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**File Code:** 2300  
**Date:** July 16, 2015

Dear Participant,

Welcome to the Colville National Forest for the fall 2015 hunting season. The Colville National Forest has excellent hunting, particularly for white-tailed deer, turkey, black bear, and moose. We are proud to be one of the few National Forests in Washington to offer a disabled hunter access program.

The Colville National Forest's Disabled Hunter Access (DHA) program was established to provide quality hunting opportunities to hunters with disabilities. The overall project is a cooperative effort between many partners including the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), the Northeast Washington Forestry Coalition, and the National Forest Foundation. Many local businesses and organizations have also contributed to the program.

All hunters participating in the Colville National Forest DHA program must sign-in and register in person at one of the Colville National Forest offices prior to hunting. Registration and sign-in begins on August 1, 2015. During registration and sign-in, participating hunters must have and present a Washington State-issued Disabled Hunter Permit. Hunters will also provide information about the rest of their hunting party and will receive a road access permit, maps, and other pertinent information. This contact information will be used to help us monitor how the DHA program is being used. You will also receive a post hunt survey form. Please complete this survey when you are done hunting for the year and return it to us. The information you provide will be used to help monitor the overall program and identify areas that may need improvement for future years. Thank you for the information you can provide us to make this program better for you and other disabled hunters.

The Colville National Forest has three routes open this year to all disabled hunters: Brewer Mountain Stevens County and Renshaw and Ruby Creek in Pend Oreille County. Each of these routes will be open to all hunters with disabilities, and their parties, from September 1, 2015 through November 30, 2015 unless conditions require closure. Ruby Creek is newly reopened this year.

Disabled Hunter Access Routes are on otherwise "CLOSED" roads that do not receive any road maintenance. The following excerpts are from the COLVILLE NATIONAL FOREST MVUM – motor vehicle use maps:

"Designation of a road, trail, or area for motor vehicle use by a particular class of vehicle under 36 CFR 212.51 should not be interpreted as encouraging or inviting use or implying that the road, trail, or area is passable, actively maintained, or safe for travel. Motor vehicle designations include parking along designated routes and at facilities associated with designated routes when it is safe to do so and when not causing damage to National Forest System resources. Seasonal weather



conditions and natural events may render designated roads and trails impassable for extended periods. Designated areas may contain dangerous or impassable terrain. Many designated roads and trails may be passable only by high-clearance vehicles or four-wheel-drive vehicles. Maintenance of designated roads and trails will depend on available resources, and many may receive little maintenance.”

“Much of the COLVILLE NATIONAL FOREST is remote. Medical assistance may not be readily available. Cellular telephones do not work in many areas of the COLVILLE NATIONAL FOREST. Take adequate food, water, first-aid supplies, and other equipment appropriate for conditions and expected weather.”

Additional informational packets are available at all Colville National Forest offices. For further information, you may contact any of the offices listed on the attachment. This information will also be available online at our website: [www.fs.fed.us/r6/colville](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/colville) or <http://www.fs.usda.gov/activity/colville/recreation/hunting>. If you need more information on the WDFW disabled hunter access program, including how to get a WDFW Disabled Hunter permit, please see their hunting regulation pamphlet or visit the WDFW website at: [http://wdfw.wa.gov/accessibility/road\\_access.html](http://wdfw.wa.gov/accessibility/road_access.html)

Thank you for choosing the Colville National Forest for your hunting location. We hope you enjoy your visit and have a memorable hunting experience. If you have any comments or concerns, please contact Sandy Mosconi, our DHA Program Coordinator, at 509-684-7058.

Sincerely,



LAURA JO WEST  
Forest Supervisor

cc: Sandy Mosconi