

South Lateral A Wildlife Area Public Hunting 2011-12

Procedures for securing a Public Hunting Reservation

The South Lateral A Wildlife Area is located along Toppenish Creek at the south end of Lateral A Road. This 420 acre property is open to the public for bird hunting (via reservation) on most Sundays and Wednesdays throughout the hunting season. All hunting on this property is subject to the rules and regulations of the Yakama Nation. A Yakama Nation Hunting and Fishing Permit is required for all hunters on this property above the age of 12 years old.

This year we are changing some of the procedures for reserving a hunt on this high quality hunting area. The changes are designed to maximize the availability of this property to the nearly 4,000 public hunters who visit the Yakama Reservation each year. Please remember that the Yakama Nation allows public hunting on this property as a privilege, not a right of the hunting public. We ask that those with reservations to hunt this area obey the rules, keep safety as their number one concern, and be courteous to others and to the neighboring landowners.

A half day hunt (morning or afternoon) can be secured by following the procedures outlined below:

How to reserve a hunt date: Hunting reservations will be taken each week for the hunt dates occurring the following week. For example reservations for the 4 hunts (morning and afternoon) on October 16 and 19 will begin the week of October 10. Reservations can be made starting at 9AM Monday morning each week. The phone number for hunting reservations is (509) 865-5121 ext. 6307.

Number of hunters: 6 person maximum. A list of the names of the hunters in the group is required when you make your reservation. You can make your reservation for less than 6 hunters, but not for more than six hunters. Hunters may not hunt on more than 1 reservation date during the months of October and November or December and January. If you hunt the property in October or November, you must wait until December or January to reserve a second date. If there are any changes to the list of hunters hunting under a permit, or if a reservation needs to be cancelled, it is the burden of the person holding the reservation to inform the Wildlife Program of the change. If no change is made and a hunter on the reservation list does not hunt the date, that hunter will be treated as if he or she hunted the property.

Gate keys: A key to the entrance gate on the south end of Lateral A Road will be provided to the hunter making the reservation. The hunter making the reservation must pick up the key to the gate at the Yakama Nation's Wildlife Resource Management office prior to the hunt date. There will be no exceptions to this rule. After the hunt, the key must be immediately returned to the Wildlife Program.

A key return box will be provided for Sunday or after work hour key drop off. Hunters who fail to return the key immediately will not be allowed to hunt the property again.

Harvest Reporting: An envelope with harvest information will be provided with the key. A report on the number of hunters and the number of birds taken per species will be required for each reservation.

Tribal Member Hunting: Enrolled Yakamas may hunt the South Lateral A property any day of the week. If there are Yakama enrolled hunters on the property during your reservation, please be courteous and share the hunting area with them.