

WAC 220-440-260 Prohibition of feeding deer, elk, or moose. (1)

Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, it is an infraction under RCW 77.15.160 (1)(b) to place, deposit, distribute, or scatter feed including, but not limited to, grain, hay, minerals, salt, fruit, or other such substances or food types to feed, lure or attract deer, elk, or moose not lawfully held in captivity. A person may not allow food to be placed for the purposes of feeding other wildlife that causes deer, elk, or moose to congregate.

(2) This rule does not apply in the completion of any of the following agricultural practices:

(a) Cultivation, production, and harvest of crops including, but not limited to, fruit, vegetable, hay, and grains;

(b) Animal husbandry related to the care and feeding of domestic livestock and poultry.

(3) The director may authorize the feeding of deer, elk, or moose under the following conditions:

(a) Prevent damage to private property;

(b) Mitigate population loss anticipated by a predicted winter mortality;

(c) Support a WDFW research or management program.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.055, 77.04.020, and 77.12.047. WSR 26-06-063 (Order 25-28), s 220-440-260, filed 2/26/26, effective 3/29/26. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.055, 77.12.047, 77.12.610, 77.12.620, 77.12.630, 77.12.071, and 77.145.010. WSR 25-09-079 (Order 24-16D), s 220-440-260, filed 4/16/25, effective 5/17/25.]