

**LUMMI NATION
CEREMONIAL BIG GAME
HUNTING REGULATION # 2025-26
Hunting Year (HY) 09/01/2025 – 08/31/2026
Effective 09-01-2025**

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, and 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 good for two hunting days only. The hunting days shall be specified in the permit, but if no days are specified, the permit shall expire one hour after sunset two days after the date the permit is issued. Permits shall be issued when there is a ceremonial need in the community. 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 A Lummi tribal ceremonial 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. Designated hunters are allowed to be added to ceremonial permits if they are eligible Lummi hunters. Tags for funerals permit hunting for 24 hours a day.

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 EmilyCW@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 on 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 tag reports, whether an animal was bagged or not, must be returned within 1 weekday of the expiration date of the hunt. Failure to return tags is subject to a fine of not less than \$100 and will jeopardize the ability of the permittee to obtain ceremonial tags in the future. 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, within 1 weekday of the expiration date of the hunt. 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 affidavits of lost tags 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 Ceremonial 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 AND DEER CEREMONIAL USE

REGIONS 4 & 6 ELK

GMU - Name	Opens at 00:00	Closes at 00:00	Allowed Harvest
407 – North Sound	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex
418 - Nooksack *	09/01/2025	03/01/2026	CLOSED
426 - Diablo	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex
437 - Sauk	Year-Round	Year-Round	Bull Preferred #
448 - Stillaguamish	Year-Round	Year-Round	Bull Only
450 - Cascade	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex
460 - Snoqualmie	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex
454 - Issaquah	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex
466 - Stampede	Year-Round	Year-Round	Bull Preferred #
485 - Green River	Year-Round	Year-Round	Bull Preferred #
490 - Cedar River	Year-Round	Year-Round	Bull Only
653 - White River	Year-Round	Year-Round	Bull Only

*** Open by special bull subsistence tag drawing only**

GMU 437, 466, and 485 are open, under this regulation, for either sex; hunters are REQUESTED to take bulls

NOTES: 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) 384-7176 to turn in the collar.

Eye teeth (front bottom center teeth) of bull elk older than spike taken in GMUs 466, 485, 653 should be turned into the LNR Wildlife Program.

REGIONS 4 & 6 DEER #

GMU - Name	Opens at 00:00	Closed at 00:00	Allowed Harvest
407 - North Sound	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex
410 - Island	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex
418 - Nooksack	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex
426 - Diablo	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex
437 - Sauk	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex
448 - Stillaguamish	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex
450 - Cascade	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex
460 - Snoqualmie	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex
454 - Issaquah	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex
466 - Stampede	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex
485 - Green River	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex
490 - Cedar River	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex
653 - White River	Year-Round	Year-Round	Either Sex

Some areas 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 at 00:00	Closed at 00:00	Allowed Harvest
418 - Nooksack	09/01/2025	02/28/2026	CLOSED
426 - Diablo	09/01/2025	02/28/2026	CLOSED
448 - Stillaguamish	09/01/2025	02/28/2026	CLOSED
450 - Cascade	09/01/2025	02/28/2026	CLOSED
460 - Snoqualmie	09/01/2025	02/28/2026	CLOSED

NOTE: As a herd 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.

BAG LIMITS The permit is limited to a maximum of four (4) deer **OR** one (1) elk. (1) Mountain goat would be permitted only under special request and conditions described above.

TRANSPORTING BIG GAME A valid Lummi Tribal Ceremonial 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.

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 resources. 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, 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 the hunter would like to preserve for traditional/cultural purposes will be preserved.

HUNTING HOURS Except for hunts for funerals, ceremonial 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>

Ceremonial hunting for funerals is allowed 24 hours a day, the use of artificial lighting ("spotlighting") is allowed for funerals only.

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 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.

SAFETY REGULATIONS The following is a summary of safety regulations and requirements. Other regulations are set out in the text of the Lummi Tribal Off-Reservation Hunting Ordinance.

1. No loaded weapons in or on the vehicle.
2. No shooting from vehicles except as allowed for senior or disabled hunters 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, 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.

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 "LNR Proprietary Key Check Out Policy" (below) is incorporated into this regulation by reference and includes, without limitation, all terms, conditions, and penalties contained therein.


Lummi Nation Official

08-15-2025
Date

LNR Proprietary Key Check-out Policy, Revised 06-02-2025

Purpose

It is the policy of the Lummi Indian Business Council to support Lummi tribal members in the pursuit of exercising their treaty rights and protecting the Lummi Sche Lang en'. The Lummi Natural Resources (LNR) Department works together with other Point Elliott Treaty Area tribes, federal, state, and local agencies, and private landowners to secure access to lands where tribal members can continue their traditional practices handed down from one generation to the next since time immemorial.

This policy covers the check-out and use of proprietary keys held by LIBC and LNR for short-term loan and use by eligible persons. Eligible persons include Lummi tribal members in good standing with LIBC and LIBC staff including LNR staff. This policy intends to facilitate the loaning, use, and timely return or recovery of loaned keys. Allowable uses include natural resource management activities by LNR staff and hunting, gathering, and other cultural activities and uses by Lummi tribal members on State regulated forests and private industrial forestlands.

Upon receipt of a key use permit, the eligible person becomes the Permittee. Specific terms and conditions governing the possession and use of keys are covered on the permit issued to the user/Permittee at the time the key(s) are checked out to the Permittee. It is the responsibility of the Permittee to fully abide by all terms, limitations, and conditions of the permit, including, but not limited to, ensuring that all keys checked out are returned to the LNR department by 4:30p.m. on the date scheduled for return. Key(s) checked out to tribal members must be picked up and returned in person and must be returned no later than the first business day after the specified return date on the use permit.

Failure to return the key(s) will result in forfeiture of deposit and suspension of key check-out privileges until the key(s) are returned or full restitution covering all costs of replacing unreturned keys is made to the LNR department and any relevant fines and/or penalties are paid in full. Additional penalties for the misuse of the keys and/or deviation from the conditions of possession and use of the keys may also be applied.

Penalties

Loss of key(s): Forfeiture of deposit

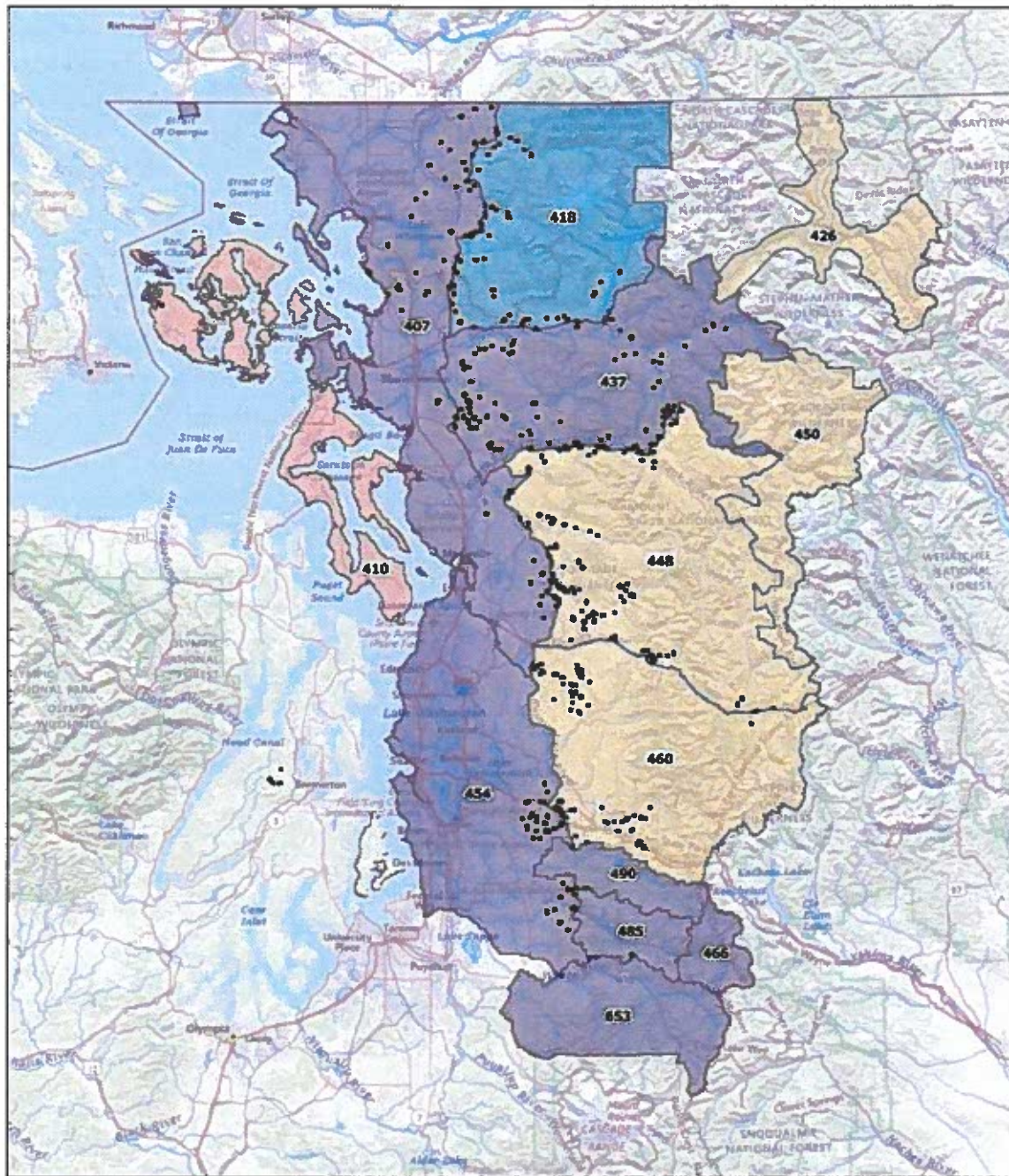
Returned (bounced) check: suspension of privileges until all fines are paid in cash

Late return: \$25 per day late fee and suspension of key privileges until key and placards are returned, and fines are paid

Violation(s) of permit conditions and depending upon the severity of the violation:

- First offense: loss of key check-out privileges for 30 calendar days
- Second offense: loss of key check-out privileges for 1 year
- Third offense: permanent loss of key check-out privileges

Possession and/or use of key(s) without a valid permit: permanent loss of key check-out privileges for 1 year.



**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

