



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

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Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Sound Testing Annual Report to the Colorado General Assembly pursuant to 33-10-109 (1) (g) (IV) Colorado Revised Statutes

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Colorado Revised Statutes (CRS) 33-10-110(g) (IV) regarding the cooperation between federal, state, and Colorado political subdivisions to implement section 25-12-110(1) and (2) of the CRS pertaining to OHV sound levels, this is the Department of Natural Resources' report to the General Assembly.

Background

Senate Bill SB08-063 empowered state peace officers to write citations for OHV sound level violations beginning July 1, 2010. Sound testing is performed in accordance with the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) sound standard: SAE J1287. The bill included provisions for both unlawful operation and sale of noncompliant OHVs.

A typical stock OHV that is available for sale to the public for purchase will easily pass the SAE J1287 sound test protocols. These vehicles also comply with the United States Environmental Protection Agency's sound standards however, some OHVs that are outfitted with aftermarket mufflers by their owners or stock mufflers that require maintenance or repair may not pass C.R.S 25-12-110 sound laws.

2023 CPW Patrol and Educational Activities

Educational OHV sound checks were provided free of charge at the Littleton Office Complex and the Northwest Regional Office. Courtesy checks performed by CPW personnel did not find any machines over the legal limit in 2023.

CPW OHV Program officers made 1,986 OHV rider contacts throughout Colorado and issued zero citations and zero warnings for OHV sound violations in 2023.

The CPW OHV program is pleased to report that we have found very few OHVs out of compliance with state sound laws in the last several years. We believe this trend is primarily due to the OHV industry now producing vehicles that meet state sound levels. Additionally, many aftermarket exhaust manufacture companies are also now creating and selling products that meet state and federal sound level standards.

