AN ACT Relating to game and game fish; amending section 77.12.150, chapter 36, Laws of 1955 and RCW 77.12.150; and amending section 77.12.160, chapter 36, Laws of 1955 and RCW 77.12.160.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Section 1. Section 77.12.150, chapter 36, Laws of 1955 and RCW 77.12.150 are each amended to read as follows:

The director, with the approval (in-writing) of the commission, may entirely close, or shorten (the open) any season (fixed by any rule or regulation of the commission) for game animals, fur-bearing animals, game birds, or game fish within the respective game areas, and after a season has been closed or shortened, (he may) reopen it (for all or any portion of the time fixed by rule or regulation of the commission), and (he may) also fix daily, weekly, or season bag limits on game animals, fur-bearing animals, game birds, or game fish within any game area.

Whenever the director finds that game animals have increased in numbers in any locality of the state to such an extent that they are damaging public or private property, or over-grazing their range, the commission may establish a special hunting season, designate the area and the number and sex of the animals that may be killed by a licensed hunter therein, promulgate necessary rules and regulations, and determine by lot the number of hunters that may hunt within such area and the conditions and requirements incident thereto. The drawing shall take place at the city hall of the town nearest the area to be opened. Notice of the establishing of such special hunting season and of the drawing shall be given in the manner provided for the publishing of orders opening or closing seasons.

The exercise of power herein granted to close or reopen regular or special seasons, or fix bag limits, shall be by a written order signed by the director (and filed in the office of the commission; and in the office of the auditor of any county affected by the order) promulgated in accordance with chapter 34.04 RCW.

Sec. 2. Section 77.12.160, chapter 36, Laws of 1955 and RCW 77.12.160 are each amended to read as follows:

The director shall publish the order closing, shortening, or reopening any season, or fixing any bag limit, in a newspaper of general circulation in each county affected (not less than three days prior to the effective date of such order).

Passed the Senate April 8, 1975.
Passed the House May 19, 1975.
Approved by the Governor May 28, 1975.
Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 28, 1975.