

REGION 3 LIMITED ENTRY HUNTS
1982 - 1983 Hunting Season

R.W. Ritcey, Unpublished Report.

Moose: M.U. 3.28 This hunt was cancelled following the 1981-82 hunting season.

Moose: 3.46 - Wells Gray Park This was the 8th year of the Wells Gray Limited entry hunt. a rationale for the hunt and general history is available in the 1981-82 report.

Despite a relatively low snowfall this year, success was higher than average (Table I). It appears that the early closure of the general season in place for the past two years will result in high success rates. The reduction of season length from 9 to 7 days appeared to have little effect on the total kill for the L.E.H. as most moose are killed in the first few days of the hunt.

TABLE I*
Summary of sex and age data on moose harvested in M.U. 3.46 limited entry hunt

Year	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Mean age (excluding calves)		
				Total	Bulls	Cows
1976	4	4	1	10	6.5	10.5
1977	2	4	1	7	5.0	12.75
1978	9	6	0	15	4.8	7.3
1979	0	2	2	4	n/a	n/a
1980	4	3	0	7	4.0	7.4
1981	1	4	1	6	2.5	13.25
1982	18	11	2	31	4.4	7.2
1983	7	8	1	16	5.0	8.2
	45	42	8	96	4.5	9.7

TABLE II*
Success and participation rates for M.U. 3.46 L.E.H.

Year	Permits Available	Permits Used	% Used	Moose Harvested	% Success
1976	50	28	56	10	36%

1977	50	40	80	7	17%
1978	50	38	76	15	39%
1979	50	12	24	4	36%
1980	50	23	46	7	43%
1981	50	35	46	6	17%
1982	50	35	70	31	89%
1983	50	37	74	16	43%
AVERAGE	50	31	59	12	40%

* From Conservation Officer check

The age of bulls and cows (Table II) varied little from the 7 year average and nothing suggests that there has been an overharvest. Foeti from five pregnancies were examined. All were single pregnancies resulting from a late September - early October oestrus. Measurement data are on file.

No change is recommended for this hunt for the 1983 - 84 hunting season. Conflicts between hunters and cross country skiers seem to be minimal at this time, and hunter demand is still high.

Elk M.U. 3.14 this was the 5th year of the Limited Entry hunt on the introduced herd at Lytton. this year only 8 returns were received from 20 permittees for this hunt. Only one of six respondents who hunted reported a kill (Table III).

TABLE III
Success rate and harvests in Elk Limited Entry Hunt M.U. 3.14

Year	Permits Available	Reported Hunting	Reported Harvest	% Success	Reported Harvest		
					M	F	J
1978	30	19	8	42%	2	6	0
1979	20	8	5	65%	0	1	4
1980	20	14	7	50%	0	6	1
1981	20	n/a	2	n/a	0	2	0
1982	20	6	1	17%	0	1	0

Mountain Goat M.U.s 3.15, 3.16, 3.32, 3.33, 3.35, 3.36, 3.43, 3.44, 3.46

The total harvest of 13 goats in the region for 1982 was small, but at the same time is the highest since Limited Entry Hunting was initiated six years ago (Table IV).

TABLE IV
Summary of Limited Entry Hunts for Mountain Goat, Region 3

Year	Number of M.U.s open	Total Licences & Permits Available	Total Reported Hunting (Resident)	Total Harvest
1977	2	8	8	0
1978	3	10	5	3
1979	9	48	13	5
1980	9	53	29	11
1981	9	53	n/a	3
1982	9	61	n/a	13

Distribution of the goat kill has not been too favourable under the limited entry system, although it has shown some improvement over the wide open hunting in effect prior to 1977. This year, ten of thirteen goats harvested came from two management units although nine were open to hunting.

Permit allocations have been adjusted in some sub-units to reflect past harvests and new inventory information. However, there is no proposal to increase or decrease the total regional harvest. It is expected that both harvests and populations should continue to increase over the next few years.

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