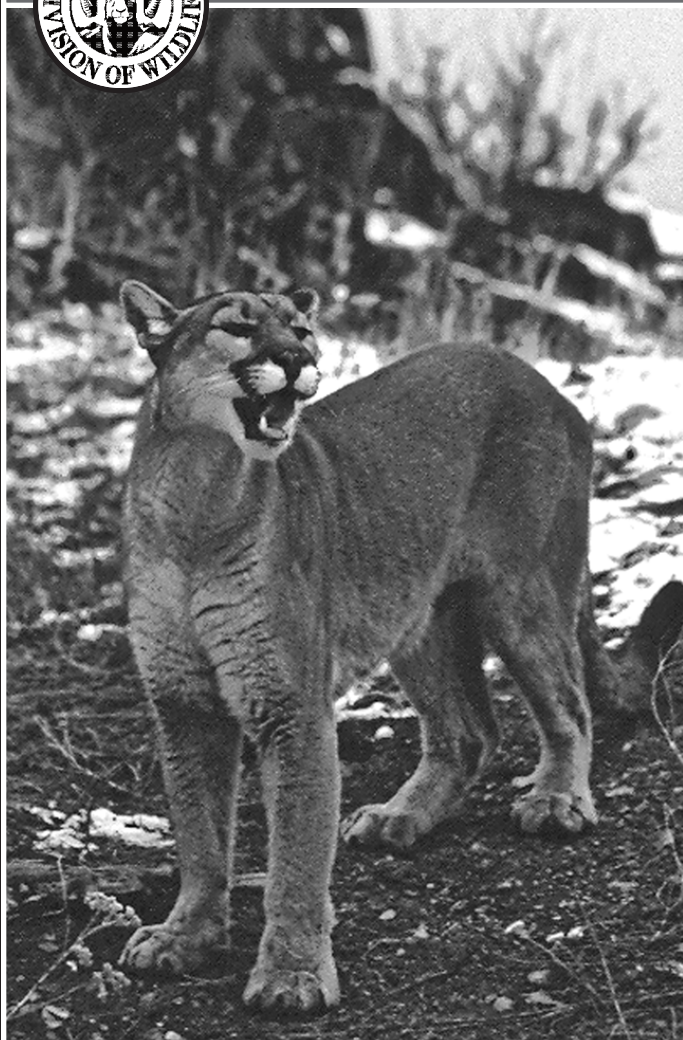


COLORADO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

2009-10 Mountain Lion Hunting Information



COLORADO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
6060 Broadway • Denver, CO 80216
(303) 297-1192 • www.wildlife.state.co.us

MOUNTAIN LION LICENSE FEES

Resident\$41

Nonresident\$251

Costs include a 25-cent search and rescue fee and 75-cent surcharge for the Wildlife Management Public Education Fund.

LICENSE INFORMATION

1. You must have a lion license and carry it when hunting. You can buy licenses online or by calling, 1-800-244-5613. Credit cards accepted for phone or internet purchases. Licenses also are sold at DOW offices and license agents.
2. Anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 1949, must have completed an approved hunter education course sanctioned by a state or province before applying for or purchasing a license. Colorado honors hunter education courses from other states and provinces. A hunter safety card must be presented when buying a license. All hunters must carry their hunter education card when hunting unless "Verified" is printed by the DOW on their license.
3. To obtain a mountain lion license, you must have completed the DOW's certified mountain lion education and identification course. For mountain lion education study materials, a practice test and official test, visit our website. You must enter your CID number when taking the official test. If you do not have a CID, contact a DOW office. Tests also can be taken at DOW offices. Upon successful completion of the test, a certificate will be issued by the DOW. Hunters must carry the certificate while hunting unless "Verified" is printed by the DOW on their license.
4. You must check daily to make sure the unit you want to hunt is open. Units close when harvest limits are reached. Call **1-888-940-LION (5466)** no earlier than 5 p.m. the day before your hunting trip for a recording of closed units. If a unit is closed, you must pick a different unit.
5. A Habitat Stamp is required of people ages 19-64 who buy hunting or fishing licenses. With a license purchase, the stamp is \$5 and required on each of the first 2 licenses bought per year (\$10 total). A lifetime stamp is \$200.

LION HUNTING SEASON DATES

The day after the close of the last combined deer and elk rifle season through March 31, and through Jan. 31 in units 61, 62 and 70 within research area.

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

These are the requirements to qualify as a Colorado resident to buy a hunting license:

1. You must have lived continuously in Colorado at least six months immediately before applying for or buying a license, and must intend to make Colorado home (except #2 and 3 below).
2. U.S. armed services personnel and military personnel of U.S. allies on active duty in Colorado under permanent orders and their dependents. This includes people who were Colorado residents when they entered the armed services and maintain Colorado as their home of record, and their dependents (unless they change their home of record to another state). Also included are personnel of the U.S. Diplomatic Service or diplomatic services of nations recognized by the U.S. assigned to duty here on permanent active duty orders and their dependents. Active duty does not include reserve status or National Guard.
3. Full-time students enrolled and attending a Colorado college, university or trade school at least six months immediately before applying for or buying a license. This includes students who are temporarily absent from Colorado but still enrolled. Colorado residents who attend school full time

out of state and pay nonresident tuition still qualify for a resident license.

4. Children under 18 have the same residency status as their parent, legal guardian or person with whom they live the majority of the time per court order.

5. If you have a home in Colorado and another state, call (303) 297-1192 to make sure you comply with Colorado residency requirements before obtaining a hunting or fishing license.

6. Except as in #2 and 3 above, your Colorado residency ends if you apply for, buy or accept hunting, fishing or trapping license as a resident of another state or country; register to vote outside Colorado; or get a driver's license with an address in another state.

MINIMUM AGE TO HUNT LIONS

You must be at least 12 to hunt big game. Eleven year olds can buy a license if they turn 12 before the end of the hunting season. However, the license is not valid, and youths cannot hunt before their 12th birthday. Hunters under 16 must be accompanied by someone 18 or older who meets hunter education requirements.

HUNTING HOURS

One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

BAG LIMITS

1. One mountain lion of either sex from the day after the close of the last combined deer and elk season through March 31 (April 30 only in unit 40).

2. A lion killed during special damage seasons doesn't count toward the annual bag limit.

3. A lion killed on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation does not count toward the annual bag limit.

LEGAL METHODS OF TAKE

1. CENTERFIRE RIFLES OR HANDGUNS: Bullets must weigh min. 45 grains; must produce min. 400-foot lbs. of energy at muzzle.

2. MUZZLELOADING RIFLES: Min. .40 caliber.

3. SHOTGUNS: Min. 20 gauge. Must fire single slug.

4. HAND-HELD BOWS: Long bow, recurved bow or compound bow on which the string is not drawn mechanically or held mechanically under tension. String or mechanical releases that are hand drawn or hand held without other attachments or connections to the bow (other than bowstring) are legal.

a. Hand-held bows, including compound bows, must use arrows equipped with a broadhead with an outside diameter or min. width of 7/8 inches with a min. of 2 steel cutting edges. Each cutting edge must be in the same plane for the entire length of the cutting surface.

b. Min. draw weight of 35 lbs. required. Let-off percentage max. of 80%.

c. No part of bow's riser (handle) or track, trough, channel, arrow rest or other device (excluding cables and bowstring) that attaches to the riser can contact support and/or guide the arrow from a point rearward of the bow's brace height behind the undrawn string.

d. Bows can propel only a single arrow at a time. No mechanisms for automatically loading arrows are permitted.

e. Electric or battery-powered devices cannot be incorporated or attached to a bow.

f. Hydraulic or pneumatic technology cannot be used to derive or store energy to propel arrows. Explosive arrows are prohibited.

5. CROSSBOWS:

a. Draw weight: min. 125 lbs.

b. Draw length: min. 14 inches from front of the bow to nocking point of the draw-string.

- c. Positive mechanical safety device is required.
 - d. Bolt must be min. 16 inches long, have a broadhead at least 7/8 inch wide and a min. of 2 steel cutting edges. Each cutting edge must be in the same plane for the entire length of cutting surface.
6. Methods not listed are prohibited.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

1. Artificial light, electronic devices and electronic calls are illegal. Hand-held calls are permitted.
2. Bait is illegal.
3. Dogs are permitted. No more than 8 dogs are allowed per pack.
4. After a lion is pursued, treed, cornered or held at bay, you must kill or release the lion. It is illegal to prevent a lion from escaping so that someone not in your hunting party can kill it.
5. Lion hunters are not required to wear daylight fluorescent orange clothes.
6. It is illegal to kill a kitten or mountain lion accompanied by one or more kittens. A kitten is a lion with spots.
7. All edible parts of lions must be properly prepared for human consumption, excluding internal organs.
8. You must attach a carcass tag to a lion you kill, per instructions on tag.
9. Hunting with archery equipment, rifles, handguns or shotguns firing single slugs is prohibited within 50 feet on either side of the centerline of state highways and municipal or county roads.

EVIDENCE OF SEX

1. It is illegal to have or transport a mountain lion carcass without evidence of sex naturally attached. Evidence of sex means testicles or penis of male or vulva of female.
2. Evidence of sex not required when donation certificate accompanies less than 20 lbs. of meat or after carcass is commercially processed, cut into portions, wrapped and frozen for storage or stored at licensee's home.

INSPECTION AND SEALS

Hunters must contact the DOW within 48 hours of a lion kill and give their name, CID number, license number, date and unit of the kill, and sex of the lion. If you get voice mail, leave a message with the information. Within 5 days of harvest, hunters must personally present their lion to a DOW office or officer for inspection and seal. Hides cannot be frozen. Lions or parts cannot be taken out of Colorado unless inspected and sealed. Lion hides or heads without seals become state property. A mandatory check report must be completed during inspection. Inspections and seals are free. Seals must stay attached until hide is tanned.

TOOTH COLLECTION

At inspection, the DOW is authorized to extract and keep a premolar tooth. If the head and hide are frozen, the DOW may keep them long enough to thaw so that a tooth can be removed. The tooth will be analyzed to determine the lion's age. Hunters can help by making sure the jaw is propped open with a stick before rigor sets in and not having the carcass frozen during inspection. The animal's age will be posted on our website 4-5 months after lion season ends. Ages is posted by seal number, so hunters should record the number to check the age of their animal.

DONATING GAME MEAT

1. You can donate more than 20 lbs. of unprocessed meat anywhere **ONLY** if: (a) recipient has an unfilled like license. A like license is for the same species, season, sex and method of take as donor's license; (b) recipient must tag the meat with his carcass tag. Donor's tag must stay with his por-

tion. If the entire carcass is donated, donor and recipient tags must be attached.

2. You can donate up to 20 lbs. of unprocessed meat anywhere to anyone without a like license, or more than 20 lbs. of unprocessed meat if donation occurs at recipient's home.

3. Processed and packaged game meat can be donated to anyone, anywhere in any amount.

4. Donation certificate is required with names, addresses and phone numbers of donor and recipient; donor's license number; species and amount donated; date of kill and donor's signature. Certificates can be simple notes and must stay with the meat until it's consumed.

5. Donors and recipients are subject to all bag and possession limits.

MOUNTAIN LION MANAGEMENT

The DOW develops management plans for mountain lion populations in Colorado. Harvest quotas found on pages 10 and 11 are determined annually to assure that lion mortality objectives are not exceeded.

CONSERVING COLORADO'S MOUNTAIN LIONS

Mountain lion populations are very sensitive to female deaths. A large number of female deaths can shift a population from increasing to decreasing. Females don't disperse far, and some don't disperse at all. If too many adult females are harvested, it can take longer for lions to reoccupy an area. Therefore, taking too many females can have far-reaching implications for Colorado's lion population. Wildlife managers use the amount and proportion of female harvest in setting harvest limits. Hunter harvest and total mortality are examined on a consecutive 5-year average in each unit. If the female harvest and mortality are too high in an area with a goal of maintaining a stable or increasing population, harvest limits may be lowered. The DOW asks hunters to refrain voluntarily from killing females in units managed to maintain stable populations. These units are listed in a separate license table. In addition, the DOW emphasizes the need to reduce female harvest in other units where recent harvests have exceeded management thresholds. These units also are listed in a separate table.

SAFE HANDLING OF GAME MEAT

1. Do not handle animals that are obviously sick or found dead. Report them to a DOW 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 your hands with soap and water, or use alcohol wipes after dressing game.

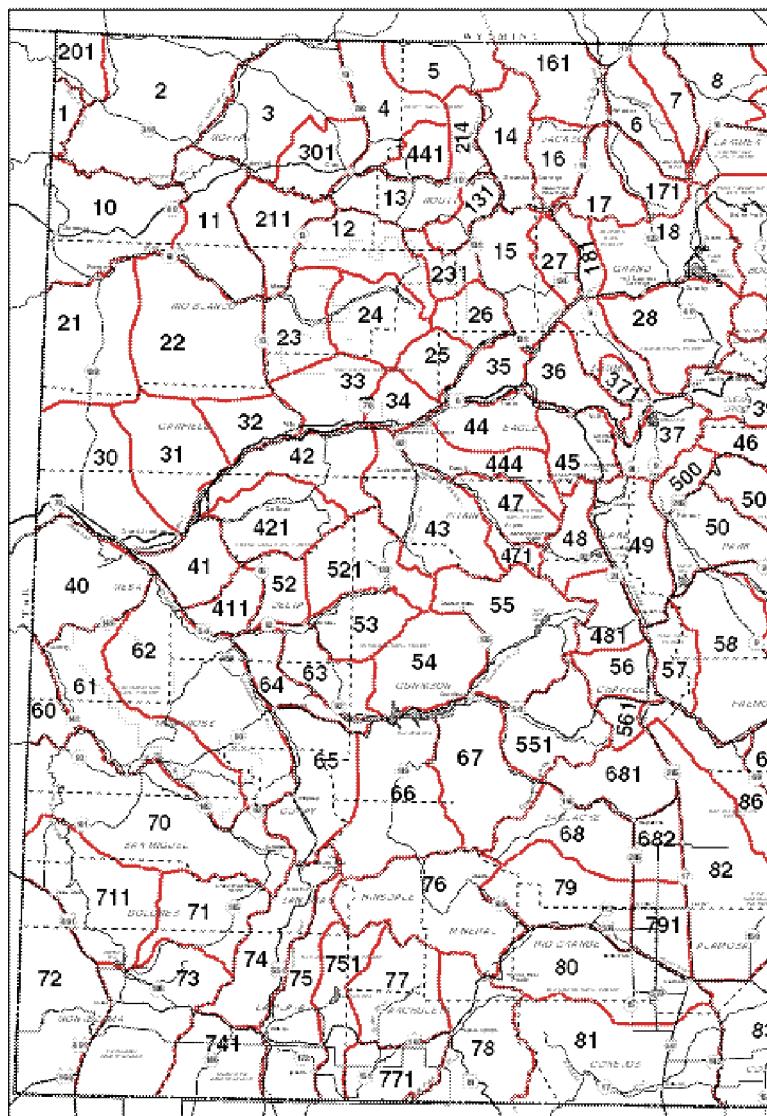
6. Clean all tools and surfaces immediately afterward. Use hot soapy water, then disinfect with a 10% chlorine bleach solution.

7. Cook meat to an internal temperature of at least 165° F to kill organisms and parasites. Juices from adequately cooked game meat should be clear.

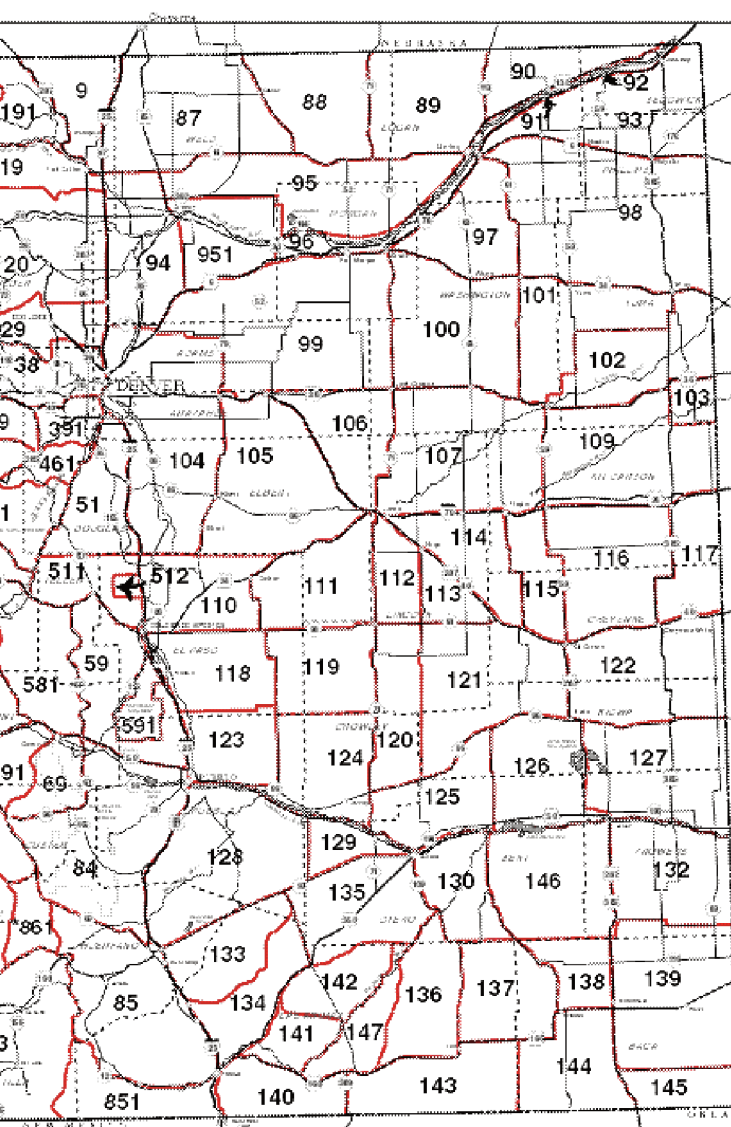
8. Do not eat raw portions of wild game.

9. Do not feed raw game to domestic pets.

GAME MANAGER



MENT UNIT MAP



DISTINGUISHING MALE AND FEMALE LIONS

Binoculars are recommended to determine the sex of treed or bayed lions. Gender also can be determined with the naked eye if you are close enough. If a lion is in a tree and it's difficult to identify sex, get it to move so you have a better view. Bang a branch on the tree trunk or throw a few snowballs or pine cones into branches near the lion. Remember, it is illegal to kill a female with cubs present. The absence of cubs with a lion does not mean it is a male or an unbred adult female. Research has shown that young are close to their mothers about half the time. Males usually have three spots below the base of their tail. Just under their tail is the anal opening; about 1 inch below that is the scrotum, an oval-shaped patch of silver, light brown and white fur. Beneath the scrotum is a small (about 1 inch across), conspicuous black spot that surrounds the penis sheath opening. In contrast, females have only two spots below the base of their tail, including the anal opening hidden beneath the base of the tail and vaginal opening directly below the anus. The rest of the area behind the female's hindquarters is covered with white fur. Although colored spots help in identification, first and foremost, look for the darkest spot. If it is high and near the tail or is difficult to see, the lion is probably female. If the dark patch is 4-5 inches beneath the tail, the lion is probably male. Because treed or bayed lions often urinate, look for the origin of the urine. If urine comes from behind the hind legs, about 4-5 inches below the anus, the lion is probably male. If the stream comes from under the base of the tail, there's a good chance the lion is female. Tracks also can be good indicators of gender. Adult and large, sub-adult males usually have hind foot plantar (heel) pads more than 2 1/16 inches (52 mm) wide. Adult and sub-adult female lions usually have heel pads 2 1/16 inches or less wide. Hunters should carry a small ruler or wind-up metal tape to measure tracks.



Female mountain lion hindquarters

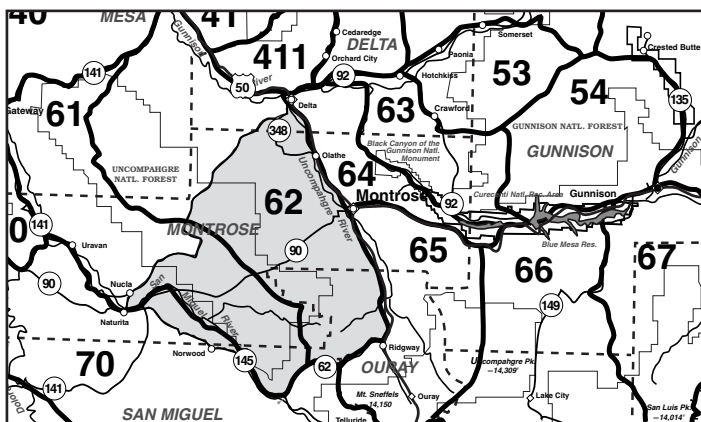


Male mountain lion hindquarters

RESEARCH AREA

1. Research area is bounded on E by Hwy. 348 at Delta, on N by 25 Mesa Rd. and USFS Rd. 503 to Nucla, on S and W by Hwy. 97 to Hwys. 141 and 145 to Placerville and on S by Hwy. 62 to Ridgeway and on E by US 550 to Montrose and by US 50 to Delta.

2. A free permit is required to hunt lions in the research area. Permits are valid for 14 consecutive days and are unlimited. Permits available at DOW office in Montrose, 2300 S. Townsend Ave. Permits available from 14 days before mountain lion season opens through Jan. 31, or until quota in research area is filled.



Mountain lion research area

CHILD SUPPORT DELINQUENCY

State law requires your Social Security number to buy licenses. It is not displayed on licenses but is provided, if requested, to Child Support Enforcement authorities. Licenses are not issued to people delinquent in child support.

MOUNTAIN LION EITHER-SEX LICENSES

Units in this section have had acceptable amounts of female mountain lion harvest. Hunters are requested to continue voluntarily refraining from the take of female lions.

| Units | Harvest Quotas |
|--|----------------|
| 1, 2..... | 5 |
| 3, 301 | 5 |
| 4 N of CR 27 and USFS Rd 110 & 5..... | 8 |
| 4 S of CR 27 and USFS Rd 110 & 441 | 5 |
| 48, 49, 50, 481, 500 | 6 |
| 54, 55, 551 | 7 |
| 56, 561 | 5 |
| 57, 58, 581 | 19 |
| 59, 591 | 8 |
| 60 | 5 |
| 61 N of Delta-Nucla Rd | 7 |
| 61, 62, 70 in Research Area | 8 |
| 62 N of Delta-Nucla Rd | 7 |
| 64 | 6 |
| 65 | 4 |
| 66, 67 | 8 |
| 68, 681, 682..... | 5 |
| 69, 84, 86, 691, 861 | 24 |
| 70 E of Colo. 141except between Colo 145 and San Miguel Riv N of Norwood Bridge | 10 |
| 70 W of Colo. 141..... | 6 |
| 71, 711 | 11 |
| 72 | 3 |
| 73 | 7 |
| 74, 741 | 6 |
| 75 | 4 |
| 77 | 4 |
| 78 | 4 |
| 751, 771 | 3 |
| 76, 79, 791 | 5 |
| 78 | 4 |
| 80 | 3 |
| 81 | 2 |
| 82 | 6 |
| 83 | 7 |
| 85, 140, 851 | 24 |
| 201 | 5 |
| 501 | 4 |
| 511 | 4 |

Take of female lions has exceeded management guidelines in units listed in this section. The DOW emphasizes the need for hunters to reduce the take of female mountain lions in these units.

| Units | Harvest Quotas |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| 6, 16, 17, 161, 171 | 3 |
| 7 | 1 |
| 8 | 4 |
| 9 | 3 |
| 15 | 4 |
| 18, 27, 28, 37, 181, 371 | 8 |
| 19 | 5 |
| 20 | 9 |
| 25, 26, 34 | 8 |
| 35 | 3 |
| 36 | 5 |
| 40 | 7 |
| 43 | 5 |
| 44 | 3 |
| 47 | 1 |
| 191 | 8 |
| 444 | 5 |

The DOW does not make any special requests of hunters regarding the take of female lions in units in this section.

| Units | Harvest Quotas |
|---|----------------|
| 10 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 |
| 12 | 14 |
| 13 W of Hayden Divide Rd (CR 53) | 12 |
| 13 E of Hayden Divide Rd (CR 53) and 131 | 5 |
| 21 | 8 |
| 22 | 13 |
| 23 | 10 |
| 24 | 3 |
| 29 | 2 |
| 30 | 11 |
| 31 | 8 |
| 32 | 5 |
| 33 | 13 |
| 38 | 7 |
| 39, 391 | 7 |
| 41 | 3 |
| 42 | 10 |
| 46 | 4 |
| 51, 104 | 7 |
| 52, 411 | 10 |
| 53, 63 | 8 |
| 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147 | 14 |
| 211 | 17 |
| 421 | 8 |
| 461 | 7 |
| 521 | 6 |

DOW SERVICE CENTERS

Division of Wildlife headquarters
6060 Broadway
Denver, 80216
(303) 297-1192

Northeast Region Svc. Ctr.
6060 Broadway
Denver, 80216
(303) 291-7227

Northwest Region Svc. Ctr.
711 Independent Ave.
Grand Junction, 81505
(970) 255-6100

Fort Collins Svc. Ctr.
317 W. Prospect Road
Fort Collins, 80526
(970) 472-4300

Glenwood Spgs. Svc. Ctr.
50633 Hwys. 6 & 24
Glenwood Springs, 81601
(970) 947-2920

Hot Sulphur Spgs. Svc. Ctr.
346 Grand County Road 362
Hot Sulphur Springs, 80451
(970) 725-6200

Lamar Svc. Ctr.
2500 S. Main St.
Lamar, 81052
(719) 336-6600

Brush Svc. Ctr.
122 E. Edison, Box 128
Brush, 80723
(970) 842-6300

Salida Svc. Ctr.
7405 Hwy. 50
Salida, 81201
(719) 530-5520

Southeast Region Svc. Ctr.
4255 Sinton Rd.
Colorado Springs, 80907
(719) 227-5200

Southwest Region Svc. Ctr.
151 E. 16th St.
Durango, 81301
(970) 247-0855

Monte Vista Svc. Ctr.
0722 S. Road 1 E
Monte Vista, 81144
(719) 587-6900

Montrose Svc. Ctr.
2300 S. Townsend Ave.
Montrose, 81401
(970) 252-6000

Gunnison Svc. Ctr.
300 W. New York Ave.
Gunnison, 81230
(970) 641-7060

Meeker Svc. Ctr.
73485 Hwy. 64
Meeker, 81641
(970) 878-6090

Steamboat Spgs. Svc. Ctr.
925 Weiss Drive
Steamboat Spgs., 80477
(970) 870-2197

Pueblo Svc. Ctr.
600 Reservoir Road
Pueblo, 81005
(719) 561-5300

www.wildlife.state.co.us

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The Wildlife Commission sets lion regulations in September. Wildlife Commissioners (as of September 2009): Brad Coors, chair; Tim Glenn, vice chair; Dennis Buechler, secretary; Jeffrey A. Crawford, member; Dorothea Farris, member; Roy McAnally, member; John Singletary, member; Mark Smith, member; Robert Streeter, member Harris Sherman, ex-officio member; John Stulp, ex-officio member.

NOTE: Laws and regulations in this brochure are paraphrased for easier understanding and are intended only as a guide. The official Colorado statutes and regulations are available on our website or DOW offices.