

REGION 8 – OKANAGAN



CONTACT INFORMATION

Fish and Wildlife Regional Office:

102 Industrial Place
Penticton BC V2A 7C8
(250) 490-8200

Conservation Officer Service

Call 1-877-952-7277 for recorded information or to make an appointment at any of the following Field Offices:

Grand Forks, Penticton, Kelowna, Salmon Arm, and Vernon

Compulsory Inspection (CI) Centres

Qualified Compulsory Inspectors will provide this service at locations listed below. See the Ministry website at www.gov.bc.ca/hunting or contact the regional office for more information.

CI Locations:

- Penticton
- Kelowna

STAY UP TO DATE

Check website www.gov.bc.ca/hunting for in-season changes prior to your 2022-2024 hunt.

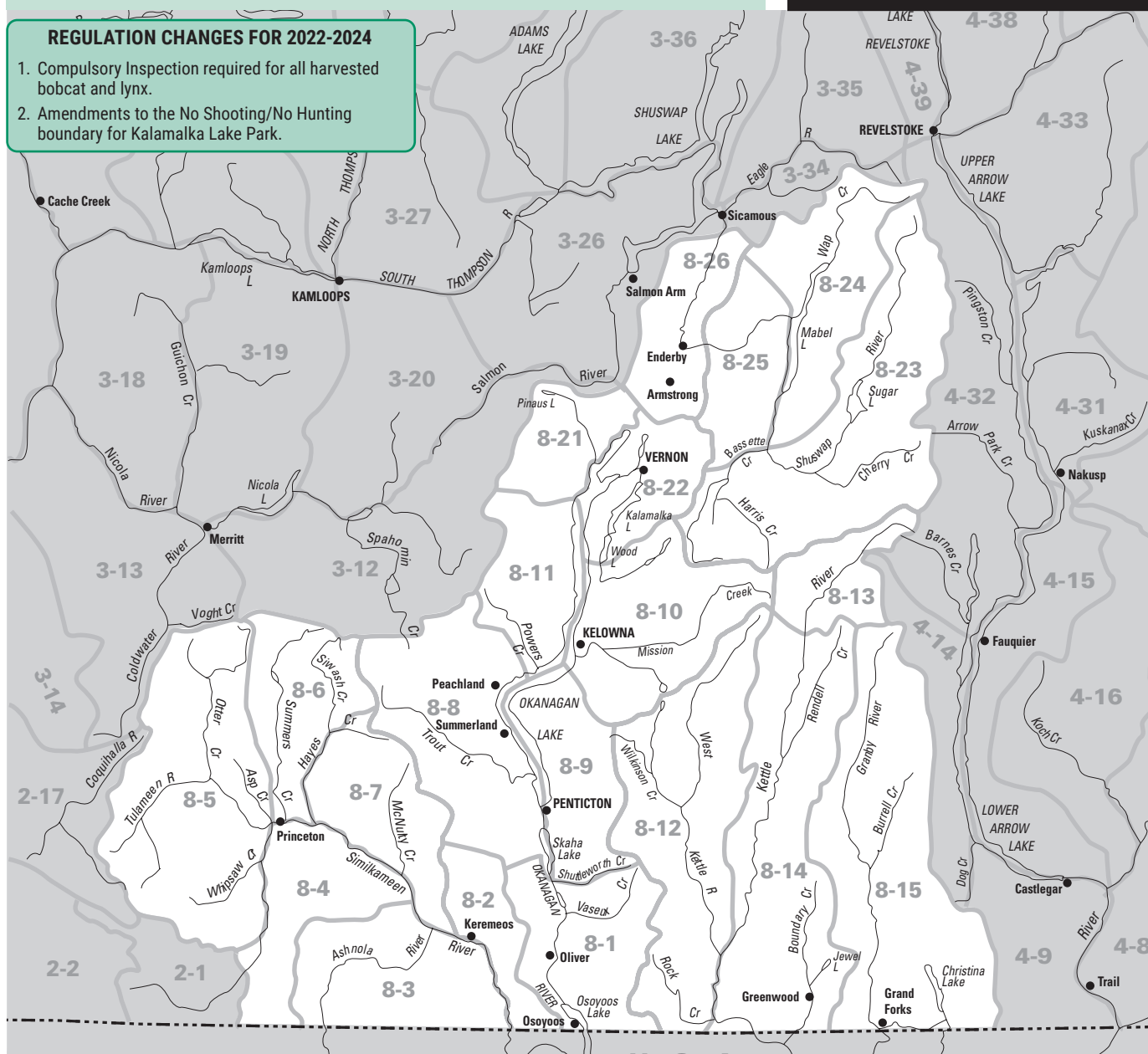
RAPP

Report All Poachers and Polluters
Conservation Officer 24 hour hotline
1-877-952-RAPP (7277)

Refer to page 2 for more information

REGULATION CHANGES FOR 2022-2024

1. Compulsory Inspection required for all harvested bobcat and lynx.
2. Amendments to the No Shooting/No Hunting boundary for Kalamalka Lake Park.



M.U. boundaries are approximate. For detailed maps visit <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/sports-culture/recreation/fishing-hunting/hunting/regulations-synopsis#mgmtunits>

REGIONAL BAG LIMITS

- » **DEER:** The aggregate bag limit for deer is 3. Two deer may be antlerless but only one antlerless deer of each species may be taken. The bag limit for mule deer is 1. Antlerless mule deer are available only through LEH. The bag limit for white-tailed deer is 2, only one of which may be a buck, and one of which may be antlerless.
- » **GROUSE:** The daily aggregate bag limit for grouse: blue (dusky), spruce (Franklin), and ruffed is 5.
- » **TURKEY:** The regional aggregate bag limit for turkey is 2. Only one turkey may be taken during each open season.

ACCESS MANAGEMENT AREAS

- » Information signs are posted at the points of closure for the benefit of hunters, but it is the hunter's responsibility to recognize the closures whether a sign is in place or not.
- » **Symbol Key:** Use the following symbols to determine what type of motor vehicle prohibition is in place in the following regional areas (see also Site and Access Restrictions section, page 9):
 - ★ **Motor Vehicle Closed Areas** (See page 10)
 - ▲ **Motor Vehicles for Hunting Closed Areas** (See page 10): The operation of all motor vehicles, including electric bicycles, for the purpose of hunting, to transport wildlife, to transport equipment, firearms and supplies which are intended for or in support of hunting or to transport hunters to and from the location of wildlife is prohibited in these areas.
- ★ The operation of all motor vehicles (including electric bicycles), excluding snowmobiles is prohibited in Region 8 above 1,700 m elevation, except on existing roads and trails. See page 10 for definition of existing road or trail.
- ★ Oliver Mountain Area (MU 8-1). See Map J3.
- ★ Crater Mountain Area (MU 8-3). See Map J22.
- ★ Placer Mountain to Border Lake area (MU 8-3, 8-4). See Map J22.

- ★ Garnet Valley (MU 8-8). An authorized trapper is exempt from this restriction for the purpose of trapping. See Map J8.
- ★ Osoyoos Oxbows except established roadways (MU 8-1). See Map J1.
- ★ Underdown Creek (MU 8-1). See Map J2.
- ▲ Lawless - Jacobson Lake (Tulameen) FSR (MU 8-5) south of the point where it crosses Vuich Creek. See Map J5.
- ★ Skaha Lake Eastside (MU 8-9) - in that portion east of Skaha Lake described as Lot A and Lot B of Sublot 48, DL 2710, Plan 27801, SDYD, and Sublot 48, DL 2710, Plan 1189, SDYD.
- ▲ Garnet Fire area (MU 8-9). See Map J10.
- ★ Granby (MUs 8-14, 8-15). The area is closed 600 m north of the 5 km mark of Burrell-Young Lake FSR, 300 m north of the 2 km mark on Arrow Neck FSR, east of the 22 km mark of Grano FSR, east of the 8 km mark on Arthurs Rd, and 500 m east of the 10 km mark on the Goatskin-Rendall FSR. Snowmobiles allowed Nov 1 - May 31. See Map J16.
- ★ Galloping Hills (MU 8-15) from Jun 1 - Oct 31 except for the primary roads leading to Lightning Peak and Mt. Scaia. See Map J16.
- ★ Joss-Tsuius-Mabel Mountain (MU 8-23, 8-24). The operation of vehicles is restricted to permitted forest service roads from May 1 - Nov 30. Snowmobiles allowed. See Map J23.

MOTOR VEHICLE PROHIBITIONS IN RESPONSE TO 2021 WILDFIRES

- ★ Approximately 560,000 hectares within the Thompson-Okanagan region have been closed year-round to all motor vehicles to mitigate habitat concerns from the wildfires of 2021. Some roads and activities are exempted from the closure. These closures are subject to in-season changes. See maps and updates at gov.bc.ca/motorvehicleprohibitions.

- Nk'Mip: in portions of MU 8-1.
- Thomas Creek: in portions of MUs 8-1 and 8-9.
- Garrison Lake: in portions of MUs 8-4 and 8-5.
- July Mountain: in portions of MU 8-5.
- White Rock Lake: in portions of MUs 8-11 and 8-21.
- Bunting Road: in portions of MU 8-24.
- Two Mile Road: in portions of MU 8-26.

COMPULSORY INSPECTION & REPORTING

- » In addition to those species requiring Compulsory Inspection or Compulsory Reporting provincially, all moose, **lynx**, and **bobcat** taken in Region 8 must be Compulsory Inspected within 30 days of the date of kill. See page 17 for requirements.

NOTICE TO HUNTERS

- » White-tailed jackrabbit, Nuttall's cottontail, badger and other species are protected under the authority of the *Wildlife Act* (hunting is prohibited). Hunters are reminded that there are no hunting seasons for white-tailed jackrabbit, Nuttall's cottontail, or badgers.
- » No Shooting Areas: Hunters should note the Highway No Shooting Areas as outlined on page 10. Note also that the closures for Highway 3 between Manning Park and Princeton and for the Coquihalla Phase III (Okanagan Connector) Hwy 97C are No Shooting and No Hunting Closures.
- » Hunting is prohibited within the Vaseux Migratory Bird Sanctuary and National Wildlife Areas. For more information visit <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/migratory-bird-sanctuaries/locations/vaseux-lake.html>.

Wildlife Research in the Okanagan

There are a number of ongoing wildlife research projects in the Okanagan Region at this time focused on mule deer, cougar, and bighorn sheep management. These projects are being conducted in partnership with the Syilx Okanagan Nation, research institutions including the University of British Columbia Okanagan, University of Idaho, local clubs and stakeholders such as the BC Wildlife Federation and Wild Sheep Society of BC, as well as numerous volunteers.

The Southern Interior Mule Deer Project, which has study areas in the West Okanagan, Boundary and Thompson Region, has been ongoing since 2018 and aims to identify the drivers behind declining mule deer populations and assess those drivers relative to harvest regulations, predation, land use changes such as forestry and natural disturbances such as wildfire. As part of this work there are collared mule deer and remote cameras installed across the study areas. Visit <https://bcwf.bc.ca/initiatives/mule-deer-project/> for project updates.

The Southern BC Cougar Project, which has overlapping study areas in the West Okanagan and Boundary, as well as a Kootenay study area, began in 2019 and aims to examine population vital rates such as survival and reproduction, movement and habitat use and diet and kill rates of the primary predator for mule deer. As part of this work, kill sites of collared cougars are investigated to determine where, when and what they are killing. Visit <https://bccougarproject.weebly.com/> for project updates.

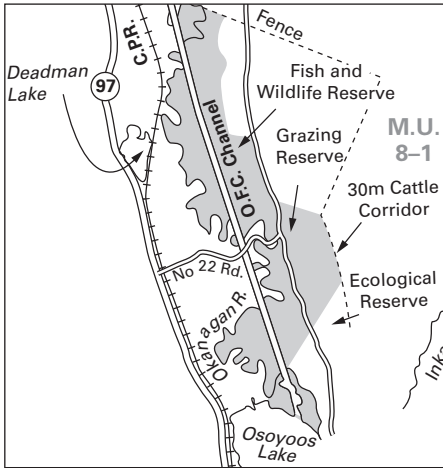
Three disease outbreaks among local bighorn sheep populations, *Psoroptes*, *Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae*, and blue tongue, are being monitored through collared animals and the BC Mountain Goat and Wild Sheep Natal App. Conservationists and hunters are encouraged to participate by recording observations of sheep they observe in the field. Sick and dead sheep should be reported to the RAPP line. For more information visit <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/plants-animals-ecosystems/wildlife/wildlife-conservation/wildlife-health/wild-sheep-health/bc-goat-sheep-natal-app>.

As part of these research projects, there are many mule deer, cougars and bighorn sheep that have been fitted with GPS radio collars throughout the Okanagan. Harvesting these animals is not illegal if taken lawfully. Part of the research aims to look at survival rates and mortality causes, including hunter harvest. If you harvest a collared animal, please report it to the RAPP line to confirm whether the animal is safe to eat due to the possible presence of wildlife immobilization drugs in the meat and return the collar to the Conservation Officer Service or any Ministry office.

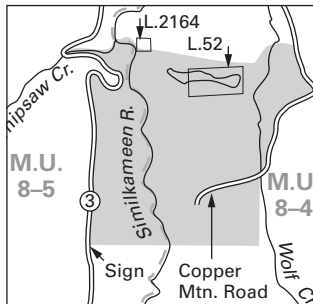
OKANAGAN GENERAL OPEN SEASONS

SPECIES	MANAGEMENT UNIT	CLASS	SEASON DATES	BAG LIMIT	
MULE DEER (Black-tailed)	8-1 to 8-11, 8-21 to 8-26	★4 Point Bucks	Sept 10 - Sept 30	Refer to Regional Bag Limits on p. 67 and the Deer Bag Limits article on p. 14	
	8-12 to 8-15	★4 Point Bucks	Sept 10 - Nov 10		
	8-1 to 8-11, 8-21 to 8-26	Bucks	Oct 1 - Oct 31		
	8-1 to 8-11, 8-21 to 8-26	★4 Point Bucks	Nov 1 - Nov 10		
	Youth Only*	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Bucks		Sept 1 - Sept 30
	Bow Only	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Bucks		Sept 1 - Sept 9
* Restricted to hunters under the age of 18. ★ See Definitions section: Mule (Black-tailed) Deer. The antlers must accompany the species licence.					
WHITE-TAILED DEER	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Bucks	Sept 10 - Nov 30	Refer to Regional Bag Limits on p. 67 and the Deer Bag Limits article on p. 14	
	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Antlerless	Oct 10 - Oct 31		
Youth Only*	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Bucks	Sept 1 - Sept 9		
Youth Only*	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Either Sex	Nov 1 - Nov 30		
Bow Only	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Bucks	Sept 1 - Sept 9		
Bow Only	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Either Sex	Dec 1 - Dec 20		
* Restricted to hunters under the age of 18.					
MOOSE	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	★Spike-fork Bulls	Nov 1 - Nov 15	1	
★ See Definitions section: Moose. Antlers must accompany the species licence. Compulsory Inspection required.					
ELK	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	▲6 Point Bulls	Sept 10 - Oct 20	1	
Bow Only	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	▲6 Point Bulls	Sept 1 - Sept 9		
▲ See Definitions section: Elk. The antlers must accompany the species licence.					
BLACK BEAR	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Apr 1 - June 30	2	
	▲8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Aug 1 - Aug 31		
	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 1 - Nov 30		
▲ MU's 8-1 to 8-15 and 8-21 to 8-26 is restricted to private land only. Hunters must obtain permission from landowners.					
WOLF	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Apr 1 - June 15 Sept 10 - Mar 31	3	
COYOTE	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 1 - June 30	NBL	
BOBCAT	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Nov 15 - Feb 28	1	
Hunters may not hunt a bobcat accompanied by one or more bobcat. <i>Compulsory Inspection required.</i>					
LYNX	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Nov 15 - Feb 28	1	
Hunters may not hunt a lynx accompanied by one or more lynx. <i>Compulsory Inspection required.</i>					
COUGAR	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Nov 15 - Mar 31	1	
Hunters may not hunt a cougar kitten or any cougar in its company. See Definitions section: Cougar kitten. <i>Compulsory Inspection required.</i>					
SKUNK, RACCOON	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		No Closed Season	NBL	
SNOWSHOE HARE	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Aug 1 - Apr 30	10 (daily)	
GROUSE: DUSKY (Blue), RUFFED, & SPRUCE	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 10 - Nov 30	5 (15)	
	Youth Only*	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Sept 1 - Sept 9		
	Bow Only	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Dec 1 - Dec 10		
	For Dusky, Spruce, and Ruffed grouse, the daily aggregate bag limit is 5; the aggregate possession limit is 15. * Restricted to hunters under the age of 18.				
CHUKAR PARTRIDGE	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Oct 1 - Nov 30	5 (15)	
GRAY (Hungarian) PARTRIDGE	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Oct 1 - Nov 30	3 (9)	
PHEASANT (Cocks)	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Oct 1 - Nov 30	2 (6)	
QUAIL	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Oct 1 - Nov 30	10 (30)	
TURKEY	8-1, 8-9, 8-10, 8-12, 8-14, 8-15, 8-22, 8-26	Bearded	Apr 15 - May 15	▼1	
	8-10, 8-12, 8-14, 8-15, 8-22, 8-26	Any Turkey	Oct 1 - Oct 15		
	8-1, 8-9	Any Turkey	Oct 1 - Nov 30		
▼ The aggregate regional bag limit is 2 and only one turkey may be taken in each of the spring and fall.					
DOVE: MOURNING, EURASIAN COLLARED	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 1 - Sept 30	5 (15)	
COMMON SNIPE	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 23 - Jan 7	10 (30)	
COOTS	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 23 - Jan 7	10 (30)	
DUCKS	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 23 - Jan 7	8 (24)	
Restricted daily bag limits of 4 Pintails, 4 Canvasbacks, 2 Goldeneye, and 2 Harlequin are in effect - see page 12					
GEESE: SNOW & ROSS'S	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 23 - Jan 7	5 (15)	
GEESE: WHITE-FRONTED	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 23 - Jan 7	5 (15)	
GEESE: CANADA & CACKLING	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 20 - Nov 28	10 (30)	
	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Dec 20 - Jan 5		
	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Feb 21, 2023 - Mar 10, 2023	Feb 22, 2024 - Mar 10, 2024		

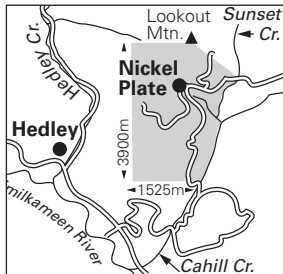
Visit <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/migratory-game-bird-hunting/regulations-provincial-territorial-summaries/british-columbia.html> for further information on Migratory Game Bird regulations in B.C.



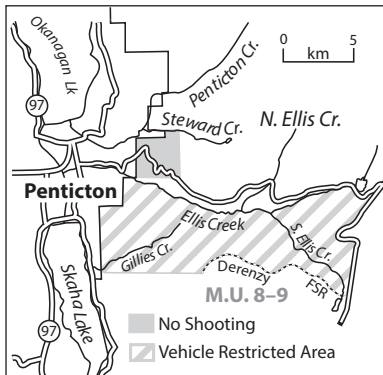
Map J1 Osoyoos Oxbows Motor Vehicle Closed Area and No Shooting or Hunting Area (MU 8-1). The operation of vehicles is restricted to established roadways shown as open lines. No shooting or hunting from Mar 1 - Sept 30, in the restricted area, including the roadways.



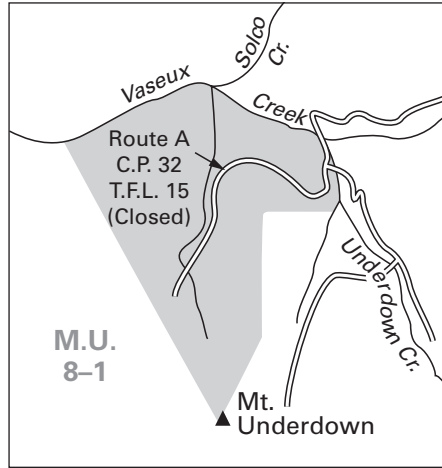
Map J4 Similkameen Mining Co. Ltd. No Shooting or Hunting Area (MUs 8-4 and 8-5).



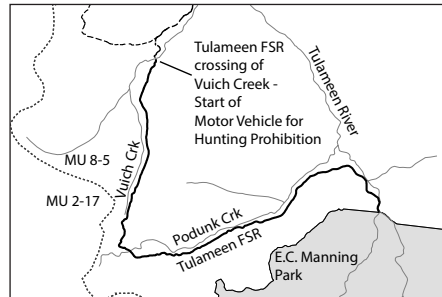
Map J7 Mascot Gold Mines No Shooting Area (MU 8-7).



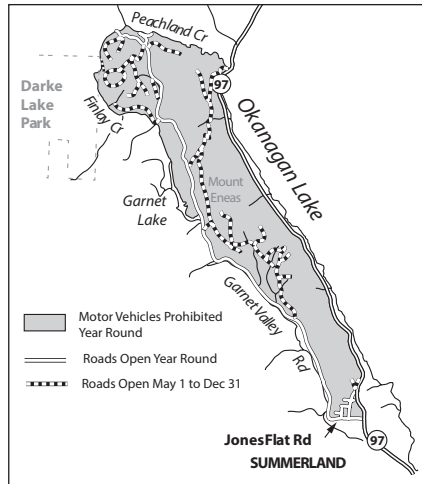
Map J10 Garnet Fire (South Ellis) Motor Vehicles for Hunting Closed Area including the entire Derenzy FSR and Upper Carmi Road No Shooting Area (MU 8-9). The Upper Carmi Road No Shooting Area is almost entirely private land and it is unlawful to hunt private land without consent of the appropriate landowner.



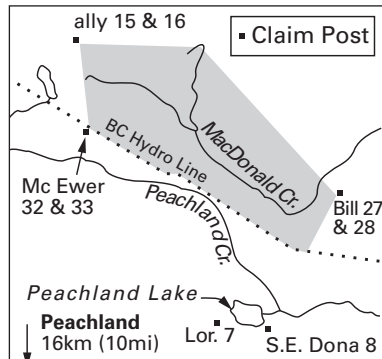
Map J2 Underdown Creek Motor Vehicle Closed Area (MU 8-1).



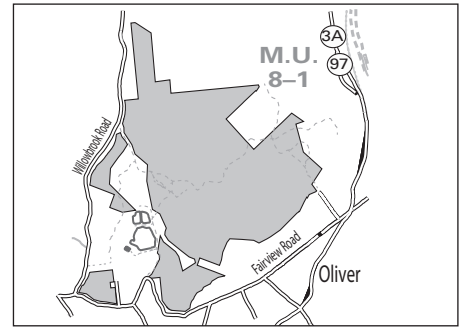
Map J5 Lawless - Jacobson Lake (Tulameen) FSR motor vehicle for hunting closure (MU 8-5).



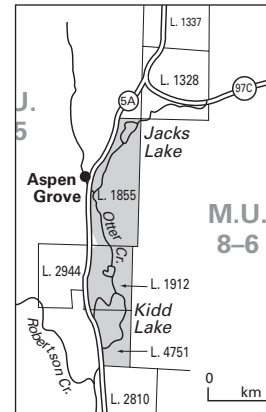
Map J8 Garnet Valley - Motor Vehicle Closed Area (MU 8-8). An authorized trapper is exempt from this restriction for the purpose of trapping.



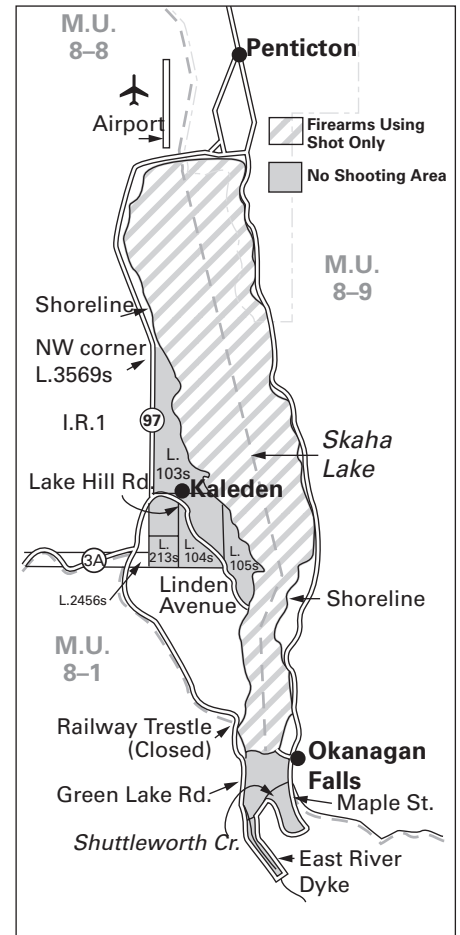
Map J11 Brenda Mines No Shooting Area (MU 8-8).



Map J3 Oliver Mountain Motor Vehicle Closed Area (MU 8-1).



Map J6 Willow Heights No Shooting Area (MU 8-6).



Map J12 Kaleden, and Okanagan Falls No Shooting Areas and Skaha Lake Firearms Using Shot Only Area (MUs 8-1, 8-8 and 8-9).

