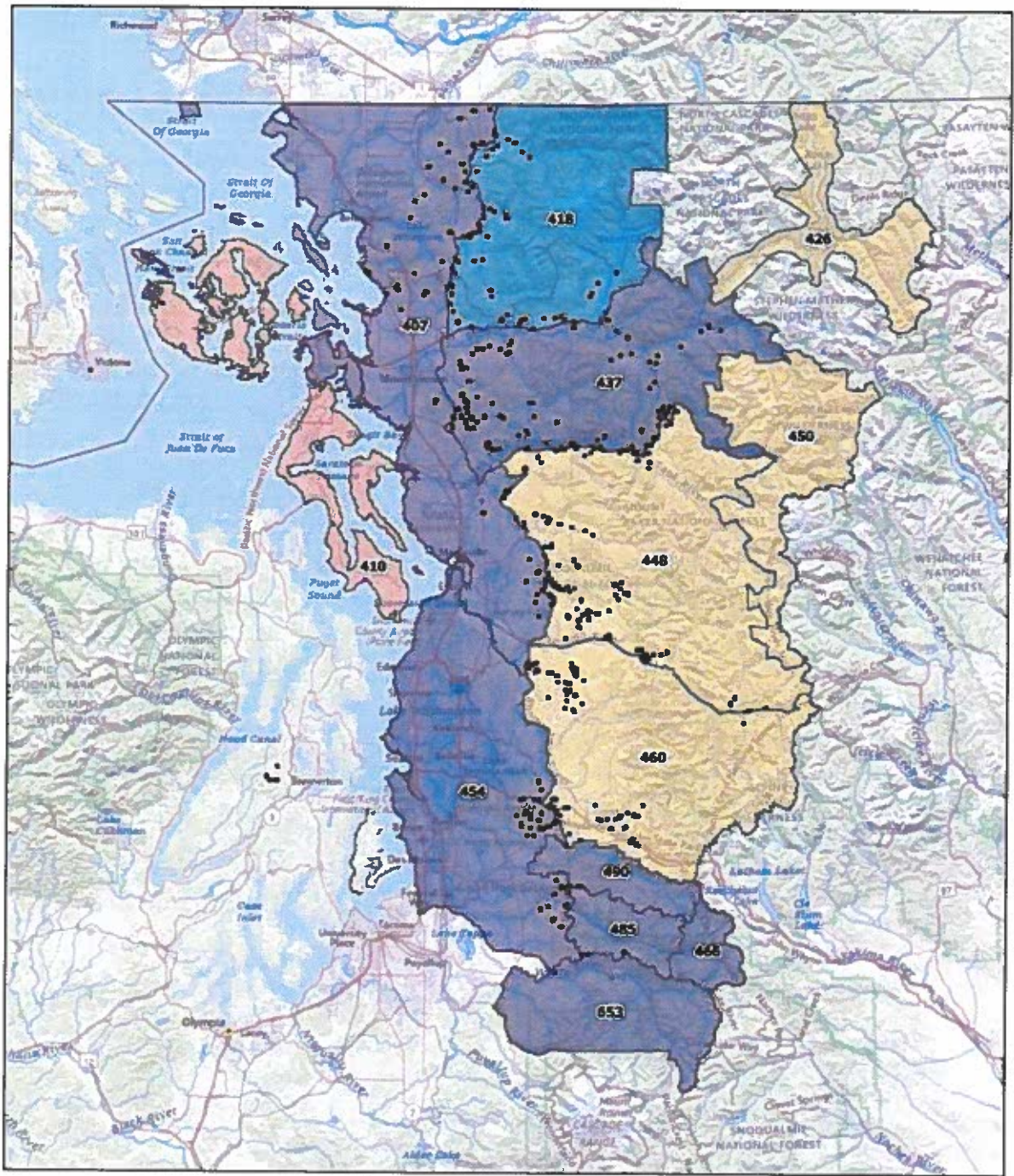
6. To be accompanied by a dog that harasses or otherwise disturbs wildlife while hunting for deer or elk is prohibited.
 7. No hunting for, possessing, or controlling protected wildlife or endangered species.
 8. No use of aircraft to spot, locate, or report the location of wildlife for the purpose of hunting big game on the same day.
 9. No use of a vehicle, aircraft, drone, or boat to pursue, or harass wild animals.
 10. No hunting wildlife from a boat propelled by a motor, unless the boat's motor is shut off and progress due to the motor has stopped.
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ASSISTANCE FORBIDDEN Pursuant to section 10.17.100, it is a violation of this regulation for any member of the Lummi Nation to be accompanied or assisted by any other person while hunting unless that person is also an enrolled member of a federally recognized treaty tribe with hunting rights in the hunting area and whose hunting rights in that tribe are in good standing.

KEY USE POLICY Hunters are advised that pursuant to section 10.06.080 of Title 10 of the Lummi Nation Code of Laws, the "Lummi Natural Resource Department Key Check-Out Policy & Record" is incorporated into this regulation by reference and includes, without limitation, all terms, conditions, and penalties contained therein.


Lummi Nation Official


Date



**Lummi Nation
Regular (Subsistence) Big Game GMUs
Hunting Regulations #2025-26**

- DNR Gate
- Deer
- Elk and Deer
- Elk, Deer, and Goat
- Special Permit Elk, Deer, and Goat

0 15 30
Miles

