

Chimacum Ridge Community Forest

Hunting Policy

Purpose

This policy outlines the rules and regulations for hunting within Chimacum Ridge Community Forest to ensure the safety of hunters, visitors, and wildlife. The policy also seeks to promote sustainable wildlife management practices while respecting the rights and traditions of Indigenous Tribes with historic ties to the land.

General Regulations

- Only bow hunting is permitted in Chimacum Ridge Community Forest.
- Discharge of firearms on the property is prohibited.
- Treestands are prohibited.
- Hunters may not create trails.

State Hunters

- Hunting within Chimacum Ridge Community Forest is permitted only during legal bow hunting seasons as established by Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and must comply with all relevant federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
- Hunting is limited to deer only.
- Hunters must possess a valid hunting license and tags issued by WDFW.
- Hunters must follow species-specific regulations, bag limits, and any other restrictions set by WDFW.
- Trapping of any kind is prohibited.
- Baiting or setting up feeding stations is strictly prohibited.
- Dates of the WDFW bow hunting periods may be posted for the awareness of other users.

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Tribal Hunters

- Members of Indigenous Tribes with historic and cultural ties to the land are welcome to hunt within Chimacum Ridge Community Forest.
- The community forest will honor traditional hunting practices.
- Members of Treaty Tribes must follow the regulations of their Tribe, including dates, quotas, and reporting requirements.

Permits and Reporting

- All hunters are required to carry their hunting license and any other applicable permits while in the forest.
- Harvested game must be reported in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.
- For wildlife conservation purposes, the Chimacum Ridge Community Forest Board of Managers may require hunters to report their harvest data online.

Enforcement and Penalties

- Offenders may be banned from hunting in Chimacum Ridge Community Forest.
- All offenses will be reported directly to WDFW or the applicable Tribal enforcement agency.
 - Violation of hunting regulations can result in fines, suspension of hunting privileges, or other penalties as established by law.

Hunter Conduct and Responsibilities

- Hunters must respect other community forest users and maintain a safe distance from trails and gathering areas.
- Hunters are responsible for proper disposal of field dressing waste. Dumping animal remains in public areas or near trails is prohibited.
- The use of motorized vehicles (gas or electric) on the property is prohibited.

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Amendments and Review

- This hunting policy will be reviewed annually by the Chimacum Ridge Community Forest Board of Managers with input from community stakeholders, including Indigenous Tribal representatives.
- Amendments may be made to reflect changes in wildlife populations, environmental conditions, or legal requirements, with input from relevant stakeholders.