



# Exhibit B: 2026-27 Game Bird Hunting Regulations Proposals



Mikal Cline – ODFW Upland Game Bird Coordinator

Brandon Reishus – ODFW Migratory Game Bird Coordinator

April 24, 2026



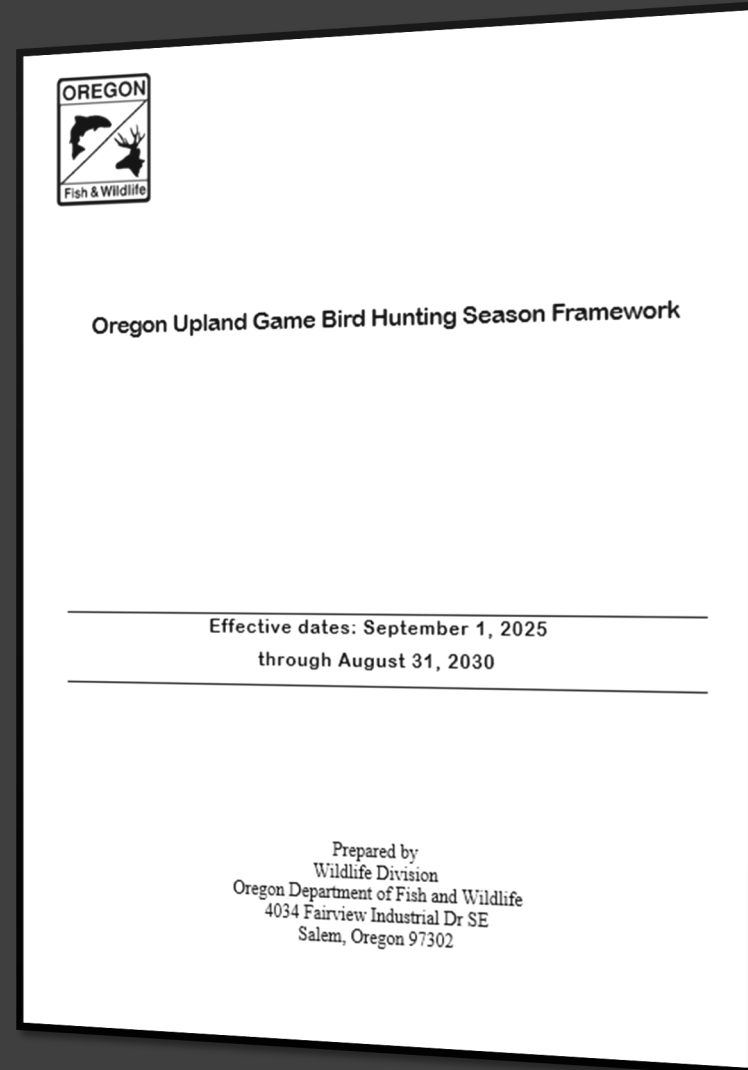
# 2026-27 Upland Game Bird Hunting Regulations Proposals



Mikal Cline  
Upland Game Bird Coordinator



# 5-Year Upland Framework

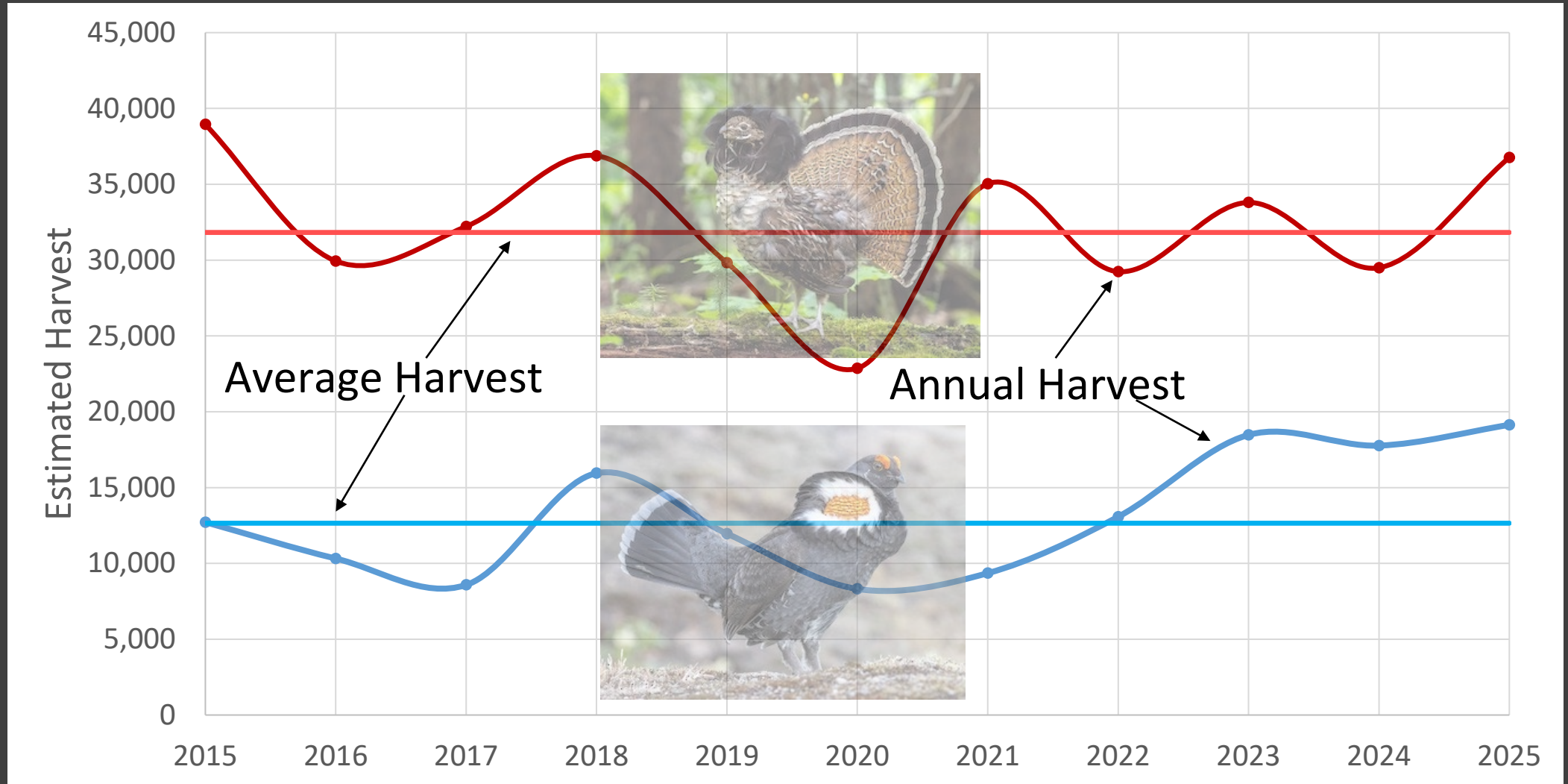


# Framework Concepts

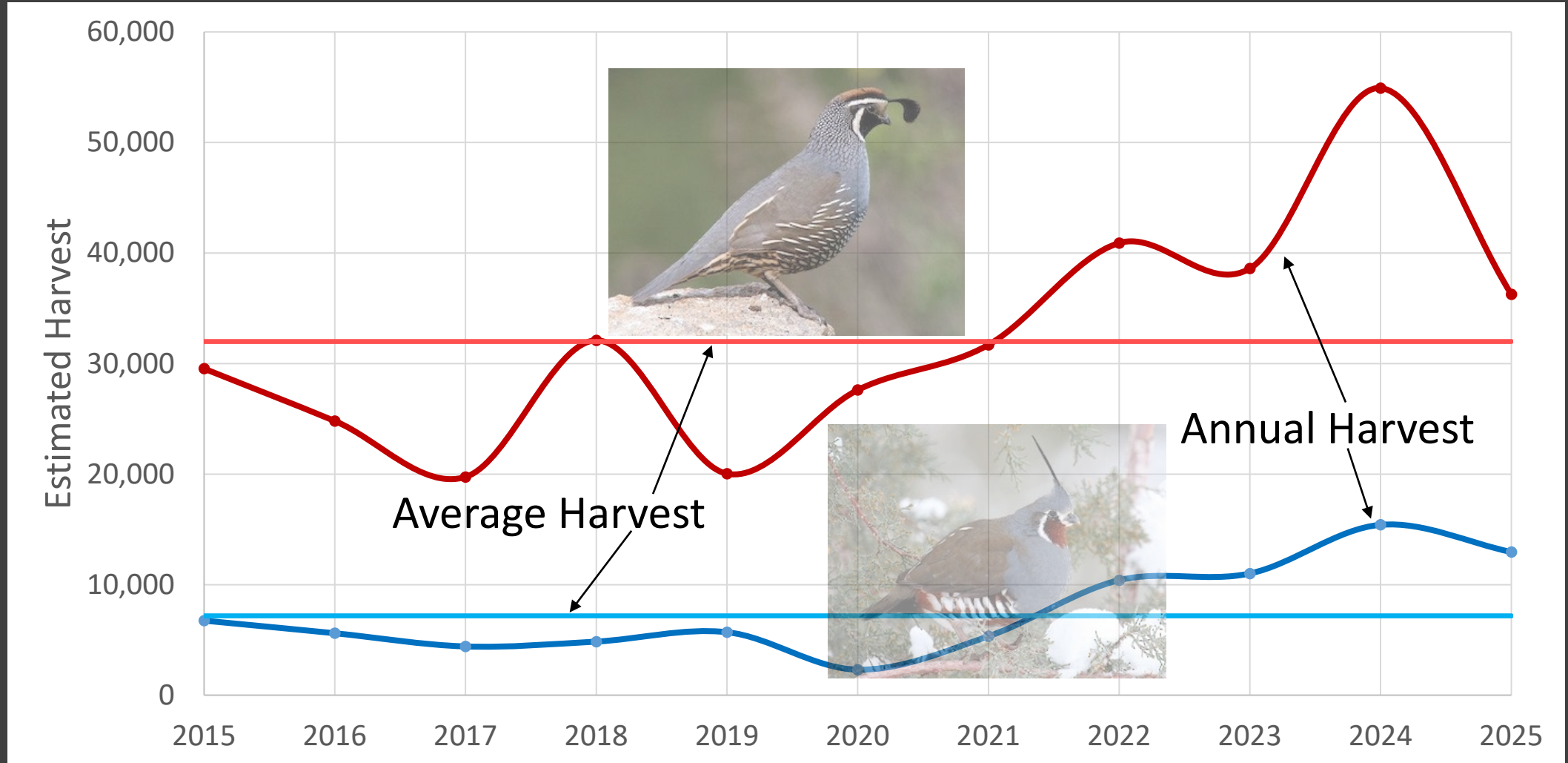
Higher Productivity  
Lower Productivity



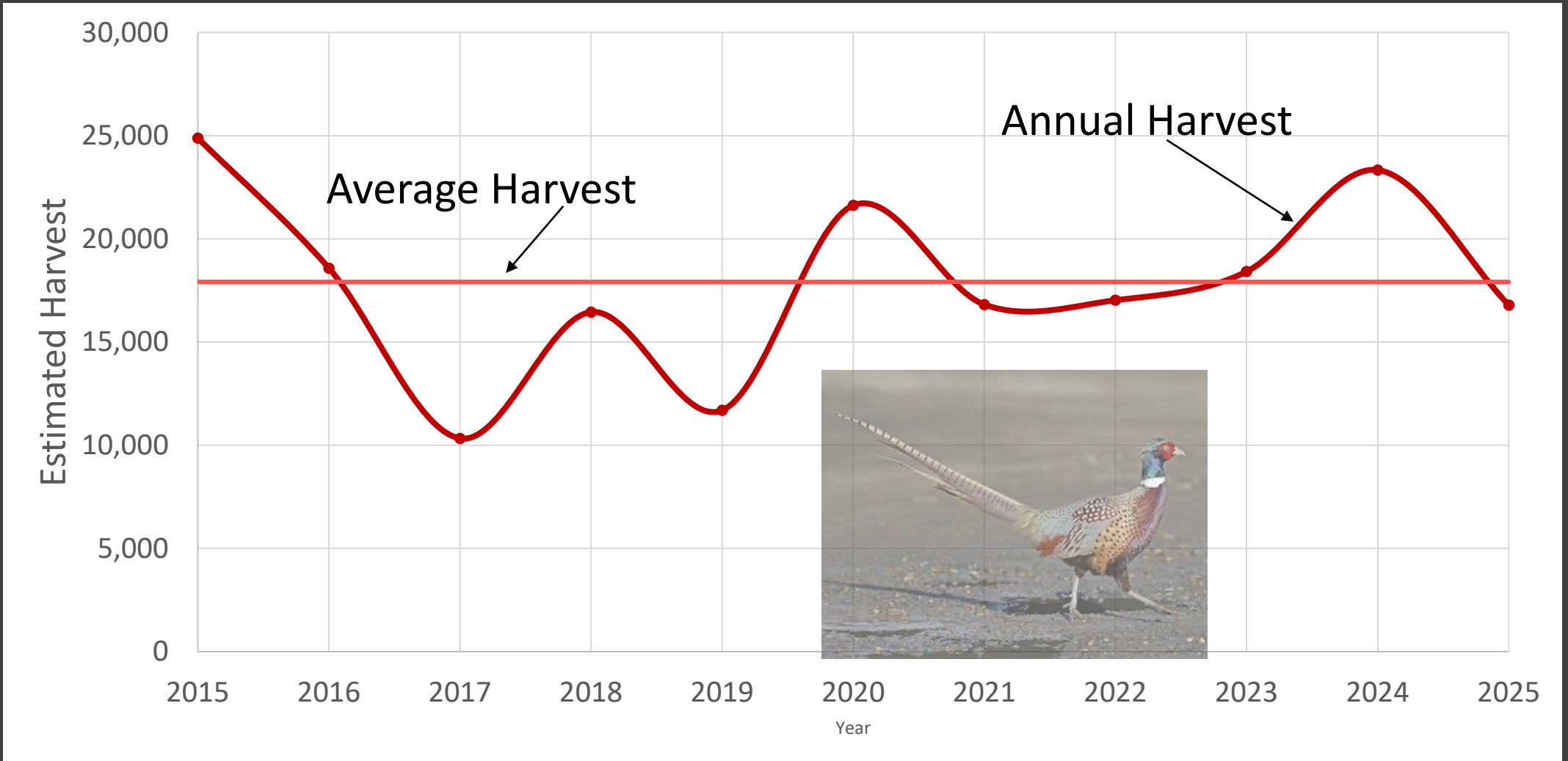
# Forest Grouse Harvest



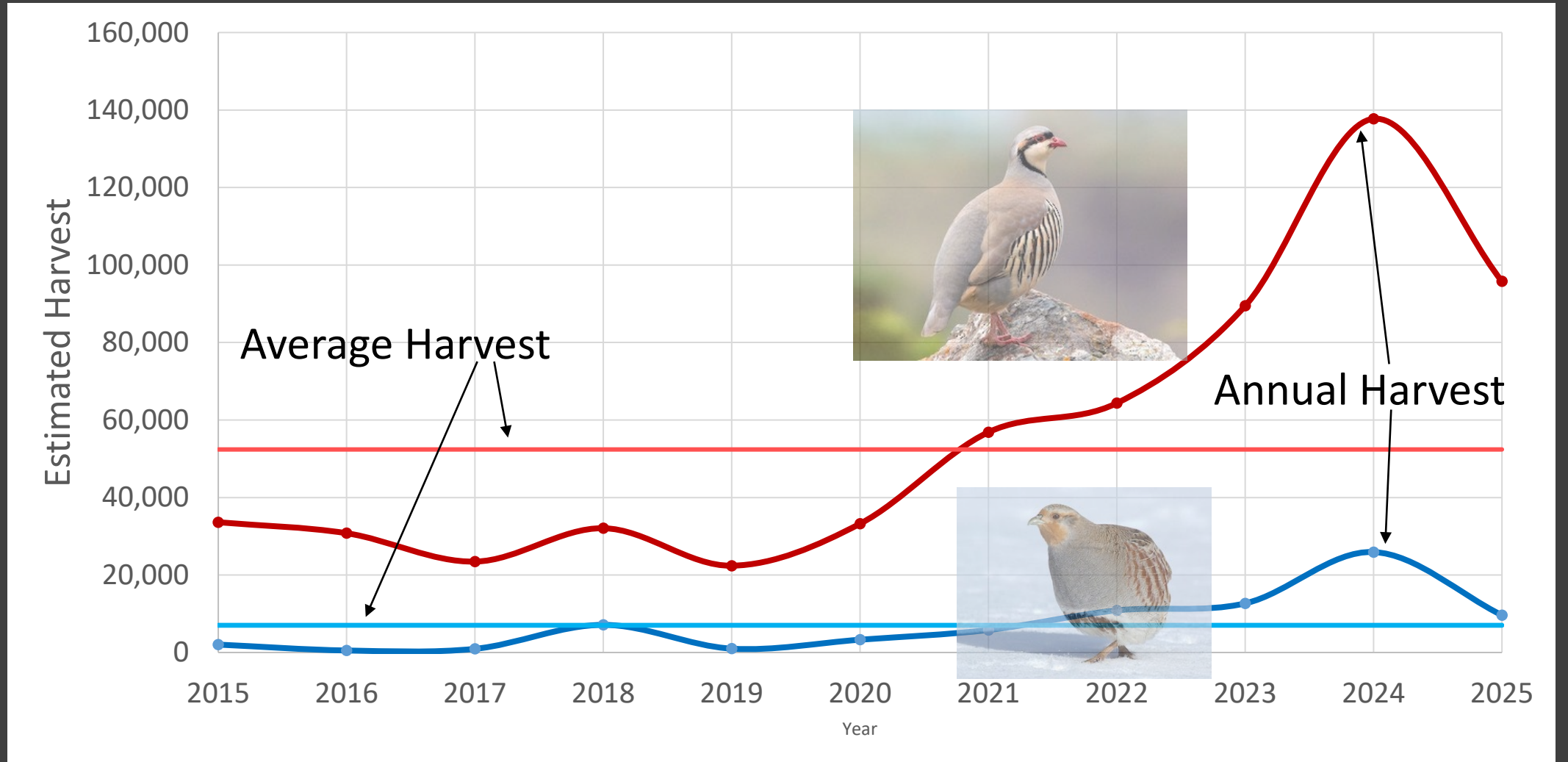
# Quail Harvest



# Pheasant Harvest



# Partridge Harvest



# 2026 Upland Bird Forecast

- Climate
- Habitat Condition
- Production
- Long-term Trends





# 2026-27 Upland Proposals



## No change, fixed dates per framework

- ✓ "Blue" and Ruffed Grouse - Statewide
- ✓ Western Oregon Quail (California and Mountain)



## Date shift to open on Saturday per framework

- ✓ Statewide Rooster Pheasant
- ✓ Eastern Oregon Quail (California and Mountain)
- ✓ Eastern Oregon Chukar and Hungarian Partridge

Photo: Wikimedia Commons

Upland Status

Upland Proposals

Sage-Grouse


Migratory Info


Migratory Proposals

ODFW Lands Proposals



# 2026-27 Wild Turkey Proposals

 **Spring Turkey and Youth Spring Turkey**  
✓ No change

 **Fall Turkey**  
✓ No change except calendar shift


 **Beardless Turkey Permit**  
✓ No change



Photo: Wikimedia Commons



# Special Seasons



SEASON	OPEN AREA
Western Oregon Fee Pheasant Hunt	4 Wildlife Areas
Pheasant Hunting Workshop	E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area
Youth Upland Bird Hunts	10 Youth Pheasant Hunts 1 Youth Chukar Hunt
Falconry Seasons	Upland and Migratory Game Birds Specified Seasons



# Oregon Sage-Grouse Population Status



Photo: Karl Findling

Upland Status

Upland Proposals

Sage-Grouse

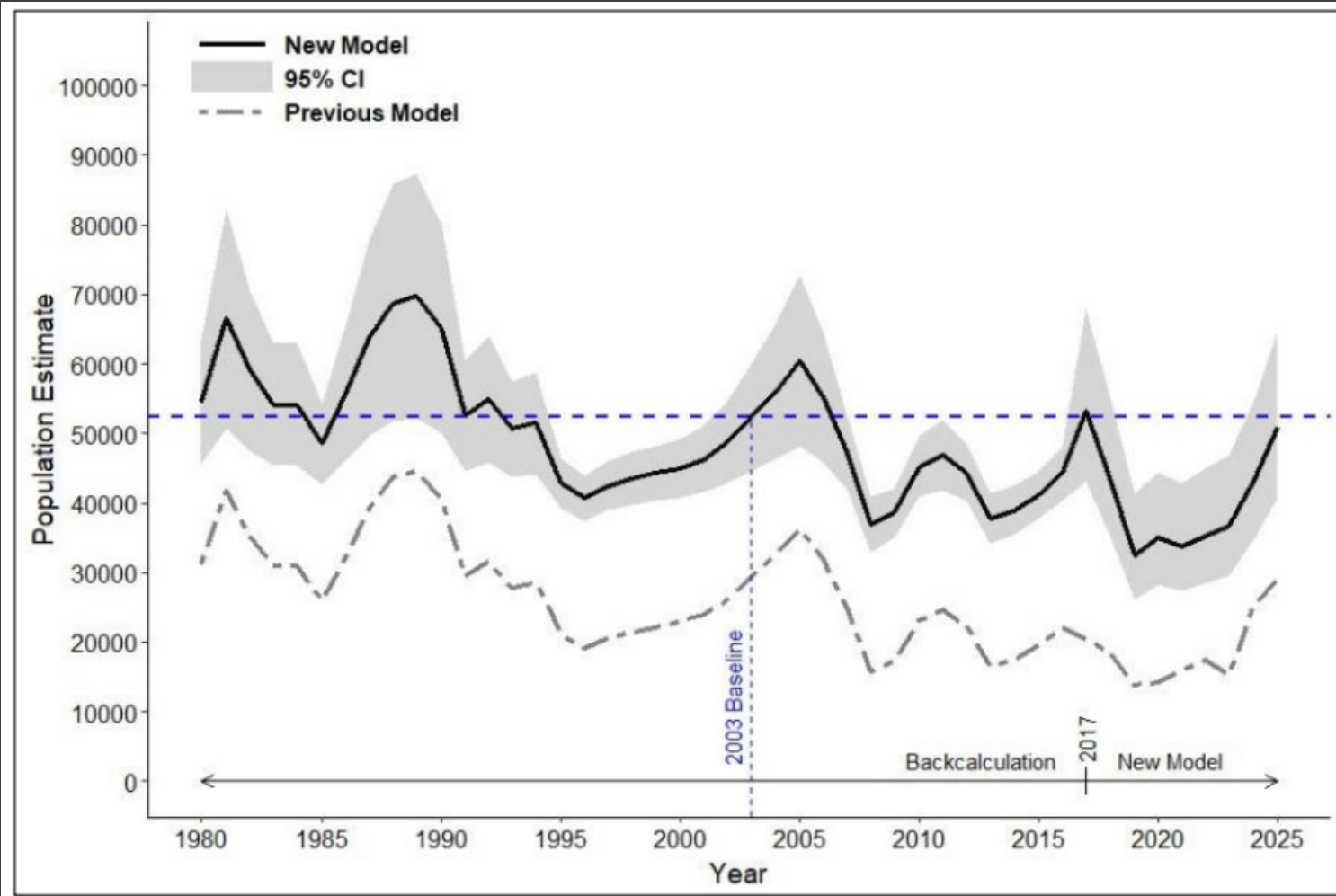
Migratory Info

Migratory Proposals

ODFW Lands Proposals

# Oregon Sage-Grouse Population Status

2025 Spring Population Estimate: +17.8%



# Oregon Sage-Grouse Population Status

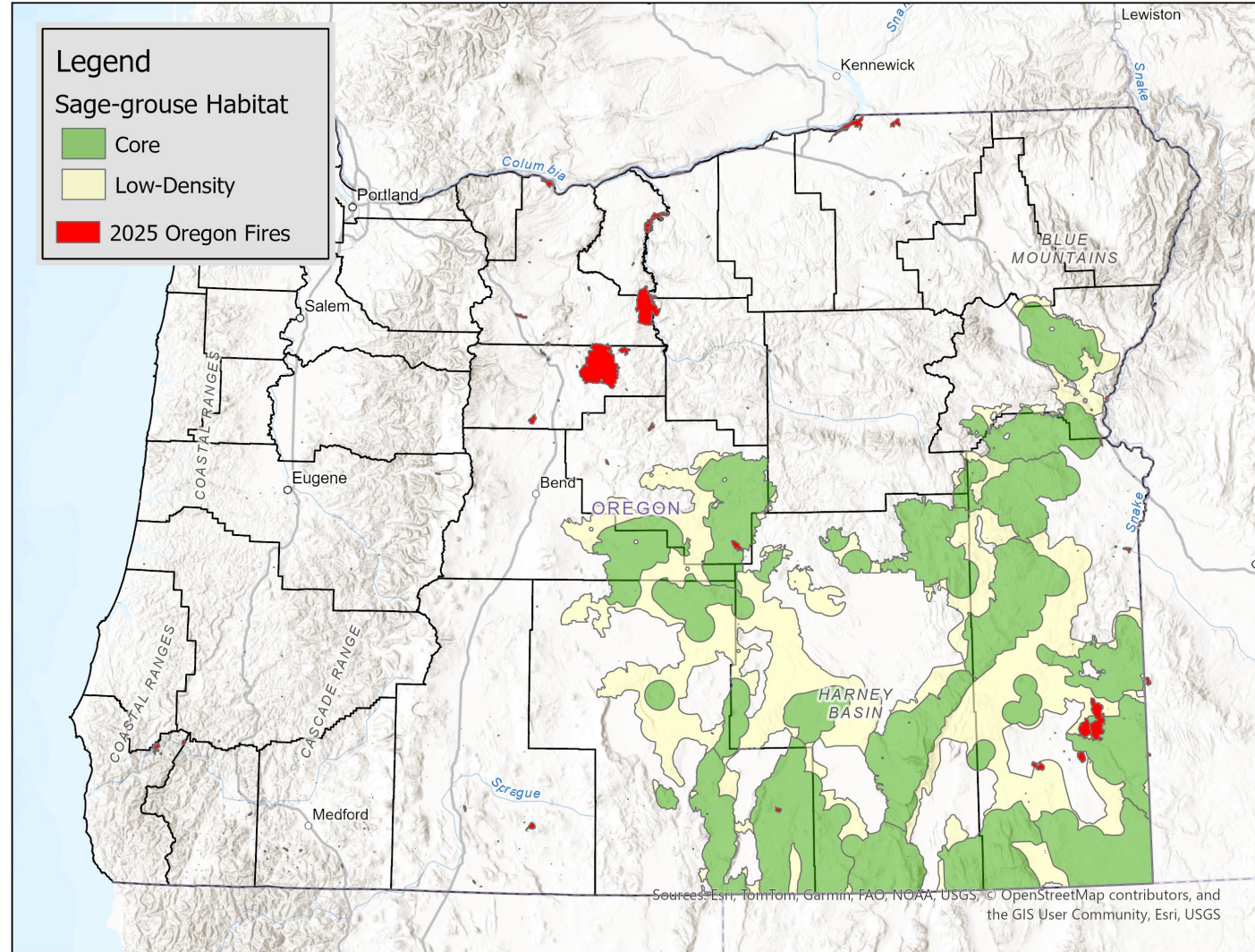
## 2025 Wingbee Results

INDICATOR	2025	Average
Chicks/hen	0.95	1.47
% Juveniles	39%	47%

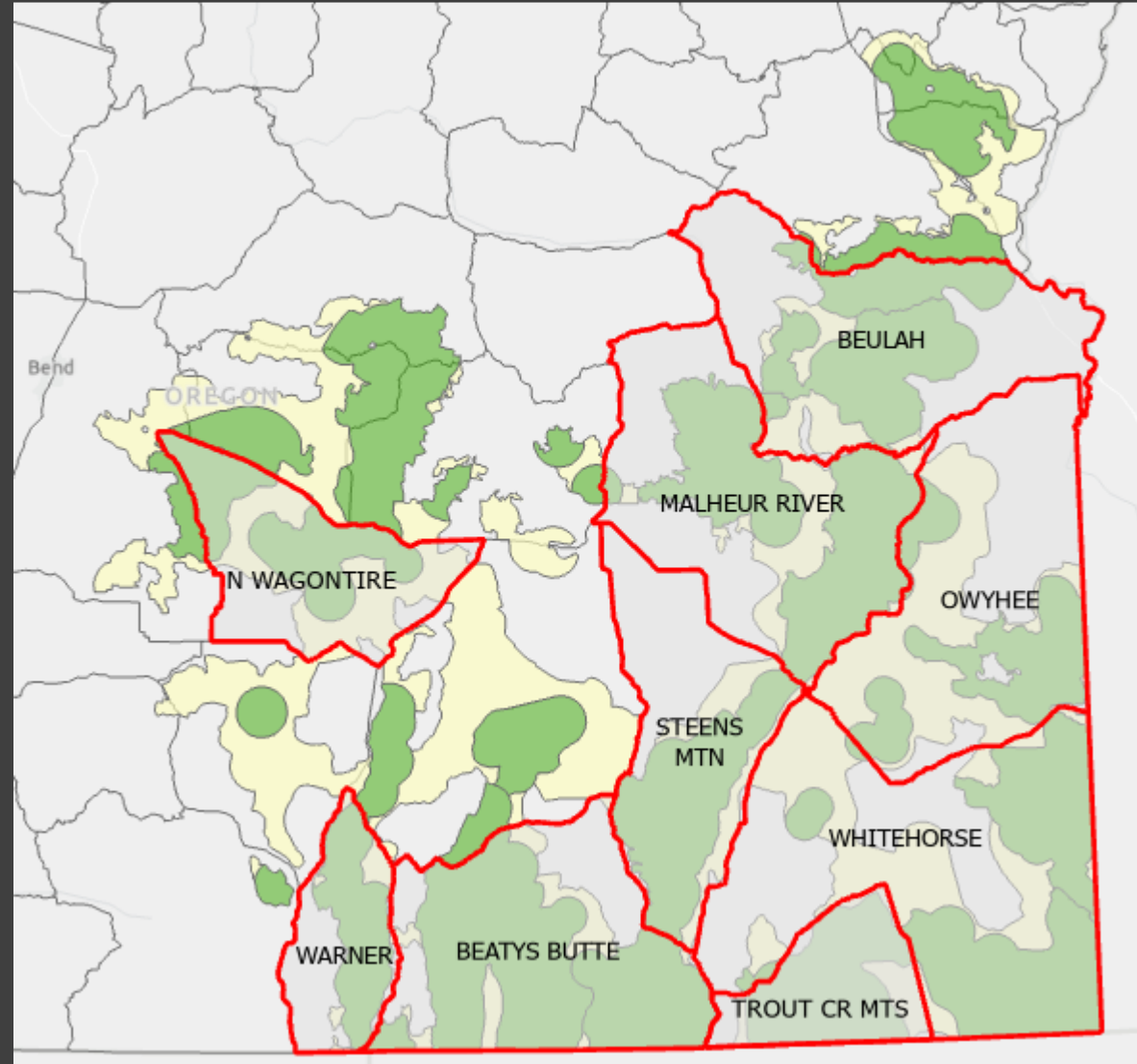
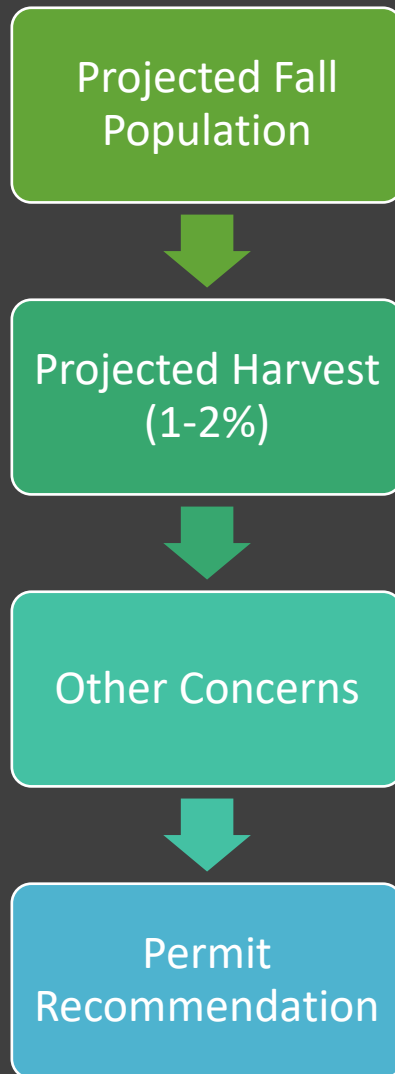
## 2026 Field Report

INDICATOR	Field Report
Lek Counts	Stable to decreasing
Aerial Surveys	Paulina Unit
Habitat	Dry

# 2025 Fire Season



# Oregon Sage-Grouse Controlled Hunt





# 2026 Sage-Grouse Controlled Hunt



Photo: Keith Kohl

SEASON	OPEN AREA	OPEN SEASON	SEASON BAG LIMIT
Sage-Grouse	WMUs 65-70, 73-74	Sept. 12 – 20, 2026	2 Sage-Grouse

Recommendation: Same permit levels as 2025, unless adjustment is required after 2026 analysis.  
Maintain harvest at <2% of estimated fall population by WMU (new model).



# 2026-27 Migratory Game Bird Regulation Proposals

**Brandon Reishus**  
**Migratory Game Bird**  
**Coordinator**



Wood Duck: USFWS



Decoys on Flagstaff Lake: Brandon Reishus



# Migratory Game Birds



Lesser Scaup: Keith Kohl



Cackling Goose: USFWS



Band-tailed Pigeon: USFWS



Wilson's Snipe by Keith Kohl



Tundra Swans by Keith Kohl

## Ducks

- 10 Dabblers
- 9 Divers
- 3 Mergansers
- 5 Sea Ducks

## Geese

- Canada
- Cackling
- Brant
- Snow
- Ross's
- Greater White-fronted

## Doves & Pigeons

- Band-tailed Pigeon
- Mourning Dove

## Shorebirds & Rails

- Wilson's Snipe
- American Coot

## Non-hunted

- Trumpeter Swan
- Tundra Swan
- Sandhill Crane
- Virginia Rail
- Sora

Upland Status

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ODFW Lands Proposals



# Habitat Conservation & Population Monitoring



British Columbia Wetlands: Brandon Reishus

## *Conservation*

Habitat conservation in Oregon and beyond



## *Monitoring*

Working to support harvest management decisions and ensure healthy populations

Upland Status

Upland Proposals

Sage-Grouse

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ODFW Lands Proposals

# Monitoring



Population Surveys



Banding



Harvest Survey

Upland Status

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Sage-Grouse

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# Harlequin Duck Harvest

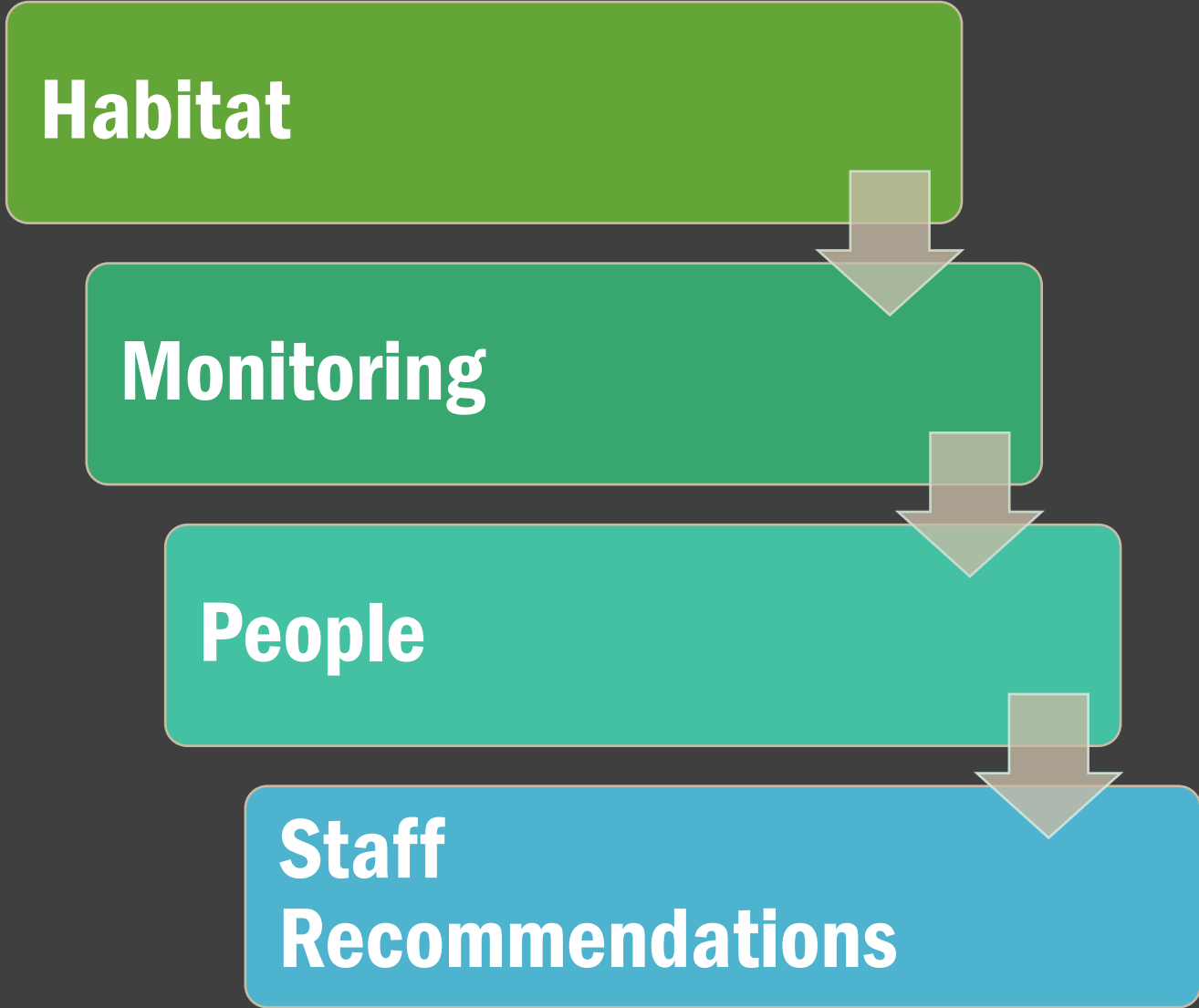


	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Email Survey Response Rate	33%	34%	31%	31%
Total Reported Harvest	8	3	4	1
Expanded Harvest Estimate	23	9	13	3





# Regulations





# Recommendations

## No changes except:

- Duck season opening dates
- White-fronted goose daily limits
- NW Permit Zone September  
Canada goose season length

Decoys on Siltcoos Lake:  
Brandon Reishus

Upland Status

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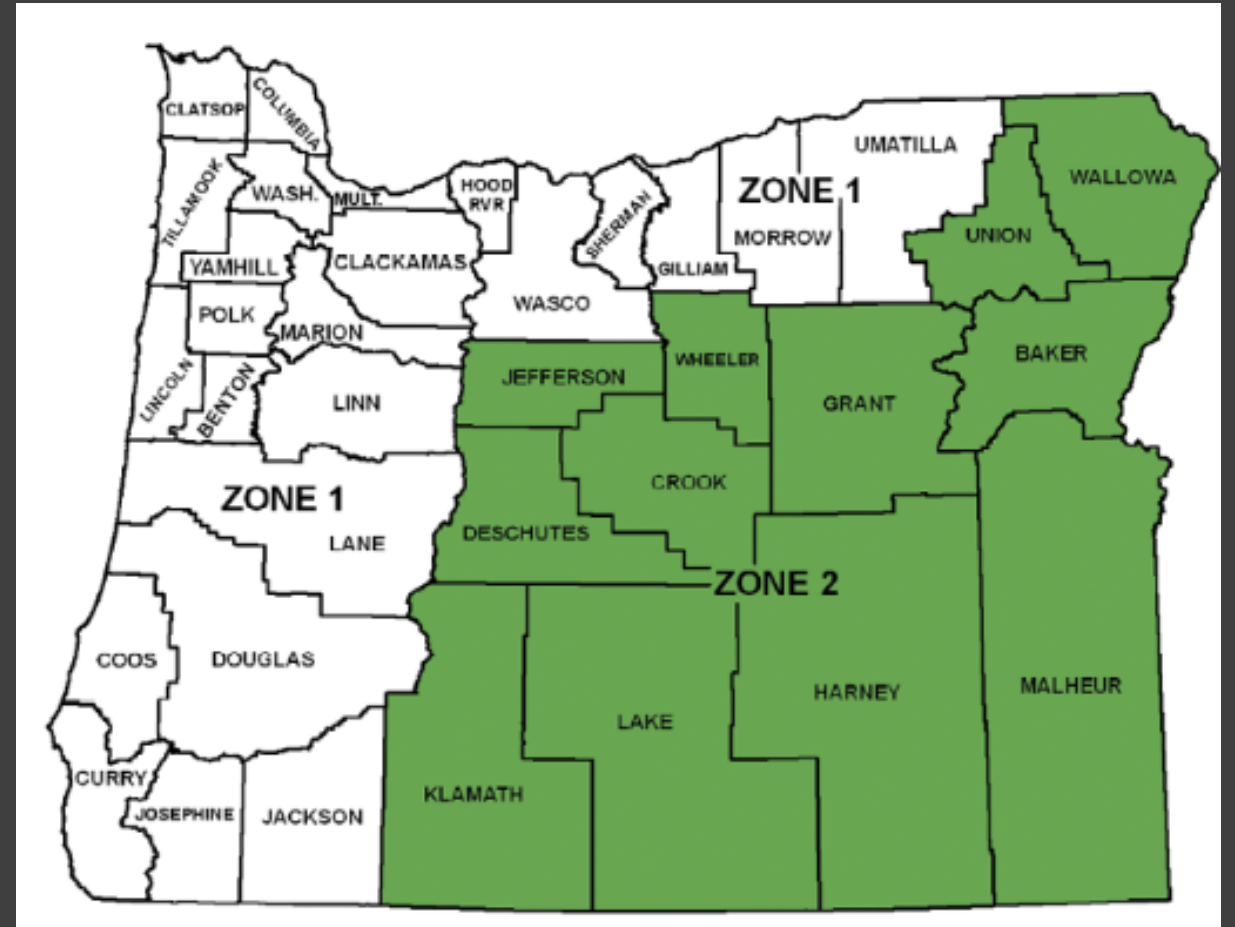
ODFW Lands  
Proposals



# Waterfowl Season Opening Dates

Revert to different opening days for Zone 1 and Zone 2

- Zone 2 = October 10
- Zone 1 = October 17

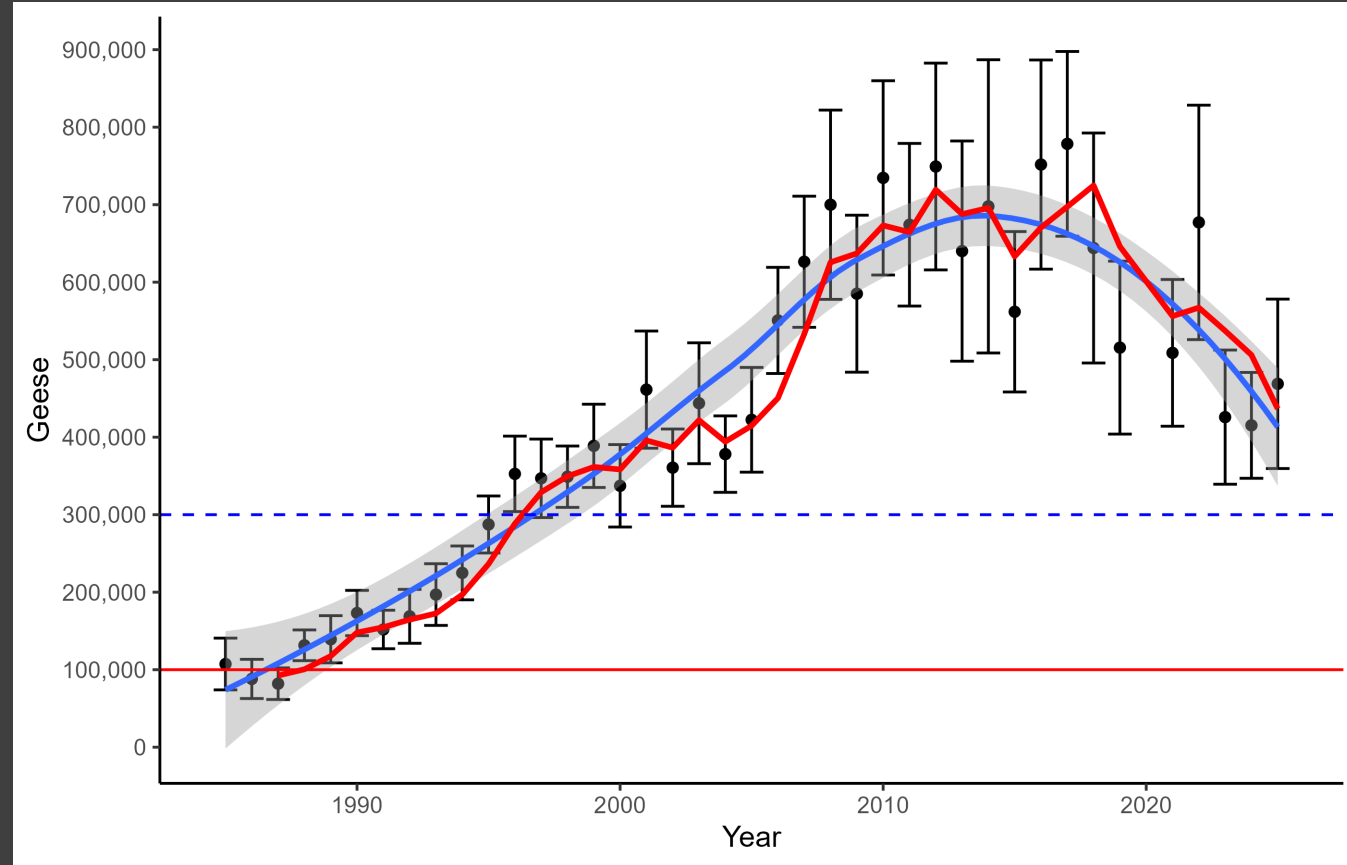




# White-fronted Goose Bag Limit

## New Flyway Council Harvest Strategy

- Standard bag limit 6 per day
- Population above objective but declining





# September Season NW Permit Zone

## Reduce season length in Northwest Permit Zone from 15 to 9 days

- Historically 9-day season
- Increased to 15-day last season
- Late Labor Day only leaves 9 days available



Canada Goose: Keith Kohl



# Summer Lake Wildlife Area

**Align rules for big game hunting  
in Division 008 with those in the  
big game regulations**



# Staff Recommendations

- 1) Adopt regulations for 2026-27 game bird hunting seasons, amend rules for department owned lands, and OAR Chapter 635, Divisions 008, 045, 051, 052, 053, 054, and 060 as proposed by staff and shown in Attachments 3 and 4.**