# 2019 Late Cropland Walk-In Atlas

INSIDE: UPDATED WALK-IN PROPERTY MAPS | NOVICE HUNTER PROGRAM









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end us your hunter testimonial photos and stories for a chance to be featured on a brochure cover or CPW's online blog!

#### **HUNTER.TESTIMONIALS@STATE.CO.US**

#### **COVER:**

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#### OTHER PHOTOS, TOP TO BOTTOM:

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- ► Mule deer on the snowy plains © Wayne Lewis/CPW

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# **COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE (CPW)**

6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216 • 303-297-1192

#### cpw.state.co.us



#### **COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE DIRECTOR**

Dan Prenzlow

#### COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEMBERS, as of July 2019

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Marvin McDaniel, Acting Vice-Chair
James Vigil, Secretary

Taishya Adams

Charles Garcia
Marie Haskett
Luke B. Schafer
Eden Vardy

Carrie Besnette Hauser Dan Gibbs, ex-officio member
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BROCHURE EDITED BY COVER PHOTO

Mindy Blazer © Douglas Skinner/CPW

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The Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife (CPW) receives federal financial assistance from multiple agencies within the U.S. Department of the Interior. Under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act (as amended), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (as amended), the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior and its bureaus prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, disability or age. In addition, CPW adheres to all antidiscrimination laws of the state of Colorado. For information on how to request an accomodation or to file a grievance please visit **cpw.state.co.us/accessibility**.

**NOTICE:** Laws and regulations in this brochure are paraphrased for easier understanding, and are intended only as a guide. Complete Colorado wildlife statutes and regulations are available at CPW offices listed below and online: **cpw.state.co.us/regulations** 

# CPW REGIONAL AND AREA OFFICE LOCATIONS

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

1313 Sherman St., #618 Denver, 80203 303-297-1192

**ONLY** the offices below can assist hunters with animal checks and taking samples that are related to hunting activities. See the CPW website for a complete list of our parks locations that can also sell licenses, issue duplicate licenses and accept licenses for refunds.

#### BRUSH

28167 County Road T Brush, 80723 970-842-6300

#### COLORADO SPRINGS

4255 Sinton Road Colorado Springs, 80907 719-227-5200

#### **DENVER**

6060 Broadway Denver, 80216 303-291-7227

#### **DURANGO**

151 E. 16th St. Durango, 81301 970-247-0855

#### FORT COLLINS

317 W. Prospect Road Fort Collins, 80526 970-472-4300

# GLENWOOD SPRINGS

0088 Wildlife Way Glenwood Springs, 81601 970-947-2920

#### GRAND JUNCTION

711 Independent Ave. Grand Junction, 81505 970-255-6100

#### GUNNISON

300 W. New York Ave. Gunnison, 81230 970-641-7060

# HOT SULPHUR SPRINGS

346 Grand County Rd. 362 Hot Sulphur Springs, 80451 970-725-6200

#### LAMAR

2500 S. Main St. Lamar, 81052 719-336-6600

#### MEEKER

73485 Hwy. 64 Meeker, 81641 970-878-6090

#### **MONTE VISTA**

0722 S. Road 1 E. Monte Vista, 81144 719-587-6900

#### MONTROSE

2300 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, 81401 970-252-6000

#### **PUEBLO**

600 Reservoir Road Pueblo, 81005 719-561-5300

#### SALIDA

7405 Hwy. 50 Salida, 81201 719-530-5520

#### STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

925 Weiss Dr. Steamboat Springs, 80487 970-870-2197

# **WHAT'S NEW: 2019**

### **REGULATION CHANGES & NEW INFORMATION**

- ► FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT PASSED THE STATE LEGISLATURE: Thank you to all of the hunters and anglers who helped support the Future Generations Act and Colorado Parks and Wildlife. This act is a huge step for funding wildlife conservation. You'll see some changes for 2019, including a small fee increase for resident licenses and the Wildlife Education Fund.

  See full 2018/2019 fee comparison chart online: cpw.state.co.us/feechanges
- ▶ **BIG GAME WALK-IN ACCESS HAS EXPANDED:** The Walk-In Access Program will now offer big-game hunting on many properties across eastern Colorado. There will be overlap in small-game and big-game seasons. Properties that al-

low big- and small-game hunting are now yellow polygons on the WIA maps in this brochure. Small-game-only properties are white polygons. Properties will be signed with WIA boundary signs. In 2019, these properties are open for big-game hunting to properly-licensed hunters during established biggame seasons from Sept. 1, 2019, through Dec. 31, 2019, and to small-game hunting from Sept. 1, 2019, through Feb. 29, 2020. Big-game hunters must possess a valid pronghorn, deer or elk license valid for the game management unit (GMU) in which the Walk-In Access property lies. All normal WIA regulations apply. All big-game hunting regulations apply.

# LICENSE INFORMATION

#### LICENSE FEES

#### **SMALL GAME & WATERFOWL**

	RESIDENT	NONRESIDENT
► Habitat Stamp (required)	\$10	\$10
► Small Game (includes furbearers)	\$29.75	\$ 81.75
► Small Game (one-day)	\$13.75	\$16.75
► Small Game (additional-day)	\$6.75	\$6.75
➤ Youth Small Game (under 18)	\$1 <b>.</b> 25	\$1.25
► Small-Game & Fishing combo	\$49.75	n/a
► Furbearer only	\$29.75	\$81.75
► Colorado Waterfowl Stamp	\$10	\$10
► Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Sta (Duck Stamp)	mp <b>\$25</b>	\$25
► Lifetime Fishing & Small Game con (Disabled Veterans 60 percent or mo		n/a
► Band-tailed Pigeon Permit	\$5	\$5

#### **BIG GAME**

#### ▶ Deer

Resident adult	\$39.75
Resident youth	\$15.50
Nonresident adult/fishing combo	\$396.75
Nonresident youth/fishing combo	\$101.50

#### ► Elk

Resident adult	\$54.75
Resident youth	\$15.50
Nonresident bull/fishing combo	
Nonresident either-sex/fishing combo	
Nonresident cow/fishing combo	
Nonresident youth/fishing combo	

#### ▶ Pronghorn

Resident adult	\$39.75
Resident youth	\$15.50
Nonresident adult/fishing combo	\$396.75
Nonresident youth/fishing combo	\$101.50

#### WHAT YOU NEED TO BUY A LICENSE AND HUNT:

- ID. Secure and verifiable ID. If you have questions about secure and verifiable identification, please call 303-297-1192, Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
   A Social Security number is required for new hunters ages 12 and older.
- 2. PROOF of hunter education. (See below.)
- 3. PROOF of residency for Colorado residents.
- **4. HABITAT STAMP.** A 2019 Habitat Stamp is required prior to applying for the draw or buying a license. (*See below.*)

#### HABITAT STAMPS ARE REQUIRED FOR HUNTERS

Habitat Stamps are \$10 and only one is required per person, per year for anyone ages 18–64. Stamps are valid April 1–March 31.

- ► You must purchase a stamp before buying a hunting license.
- ► A lifetime stamp is \$300.25.
- ► Anyone buying a one-day or additional-day license for fishing and/or small game is exempt from purchasing the Habitat Stamp with the first two of these licenses. The habitat fee will be assessed when a third one-day or additional-day license is purchased for fishing or small game.
- ► Anyone who holds a free lifetime fishing license, a veteran's lifetime combination small-game hunting/fishing license or are approved for the Big Game Mobility Impaired Hunting Program is exempt from the Habitat Stamp requirement. See cpw.state.co.us/accessibility.

# **HUNTER EDUCATION**

#### **HUNTER EDUCATION (SAFETY) REQUIREMENTS**

- Anyone born on or after January 1, 1949, must have a hunter education card to hunt in Colorado.
- 2. A hunter education card is needed to apply for or buy a license.
- **3.** Your hunter education card must be carried while hunting, unless verified and marked with a "V" on your hunting license. To get your hunter education verified, take your hunter education card to a CPW office (*listed on inside front cover*) or state park.
- **4.** CPW honors hunter education cards from other states, provinces and countries.

### **HUNTER EDUCATION EXEMPTIONS**

- Individuals over age 50 or active duty US military and veterans can obtain a hunter education certificate by testing out of hunter education: cpw.state.co.us/HunterEdTestOut
- 2. A one-time apprentice certificate can be obtained for hunters who are at least 10 years old and who must be accompanied by a mentor in the field: cpw.state.co.us/apprenticecertificate

Please see the CPW website for more information: cpw.state.co.us/HunterEd

### **DISABLED VETERANS**

Colorado residents who are disabled veterans or Purple Heart recipients can receive a free lifetime fishing and small game combination license. To qualify, you must have served on active duty and have been honorably discharged. Proof is required of a service-connected disability rated by the Department of Veteran Affairs of at least 60 percent, or DD214 showing Purple Heart or Purple Heart Certificate. More details: cpw.state.co.us/accessibility

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### **CRP LOSS**

Colorado has experienced the loss of several thousand acres of CRP in the last few years. Many of these acres have been or are in the process of being converted to cropland and do not have suitable cover for upland game. While we have caught and removed many of these fields, it is also very likely that some were not detected prior to printing this atlas. In addition, some fields are undergoing CRP enhancements and will have reduced cover as well.

#### HARVEST SURVEYS

CPW conducts harvest surveys annually to estimate harvest, hunter numbers and recreation days, in addition to assessing satisfaction and crowding. Past small-game surveys are available at cpw.state.co.us/small-game-stats, and updated reports are available after annual surveys conclude. Big- and small-game hunters are selected randomly to participate. Surveys are by telephone, by email or online. If contacted, your participation is not required, but responding — even if you did not hunt or harvest an animal — helps CPW set seasons and license numbers.

#### SPECIES IDENTIFICATION

A fully-feathered wing or head must be attached to all birds, except turkeys, doves and band-tailed pigeons, in transit to hunter's home or commercial processor. For pheasants, a foot with a visible spur can be substituted.

**NOTE:** While in the field or during transport, all dressed (not fully-feathered) doves, including Eurasian collared-doves, count against the daily bag and possession limit for mourning and white-winged doves during the Sept. 1–Nov. 29 dove season. Eurasian collared-doves must be fully feathered while in the field or during transport at all other times. See more in "Hunting Invasive Species."



#### HARVEST INFORMATION PROGRAM

Small-game, furbearer and migratory bird hunters, including falconers, must sign up with HIP each year before their license is valid. You can get a 2019–2020 HIP number beginning on April 1, but can get a HIP number anytime after April 1, as long as it's before you hunt small game during the 2019–2020 season. Write the new HIP number on your license. To sign up with HIP, call 1-866-265-6447 (1-866-COLOHIP), or go to www.colohip.com. You will be asked for basic information, including how many birds you harvested the previous season and the species you plan to hunt this year. A season means Sept. 1 through March 15 of the next year. This information helps CPW manage migratory bird and resident small-game species by improving harvest estimates.

### **HUNTING INVASIVE SPECIES**

Eurasian collared-doves, European starlings and house (English) sparrows are considered invasive species in Colorado. Because of this designation, these species may be hunted year-round. No license or Habitat Stamp is required to hunt invasive species; however, hunters must have and carry with them a hunter education card.

Hunters may harvest any number of each of these species and by any method of take approved for big- or small-game hunting. These species may be taken at night with the use of artificial light and night vision equipment.

Commercial hunting of invasive species is prohibited, as is receiving or attempting to receive compensation by hunting these species.

Eurasian collared-doves must remain fully feathered while in the field or during transport, except when counted as part of the mourning or white-winged dove bag and possession limit during the dove season that runs from Sept. 1–Nov. 29.

#### **ENROLL YOUR PROPERTY**

Interested in enrolling your land in the Walk-In Access program? CPW wants to enroll quality hunting lands across the state. To offer land for the 2019–20 season, please contact a CPW office for details. See office listings on inside cover.

### **BE A RESPONSIBLE HUNTER**

The WIA program depends on private landowners enrolling property for walk-in hunting and maintaining good relations with those landowners and their neighbors. Here are some additional guidelines that, if followed, will improve the opportunities for all hunters and contribute to future WIA enrollments:

► WHERE DESIGNATED PARKING AREAS ARE ESTABLISHED, USE THEM.

Do not block gates or roads for the landowner or their agents who may need to work on the property. Do not park along highways. Do not park in tall grassy or weedy areas where your vehicle's catalytic converter can cause a fire.

- ► IF YOU SMOKE, make sure to completely extinguish cigarettes. Do not smoke or extinguish cigarettes in grassy or weedy areas where you could cause a fire.
- ► DON'T LITTER OR CLEAN HARVESTED BIRDS ON WIA PROPERTIES OR ALONG ROAD-SIDES. If trash is present, please pick it up.
- ► DON'T SHOOT NEAR OR TO-WARDS HOUSES, farm buildings, livestock or equipment.
- ► DON'T HUNT IF CATTLE ARE IN, or adjacent to, enrolled parcels.



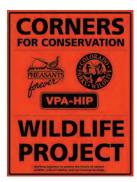




# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### CORNERS FOR CONSERVATION

Colorado Parks and Wildlife has partnered with Pheasants Forever Inc., the Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program (through Natural Resources Conservation Service), High Plains Land Conservancy and Muley Fanatics Foundation to create a new habitat practice for northeast Colorado. Known as Corners for Conservation, the practice is designed to create excellent habitat for wildlife, including upland game birds, by establishing highly diverse cover on sprinkler corners, including tall native grasses and flowering forbs. All Corners for Conservation projects are enrolled in the Walk-In Access



Program and will provide year-round habitat for many species of wildlife. Corners for Conservation properties are posted in this atlas, and in the field are identified with WIA boundary signs and Corners for Conservation Habitat signs. Over 400 projects have been completed through this habitat partnership, with more planned for future seasons.

# **NO HUNTING DURING ACTIVE HARVEST**

To promote safe hunting and help landowners efficiently harvest crops, some WIA properties — primarily grass sprinkler corners adjacent to irrigated corn fields — will be closed to WIA hunting when landowners are actively

harvesting crops. Specifically, when harvesting machines are working in the associated corn field, sprinkler corners are CLOSED to all WIA hunting.

In most cases, corners will only be closed for a day or two while the landowner completes harvest. All sprinkler corners will be posted with closure signs in addition to regular boundary signs. Adhering to this temporary closure will help hunters and CPW maintain excellent working relations with landowners and will contribute to keeping high-quality sprinkler corners open to public walk-in hunting.



RESTRICTED ACCESS

NOVICE HUNTER PROPERTY

ACCESS TO HUNT SMALL GAME IS RESTRICTED TO GRADUATES OF THE NOVICE HUNTER PROGRAM

WIA properties that are open for

with special yellow signs that look

novice hunters will be posted

Look for the signs!

# **GENERAL HUNTING LAWS**

- 1. Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) can post firing lines at its properties.
- 2. It is illegal to kill, capture, injure or harass wildlife from a motor vehicle or an aircraft. It is also illegal to operate aircraft with intent to injure, harass, drive or rally wildlife. It is illegal to discharge a firearm or release an arrow from a motor vehicle or an aircraft.
- **3.** It is illegal to discharge a firearm or release an arrow from, on or across a public road. Hunting with rifles, handguns, shotguns firing a single slug and archery equipment is prohibited within 50 feet on each side of the center line of any public road. On a divided road, the prohibition includes the median, and the 50-foot requirement is measured from the center line of both roads
- 4. It is illegal to carry or have a firearm, except a pistol or revolver, in or on a motor vehicle unless the chamber is unloaded. While using artificial light from a vehicle, it is illegal to have a firearm with cartridges in the chamber or magazine, or possess a strung bow unless the bow is cased.
- 5. You must take edible parts of game meat home to eat or provide it for human consumption. Do not leave wounded wildlife (or wildlife that might be wounded) without attempting to track and kill it.
- 6. Possession of wildlife is evidence you hunted.
- 7. Small-game and migratory bird hunters are not required to wear solid, fluorescent orange or pink clothes. However, CPW encourages you to wear fluorescent orange or pink clothes for safety.
- 8. You must stop at CPW check stations when told to do so.
- **9.** Violations of Colorado wildlife laws carry point values. You can face suspension of license privileges for up to five years or more if you accumulate 20 or more points in five years.
- 10. During deer, elk, pronghorn and bear seasons, firearms (except handguns) must be unloaded in the chamber and magazine when carried on an off-highway vehicle (OHV). Firearms (except handguns) and bows carried on an OHV must be fully enclosed in a hard or soft case. Scabbards or cases with open ends or sides are prohibited. This regulation does not apply to landowners or their agents carrying a firearm on an OHV for the purpose of taking depredating wildlife on property owned or leased by them.

# **NOVICE HUNTER PROGRAM**

Colorado Parks and Wildlife's Novice Hunter Program (NHP) provides people

new to hunting with a solid foundation of knowledge and skills to instill the confidence that aids in future safe and enjoyable hunting experiences in Colorado.

The novice program includes classroom time, and the curriculum focuses on the fundamentals of pheasant biology, hunting techniques, firearms safety and hunting ethics, as well as practical exercises in the field.

But there's one thing that we can't give you, and that's experience. As part of this program, CPW leases some Walk-In Access properties specifically for novice hunters, to give an opportunity to hunt in good pheasant habitat in a relatively unpressured setting. These lands are not open to

the general public and are available to you just for this hunting season.

There are some restrictions on how these lands can be hunted. We a

There are some restrictions on how these lands can be hunted. We ask you to please abide by program regulations and property-specific rules while you are hunting. Remember to plan ahead and be safe. Good luck and have fun!

To hunt these special designated pheasant properties:

- **1.** You must be a current-year graduate of the Novice Hunter Program must be present and actively hunting during all hunting activities.
- **2.** Up to four additional licensed hunters may accompany and hunt with a graduate of the Novice Hunter Program.
- **3.** A valid "student" hang tag must be hung from the rearview mirror from students' vehicles while they are hunting NHP WIA properties.
- **4.** A valid "mentor" hang tag must be hung from the rearview mirror of vehicles carrying hunters accompanying an NHP student.
- 5. No more than two vehicles are allowed per NHP hunter.
- **6.** Lands enrolled and posted as NHP Walk-In Access properties may be accessed from Nov. 9, 2019 through the end of February 2020. All hunting season dates must be followed.
- Access shall be by foot only. Entry by horseback, motorized vehicle, or other means is prohibited.
- **8.** Access is allowed for hunting only; all other activities are prohibited. (See additional walk-in hunting regulations on page 4.)

# **WALK-IN PROPERTY LAWS**

# **KNOW BEFORE YOU GO**

- 1. Lands are open for public access one hour before sunrise until one hour after sunset. When hunting waterfowl, deer, elk and pronghorn, public access is allowed two hours before sunrise until two hours after sunset.
- **2.** Species of take will be restricted as follows:
  - a. Lands enrolled and posted as Regular, Late Cropland or Extended Season Walk-In Access properties are open for the take of all small game, furbearers, migratory game birds and Eurasian collared-doves, except Gambel's quail, Gunnison sage-grouse and greater sage-grouse.
  - b. Lands enrolled and posted as Big Game Walk-In Access properties are open for the take of deer, elk and pronghorn by hunters holding a valid license for the GMU in which the property lies.
- **3.** Public access is allowed:
  - a. From Sept. 1 through the end of Feb. annually for lands enrolled and posted as Regular Season Walk-In Access properties.
  - **b.** From the opening day of pheasant season through the end of Feb. annually for lands enrolled and posted as Late Season Cropland Walk-In Access properties.
  - c. From Sept. 1 through the end of the mountain sharp-tailed grouse season annually, for all lands enrolled and posted as Grouse Walk-In Access
  - d. From the opening day of pheasant season through the end of March

- annually for lands enrolled and posted as Extended Walk-In Access properties.
- e. From the opening day of pheasant season through the end of February annually for lands enrolled and posted as Novice Hunter Program Walk-In Access properties.
  - 1. A current year's graduate of the Novice Hunter Program must be present and actively hunting with each group during all hunting activities.
  - 2. Up to four additional hunters may accompany and hunt with a graduate of the Novice Hunter Program.
- f. From September 1 through the end of December annually for lands enrolled and posted as Big Game Walk-In Access properties.
- 4. Access shall be by foot only. Entry by horseback, motorized vehicle or other means is prohibited.
- 5. Access is allowed for small-game hunting only; all other activities are
- **6.** Access is prohibited as posted when the landowner is actively harvesting crops.

### **WALK-IN PROPERTY SIGNS**

There are a variety of Walk-In Access Program boundary signs. Knowing what to look for in the field will help during your hunt.



**ACCESS SIGNS** in the field will have an access date of Sept. 1 through the end of Feb. that tell when the property is open for hunting.



PHEASANT SEASON **ACCESS SIGNS** have an access date of "The opening day of pheasant season" through the end of Feb. Properties that are posted to open on the opening day of pheasant season cannot be accessed prior to Nov. 9, 2019.



**EXTENDED ACCESS** properties are posted to close at the end of March, annually. These signs have an access date of "The opening day of pheasant season" through the end of March. These properties cannot be accessed prior to Nov. 9, 2019.



designate where hunters should park at some walk-in areas. The majority of WIA properties do not have established parking areas. Instead, hunters should park along the road, taking care to stay out of the traveled portion of the road but also not park in tall weeds and grass where a fire hazard exists.

PARKING SIGNS



**SAFETY ZONE SIGNS** are common on or near WIA properties. These signs are used to delineate safety zones around buildings, homesteads, livestock corrals or neighboring landowners' homes and properties. Please respect safety zone signs wherever you find them posted.



CLOSED! DO NOT HUNT IF FIELDS HAVE YELLOW "WARNING!" SIGNS. Rarely, it is necessary to remove a property from the WIA program after this brochure is printed.

When that happens, boundary signs are replaced with yellow warning signs to notify hunters the property is no longer available for walk-in hunting. Remember, if you find a WIA property listed in the brochure but boundary signs are not present at the field corners, please do not hunt that field!



#### **BIG GAME ACCESS PROGRAM**

CPW and partnering landowners are offering big game hunting access on many Walk-In Access (WIA) properties in Eastern Colorado. Properties that allow big-game hunting are vellow in the WIA maps in this brochure. These properties will be signed with yellow WIA boundary signs in the field. These properties are open for big-game hunting to properly licensed hunters during established big-game seasons from Sept. 1, 2019, through Dec. 31, 2019, and to smallgame hunting from Sept. 1, 2019, through Feb. 29, 2020. Big-game hunters must possess a valid pronghorn, deer or elk license valid for the Game Management Unit (GMU) in which the Walk-In Access property lies. All normal WIA regulations apply. All big-game hunting regulations apply.

# **SEASON DATES**

Select big-and small-game season dates are included within this atlas for your convenience; however, all season dates are not listed.

A complete synopsis of the big-game hunting season dates can be found in the 2019 Colorado Big Game brochure, while the complete small-game hunting season dates can be found in the 2019 Small Game & Waterfowl brochure. These brochures are available at license agents, CPW offices and online in downloadable PDF and interactive, searchable formats at cpw. state.co.us/bg/brochure and cpw.state.co.us/sgwf/brochure.

### **SMALL-GAME SEASON DATES AND BAG LIMITS**



**► PHEASANT SEASON 1:** Nov. 9-Jan. 31, 2020 AREA: East of I-25

**SEASON 2:** Nov. 9-Jan. 5, 2020 AREA: West of I-25

**DAILY BAG LIMIT: 3 cocks POSSESSION LIMIT:** 9 cocks

► QUAIL: NORTHERN BOBWHITE, SCALED, GAMBEL'S

**SEASON 1:** Nov. 9-Jan. 31, 2020 AREA: East of I-25 and south of I-70 from I-25 to Byers and Hwy. 36 from Byers to Kansas, and the parts of the following counties that are west of I-25: Pueblo, Fremont, Huerfano, El Paso and Las Animas counties.

► QUAIL: NORTHERN BOBWHITE, SCALED, GAMBEL'S **SEASON 2:** Nov. 9-Jan. 5, 2020

AREA: East of I-25 and north of I-70 from I-25 east to Byers and Hwy. 36 from Byers to Kansas.

SEASON 3: Nov. 9-Jan. 5, 2020 **AREA:** West of I-25 except those areas west of I-25 in Pueblo, Fremont, Huerfano, El Paso and Las Animas counties.

**DAILY BAG LIMIT:** 8 of each species **POSSESSION LIMIT:** 24 each species

- ► COTTONTAIL
- ► SNOWSHOE HARE,
- ► JACKRABBIT: WHITE-TAILED, **BLACK-TAILED SEASON:** Oct. 1– Feb. 29, 2020 **DAILY BAG LIMIT:** 10 of each species POSSESSION LIMIT: 20 of each



# **BIG-GAME SEASON DATES**

**▶** DEER **PLAINS ARCHERY** 

**SEASON:** Oct. 1-25, Nov. 6-30, Dec. 15-31\*

\*Unless otherwise noted in the 2019 Big Game brochure tables. Please refer to the 2019 Big Game brochure for a detailed listing of all dates.

**PLAINS MUZZLELOADER SEASON:** Oct. 12–20

**PLAINS RIFLE** SEASON: Oct. 26-Nov. 5

**LATE PLAINS RIFLE** SEASON: Dec. 1-14 **►** ELK **PLAINS RIFLE** 

> SEASON: Sept. 1-Jan. 31\* \*Unless otherwise noted in the 2019 Big Game brochure tables. Please refer to the 2019 Big

Game brochure for a detailed listing of all dates.

► PRONGHORN **PLAINS RIFLE** 

**SEASON:** Oct. 5-11\*\*

\*Unless otherwise noted in the 2019 Big Game brochure tables. \*\*Check hunt code tables in the 2019 Big Game brochure for early and late rifle season dates for certain hunts, pages 51-52.

# **LEGAL HUNTING HOURS**

Legal hunting times for big game are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset, unless specifically restricted. Legal times to hunt small game are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. An exception is made for furbearers, which can be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

The sunrise/sunset chart below lists time in Denver. Subtract 1 minute from opening and closing time for each 12 1/2 miles east of Denver. Add 1 minute to opening and closing time for each 12 1/2 miles west of Denver.

(These changes assume that each degree of longitude equals 50 miles and a change of 1 degree of longitude equals a 4-minute change in sunrise and sunset times.)

	2019–2020 SUNRISE/SUNSET TABLE (DENVER)											
DAY	RISE A.M.	T. <i>(DST</i> )* SET P.M.	RISE	<i>(DST)*</i> SET P.M.	NOV. RISE A.M.			SET P.M.	RISE	<b>2020</b> SET P.M.	RISE	<b>2020</b> SET P.M.
1	6:28	7:31	6:56	6:43	7:28	5:58	7:02	4:36	7:21	4:46	7:08	5:19
2	6:29	7:30	6:57	6:41	7:29	5:57	7:03	4:36	7:21	4:47	7:07	5:20
3	6:30	7:28	6:58	6:39	6:31	4:56	7:04	4:36	7:21	4:48	7:06	5:22
4	6:31	7:27	6:59	6:38	6:32	4:55	7:04	4:36	7:21	4:49	7:05	5:23
5	6:32	7:25		6:36	6:33	4:53	7:05	4:35	7:21	4:49	7:04	5:24
6	6:33	7:23	7:01	6:35	6:34	4:53	7:06	4:35	7:21	4:50	7:03	5:25
7	6:33	7:22	7:02	6:33	6:35	4:52	7:07	4:35	7:21	4:51	7:02	5:26
8	6:34	7:20	7:03	6:31	6:36	4:51	7:08	4:35	7:21	4:52	7:01	5:28
9	6:35	7:19	7:04	6:30	6:37	4:50	7:09	4:35	7:21	4:53	7:00	5:29
10	6:36	7:17	7:05	6:28	6:39	4:49	7:10	4:35	7:21	4:54	6:59	5:30
11	6:37	7:15	7:06	6:27	6:40	4:48	7:11	4:36	7:20	4:55	6:58	5:31
12	6:38	7:14	7:07	6:25	6:41	4:47	7:11	4:36	7:20	4:56	6:57	5:32
13	6:39	7:12	7:08	6:24	6:42	4:46	7:12	4:36	7:20	4:57	6:55	5:33
14	6:40	7:10	7:09	6:22	6:43	4:45	7:13	4:36	7:20	4:58	6:54	5:35
15	6:41	7:09	7:10		6:44			4:36	7:19		6:53	5:36
16	6:42	7:07	7:11	6:19	6:45	4:44	7:14	4:37	7:19	5:01	6:52	5:37
17	6:43	7:05	7:12		6:47			4:37	7:18	5:02	6:50	5:38
18	6:44	7:04	7:13		6:48		7:16		7:18	5:03	6:49	5:39
19	6:45	7:02	7:14		6:49		7:16			5:04		5:40
20		7:01	7:15			4:41	7:17	4:38		5:05	6:46	
21	6:46	6:59	7:16	6:12	6:51	4:40	7:17	4:39	7:16	5:06	6:45	5:43
22		6:57	7:17	6:11		4:40	7:18	4:39	7:16	5:07	6:44	5:44
23	6:48		7:18	6:09	6:53	4:39		4:40		5:09	6:42	5:45
24	6:49		7:19	6:08	6:54		7:19	4:40		5:10	6:41	5:46
25	6:50		7:21	6:07	6:55			4:41	7:14		6:39	5:47
26	6:51	6:51	7:22		6:56		7:19	4:42	7:13	5:12	6:38	5:48
27	6:52			6:04		4:37		4:42	7:12		6:37	5:49
28	6:53		7:24		6:59			4:43		5:14	6:35	5:51
30	6:54		7:25	6:02	7:00		7:20	4:44	7:11	5:16	6:34	5:52
31	6:55	6:44	7:26 7:27	5:59	7:01	4:30	7:21 7:21	4:44 4:45	7:10 7:09	5:17		
	T (David: 1)	t savina time)	1.21	3.37			7.21	4.43				
-051	i=(vayiight	saving time)								irce: www.usn		
TIME ADJUSTMENT FOR OTHER COLORADO CITIES  This table reflects the minutes to add/subtract to the chart above for select towns. These are approximate; use only as a reference.  Craig Durango						a Vista igton	+3 +5 -10 +9 +11	Gr. Juncti Gunnison La Junta Lamar Sterling				

### SAFE HANDLING OF GAME MEAT

In most cases, properly handled and prepared game meat is healthy and safe to consume. Hunters are encouraged to contact their local public health department or CPW office for information on wildlife diseases that may be present where they plan to hunt. Public health officials recommend the following precautions when handling and preparing game meat:

- 1. Do not handle animals that are obviously sick or found dead. Report sick or dead animals you find to a CPW office.
- 2. Keep game cool, clean and dry.
- 3. Do not eat, drink or smoke while dressing game.
- **4.** Use disposable gloves when cleaning game.
- **5.** Wash hands with soap and water, or use alcohol wipes after dressing game.
- 6. Clean all tools and surfaces immediately afterward. Use hot, soapy water, then disinfect with a 10 percent chlorine bleach solution.
- 7. Cook game meat to an internal temperature of at least 165 degrees F to kill disease organisms and parasites. Juices from cooked game meat should be clear.
- **8.** Do not eat any raw portions of wild game.
- 9. Do not feed raw wild game to domestic pets.

# **QUAIL HUNTING TIPS**

# TIPS AND TACTICS FOR A SUCCESSFUL COLORADO QUAIL HUNT

Southeast Colorado was fairly wet this year, so things should be looking up for bobwhite quail, although not to the degree of 3 to 4 years ago when populations were booming. Populations should be close to average or a little better than average in 2019 while scaled quail are expected to be a bit below average this year. Quail are most likely doing better than pheasants in the southeast, but a slight increase in pheasants is expected in 2019 due to favorable weather.

# SCOUT BEFORE THE SEASON AND DEVELOP A PLAN

Preseason scouting, especially in mid- to late October, can considerably shorten the task of finding game birds. Go early morning or evening when quail are most active. Take a good map (or this atlas) to mark your sightings. And when you spot birds, observe nearby fields, where the birds are feeding, how they move between fields and where they are taking cover. Think about how the birds will react to hunters, how they will escape and which fields will swing the odds in your favor. Consider your hunting preferences and focus on the fields or cover types where your personal hunting style will allow you to be successful. Develop a hunt plan based on the information you've gathered.

# **CONSIDER THE HABITAT**

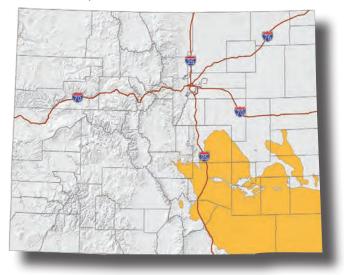
Scaled quail are most numerous in areas that are relatively open at ground level, so focus on areas with a good percentage of bare ground. Scaled quail depend on winter food sources such as sunflowers, western ragweed, buffalo bur and occasionally cultivated milo. Stay away from heavy grass cover, as these areas tend to choke out the food sources that quail depend upon. In most cases, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) cropland is too dense for scaled quail, although they thrive in disturbed, weedy areas or thin strands of CRP bunchgrass. Scaled quail are often found near or in structures, natural or manmade. Think cholla cactus, weedy or brushy ravines, shrub thickets, junk piles, abandoned farm machinery, wildlife watering systems and old farmsteads. Any natural or artificial structural component warrants exploration.

In some situations, bobwhites can be found in the same fields as scaled quail in southeastern Colorado; however bobwhite quail range is significantly smaller. Bobwhites are primarily limited to riparian areas in northeastern and east-central Colorado, and riparian areas, sandsage rangeland and occasionally CRP lands in southeast Colorado. Isolated populations of bobwhites occur in sandsage communities in the northeast counties of Phillips and Yuma, although their numbers vary from year to year.

In fields, bobwhites are normally found near areas with significant shrub development: sandsage rangeland, drainages lined with skunkbush sumac, native plum or chokecherry thickets, willow and snowberry riparian zones and warm season CRP grass fields that have a good shrub component intermixed with the grasses. Look for CRP grass fields that provide tall overhead cover with a high percentage of bare ground. Pay attention to areas with sunflowers, western and giant ragweed, kochia plants, and fields composed of little bluestem, big bluestem, sand bluestem, switchgrass and yellow indiangrass. In extreme southeast Colorado, it's not unusual to find bobwhites around large CRP fields that are adjacent to other habitats like sandsage. In the northeast, where quail habitat is more restricted, look for them in CRP sprinkler corners adjacent to irrigated corn fields, in CRP plantings along creek bottoms or field edges, and grass fields along the sandsage-cropland transition zone. You can also find them foraging or taking cover in weedy fencerows, abandoned farmsteads, old livestock corrals and other areas that provide standing weed cover. Once you have found an area that holds quail, take note of the important habitat types, and try to find other areas that replicate those habitats.

Articles by Colorado Parks and Wildlife Small Game Manager, Ed Gorman.

# **SCALED QUAIL:**



# **BOBWHITE QUAIL:**





# **BIG-GAME HUNTING TIPS**

# WALK-IN ACCESS PROGRAM EXPANDED TO INCLUDE BIG-GAME



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©Wayne Lewis/CPW

CPW expanded its Walk-in Access Program to include the entire eastern plains, totaling approximately 88,000 acres for big-game hunting in 2019. The big-game program will allow public access to specified Walk-in Access (WIA) properties for deer, elk and pronghorn, within specified big-game season dates from Sept. 1 to Dec. 31, 2019. Following are some tips to help make for a successful big-game WIA hunt:

### **HUNT PLANNING FOR BIG-GAME**

Few big-game hunters get out in the field without doing a bit of preseason scouting. This preseason work is also important for small-game species, if for no other reason than to figure out which is the right field on opening day. Frequently, scouting game birds isn't as much about seeing birds as it is about seeing how accessible fields relate to each other and how birds will move between them, what the habitat is like and, hopefully, observation of tracks or birds in roads. When you find birds, there is little reason to disturb or flush them while scouting.

Most of this also applies for big game. Most big-game hunters understand scouting is particularly important when you might spend most of your time hunting on public WIA areas. Finding which fields hold big game consistently is the key, although hunters who recognize important habitat characteristics can do well.

#### CONSIDER THE HABITAT

Things to consider include habitat characteristics and how they attract deer, disturbance and competing uses, surrounding habitat, and food sources. Deer use of WIA areas generally declines over the season, simply due to the number of bird hunters accessing the fields; however, some fields are large enough and have enough good habitat surrounding them that they can hold deer throughout the season. Before the pheasant season begins, deer tend to congregate in the same fields that hold large numbers of pheasants, but they probably won't stay long after opening day of pheasant season. This is where scouting and getting permission play a huge role because you get a good idea where to start looking when the deer leave a certain area.

It goes without saying that game birds are heavily dependent on habitat in a relatively small area because they are not tremendously mobile. Deer are also heavily dependent on habitat, but, because they are more mobile, they depend on habitat on a larger scale. But what kinds of habitat are important for deer across the WIA range? CRP land would probably rank most important, followed closely by sand-sage rangeland. In terms of CRP, look for fields that offer security cover in the form of tall, concealing vegetation. Tall grass or weedy cover does not seem to matter much, as long as deer have a chance to hide in it. Topography can be important too — particularly a field that offers good security cover and contains a nook or a ravine not easily visible from a road. Deer generally don't use CRP to forage, although there are some exceptions to this. Think about where they are moving daily to find preferred foods. Generally, deer can be seen in fields or are moving to and from bedding areas early and late in the day. Rangeland, like CRP, varies in attractiveness to deer. Experience has shown that blocks of rangeland that offer concealment, either in the form of vegetation or topography, are most attractive to deer. Proximity to food can be important, but deer appear to show little concern about traveling to find food when the cover in a distant pasture is greatly valuable.

#### **BE PREPARED**

Many WIA properties will be open for both small-game and big-game hunting, while other properties remain small-game only. Small-/big-game combo properties will be shown as yellow polygons on printed and mobile maps, and marked in the field with yellow boundary signs. Small-game-only signs will be depicted as white polygons on maps and will be marked with white boundary signs. Please see the Regular Walk-In Access brochure for additional details about the program and properties.

# **PHEASANT HUNTING TIPS**

# TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL COLORADO PHEASANT HUNT

On Nov. 9, hunters and bird dogs alike will celebrate as Colorado's 2019–20 pheasant season opens statewide. According to wildlife managers, pheasant populations are average to above average this year. Precipitation returned to much of the core pheasant range in the last several years, helping to improve nesting conditions and rebuild Colorado's pheasant crop. Serious hailstorms occurred across some of the better pheasant range in the southeast, which is expected to impact populations in these areas. Although pheasant populations remain below the peak numbers that hunters enjoyed several years ago, there are enough roosters to keep things exciting and plenty of additional reasons to lace up your hunting boots and explore Colorado's Eastern Plains this fall. These tips will help you get the most out of your hunt:

### 1. SCOUT FOR SUCCESS

Scouting is always important but it's even more critical when there are fewer birds afield. Colorado's core pheasant habitat lies in the vast, cultivated farmlands and Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) fields of Yuma, Logan, Washington, Sedgwick and Phillips counties. However, pheasant populations are localized based on the habitat that's available in these areas. Locating "birdy" spots prior to your actual hunt will make time spent in the field much more productive.

#### 2. ASK FOR PERMISSION

Much of the land in eastern Colorado is privately owned, but don't let that deter you. Although landowners typically reserve opening weekend and holidays for family and friends, most are open to granting hunting access to strangers at other times of the season. Be courteous and don't be afraid to knock on a few doors until you get a "yes." Some of the best pheasant hunting is located on private property. And if you're granted access, a thoughtful "thank you" can go a long way toward future permission.

# 3. UNDERSTAND PHEASANT BEHAVIOR

Pheasants follow a routine that's predictable. Understanding pheasant behavior can ensure you're in the right place at the right time and help you to locate more birds. In early morning, pheasants leave the thick cover of their roosting sites and move into open croplands (corn, milo or winter wheat) to feed. Depending on weather conditions and hunting pressure, birds typically feed for an hour or two and then seek shelter in grassy fringes (loafing cover) adjacent to feeding sites, where they will remain for the remainder of midday. Pheasants return to open fields to feed about an hour before sunset. This behavior pattern remains consistent except during periods of extreme cold or wind or when heavy snow forces birds to seek shelter in dense roosting cover throughout most of the day.

#### 4. HUNT SMART

Pheasants hear extremely well and quickly become savvy to boisterous hunters. Slamming your truck door, yelling at untrained dogs or chit-chatting too loudly with other members in your hunting party is a surefire way to return home empty handed. Pheasants often flush in response to shutting off a car engine, so be sure to park away from your hunting area. Lastly, be mindful of wind direction. Hunt into the wind whenever possible. Walking upwind makes it harder for pheasants to hear approaching footsteps and also makes it much easier for dogs to detect scent.

### **5. LATER IN THE SEASON IS BETTER**

Hunting gets better later in the season. Not only have the crowds of early season hunters thinned out, but the hunting conditions have improved as well. By December, corn fields and other croplands have all been cut and harvested, forcing pheasants to seek refuge in narrow draws, sloughs, shelter belts and grassy pockets areas much more accessible to hunters.

### 6. REFER TO THE SMALL GAME & WATERFOWL BROCHURE

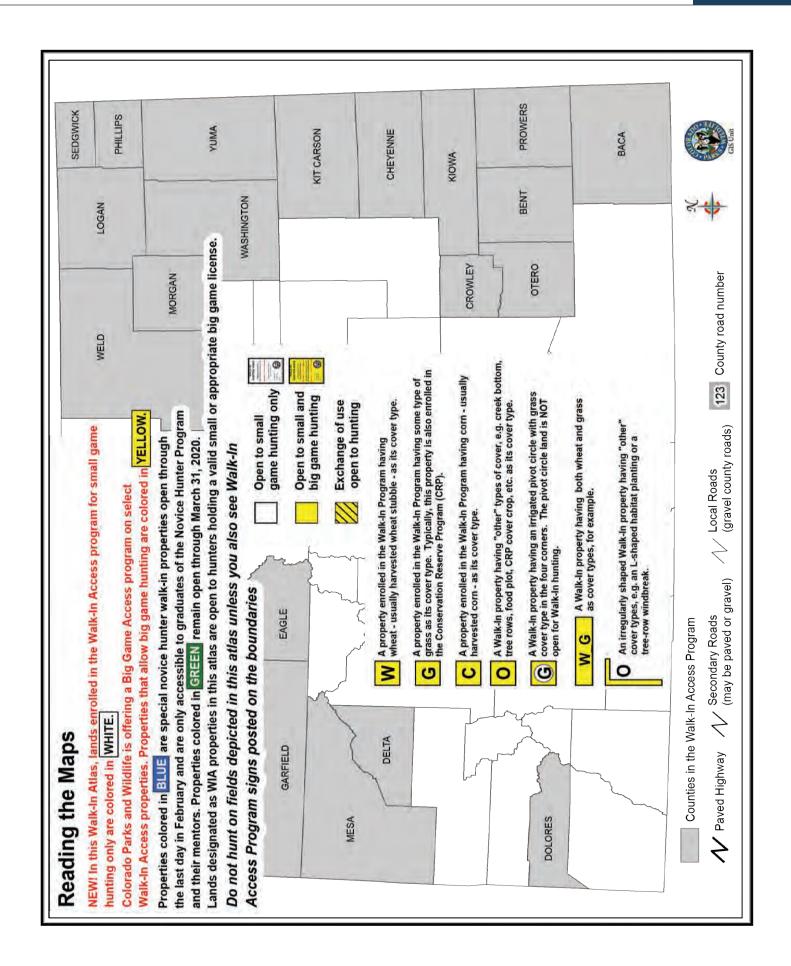
A small-game license, habitat stamp and a Harvest Information Program (HIP) number are required to hunt pheasants and to access WIA properties. For further information, including hunting regulations and bag and possession limits, pick up a copy of the 2019 Small Game & Waterfowl brochure available at statewide license agents, CPW offices and parks, and online at cpw.state.co.us/sgwf/brochure.

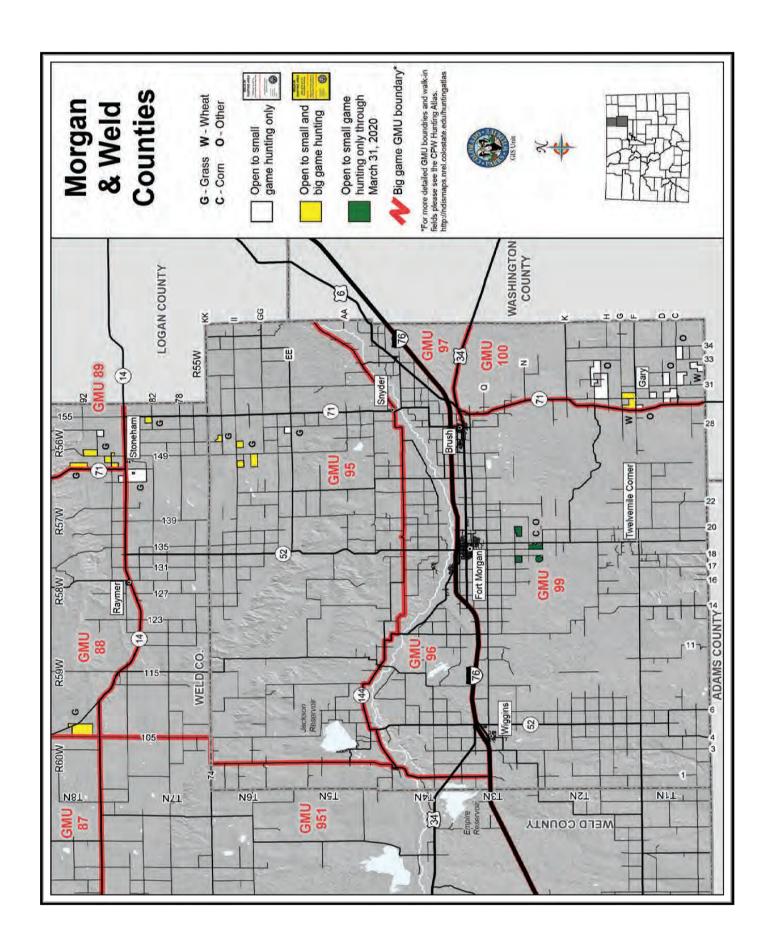
Article by Jerry Neal. Neal is a media and information specialist and senior video producer for Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and is the former editor of Colorado Outdoors online.

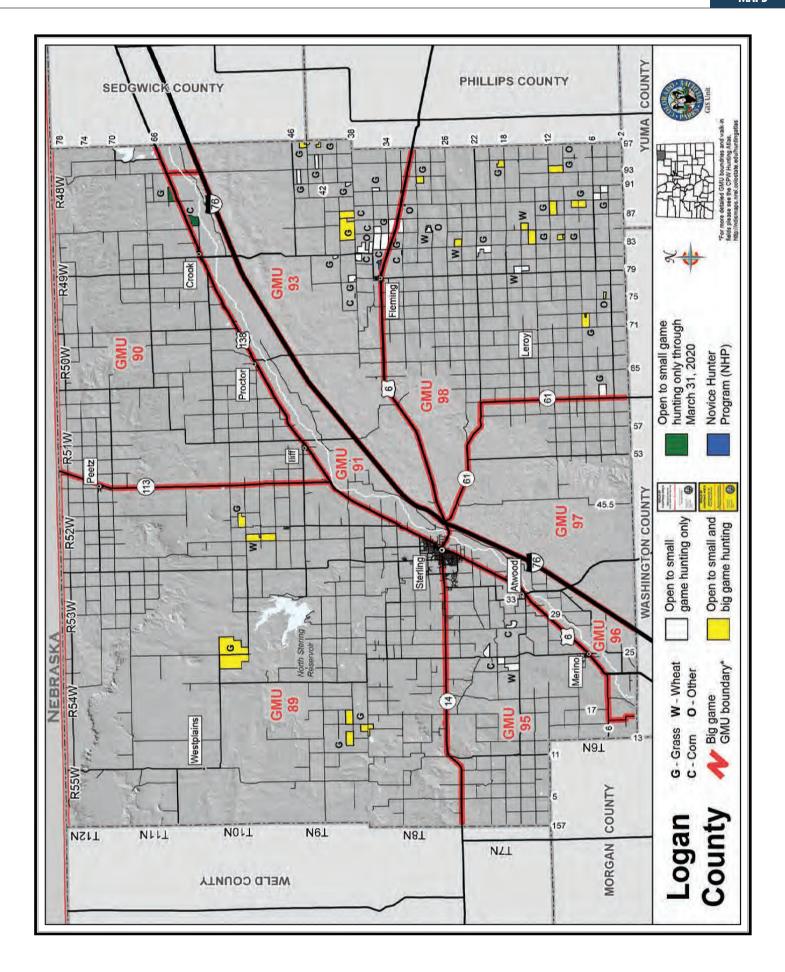


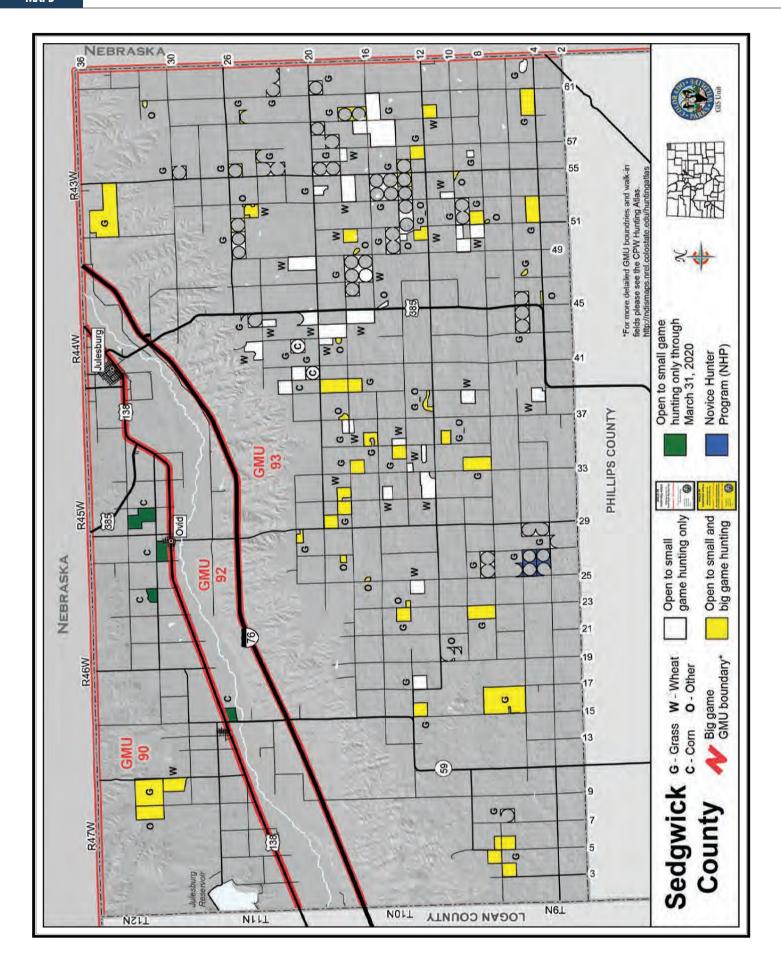


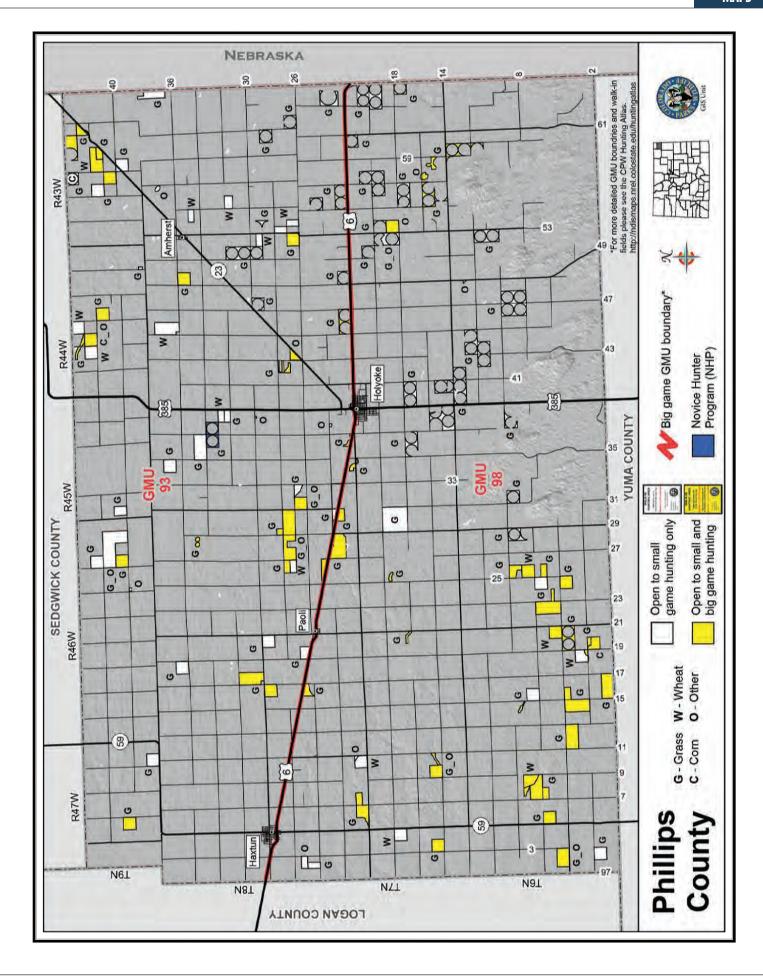


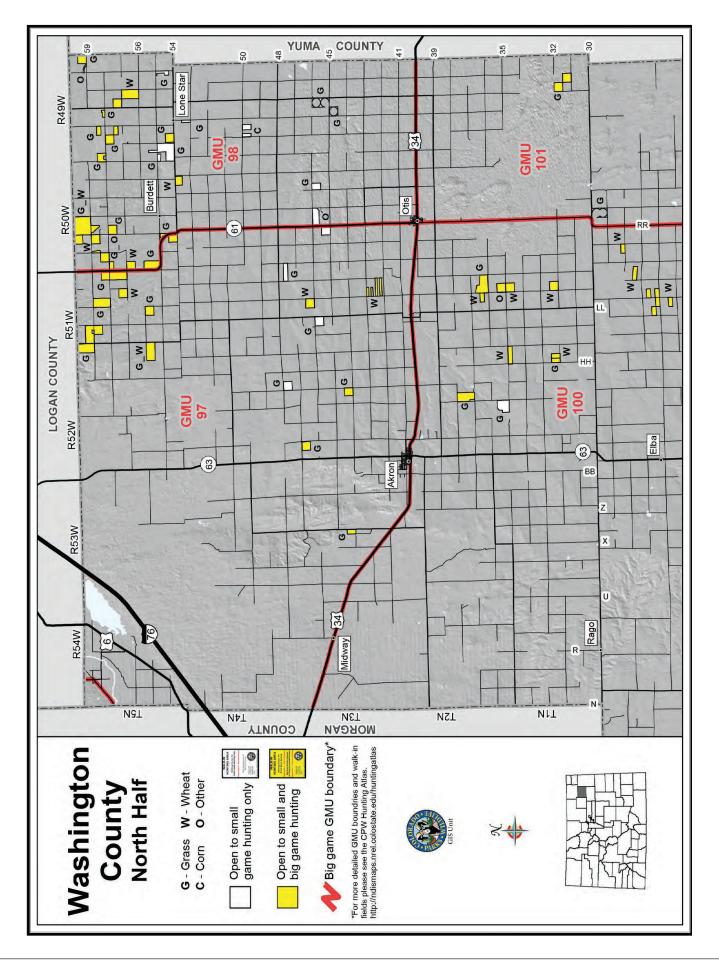


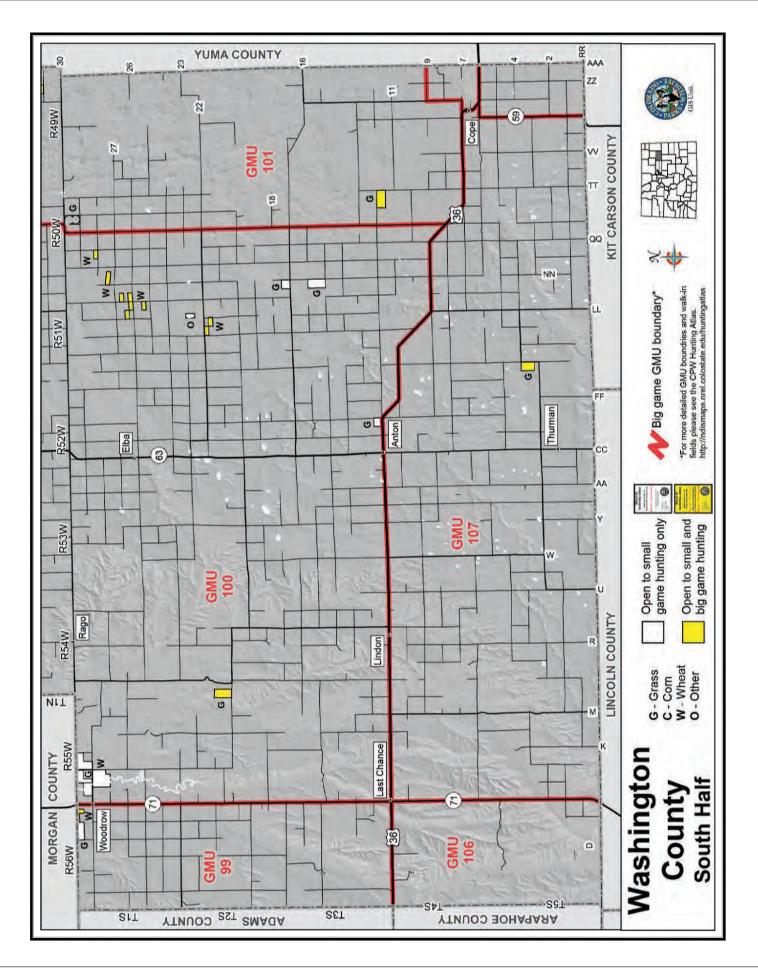


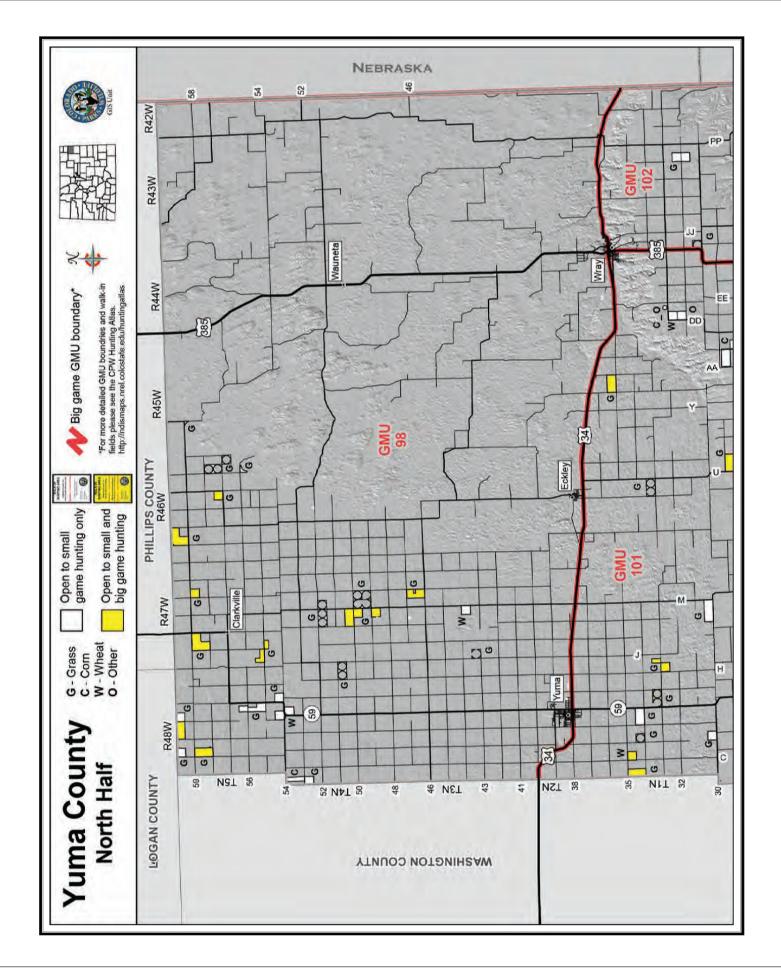


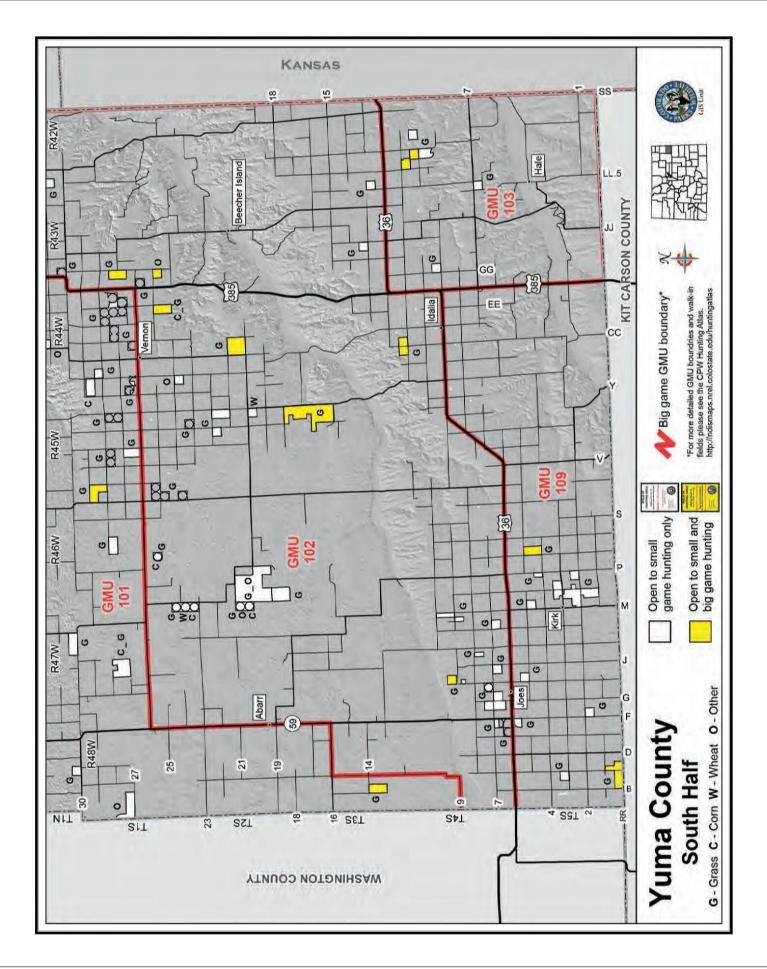


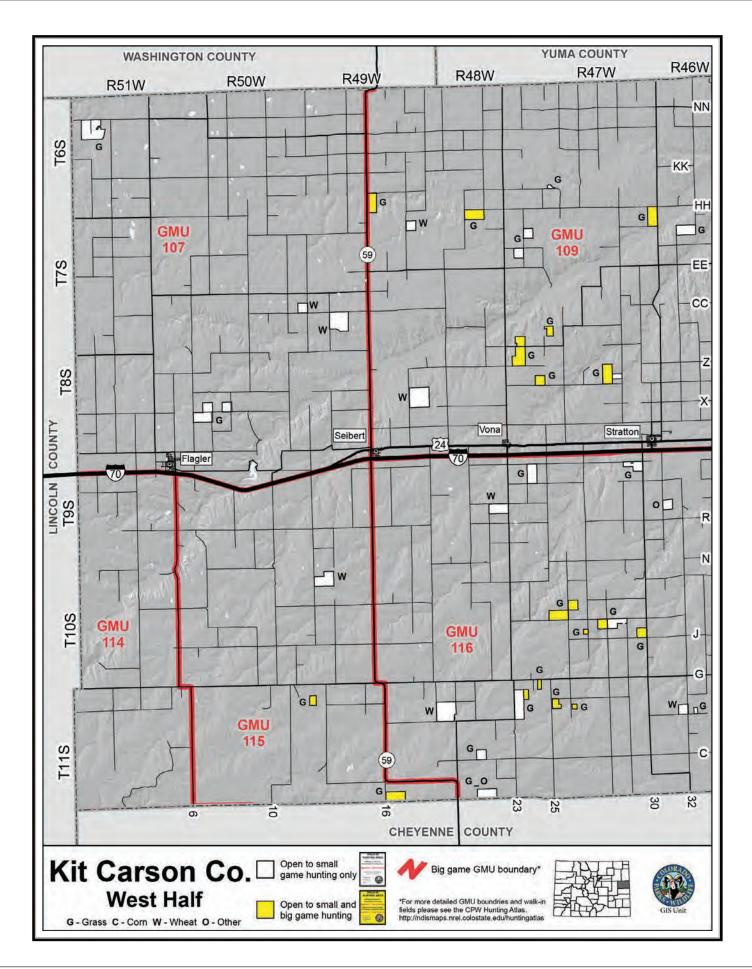


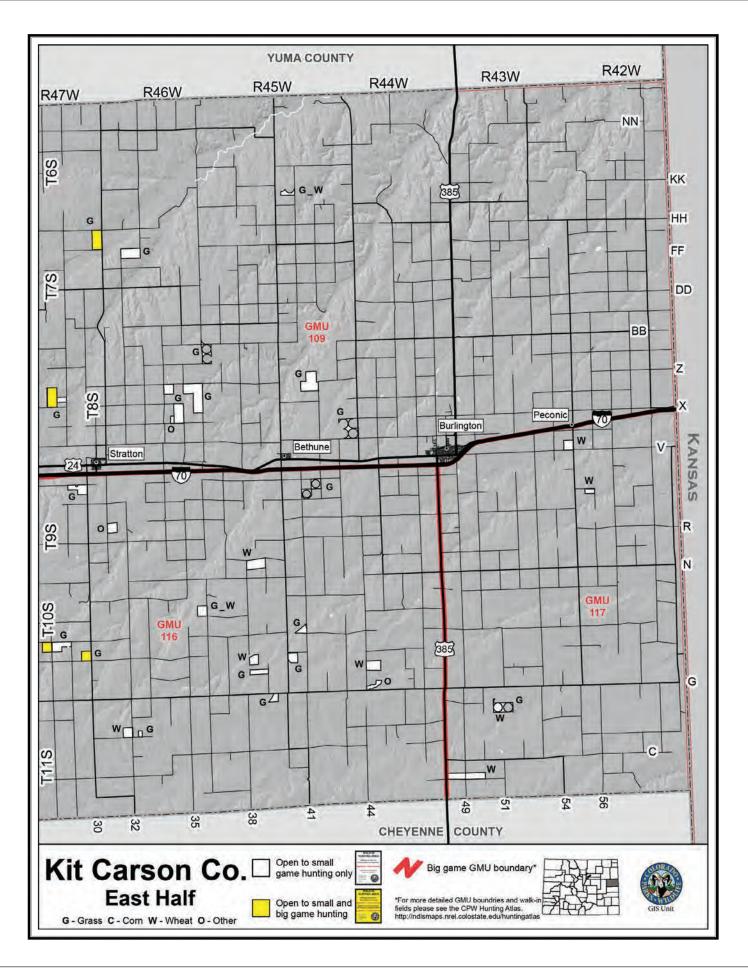


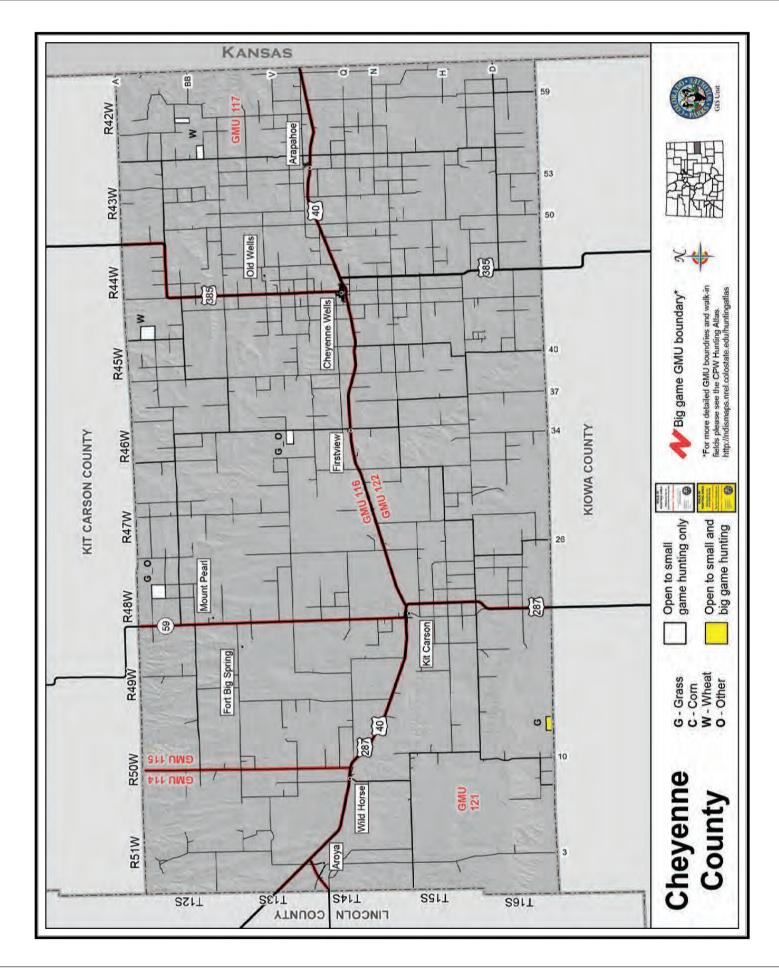


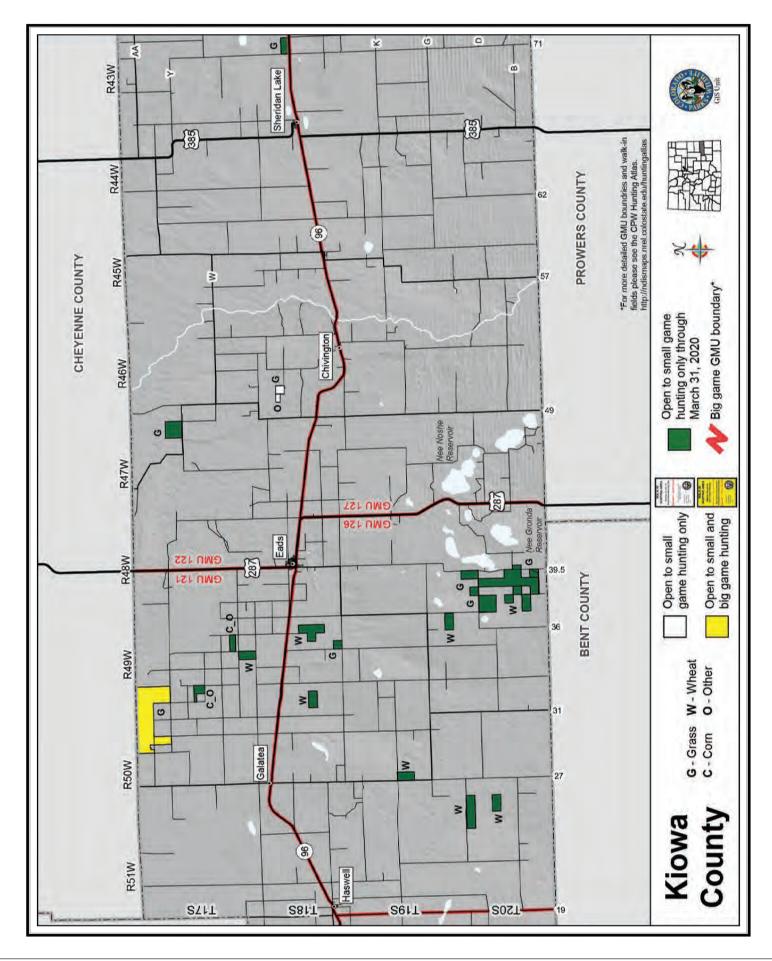


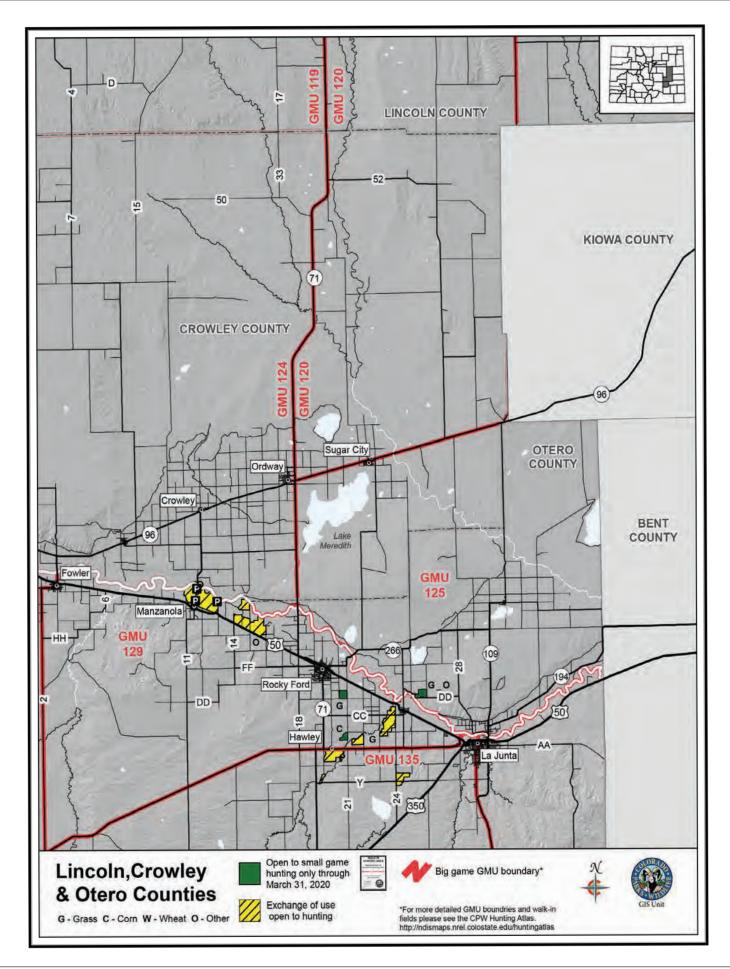


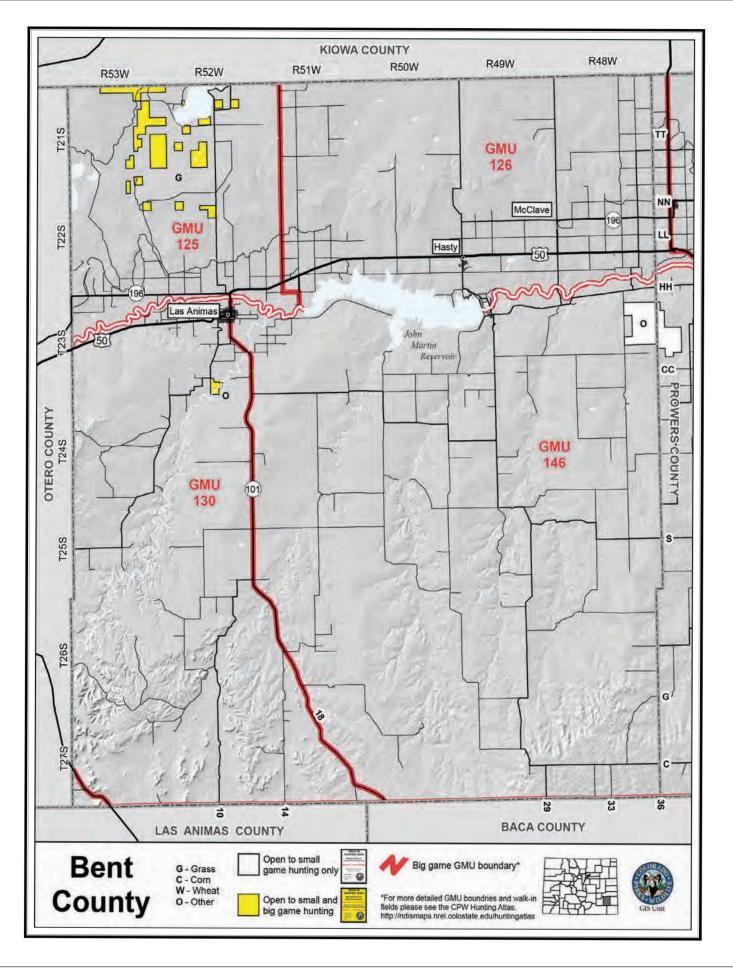


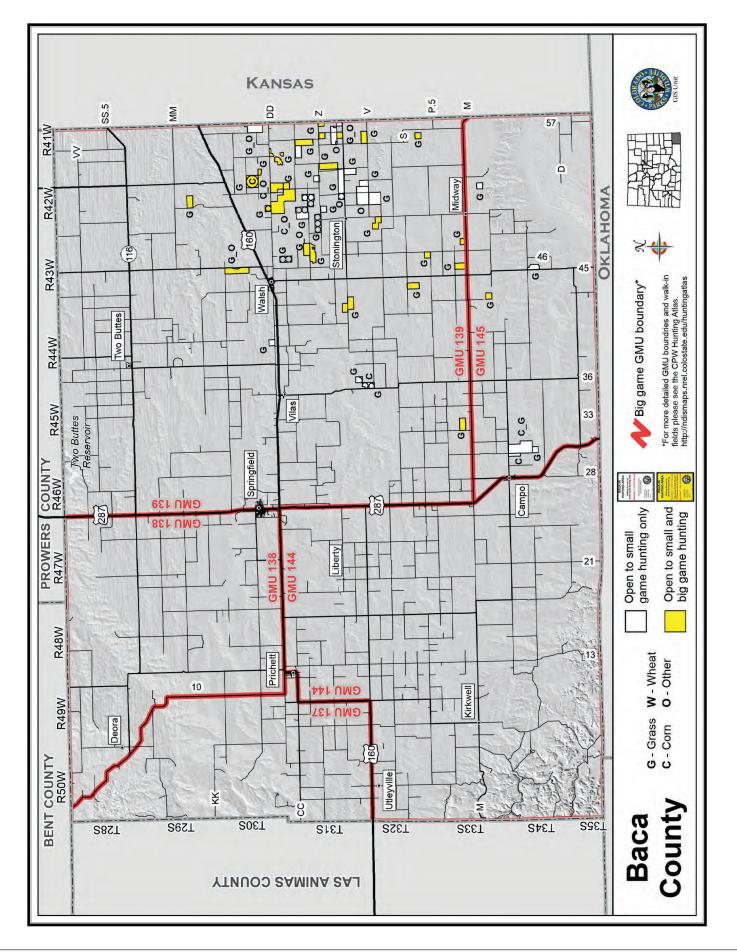


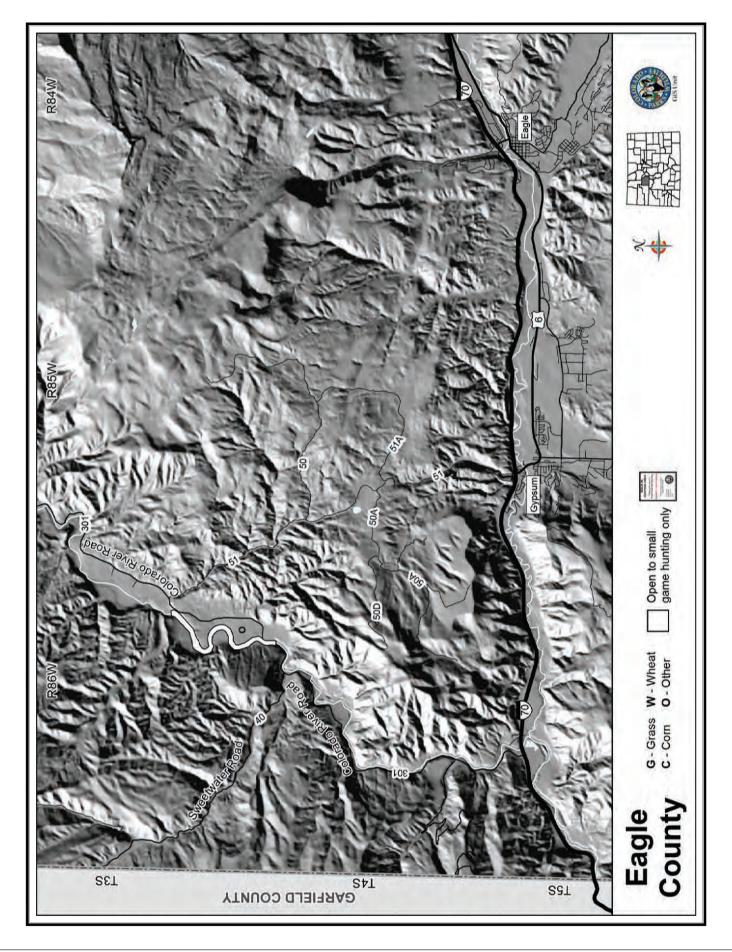


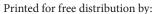
















# **COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE**

6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216 303-297-1192

cpw.state.co.us

### **NOTICE ABOUT THIS GUIDE**

This brochure is not a legal notice nor a complete collection of hunting regulations and laws. Copies of statutes and regulations can be obtained from a CPW office or at **cpw.state.co.us/regulations**. For questions, call CPW at 303-297-1192.

