

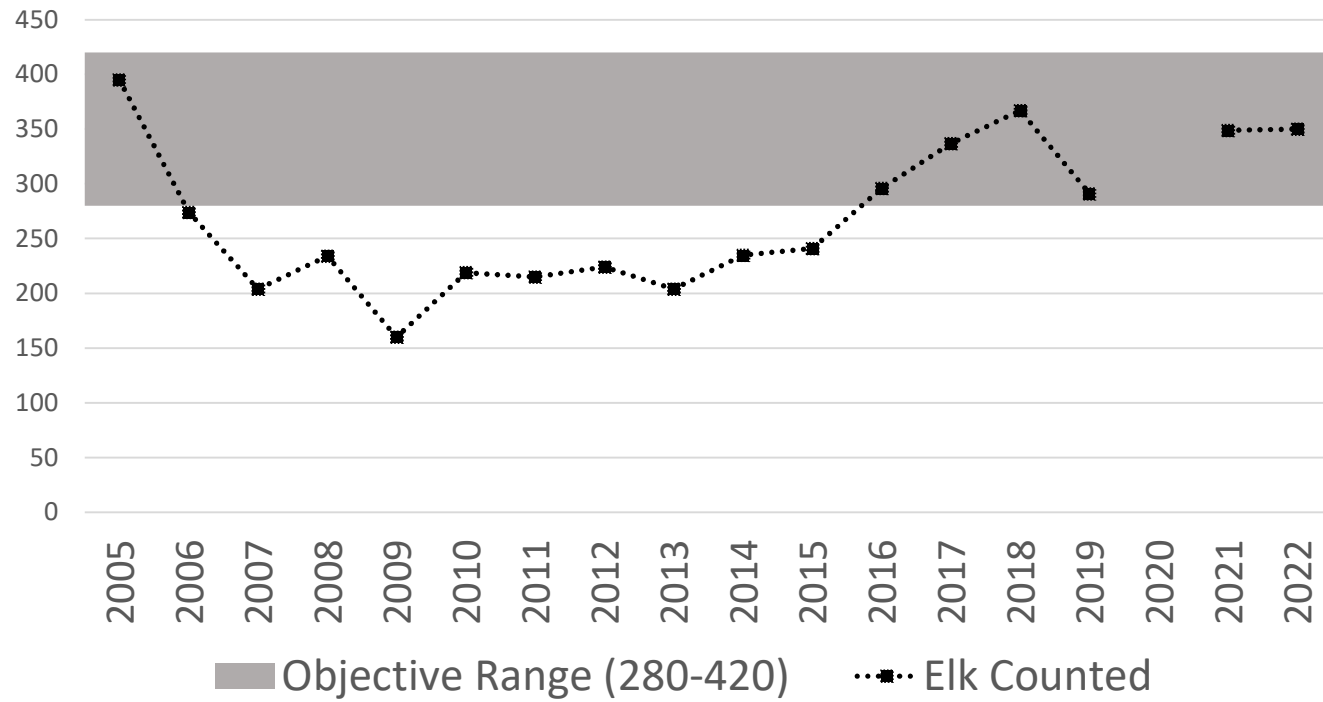
HD 202

- Current population objectives are expressed as a desired number of elk counted, and typically include a range around that value (+/-20%). The range accounts for anticipated variability in elk counts among years. In this HD, should FWP maintain the current form of objective (point value with fixed range) or should FWP consider alternative population objective forms, like using the long-term average (5 years, 10 years) +/- 20%, or some other approach to establish a population objective?
- Elk populations are classified into objective status using annual or biennial survey data. Because there is often variation among surveys, would it be more appropriate to use individual surveys or a 3-year average of surveys to determine objective status for this HD or would you recommend some other approach?



HD 202

HD 202



HD 202

- The current population objective for HD 202 is 350 (range 280-420). However, the hunting district boundary expanded in 2022 so that the eastern boundary is now Petty Creek (HD 202 now includes portions of former HDs 240 and 203). Based on the combination of population objectives from former HDs, the population objective for new HD 202 would be ~ 450 elk (range 360-540). Do you think the estimated population objective of ~450 should be maintained, increased, or decreased? If increased or decreased, what should the new range be?



HD 202

- In the 2005 Elk Management Plan, there were sub-objectives for the North Fork of Fish Creek (50-100 elk), between Quartz and Cougar Creeks (50-100 elk), and between Thompson and Cold Creeks (200-300 elk). Given the boundary change in 2022, the sub-objectives for this HD would include: between Sawmill Gulch and North Fork of Fish Creek (100-175 elk), between Quartz and Cougar Creeks (50-100 elk), and between Thompson and Cold Creeks (200-300 elk). Should sub-objectives be retained? If so, should they be maintained at current levels, increased, or decreased? If increased or decreased, what should the new ranges be?



HD 202

- In HD 202, there is a bull objective to maintain at least 8% bulls in the total elk observed during aerial surveys or an observed bull count of 28. Should there be a bull objective in this HD? If so, is the current bull objective appropriate? If not, what should it be?
- Are you satisfied with the current elk distribution in this HD? If not, would you suggest any specific objectives to address the distribution?
- What else does the Elk Management Plan need to include for this HD?

