

**WAC 220-416-100 Baiting of game birds—Unlawful.** It is unlawful to hunt game birds by the aid of baiting, on or over any baited area, or on or over any area posted as an upland bird feeding site, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited. As used in this section, the following definitions apply:

"Baited area" means any area on which salt, grain, or other feed has been placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, or scattered, if that salt, grain, or other feed could serve as a lure or attraction for game birds to, on, or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them. Any such area will remain a baited area for ten days following the complete removal of all such salt, grain, or other feed.

"Baiting" means the direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of salt, grain, or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for game birds to, on or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them.

"Manipulation" means the alteration of natural vegetation or agricultural crops by activities that include, but are not limited to, mowing, shredding, discing, rolling, chopping, trampling, flattening, burning, or herbicide treatments. The term manipulation does not include the distributing or scattering of grain, seed, or other feed after removal from or storage on the field where grown.

"Natural vegetation" means any nonagricultural, native, or naturalized plant species that grows at a site in response to planting or from existing seeds or other propagules. The term natural vegetation does not include planted millet. However, planted millet that grows on its own in subsequent years after the year of planting is considered natural vegetation.

"Normal agricultural operation" means a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, postharvest manipulation, or agricultural practice, that is conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"Normal agricultural planting, harvesting, or postharvest manipulation" means a planting or harvesting undertaken for the purpose of producing and gathering a crop, or manipulation after such harvest and removal of grain, that is conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"Normal soil stabilization practice" means a planting for agricultural soil erosion control or postmining land reclamation conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture for agricultural soil erosion control.

Nothing in this section shall prohibit hunting of game birds on or over the following lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas:

(1) Standing crops, or flooded standing crops (including aquatics); standing, flooded, or manipulated natural vegetation; flooded harvested crop lands; or lands or areas where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of normal agricultural planting, harvesting, postharvest manipulation, or normal soil stabilization practice;

(2) From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with natural vegetation;

(3) From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with vegetation from agricultural crops, as long as such camouflaging does

not result in the exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of grain or other feed; or

(4) Standing or flooded standing agricultural crops where grain is inadvertently scattered solely as a result of a hunter entering or exiting a hunting area, placing decoys, or retrieving downed birds.

Nothing in this section shall prohibit hunting of any game bird, except waterfowl and coots, on or over lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas, and where grain or other feed has been distributed or scattered solely as the result of manipulation of an agricultural crop or other feed on the land where grown, or solely as the result of a normal agricultural operation.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.013, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, and 77.12.047. WSR 17-05-112 (Order 17-04), recodified as § 220-416-100, filed 2/15/17, effective 3/18/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047. WSR 12-11-005 (Order 12-70), § 232-12-264, filed 5/2/12, effective 6/2/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.040. WSR 99-17-034 (Order 99-118), § 232-12-264, filed 8/11/99, effective 9/11/99; WSR 81-12-029 (Order 165), § 232-12-264, filed 6/1/81. Formerly WAC 232-12-650.]