

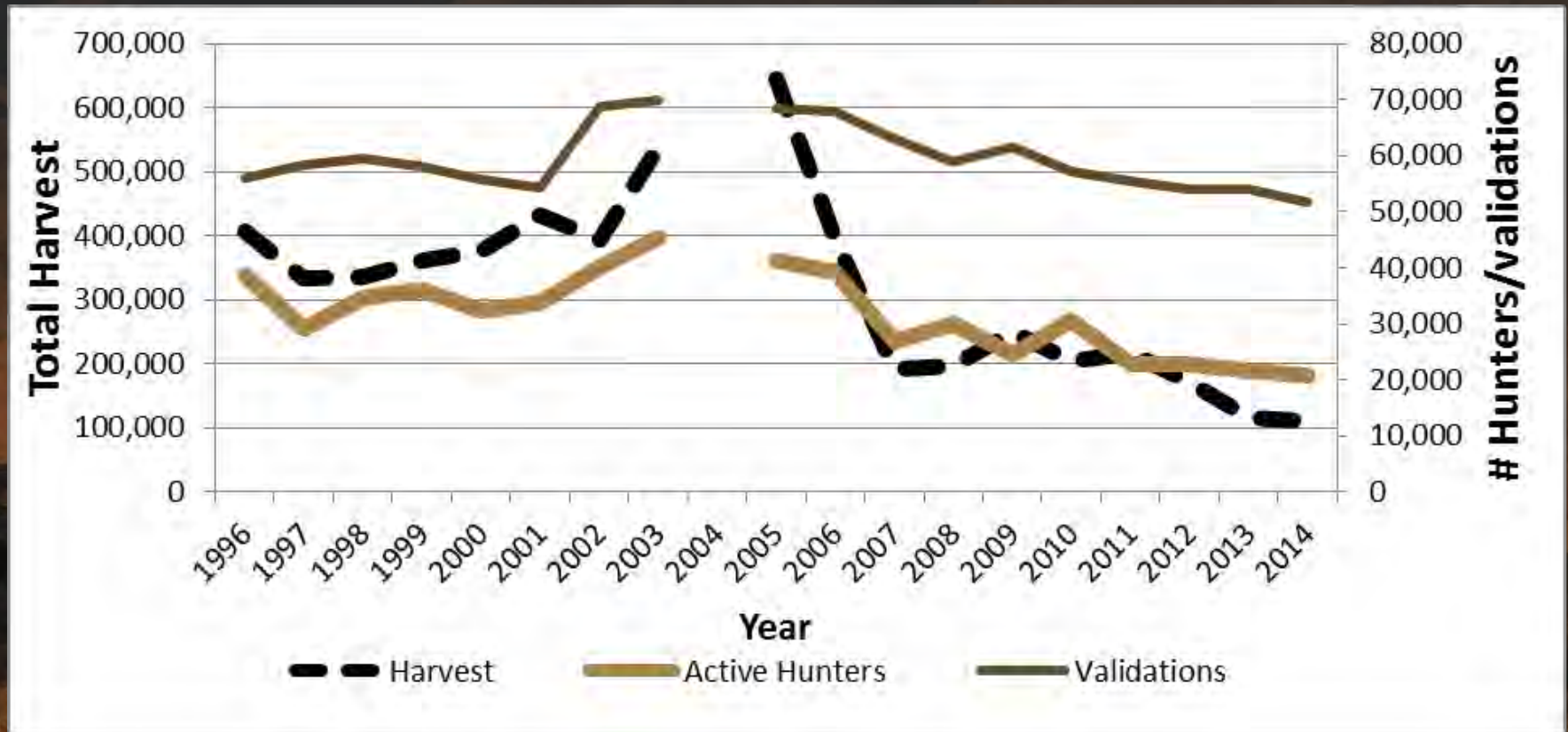
2015-16 Proposed Upland Game Bird Regulations



Upland Game Bird Regulations

- **Brief Overview: Population Status, Harvest Surveys**
- **Regulation Framework**
- **Controlled Fall Turkey Seasons**
- **Special Hunting Opportunities:
Youth Hunts, Hunting Workshops, Fee Pheasant Hunt**
- **Controlled Sage-Grouse Hunt**

Upland Game Bird Hunters and Harvest



2015-16 Upland Game Bird Outlook

Population Status

- Outlook varies by species and location
 - Quail production looks good both east and west
 - Mixed reports for chukars
 - Pheasants improved, but below average
- Hunters should see a noticeable improvement

Upland Game Bird Framework

- Framework adopted last year
- Established through public process
- Basis for Regulation Framework
 - Annual variation in populations is normal
 - Hunting effort is largely self-regulating
 - Hunting mortality small part of annual mortality

2015-16 Upland Game Bird Season Proposals

UPLAND GAME BIRDS	OPEN AREA	OPEN SEASON	Daily Bag limit
"Blue" and Ruffed Grouse	Statewide	Sep. 1 - Jan. 31	3 each species
Chukar and Hungarian (Gray) Partridge	Eastern Oregon counties	Oct. 10 - Jan. 31	8 (except Lower Klamath Hills)
Rooster Pheasant	Statewide	Oct. 10 - Dec. 31	2
California Quail	Western Oregon	Sep. 1 - Jan. 31	10 in aggregate
	Eastern Oregon counties	Oct. 10 - Jan. 31	10
Mountain Quail	Western Oregon, Hood River and Wasco counties	Sep. 1 - Jan. 31	10 in aggregate
	Crook, Gilliam, Grant, Klamath, Morrow, Umatilla, Wallowa, and Wheeler counties	Oct. 10 - Jan. 31	2
	Remaining Eastern Oregon counties	NO OPEN SEASON	
Spring Turkey	Statewide	Apr. 15 - May 31	1 (season limit 3)
Fall Turkey - General Western Oregon	17 W. Oregon Wildlife Management Units.	Oct. 15 - Dec. 31	1 (season limit 2)

Controlled Fall Turkey Hunts

A turkey is the central focus of the image, standing in a field. The background is a soft-focus landscape with trees and a sky that transitions from a pale blue to a light orange, suggesting a dawn or dusk setting. The turkey is shown in profile, facing right, with its head turned slightly towards the viewer. Its feathers are a mix of brown and grey, and its neck is a distinct reddish-brown color.

- **Five controlled hunts, all E. Oregon**
 - **1,000 Permits**
 - **Assists with damage & nuisance**
- **No Changes to season dates and bag limits**
- **Hunters allowed two Fall turkey tags but only one for a controlled hunt, i.e.**
 - **Two general season tags, or**
 - **One general and one controlled.**













Special Hunting Opportunities

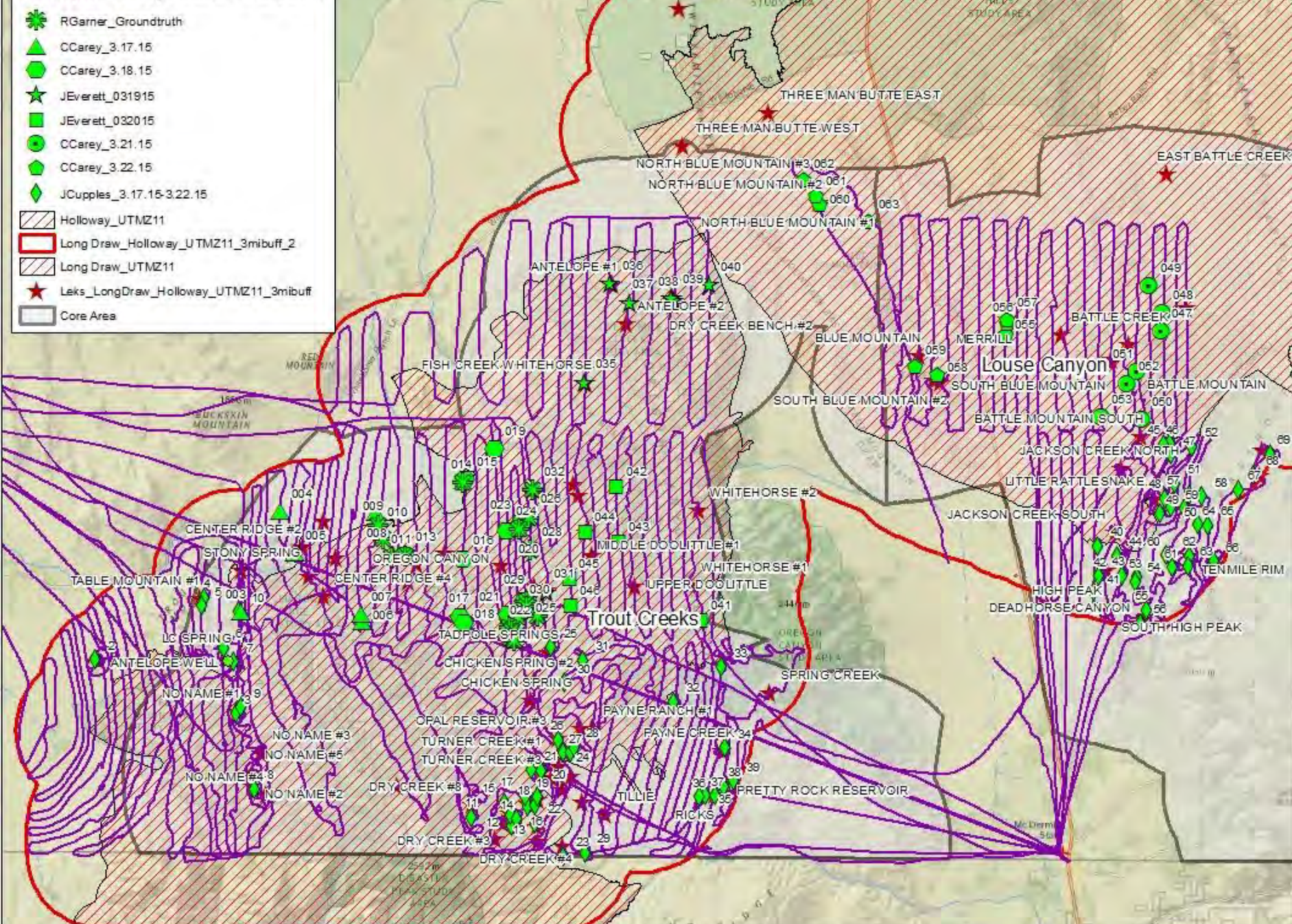
2015 Western Oregon Fee Pheasant Hunts

HUNT AREA	DATES	
Fern Ridge Wildlife Area	September 14 – October 11, 2015	
Sauvie Island Wildlife Area	September 21 – October 4, 2015	
Denman Wildlife Area	September 21 – October 9, 2015	
E. E. Wilson Wildlife Area	October 1 – October 31, 2015	
John Day (private land)	Sept. 19 & 20	30
Klamath Wildlife Area	Sept. 12 & 13	80
Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area	Sept. 19 & 20	35
Mid-Columbia (near The Dalles)	Sept. 19 & 20	20
Sauvie Island Wildlife Area	Sept. 19 & 20	50
Willow Creek (Prineville area)	Sept. 19 & 20	80
E. E. Wilson W.A. Mentored Youth	Sept. 20	20



Helicopter Surveys March 17-22, 2015

-  RGarner_Groundtruth
-  CCarey_3.17.15
-  CCarey_3.18.15
-  JEverett_031915
-  JEverett_032015
-  CCarey_3.21.15
-  CCarey_3.22.15
-  JCupples_3.17.15-3.22.15
-  Holloway_UTMZ11
-  Long Draw_Holloway_UTMZ11_3mibuff_2
-  Long Draw_UTMZ11
-  Leks_LongDraw_Holloway_UTMZ11_3mibuff
-  Core Area



0 3.75 7.5 15 Miles

Content may not reflect National Geographic's current map policy. Sources: National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.

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OFF NONE #1 TGT LOS







Harney County

Malheur County

OREGON

NEVADA

144807

126726

144806

126720

126723

126719

126699

126712

144803

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126707

126708

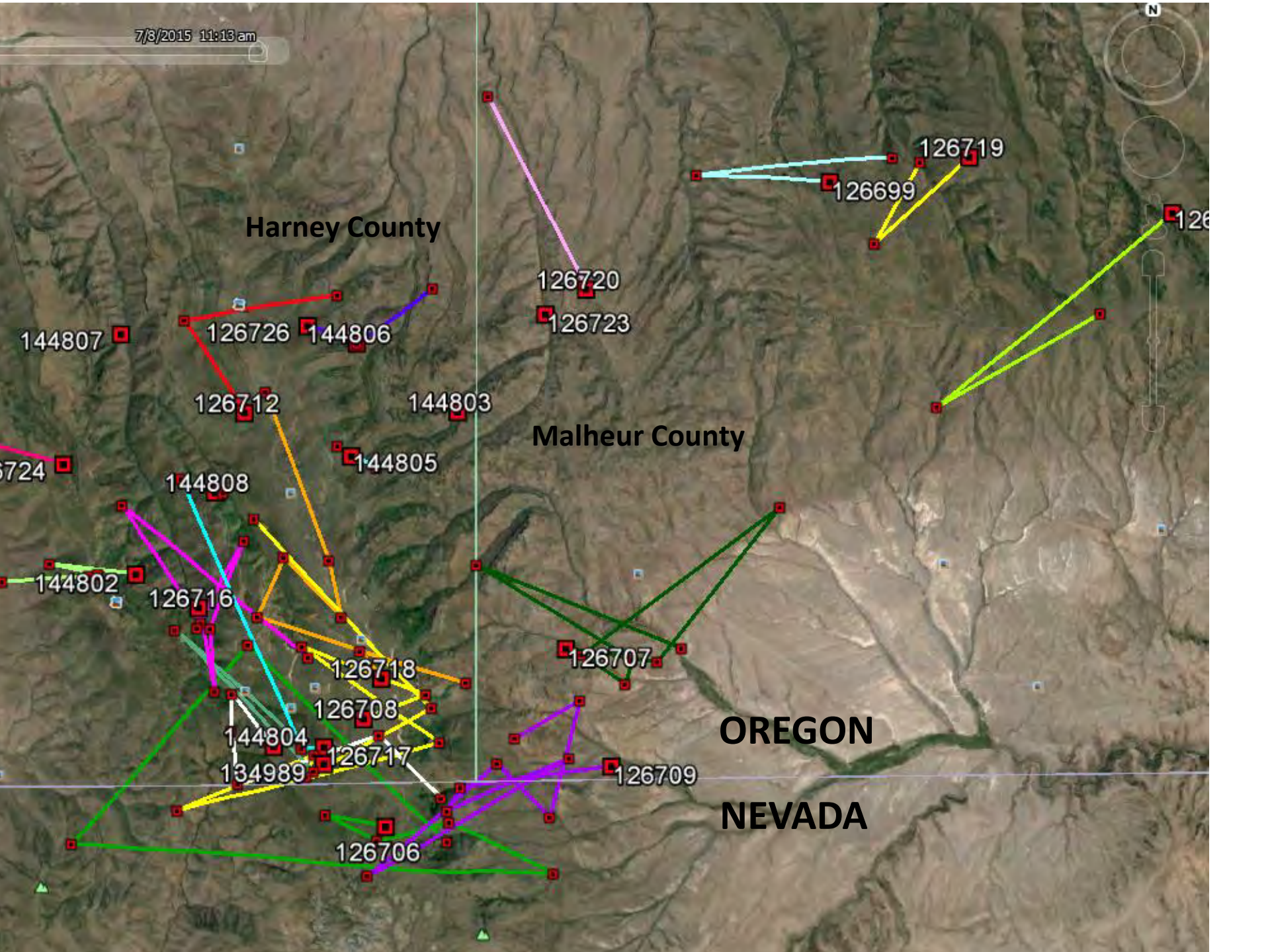
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2010 USFWS LISTING DECISION

Listing Factors

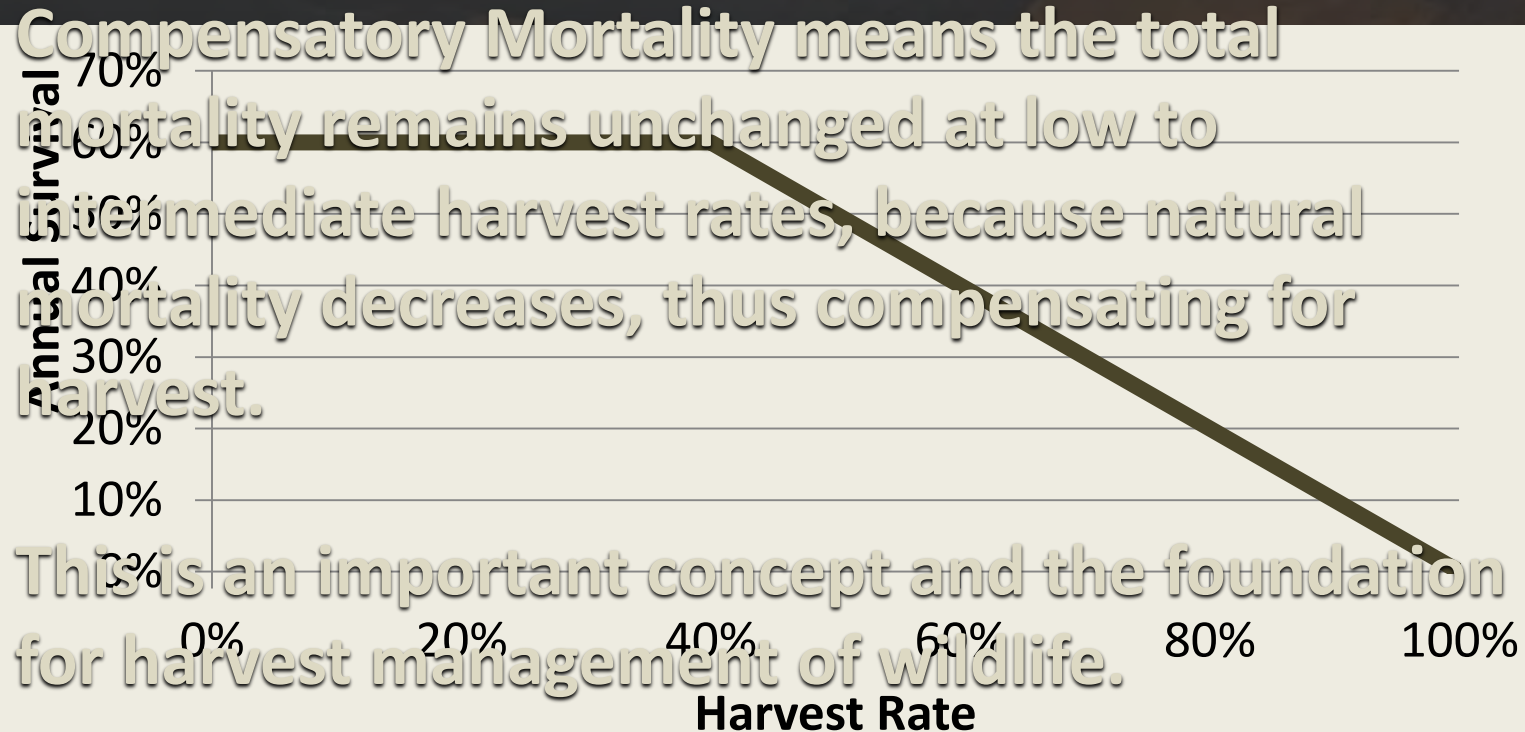
- A. Habitat loss/fragmentation
- B. Overutilization
- C. Disease or predation
- D. Inadequate regulatory mechanisms
- E. Other natural or man-made factors

USFWS found “...that regulated hunting of sage-grouse does not pose a threat that would lead to the likely endangerment of the species...,” and that “...habitat loss appears to be the most important threat to the greater sage-grouse.”

Compensatory Mortality

Compensatory Mortality means the total mortality remains unchanged at low to intermediate harvest rates, because natural mortality decreases, thus compensating for harvest.

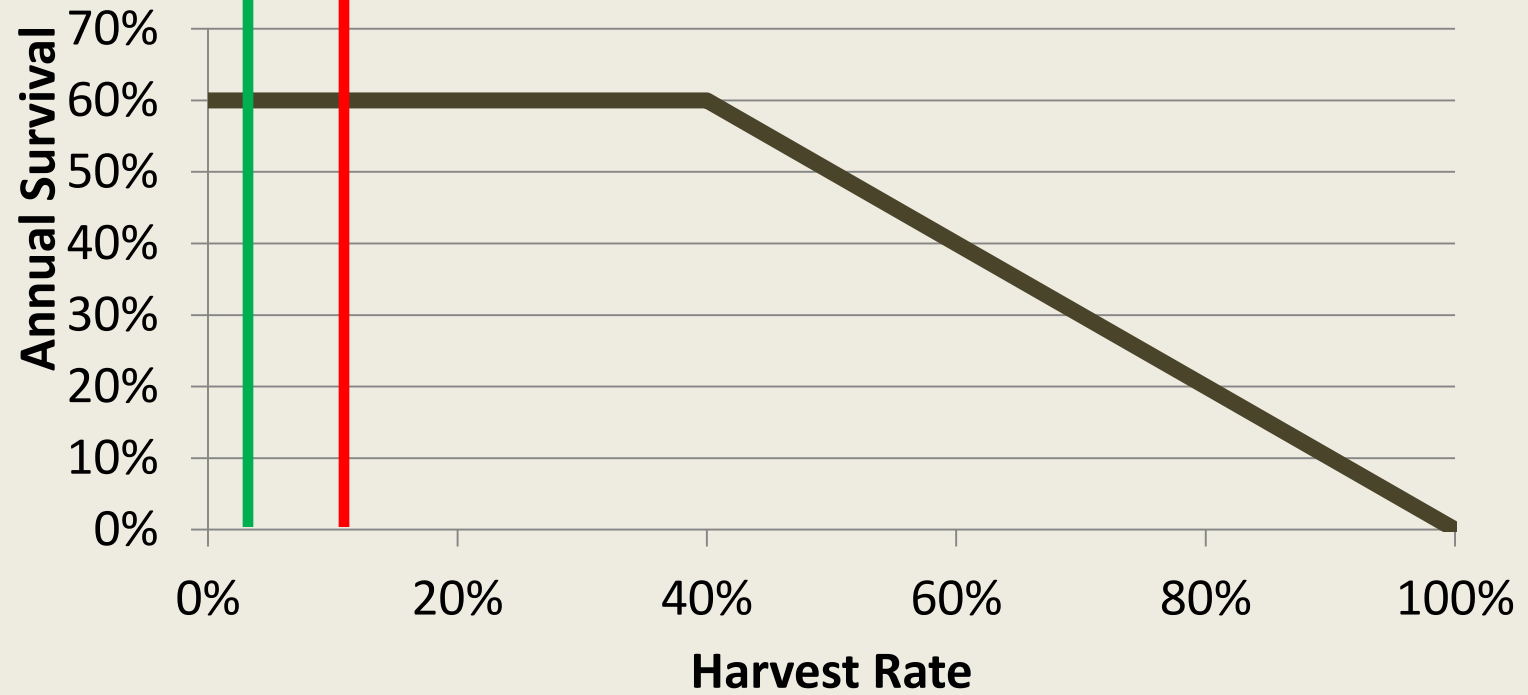
This is an important concept and the foundation for harvest management of wildlife.



How can natural mortality “compensate” for hunting mortality (harvest)?

- **Density-dependence.** The probability of survival increases for the remaining birds.
 - **Chance of predation can decrease**
 - **Chance of disease decreases**
 - **Safest roost sites more available**
 - **Best food resources more available**

Compensatory Mortality



Controlled Sage-grouse Season

- Large expanses of intact sage-grouse habitat
- Part of two remaining “strongholds” range wide
- Sage-grouse season is very conservative
 - Season for 10 of 21 WMUs with sage-grouse
 - Oregon season within guidelines
 - Permit numbers set annually
- Hunters exceptionally cooperative
 - Assist with gathering data

Controlled Sage-grouse Season

- Season Dates: Sep 12 - 20
- Open Area: 10 Wildlife Mgmt Units*
- Daily/Season Bag Limit: 2 sage-grouse
- Application Deadline: Aug 30, 2015
- Proposed Permits: 845

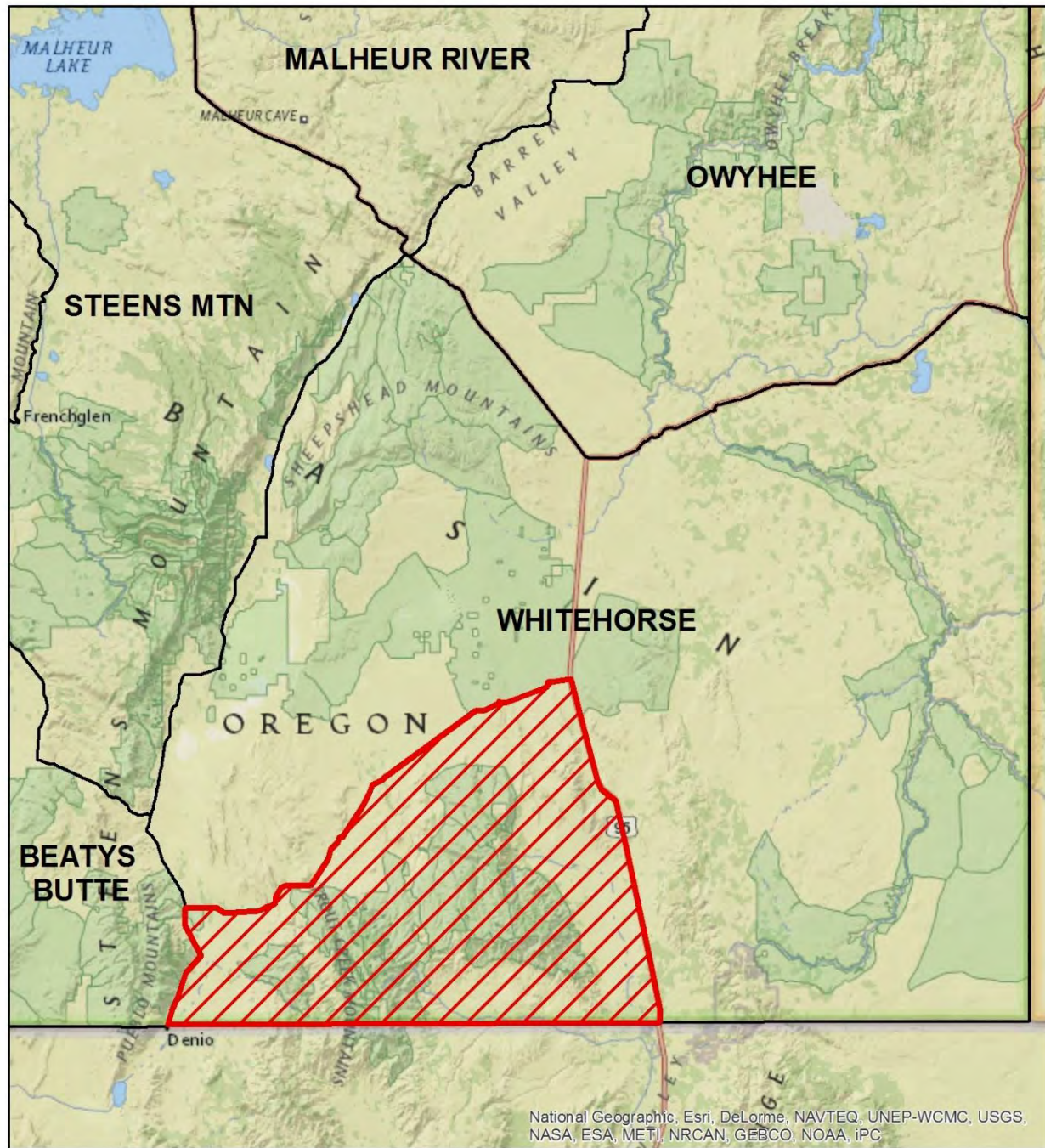
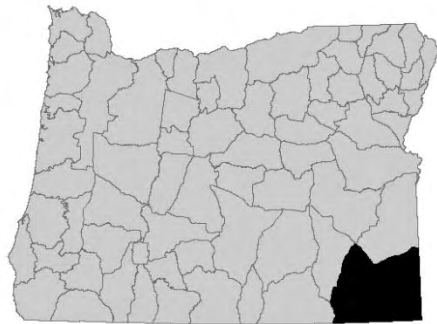
***Proposed closure of Whitehorse WMU west of Hwy 95 and south of Whitehorse Rd. No permits offered in 11 other WMUs with sage-grouse.**



Proposed Sage-Grouse Closure for Whitehorse Wildlife Management Unit

Legend

- WMUs
- Proposed Closed Area



Public Comments

- **Support for statewide spring turkey season limit increasing to 3**
- **Support for Oregon's conservative sage-grouse season**

A landscape photograph showing a wide valley. In the foreground, there is a river with a rocky, light-colored bed. The middle ground is a flat, sandy or silty plain. In the background, there are dark, silty mountains under a clear sky. The overall color palette is dominated by earthy tones like tan, brown, and grey.

Questions?