

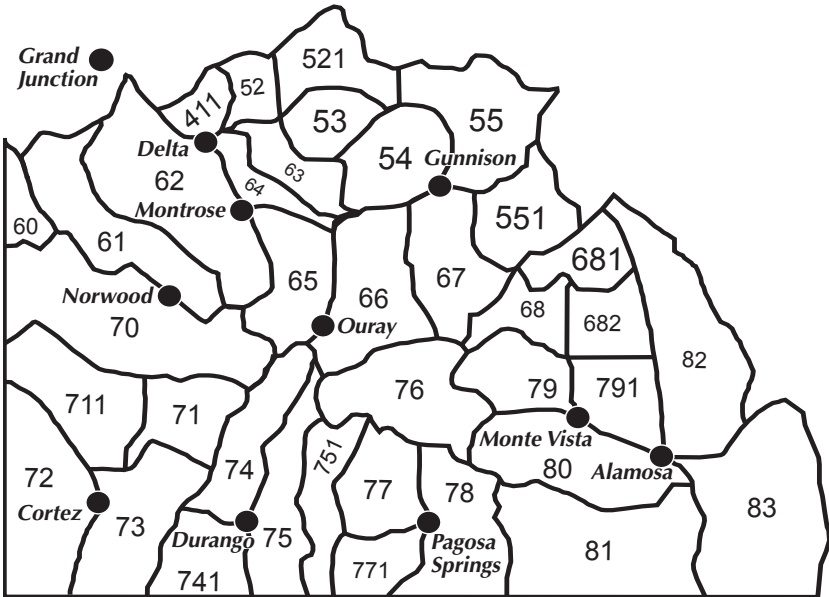
2009

# Big Game Hunting in Southwest Colorado



**Contents:**

- Hunting tips
- 2008 season harvest statistics
- Preference point information
- Hunting outlook
- Antler requirements
- Camping information
- Travel information
- Important phone numbers and web sites



# 2009 Elk & Deer Season Information

Season Dates	Deer	Elk	License Fees***		Deer Buck/Doe	Elk	
						Bull/ Either-sex	Cow
<b>Archery</b>	Aug. 29 - Sept. 27		<b>Resident</b>	Adult	\$31	\$46	\$46
<b>Muzzle</b>	Sept. 12 - 20			Youth	\$10.75	\$10.75	\$10.75
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Rifle</b>		Oct. 10-14					
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Rifle</b>	Oct. 17 - 25		<b>Non-Resident</b>	Adult	\$326	\$546	\$251
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Rifle</b>	Oct. 31 - Nov. 7			Youth	\$100.75	\$100.75	\$100.75
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Rifle</b>	Nov. 11 - 15						
Colorado Division of Wildlife <a href="http://wildlife.state.co.us">http://wildlife.state.co.us</a>			***Over the counter prices. Does not include \$3 application fee, or \$5 habitat stamp if applicable.				

## Keep Your Wheels Where They Belong™



For info and tips visit  
[www.staythetrail.org](http://www.staythetrail.org)

# Get the Big Game Brochure

Almost every year new regulations take effect that hunters need to know about. Please, read the new rules and determine how they might affect your hunt.

For all regulations pick up a 2009 Big Game Brochure anywhere licenses are sold, at any DOW office, or go to: <http://wildlife.state.co.us>.

## Mandatory Moose Inspection

All moose harvested must be presented to the DOW for inspection.

## Bears

Bear heads and hides must not be frozen when presented for inspection at a DOW office. If the head and hide are frozen, the DOW may keep them long enough to thaw so that a tooth can be removed. The DOW is authorized to remove a premolar tooth to be used for research purposes.

## Rules for All-terrain Vehicles

The number of all-terrain vehicles used during hunting season continues to increase. Unfortunately, inappropriate use is causing conflicts among hunters, and illegal use of the vehicles is causing severe resource damage on public lands.

Hunters must be aware of the laws governing ATV use.

All OHV/ATVs must be registered or permitted annually in Colorado. Your home state registration is not valid in Colorado. Non-residents wishing to use off-highway vehicles in Colorado must obtain a Colorado permit from the Colorado Parks Department. Permits cost \$25.25 and can be purchased on-line at [www.parks.state.co.us](http://www.parks.state.co.us). The web site also contains information on regulations. For more information, call the state parks office at 1-303-791-1920.

To protect roads, trails and other resources on federal lands, Colorado Wildlife Officers and other local law enforcement agencies are authorized to write tickets to OHV users who are riding in closed areas or operating vehicles improperly. You are responsible for knowing local regulations and the trails and areas where you can ride legally. Contact the appropriate land management agency to learn about specific regulations in the area where you will be hunting.

OHV users riding in unauthorized areas face fines and penalties of \$100. If a violation occurs while the OHV user is hunting, fishing or trapping, the user will also receive 10 points against his/her hunting and fishing privileges. The fine for riding illegally in federal wilderness areas is \$200 and 15 penalty points can be assessed against license privileges.

Please, observe these rules and guidelines.

- Be considerate of other hunters. ATV noise drives off big game animals.
- ATVs can be operated only on designated roads.
- ATVs should not be driven off of roads. Check local regulations for: Colorado State Wildlife areas, U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management property.
- ATVs cannot be driven into designated wilderness and roadless areas.
- ATVs are prohibited from most streets in towns and counties.
- Do not drive ATVs on private roads.
- Rifles carried on ATVs must be unloaded completely and secured in a case.
- ATVs cannot be used as a rifle-rest when hunting.
- Explain these rules and guidelines to young hunters and those unfamiliar with using ATVs.

## Hunting Q & A

Following are answers to some commonly asked questions. This is, however, not a comprehensive list. If you have more questions, consult the DOW web site: <http://wildlife.state.co.us>.

### **Do I need a Hunter Education Card?**

Yes. Hunters born after 1948 must present a hunter education card when purchasing a license. License agents also will accept cards issued by other states. Agents will not accept a previous year's license or photocopies of hunter education cards. For more information on hunter education classes go to the DOW web site.

You can take your hunter safety card to any DOW office and a note of verification will be added to your permanent file.

### **Where do I buy my Colorado hunting license?**

All deer licenses are limited and available by applying to the DOW by mail or through the DOW web site. You must apply for a license in a specific Game Management Unit. The deadline to apply for next season is the first Tuesday in April.

Most people are now buying their licenses through the web site of the Colorado Division of Wildlife. This is the fastest, easiest and most accurate way to buy your license.

Unlimited rifle bull elk licenses for second and third seasons are available until midnight of the day before opening day at license agents.

Unlimited archery elk licenses are available throughout the season through license agents, on-line or by calling 1-800-244-5613.

Leftover licenses for 2009 go on sale at DOW offices and license agent locations on Aug. 11, on-line on Aug. 12, or at 1-800-244-5613.

Please, refer to the DOW web site or the Big Game Brochure for an explanation of all variety of licenses.

### **Can I hunt both deer and elk?**

Yes, and you no longer need to hunt them during the same season. See the 2009 Big Game Brochure or the web site for details.

### **Can I have more than one elk and deer license?**

Yes, but only in specific GMUs. See the web site or the Big Game Brochure for details.

### **Where can I hunt with an unlimited license?**

Unlimited licenses are sold only for bull elk hunting during the second and third seasons. The licenses can be used in any GMU in Colorado, except those listed on page 26 of the Big Game brochure. The excluded units in the southwest region are: 61, 66, 67, 76, 79, and 791.

### **What are “Private Land Only” licenses?**

These licenses (also called PLO licenses) require the holder to hunt in a specific GMU and are valid only on private land. You also must obtain permission from a landowner. It is recommended that you secure permission from a landowner before purchasing the license.

## **Hunting Ethically**

Hunting is an integral part of wildlife management in Colorado. Remember, you are not only participating in a recreational activity, you are also an active and important participant in managing big-game herds. With your license comes a responsibility to hunt and conduct yourself in an ethical manner.

Please, take a few moments to answer the following questions. It's up to you to remember the answers when you are out in the field:

- Are your hunting actions providing a “fair chase” scenario for the animal?
- Would you behave the same way if you were hunting with a wildlife officer or being videotaped for the 5 o'clock news?
- Do you know exactly where you are hunting? Are you in the right GMU?

- Do you know the habits of the animal you are hunting?
- When you take aim at an animal do you know for certain that it is the right sex, species and size?
- Are you physically able to hunt in mountainous terrain and properly retrieve a harvested animal?
- Do you know how to properly field dress a big-game animal?
- Do you minimize the impacts of your camp on the landscape?
- Do you pack out all of your trash?
- Will you report rule violations – yours and others – to a Colorado wildlife officer?
- Have you read the Colorado Big Game Brochure to check for specific regulations for the GMU in which you are hunting?

Ethical behavior is critical to the future of hunting. Please, consider how your actions impact wildlife, fellow hunters and the general public.

## **If You Make a Mistake**

Every year people make mistakes while hunting. Hunters occasionally: shoot the wrong animal, accidentally kill more than one animal, hunt in the wrong GMU, etc.

Many of these errors can be prevented by carefully reading the Big Game Brochure, obtaining a good map of the area where you're hunting and by being diligent while in the field. There is a difference between a legitimate error and a careless mistake.

Hunters who make errors can be penalized with fines, suspension points against license privileges, felonies and misdemeanors, loss of meat, license suspension or confiscation of equipment. Penalties can be much more severe against those who purposefully attempt to hide mistakes from wildlife officers.

If you accidentally violate a wildlife law or think you've made a mistake while hunting, the best course of action is to report the incident to the closest DOW office right away. Follow the officer's orders on caring for the meat, leaving the animal at the scene or bringing it to an agreed upon location, and any other instructions. If you are unable to contact a DOW officer immediately, field dress the animal on the spot and don't move it.

Be prepared to explain to a wildlife officer thoroughly what happened and why.

While you still may be subject to penalties, they could be less severe if the officer determines that you are cooperative, the error was not intentional, or it was unavoidable given the circumstances.

# Know Where You're Hunting!!

It is your responsibility to know exactly where you are hunting. If you harvest an animal in the wrong GMU you may be subject to severe fines, penalty points against your license privileges and you will not be allowed to keep the animal.

Location descriptions of each GMU can be found starting on page 45 of the 2008 Big Game Brochure.

Here is how to assure that you are hunting in the proper location: Buy a high-quality topographic map, read the boundary description in the brochure carefully and outline the boundaries on the map. If you have questions, call the DOW office in the area where you are hunting.

In Colorado, landowners are not required to post or fence their land. It is your responsibility to know the location of private land. You must obtain permission to hunt on private land. If you hunt on private land without permission you may be charged with trespassing, be required to appear in court and be fined.

## Simple Rules to Hunt Safely

Hunting accidents have declined significantly since the passage of two laws in 1970. One law requires hunter education training for all hunters born on or after January 1, 1949. The other requires hunters to wear at least 500 square inches of fluorescent orange clothing above the waist - including a head covering visible from all directions.

But even though accidents have declined, hunters should review basic safety rules every time they go into the field. Remember: One moment of carelessness can mean a lifetime of consequences.

Before the season starts, go to a shooting range and practice. You'll get re-acquainted with your gun and you'll improve your chances of harvesting an animal during the season.

Most accidents occur near vehicles. Load and unload your gun at least 100 yards from your vehicle.

It is highly recommended that firearms be unloaded when crossing streams and fences and while walking on unstable, steep or rough terrain. Remember, a safety can be moved to the off position by clothing, vegetation or a fall.

No matter how long you've been hunting, you should always observe these basic safety rules:

- Treat every firearm as if it is loaded.
- Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction at all times.
- Be sure of your target - what is in front of it and what is beyond it. Once you take a shot, you can't take it back.

- If you are in doubt, don't shoot.
- Keep the safety on and your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot.
- Never place your hand over the muzzle of a gun.
- Load and unload your gun 100 yards from your vehicle.
- Don't hurry while loading or unloading.
- Talk about safety issues to youngsters and inexperienced hunters.
- Stop to rest when you are out of breath; fatigue often contributes to accidents.
- Always wear daylight fluorescent clothing when and where required. "Camouflage-orange" does not qualify.

## Chronic Wasting Disease

Chronic Wasting Disease is present in some deer in Colorado, primarily in the northeast and northwest regions. **The disease has not been detected in deer in the southwest region.**

If you see an animal that appears to be sick, do not shoot it. Determine the location as accurately as possible and contact a DOW officer as soon as possible.

When you field dress any big game animal, the Colorado Department of Health offers these recommendations:

- Wear rubber gloves.
- Minimize handling brain and spinal tissue.
- Do not consume brain, spinal cord, eyes, spleen, tonsils, pancreas or lymph nodes.
- Bone out meat.
- Disinfect knives, saws and other instruments thoroughly and allow to air dry.

The DOW will test your animal for CWD. It takes about two weeks to get results. Heads can be submitted to any DOW area office during the hunting seasons.

For more information about chronic wasting disease, go to the DOW web site at <http://wildlife.state.co.us>, click on "Hunting", and then click on "Big Game."

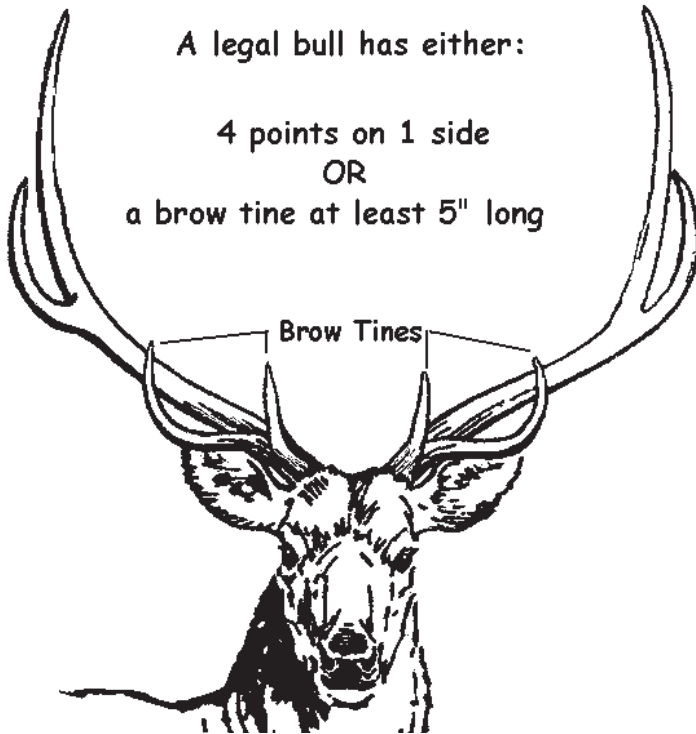


Safe Hunting  
is No Accident!



# Antler Requirements

To allow bull elk and mule deer bucks to reach maturity, animals must grow to an acceptable size before they can be harvested. Size is determined by the antlers. Be sure that you clearly identify the size of the antlers of a bull or a buck.



## Bull Elk

In all GMUs in the southwest region except 61 and 76: A legal bull must have antlers with at least 4 points on one side OR brow tines that are 5 inches or longer. In GMUs 61 and 76 a legal bull must have antlers that are at least 5 inches long. There are no point restrictions. If you are unsure while taking aim, do not shoot. Be aware that the spikes of young bulls are difficult to see. If you have an antlerless permit, be sure the animal is indeed antlerless. Mistakes often occur in the low-light hours at dawn and dusk.

## Mule Deer Bucks

A legal buck has antlers that are at least 5 inches long. There are no antler point restrictions for deer.

# Know Your Physical Limits

Hunting in the mountains of Colorado is physically demanding. Even if you are in good shape you will still feel the effects of the altitude. Consider these tips as you head to the high country:

- To acclimate, plan to arrive at your hunting area a couple of days before hunting season begins.
- Drink lots of water. Dehydration can cause severe headaches, muscle cramps and loss of energy. Carry water purification tablets so that you can refill your bottles at creeks. Limit alcohol – it causes dehydration.
- If you experience severe headaches or find it difficult to breathe, move to lower altitude as soon as possible. These symptoms could be signs of pulmonary edema or cerebral edema--both of which can be fatal.
- When hunting, move slowly and stop to rest often. Accidents are more likely to occur when you are tired.
- If you are feeling very tired and you are far from camp, unload your gun before continuing to walk.
- Discuss any health issues with your hunting partners.

# Caring for Your Campsite

Camping can cause significant impacts on public lands. You can minimize much of your impact with some advanced planning. Please, follow these guidelines:

- Use established camping areas that are visible along forest roads. Occupy as small of an area as possible. Avoid trampling grass and shrubs.
- Campsites must be at least 100 feet from streams, lakes or riparian areas.
- Do not dig a trench around your tent site.
- Check for fire restrictions that might be in place on public lands.
- Keep fires small, do not leave unattended, put fires out every night.
- Use a stove for cooking to reduce impacts on the land.
- Collect all cooking grease in a can and carry it out. Do not dump.
- If possible, bring firewood or collect deadfall for campfires. Do not cut down trees.
- After shopping, attempt to minimize the amount of packaging materials brought to camp. Bringing less material in means you'll have less garbage to store and pack out.

- Only burn paper items. Do not burn any plastic or anything lined with aluminum foil or that contains any sort of metal material.
- When you leave camp for the day, store all food and garbage securely inside a vehicle. Leaving food and garbage out will attract animals – including bears.
- When washing dishes, strain the water before throwing it out and put the organic debris in the trash. Small bits of food (micro-trash) attract insects and animals. The bits of food accumulate significantly over time.
- Pack out human feces. Sanitary products are available in which waste can be deposited and then disposed of properly in town.
- If you must, dig a latrine. Dig a hole about three-feet deep; be sure that it is at least 100 feet from the nearest water source. Spread soil on top after each use. Cover completely and restore to natural condition when you break camp.
- Pack out all trash. Do not bury trash.
- Inspect your camp carefully after it is packed up. Leave your camp cleaner than how you found it.

## **Hunter's Checklist**

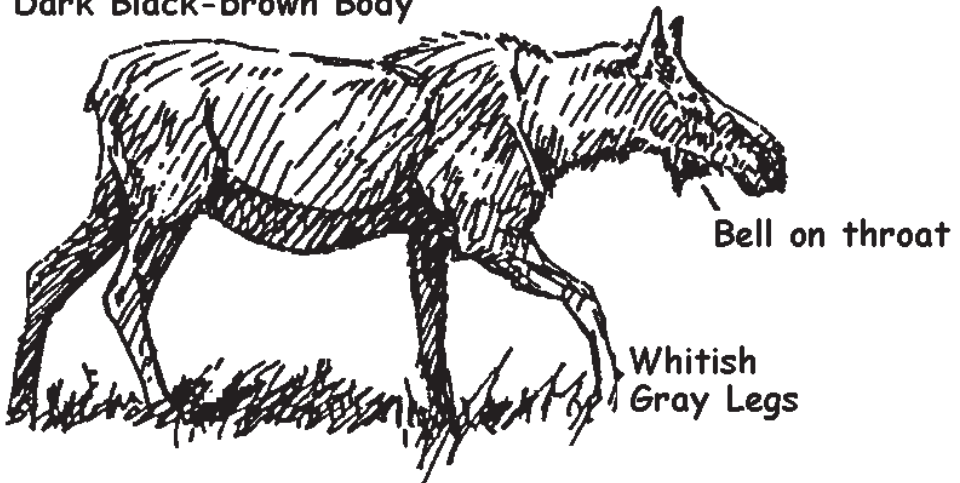
Preparing for a hunting trip is a major effort. Be sure to leave information about where you'll be hunting and camping, license plate numbers and cell phone numbers with folks at home.

Listed below are a few common items that hunters often forget as they get ready to go into the backcountry.

- First aid kit, sunscreen, toilet paper.
- Compass and maps.
- Flashlight, lantern, extra batteries.
- Rain gear.
- Knife sharpener, bone saw, game bag.
- Blaze orange vest and cap.
- Extra camp-stove fuel.
- Tire chains.
- Cleaning supplies, trash bags, shovel.
- Water bottles.
- Hunting license.
- List of family/friends phone numbers.

# Cow Moose

Dark Black-brown Body



## Don't Shoot a Moose!

There are moose in areas around Creede, Lake City, Gunnison and on the Grand Mesa. Moose favor wetlands but they can be found in any terrain where elk live.

Too often, hunters mistake moose – especially cow moose - with elk.

Please, be sure of your target. The fine for accidentally killing a moose is \$1,370. If the animal is killed illegally and the carcass abandoned the shooter can be charged with a Class 5 felony.

## Are You Using Horses?

If you plan to use horses on your hunting trip, please be aware of the following:

- You must have a Certificate of Health inspection for each horse. Talk to your veterinarian about getting a health check for your horse. Be sure to bring the certificate with you.
- Horses must have a Coggins Blood Test within one year of entering Colorado. The test must be negative. Be sure to bring documentation.
- Hay, straw and mulch must be certified as “weed free.” Only the following products are allowed on national forests in Colorado:

cubed and pelletized hay, steamed grain, treated/steamed mulch from tree fibers. For information, call the Colorado Department of Agriculture at 1-303-239-4149; or for a list of regulations and vendors, go to [www.colorado.gov/ag/dpi](http://www.colorado.gov/ag/dpi).

- Don't tie horses to trees in camp. This causes tree damage and vegetation around the tree to be trampled.
- Highline or picket your stock. If you use a highline, please use tree-saver straps to avoid damaging trees.
- Move horses often to keep them from trampling vegetation or overgrazing an area.
- Keep stock 200 feet or more from lakes, streams, wetlands and trails.
- Restrictions on horse travel in wilderness areas are often greater than in other areas. Be sure to read notices at trailheads. Many wilderness areas carry maximum group size limits, which regulate the number of livestock and people that are allowed to travel together.
- Contact the U.S. Forest Service in the area where you're hunting for complete information.



**POACHING TAKES FROM LEGAL HUNTERS  
REPORT POACHING OR SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY  
OPERATION GAME THIEF**

**1-877-265-6648**

Verizon Cellular #OGT

e-mail: [game.thief@state.co.us](mailto:game.thief@state.co.us)  
write: Operation Game Thief

Colorado Division of Wildlife  
6060 Broadway  
Denver CO 80216

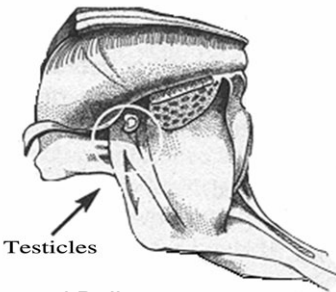
# Evidence of Sex

After harvest, evidence of sex must remain naturally attached to the carcass. You can use either the head or sex organs, but they **must** be naturally attached to the carcass.

Leaving the evidence attached to one-quarter of the carcass is acceptable – so long as all four quarters are being transported together.

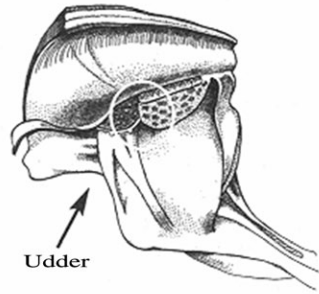
The head or skull plate with both antlers naturally attached must accompany the carcass of a buck or bull while it is in camp or being transported – even when the testicles are used to meet proof of evidence of sex.

If you are working with a taxidermist to mount the head with antlers, obtain a written receipt from the taxidermist before transporting the carcass home or to a meat processor. The receipt must list the following: date delivered and description of antlers.



Bucks and Bulls

Attached head with antlers or attached testicle, scrotum or penis



Does and Cows

Attached head or udder

---

# Tagging the carcass

Improperly attaching the carcass tag is a common violation and can result in a fine. Make sure that everyone in your hunting party knows how to properly attach the tag. You can be held liable for illegally transporting big game even if someone else made an error.

Please, follow these guidelines:

- Sign your license as soon as you buy it or receive it in the mail.
- Immediately after harvesting the animal, detach the carcass tag from your license, sign it and punch the holes indicating sex, month and day of kill. Put the carcass tag in your pocket while taking the animal to camp or to your vehicle.
- When you arrive at camp or at your vehicle, immediately attach

the carcass tag to the body of the animal. Do not attach to antlers. Attach the tag to the animal's leg or the hide.

- Place the tag where it can be easily inspected by a wildlife officer.
- If the carcass is cut up, keep all the pieces together so they can be inspected.
- Retain the top portion of your license during all transport of the carcass.
- If you are shipping the meat via commercial carrier, the meat must be accompanied by one of the following: the hunter's license, a photocopy of the license, or the carcass tag.

## The “Easy” Way to Field Dress Your Animal

More often than not in Colorado, harvested animals must be cared for in remote areas that are far from roads. That requires hunters to pack out meat and antlers.

To help lighten the load for hunters, the Colorado Division of Wildlife has produced a helpful how-to video that provides instruction on how to bone out the meat.

“Down to the Bone” explains quick and easy methods for deboning in the field. This DVD will help you learn a simple and legal method of removing the edible portions of meat. By removing the bones and other inedible portions of the animal, you can reduce the weight you carry out of the backcountry by more than 50 percent. No more sawing and quartering.

The video also explains how to identify the best cuts for steaks, roasts and hamburger.

Order a copy of the DVD on line. Go to the DOW website [www.wildlife.state.co.us](http://www.wildlife.state.co.us) and click on the “Shop” button at the top of the page.



**Safe Hunting  
is No Accident!**

# Managing Colorado's Big Game Herds

To manage the state's big game populations the DOW uses a "management by objectives" approach. Big game populations are managed to achieve population and sex-ratio objectives established for Data Analysis Units (DAUs). Each DAU represents a geographically distinct big game herd.

Game management units are subsets of DAUs. However, because big game herds travel wide areas throughout the year, the population of each GMU cannot be estimated. The estimated populations and sex-ratio averages that follow in this booklet are for DAUs.

The DAU planning process incorporates public input, habitat capabilities, and herd considerations into management objectives for each of Colorado's big game herds. The general public, hunters, federal and state land management agencies, landowners, and agricultural interests are involved in determining DAU plan objectives through questionnaires, public meetings, comments on draft plans, and by giving input to the Colorado Wildlife Commission. License numbers and season recommendations result from this process.

Each DAU plan establishes post-hunt herd objectives for the size and structure of the population. Once the Colorado Wildlife Commission approves the DAU objectives they are compared with modeled population estimates.

Model inputs include:

- Harvest estimates determined by hunter surveys.
- Post-hunt sex and age ratios determined by aerial classifications.
- Estimated wounding loss, illegal kill, and survival rates based on field observations and telemetry studies.

The information is entered into a specialized computer program which then estimates the population size. The final step in the process is to calculate harvest recommendations that will align population estimates with the herd objectives.



**1-877-265-6648**



# Southwest Colorado Hunting Outlook

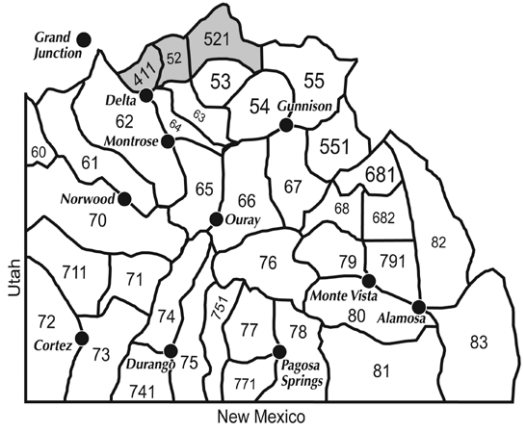
## Grand Mesa

GMUs 411, 52, 521

Maps: Grand Mesa and Gunnison national forests

Gunnison DOW office: (970)641-7060

The Grand Mesa offers a wide variety of terrain. From the spruce, fir and aspen forests up to 11,000 feet, to the pinon-juniper woodlands at about 4,800 feet. Weather can vary as widely as the terrain. Rain and snow can yield quickly to sunny skies and hot temperatures. Motorized access is good, but roads can become very muddy and four-wheel drive is recommended. Much of the area is public land; but private land is interspersed. Do not trespass or cross private land in an unauthorized area to get to public land. Please respect motorized closures on public lands. Lower elevations are mainly private, especially in GMUs 411 and 52. Hunting pressure is heavy.



## Deer Hunting

Deer are found on forest land and higher elevation private land during October. Some deer stay in lower elevation agricultural lands year around. In late October or early November, deer generally migrate to lower elevation as the weather cools and snow starts to accumulate. Battlements can be good in late season, but the terrain is rugged. There are some bucks in this area, and overall hunting is rated as good.

**Estimated deer population: 10,300**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 24 bucks per 100 does**

### 2008 Deer Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
411	Archery	6	0	0	6	24	25
411	Muzzle	4	0	0	4	7	57
411	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	58	0	0	58	152	38
411	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	21	0	0	21	52	40
52	Archery	28	0	0	28	98	29
52	Muzzle	6	0	0	6	24	25
52	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	141	0	0	141	328	43
52	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	81	0	0	81	164	49
521	Archery	18	0	0	18	74	24
521	Muzzle	22	0	0	22	44	50
521	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	126	0	0	126	264	48
521	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	51	0	0	51	108	47
521	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	1	0	0	1	5	20

# Elk Hunting

The elk herd is well distributed and hunting is rated as good. Most stay at high elevations – above 8,500 feet in thick timber and oak brush. There is no migration during the hunting seasons, but as hunters arrive the elk will move to remote areas. Successful hunters move well away from established roads, especially in GMU 521. Some older age class bulls are found throughout these units. Hunting pressure is lowest during the limited first season.

**Estimated elk population: 11,000**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 20 bulls per 100 cows**

## 2008 Elk Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
411	Archery	12	4	0	16	150	11
411	Muzzle	0	0	0	30	0	0
411	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	0	15	0	15	47	32
411	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	36	23	6	65	190	34
411	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	0	14	0	14	117	12
411	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	2	0	0	2	13	15
52	Archery	8	11	0	19	311	6
52	Muzzle	16	3	3	22	93	24
52	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	18	21	0	39	159	25
52	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	60	27	6	93	437	21
52	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	27	22	0	49	201	24
52	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	0	0	0	0	23	0
521	Archery	63	49	12	124	736	17
521	Muzzle	23	43	6	72	299	24
521	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	55	43	8	106	262	40
521	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	182	50	4	236	920	26
521	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	52	49	8	109	417	26
521	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	14	24	11	49	102	48

# Crawford-Smith Fork

GMUs 53, 63

Map: Gunnison National Forest

Gunnison DOW office: (970)641-7060

Winter weather is almost guaranteed during any season in this area which borders the high country of the West Elk Wilderness Area. Altitude ranges from 5,400 feet near Hotchkiss to more than 12,000 feet in the wilderness. The range in elevations and the topography create volatile weather at all times of year.

Be prepared for hot and cold temperatures and snow. These GMUs contain abundant public land: 90 percent of GMU 53, 60 percent of GMU 63. When snow starts to fall, herds move quickly to lower elevations to the west.

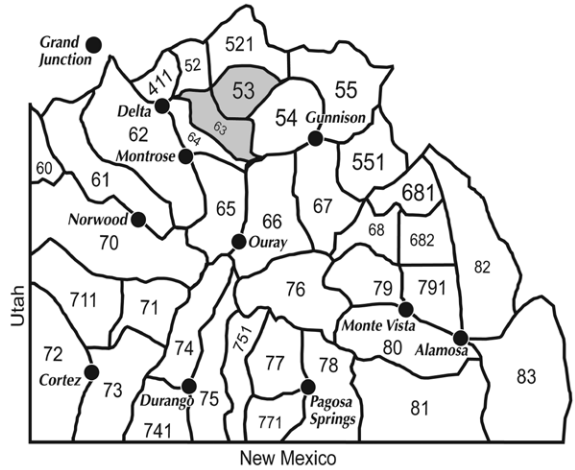
GMU 53 contains rough terrain and access is on rugged 4WD roads and foot/horse trails. Hunters should be prepared to hunt in steep, difficult terrain. Packing an animal out in this area is challenging. Do not count on moving a vehicle close to the kill site. Access is easier for GMU 63; but be sure to study the map closely to avoid trespassing. West of Highway 92 most of the land is private.

## Deer Hunting

The deer herd is well distributed throughout both GMUs. If the weather is warm, hunt at higher elevations. As the season progresses and hunting pressure increases, the deer will move to lower elevations in GMU 63 where private land is abundant. Hunting is good on public lands on the west side of GMU 63 if the weather is dry. In GMU 53 try the Chain Mountains, Browning Ridge, Land's End Peak and Smith Mountain.

**Estimated deer population: 13,000**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 28 bucks per 100 does**



## 2008 Deer Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
53	Archery	16	0	0	16	59	27
53	Muzzle	10	0	0	10	27	37
53	2 <sup>nd</sup> rifle	86	0	0	86	160	54
53	3 <sup>rd</sup> rifle	118	0	0	118	159	74
53	4 <sup>th</sup> rifle	9	0	0	9	9	100
63	Archery	28	0	0	28	68	41
63	Muzzle	14	0	0	14	34	41
63	2 <sup>nd</sup> rifle	124	0	0	124	167	74
63	3 <sup>rd</sup> rifle	101	0	0	101	159	64
63	4 <sup>th</sup> rifle	9	0	0	9	9	100

## Elk Hunting

If there is no snow, elk are well distributed throughout the high elevations. Hunters will be most successful by walking along transition areas up high. By November, animals will start moving down to lower elevations and onto private land in GMU 63 as hunting pressure increases. Expect heavy hunting pressure in the Black Mesa area of GMU 63.

**Estimated elk population: 3,900**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 20 bulls per 100 cows**

## 2008 Elk Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
53	Archery	50	34	0	84	604	14
53	Muzzle	26	9	3	38	194	20
53	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	67	44	9	120	398	30
53	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	87	33	5	125	610	20
53	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	25	13	0	38	367	10
53	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	3	14	0	17	118	14
63	Archery	30	23	4	57	272	21
63	Muzzle	10	12	3	25	92	27
63	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	15	40	5	60	188	32
63	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	33	21	5	59	362	16
63	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	15	12	8	35	225	16
63	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	0	27	3	30	104	29

# Gunnison Basin

GMUs 54, 55, 551, 66 and 67

Map: Gunnison National Forest

Gunnison DOW office: (970)641-7060

Deer populations throughout the Gunnison Basin were reduced as a result of the 2007-08 winter. In order to begin moving the herd back towards management objectives, additional license reductions were made for the 2009 seasons.

Although populations were reduced, deer hunting will be good this fall for hunters who have drawn licenses.

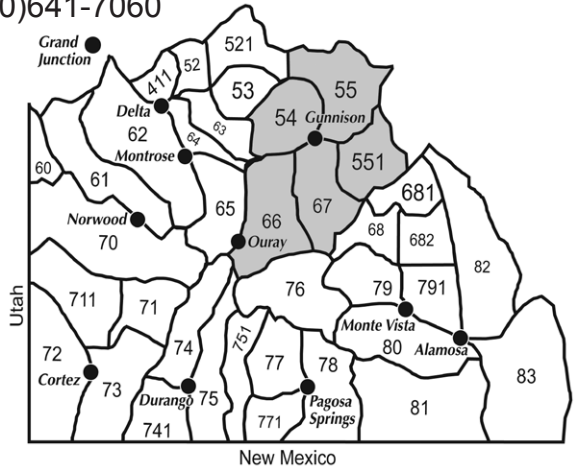
Public land in the area is abundant, so a wide variety of terrain – from sage brush hills to alpine tundra – is available to big game. Watch the weather closely. One snowstorm can cause animals to move rapidly to lower elevations. Be prepared for very cold weather during all seasons. Roads become difficult during wet weather. Snow can accumulate quickly. The basin contains various wilderness areas where motorized vehicles are prohibited. Motorized travel is limited to designated routes, so obtaining a public lands map of the basin is helpful

## Deer Hunting

These units are managed for high buck-to-doe ratios. Consequently, relatively few licenses are available and a hunter needs a high number of preference points to draw a license. Hunter success for those who draw a license is usually well above the statewide average. The herd is distributed throughout the vast basin, and excellent deer hunting opportunities are found in all five game management units. Hunt higher ground during the early season and monitor weather conditions. Deer generally start moving to lower elevations in mid- to late October.

**Estimated deer population: 14,000**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 38 bucks per 100 does**



## 2008 Deer Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
54	Archery	3	3	0	6	34	18
54	Muzzle	5	1	0	6	32	19
54	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	63	4	0	67	225	30
54	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	16	6	0	22	70	31
55	Archery	8	1	0	9	47	19
55	Muzzle	14	6	0	20	32	63
55	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	64	4	0	68	165	41
55	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	20	4	0	24	50	48
55	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	2	0	0	2	3	67
551	Archery	4	8	0	12	17	71
551	Muzzle	7	4	0	11	18	61
551	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	58	0	0	58	157	37
551	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	12	3	1	16	32	50
551	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	0	0	0	0	1	0
66	Archery	0	4	0	4	28	14
66	Muzzle	7	0	0	7	21	33
66	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	36	6	0	42	66	64
66	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	18	3	0	21	26	81
67	Archery	2	4	0	6	25	24
67	Muzzle	2	0	0	2	21	10
67	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	41	0	0	41	69	59
67	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	18	6	0	24	33	73
67	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	1	0	0	1	2	50

## Elk Hunting

Elk populations remain healthy in the Gunnison Basin and hunting should be good this fall. Hunters are advised to move well away from roads. Elk will move to difficult terrain when hunting pressure starts, so be prepared to hunt canyons or thick timber. If the weather is warm, hunt at higher elevations and in heavy timber.

Remember that elk hunting is limited in GMUs 66 and 67, and licenses are issued through the annual drawing. Some older age-class bulls are available in these units and pressure is generally lighter than in the units north of U.S. Highway 50.

**Estimated elk population: 17,000**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 26 bulls per 100 cows**

## 2008 Elk Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
54	Archery	37	15	8	60	792	8
54	Muzzle	29	16	3	48	226	21
54	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	55	67	0	122	570	21
54	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	96	35	9	140	1061	13
54	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	40	24	0	64	713	9
54	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	7	11	5	23	318	7
55	Archery	54	56	4	114	1078	11
55	Muzzle	22	10	0	32	349	9
55	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	61	48	7	116	655	18
55	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	91	35	9	135	1178	11
55	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	34	40	4	78	745	10
55	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	11	5	0	16	201	8
551	Archery	19	4	0	23	363	6
551	Muzzle	3	13	0	16	168	10
551	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	36	12	3	51	176	29
551	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	39	49	0	88	683	13
551	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	17	27	0	44	576	8
551	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	1	26	0	27	124	22
66	Archery	55	0	0	55	237	23
66	Muzzle	20	3	0	23	87	26
66	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	151	21	0	172	511	34
66	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	94	46	3	143	501	29
66	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	61	56	3	120	432	28
66	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	16	54	0	70	211	33
67	Archery	9	0	0	9	83	11
67	Muzzle	9	14	0	23	101	23
67	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	59	30	0	89	444	20
67	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	72	34	0	106	477	22
67	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	39	54	0	93	436	21
67	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	9	76	24	109	318	34



Safe Hunting  
is No Accident!

# San Luis Valley Area

Map: Rio Grande National Forest

Monte Vista DOW office: (719) 587-6900

The San Luis Valley is a vast 8,000 square mile area that provides a wide variety of terrain at elevations that range from 14,000 feet to 7,500 feet. On the east the valley is walled in by the steep and rugged Sangre de Cristo Mountains. The middle of the valley is flat and fertile farm land. The Rio Grande River and the Conejos River provide long riparian areas that cut through high-elevation alpine forests to lower elevation cottonwood and willow stands.

The west is bordered by the Rio Grande National Forest and the San Juan high mountains.

Throughout the area, access varies from moderate to very difficult. Hunting can be good for hunters willing hunt tough terrain. Hunting is also challenging because animals move to areas that experience little or no hunting pressure when seasons begin.

Deer hunting in the San Luis Valley has been improving recently due to the limit on buck licenses. Success rates are high for hunters who draw a buck tag. Due to overall low deer population, doe hunting is allowed only on private lands in specific areas. Elk hunting is good but requires hunters to pursue animals off the roads and beaten paths. Overall success rates for elk hunters in unlimited units in the San Luis Valley are generally lower than the statewide average.

Weather is a dominant factor for hunters. Snow will cause herds to move quickly down from high elevation. Success for elk hunters in the later seasons is dependent on weather. It is difficult to find elk when there is little or no snow at higher elevations, especially during the third and fourth rifle seasons.

You must have permission to hunt on private land. Trespassing is a significant issue in the area. Herds, especially elk in GMU 82, also move onto the Great Sand Dunes National Park and the Baca National Wildlife Refuge where hunting is not allowed.

Small amounts of snow can make travel difficult. Hunters are urged to check weather conditions as much as possible.

## **North Valley Floor Special Elk Units (GMUs 682, 791)**

A special DAU north of Highway 160 was created in 2006 to address the growing elk population which could cause damage on high-value agricultural lands. The population objective in the DAU is 0 - the only such designation in the state. Bulls are hunted beginning May 15. All licenses are distributed through landowner vouchers and by the DOW for nearby state wildlife areas. The waiting list for these licenses is long. Contact the Monte Vista office for information.

Deer hunting is not affected. GMU 68 buck licenses can also be used in GMU 681 and 682; GMU 79 buck licenses can also be used in GMU 791. Private Land Only doe tags are available for GMU 791. Hunters must have landowner permission prior to applying for a PLO license.



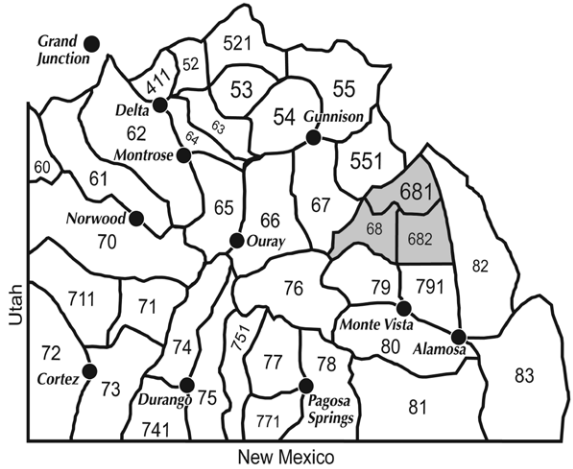
# Saguache

GMUs – 68, 681, 682

Map: Rio Grand National Forest

Monte Vista DOW office: (719)587-6900

The area is dominated by public lands and hunting access is excellent in most areas. Vegetation types range from heavy timber to vast areas of grass and low shrubs. There is a lot of public land in both of these units. These units hold good summer and winter habitat.



## Deer Hunting

The deer herd is small in this area and is at the lower end of the population objectives. The population is growing slowly and the buck-to-doe ratio is slightly above objective. Buck hunting is good to excellent with quality bucks taken by those who know where to find them.

**Estimated deer population: 4,170**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 29 buck to 100 does**

## 2008 Deer Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
68	Archery	3	0	0	3	27	11
68	Muzzle	22	0	0	22	47	47
68	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	54	0	0	54	78	69
68	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	15	0	0	15	59	25
681	Archery	0	0	0	0	30	0
681	Muzzle	16	0	0	16	23	70
681	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	51	0	0	51	67	76
681	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	52	0	0	52	72	72
682	Archery	0	0	0	0	1	0
682	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	0	0	0	0	5	0

## Elk Hunting

Even though there is a healthy population of elk in these units, hunter success rates are lower than most other parts of the state because it is difficult to find animals during hunting season. Some elk are believed to stay in GMU 67 during hunting season. The ratio of bulls to cows is relatively high for an unlimited unit.

**Estimated elk population: 4,500**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 30 bulls per 100 cows.**

### 2008 Elk Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
68	Archery	19	4	4	27	352	8
68	Muzzle	7	3	0	10	170	6
68	1st Rifle	32	0	0	32	268	12
68	2nd Rifle	68	24	0	92	727	13
68	3rd Rifle	36	14	2	52	542	10
68	4th Rifle	14	20	0	34	252	13
681	Archery	22	4	0	26	290	9
681	Muzzle	7	6	0	13	67	19
681	1st Rifle	11	0	0	11	105	10
681	2nd Rifle	15	15	0	30	410	7
681	3rd Rifle	13	6	0	19	348	5
681	4th Rifle	0	10	0	10	112	9
682	Muzzle	0	0	0	0	7	0
682	1st Rifle		3	0	3	3	100
682	3rd Rifle	0	0	0	0	2	0
682	4th Rifle	0	0	0	0	2	0



**Safe Hunting  
is No Accident!**

# Costilla

## GMU 83

Map: Rio Grande National Forest

Monte Vista DOW office: (719) 587-6900

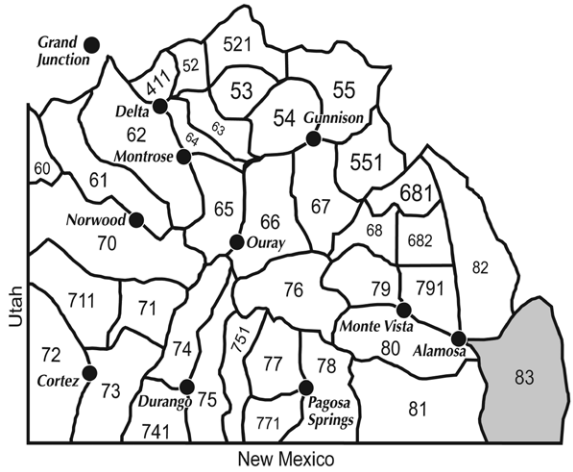
This entire unit is private land, so hunters must obtain permission from land owners.

This includes subdivisions where landowners may not be present. The unit is dominated by the Trinchera Ranch - formerly Forbes.

The ranch is enrolled in the DOW's Ranching for Wildlife program. Deer and elk hunting on the ranch are excellent. For information

about hunting on the ranch, see the 2008 Colorado Big Game Brochure or go to the DOW website at:

<http://wildlife.state.co.us/Hunting/BigGame/RanchingforWildlife/>.



## Deer Hunting

The herd is small but appears to be growing slowly. The buck-to-doe ratio is higher than most units in the valley and is near objective with quality bucks.

**Estimated deer population: 2,500**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 46 bucks per 100 does.**

## 2008 Deer Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
83	Archery	3	0	0	3	5	60
83	Muzzle	4	0	0	4	8	50
83	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	25	0	0	25	28	89
83	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	23	0	0	23	23	100

## Elk Hunting

The herd is holding steady. Because all of the land is private the unit faces low hunting pressure. An either sex tag in the Ranching for Wildlife area requires a minimum of 14 preference points.

**Estimated elk population: 18,000 (includes GMUs 85, 851, 140)**  
**3-year estimated sex ratio: 43 bulls per 100**

### 2008 Elk Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
83	Archery	31	0	4	35	111	32
83	Muzzle	3	3	0	6	41	15
83	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	20	8	6	34	97	35
83	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	17	0	2	19	238	8
83	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	54	6	0	60	293	20
83	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	24	35	1	60	98	61

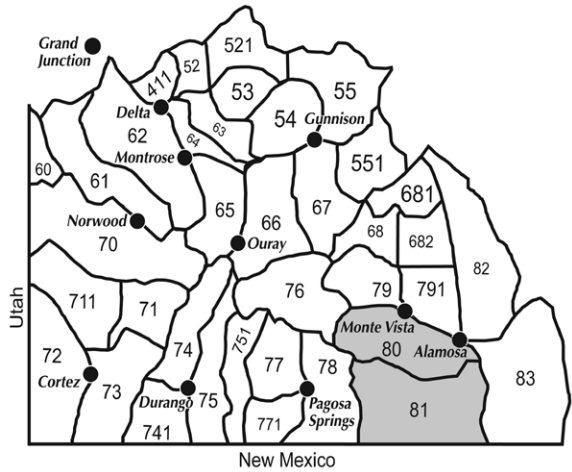
## Lower Rio Grande

GMUs – 80, 81

Map: Rio Grande National Forest

Monte Vista DOW office: (719) 587-6900

This area has a high amount of public land, easy access via roads and, consequently, heavy hunting pressure. Elk and deer move to areas of rough terrain far from roads when the season starts. For hunters who want to get far away from vehicular traffic, the South San Juan Wilderness Area is in the southern portion of GMU 81. Hunting quality is good, especially in early seasons before winter weather pushes animals out. No big game hunting is allowed on the Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge.



## Deer Hunting

The population is growing slowly and the buck-to-doe ratio is at objective. Hunters who are willing to pass up younger bucks can often find a mature buck to harvest. Deer are found throughout the area.

**Estimated deer population: 5,400**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 27 bucks per 100 does**

## 2008 Deer Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
80	Archery	23	0	0	23	92	25
80	Muzzle	9	0	0	9	51	18
80	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	82	0	0	82	141	58
80	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	48	0	0	48	114	42
81	Archery	14	0	0	14	78	18
81	Muzzle	9	0	0	9	53	17
81	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	38	0	0	38	76	50
81	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	34	0	0	34	116	29

## Elk Hunting

Population is at objective, the bull-to-cow ratio is high and there are a high number of legal bulls in these units. However, elk are difficult to find after receiving hunting pressure and before any significant snow accumulations. Hunters who work hard and get away from roads have the best chance of filling their tags.

**Estimated elk population: 7,800**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 36 bulls per 100 cows.**

## 2008 Elk Harvest Statistics

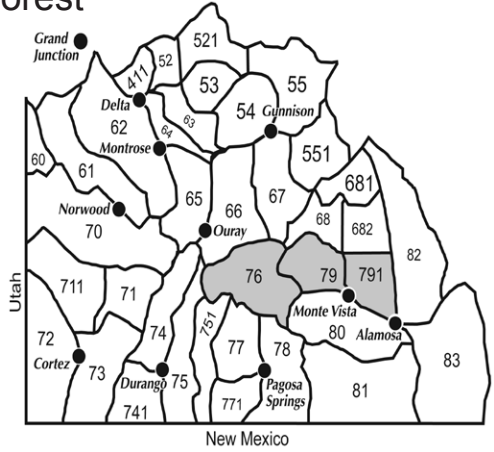
GMU	Season	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
80	Archery	15	8	0	23	697	3
80	Muzzle	3	12	0	15	160	9
80	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	96	0	0	96	480	20
80	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	51	5	0	56	1017	6
80	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	36	8	0	44	435	10
80	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	0	13	0	13	225	6
81	Archery	86	42	4	132	919	14
81	Muzzle	26	28	3	57	288	20
81	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	122	0	0	122	466	26
81	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	114	2	0	116	930	12
81	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	54	0	0	54	522	10
81	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	4	7	0	11	230	5

# Upper Rio Grande

GMUs – 76, 79, 791

Map: Rio Grande National Forest

GMU 76 has the highest percentage of public lands in the San Luis Valley. GMU 76 also has portions of wilderness areas for hunters who want to pack in. While GMU 79 contains some private land, there is plenty of room for hunters to roam on public land in this unit.



## Deer Hunting

Population is increasing steadily and the sex ratio is at objective.

The habitat for deer, however, is not ideal; so the population in this unit will remain low. GMU 76 is primarily summer range for deer; very few animals winter there. Mature bucks can be found in both of these units.

**Estimated deer population: 2,600**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 24 bucks per 100 does.**

## 2008 Deer Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
76	Archery	7	0	0	7	20	35
76	Muzzle	7	0	0	7	7	100
76	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	6	0	0	6	25	24
76	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	11	0	0	11	19	58
79	Archery	2	0	0	2	4	50
79	Muzzle	1	0	0	1	11	9
79	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	39	0	0	39	72	54
79	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	50	0	0	50	78	64

## Elk Hunting

Habitat for elk in this unit is excellent and population is well over objective. GMU 79 is primarily winter range for elk and success is highly dependent on snow pushing animals into the area. These units are totally limited for elk hunting. The only exception is that GMU 79 can be hunted with a general elk license during archery and muzzleloader seasons. GMU 76 offers quality hunting for those willing to wait to draw a license. The chance to harvest a mature bull is high; but the unit doesn't produce trophy-quality animals found in other limited units in Colorado.

**Estimated elk population: 5,400**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 23 bulls per 100 cows**

**2008 Elk Harvest Statistics**

GMU	Season	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
76	Archery	50	2	0	52	170	31
76	Muzzle	35	8	0	43	91	47
76	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	102	0	0	102	199	51
76	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	30	54	11	95	352	27
76	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	16	89	9	114	379	30
76	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	0	0	0	0	6	0
79	Archery	12	0	0	12	279	4
79	Muzzle	0	3	0	3	49	6
79	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	8	24	3	35	243	14
79	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	24	22	0	46	499	9
79	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	15	9	0	24	429	6
79	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	0	0	0	0	333	0
791	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle		3	0	3	3	100

**Sand Dunes**

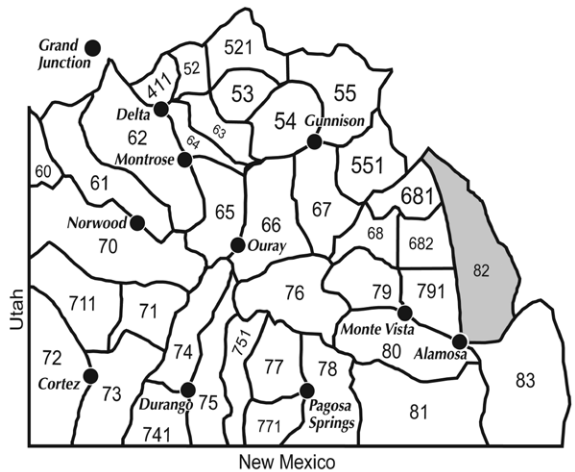
GMU 82

Map: Rio Grande National Forest

Hunting is prohibited in Great Sand Dunes National Park and the Baca National Wildlife Refuge which are located within this unit. National forest abuts the park and refuge, so when hunting pressure begins many deer and elk move down quickly to the safe havens.

There is also private land with residential development in the northern half of the unit. So, be sure to know what's behind your target.

Much of the Sangre de Cristo mountain range is U.S. Forest Service land. This range is extremely rugged and most is wilderness area. It is accessible only by foot or horseback. Hunters should be in excellent physical shape if planning to hunt here.



## Deer Hunting

Deer are not plentiful in the area, although the population appears to be growing. The unit does hold a high buck-to-doe ratio.

**Estimated deer population: 1,990**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 37 bucks to 100 does**

### 2008 Deer Hunting Statistics

GMU	Season	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
82	Archery	0	0	0	0	29	0
82	Muzzle	19	0	0	19	49	39
82	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	63	0	0	63	95	66
82	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	62	0	0	62	69	90

## Elk Hunting

While there are plenty of elk in this area, they quickly move to areas where hunting is prohibited--federal national wildlife refuges and the national park--once the season starts. When hunting in this area be sure to know the location of the federal boundaries. Hunters are allowed to pass through the national to hunting areas, but some restrictions apply. Call the National Park Service at 1-719-378-6399, or go to the web site, [www.nps.gov/grsa](http://www.nps.gov/grsa) for information. Access is good in the northern portion of the unit, but there are fewer animals.

**Estimated elk population: 5,200**

**3-year sex ratio average: 39 bulls to 100 cows**

### 2008 Elk Hunting Statistics

GMU	Season	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
82	Archery	23	0	0	23	321	7
82	Muzzle	10	0	0	10	38	26
82	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	73	26	3	102	353	29
82	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	76	22	9	107	502	21
82	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	54	0	0	54	522	10
82	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	14	0	0	14	111	13



**1-877-265-6648**



# Dolores – Dry Creek

GMUs 70, 71, 711, 72, 73

Montrose DOW office: (970)252-6000,

Durango DOW office: (970)247-0855

Maps: GMUs 70, 71, 711, 72, 73 – San Juan National Forest;

GMU 70 Uncompahgre

National Forest

This area covers a vast 2,800-square-mile area from the west side of the Uncompahgre Plateau to the Utah state line and south to the New Mexico border. Habitat throughout these GMUs is excellent for big game. Altitude ranges from about 5,000 feet to about

12,000 feet. Vegetation includes desert shrubs, grasses, pinon/juniper, aspen, evergreens and alpine tundra. Food sources for big game are abundant. Weather can change quickly so be prepared for all conditions. Wet roads become slick and muddy very fast. Chains can be necessary, even for 4-wheel drive vehicles.

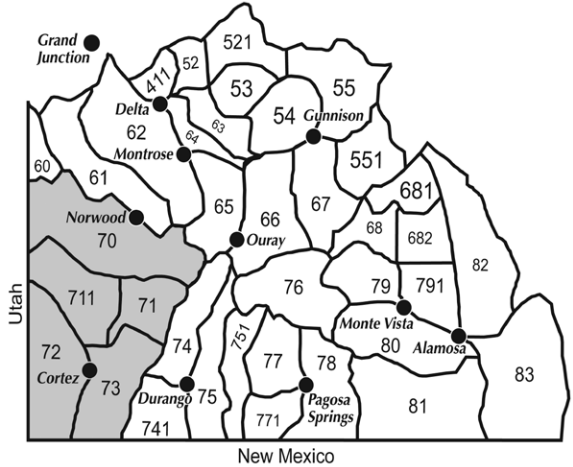
Vehicle access is easy in these areas; consequently hunting pressure is heavy on public lands. Remember that travel in the Lizard Head Wilderness Area in GMU 71 is by foot and horseback only.

Most of unit 72 and the western sections of 70 and 711 is desert terrain. Consequently, few elk are found in those areas.

Be aware of private land in the northern sections of GMUs 71 and 711, and in the southern section of GMU 70. The southern half of units 72 and 73 is tribal land of the Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute tribes. Hunting by non-tribal members is prohibited.

## Deer Hunting

Deer population is holding steady and overall hunting will be good. The chances of seeing a mature buck are rated from fair to good. In the early seasons deer are evenly distributed above 8,000 feet. Deer begin migrating to lower elevations, generally from east to west, in mid October. Snow will cause them to move lower and faster. Deer will concentrate on winter range in Dry Creek Basin, Disappointment Valley and along the Dolores River. GMU 70 in Dry Creek Basin is recommended in the third and fourth seasons.



**Estimated deer population: 27,200**

**3-year average sex ratio: 35 bucks per 100 does**

## **2008 Deer Harvest Statistics**

<b>GMU</b>	<b>Season</b>	<b>Bucks</b>	<b>Does</b>	<b>Fawns</b>	<b>Harvest</b>	<b>Hunters</b>	<b>%Success</b>
70	Archery	38	3	0	41	150	27
70	Muzzle	42	17	0	59	119	50
70	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	467	121	14	602	853	71
70	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	468	167	3	638	854	75
70	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	32	0	0	32	39	82
71	Archery	17	21	0	38	94	40
71	Muzzle	18	0	0	18	64	28
71	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	105	74	0	179	369	49
71	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	44	17	6	67	196	34
711	Archery	9	9	0	18	78	23
711	Muzzle	14	0	0	14	34	41
711	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	225	94	0	319	615	52
711	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	157	31	0	188	453	42
72	Archery	23	4	0	27	61	44
72	Muzzle	50	3	0	53	66	80
72	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	185	43	0	228	342	67
72	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	107	39	0	146	232	63
73	Archery	16	6	0	22	69	32
73	Muzzle	18	11	0	29	58	50
73	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	43	43	0	86	176	49
73	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	114	19	0	133	172	77

## **Elk Hunting**

The elk population is declining slightly. Animals are distributed widely throughout these units. Generally, GMU 71 is better early in the season; GMU 711 is better as the season progresses. During the season the animals move to lower elevations, especially as the weather changes. Elk also move quickly into thick aspen and mountain shrub when hunting pressure becomes apparent. The opportunity to see a mature bull is only fair.

**Estimated elk population: 19,800**

**3-year average sex ratio: 18 bulls per 100 cows**

## 2008 Elk Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bulls	Cows	Fawns	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
70	Archery	84	37	0	121	800	15
70	Muzzle	15	31	0	46	203	23
70	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	150	75	2	227	534	43
70	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	272	138	17	427	1519	28
70	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	118	95	6	219	985	22
70	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	27	108	9	144	315	46
71	Archery	72	60	0	132	985	13
71	Muzzle	29	22	3	54	348	16
71	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	96	54	11	161	422	38
71	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	205	38	9	252	1170	22
71	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	37	38	0	75	564	13
71	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	0	10	2	12	56	21
711	Archery	46	19	4	69	393	18
711	Muzzle	9	9	0	18	99	18
711	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	50	30	0	80	229	35
711	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	115	18	0	133	879	15
711	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	84	57	0	141	850	17
711	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	4	57	6	67	270	25
72	Archery	0	4	0	4	217	2
72	Muzzle	0	0	3	3	38	8
72	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	24	0	11	35	79	44
72	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	4	2	0	6	167	4
72	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	16	0	0	16	74	22
72	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	5	3	0	8	45	18
73	Archery	11	30	0	41	271	15
73	Muzzle	3	16	0	19	99	19
73	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	13	22	11	46	127	36
73	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	19	5	3	27	206	13
73	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	18	10	2	30	143	21
73	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	0	1	0	1	16	6

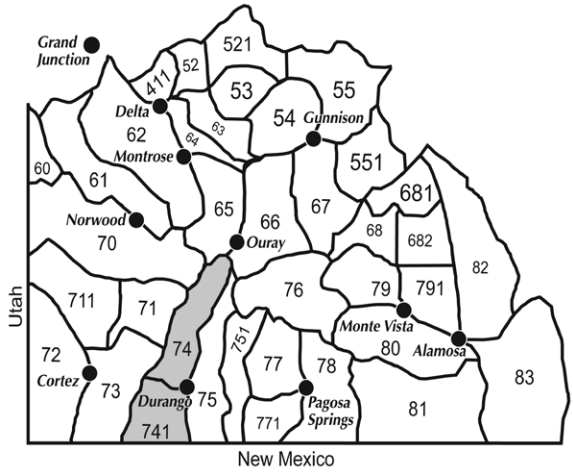
# Hermosa

## GMUs 74, 741

Map: San Juan National Forest

Durango DOW office: (970)247-0855

Elevations range from about 6,000 feet near the New Mexico border to more than 13,000 feet near Silverton. An abundance of vegetation provides plenty of cover and food for big-game herds. Public land is abundant in GMU 74, road access is good and hunting pressure is significant. Durango is near the southeast corner of this unit. Most of the land in GMU 741 is private or part of the Southern Ute Indian Reservation. Only members of the tribe can hunt on the reservation.



Because of reservoir construction, hunting is restricted in the former areas of the Bodo State Wildlife Area that is now owned by the Bureau of Reclamation.

## Deer Hunting

Buck-to-doe ratios are down slightly, but hunters still have a strong possibility to harvest mature bucks. The deer herd remains well below the objective of 11,500. A lot of private land exists in these units, so be aware of GMU and land ownership boundaries. In October, deer will move from their summer range at the high elevations in the north to their winter range to the south.

**Estimated deer population: 5,730**

**3-year average estimated sex ratio: 30 bucks per 100 doe**

## 2008 Deer Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
74	Archery	12	0	0	12	85	14
74	Muzzle	31	0	0	31	80	39
74	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	55	0	0	55	199	28
74	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	21	0	0	21	66	32
74	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	8	0	0	8	38	21
741	Archery	7	2	0	9	40	23
741	Muzzle	13	4	0	17	26	65
741	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	115	79	8	202	263	77
741	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	106	34	0	140	208	67
741	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	31	38	3	72	101	71

## Elk Hunting

Most elk are found in GMU 74 in the higher elevation areas. Hunters willing to venture into rugged, remote terrain could be rewarded. A lot of country is available around Engineer Mountain, throughout the Hermosa Creek drainage west of the Durango Mountain Resort ski area, and up Junction Creek just northwest of Durango. Weather dictates the success rate in this area.

GMU 741 is dominated by private land and tribal property.

**Estimate elk population: 5,400**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 20 bulls per 100 cows**

## 2008 Elk Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bulls	Cows	Fawns	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
74	Archery	41	20	0	61	397	15
74	Muzzle	39	6	0	45	140	32
74	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	64	62	0	126	541	23
74	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	83	77	0	160	858	19
74	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	23	31	0	54	338	16
74	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	0	18	8	26	159	16
741	Archery	4	0	0	4	75	5
741	Muzzle	9	0	0	9	13	69
741	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	32	3	0	35	56	63
741	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	26	2	0	28	132	21
741	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	20	6	0	26	86	30
741	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	13	4	0	17	44	39

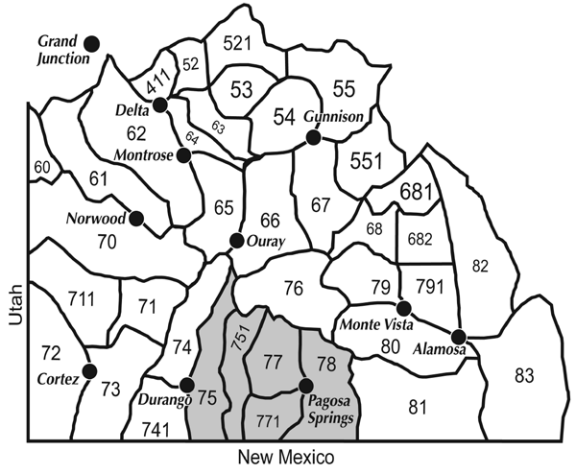
# San Juan Basin

GMUs 75, 77, 78, 751, 771

Map: San Juan National Forest

Durango DOW office: (970)247-0855

Public land dominates these units which lie between Durango, Wolf Creek Pass and the Continental Divide to the north. Elevations range from about 6,500 feet to more than 14,000 feet so weather can change quickly and be severe. Deer and elk populations are steady and thrive in the vast forest lands that hold a wide variety of food sources and cover. Road access is good throughout these units. Hunters can also venture far from roads.



Two wilderness areas – the Weminuche on the north side of the basin, and the South San Juan in the southeast corner – offer good back-country hunting opportunities. Vehicles are not allowed in the wilderness.

South of Highway 160 much of the land is privately owned or on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation. To access pockets of public land within the Southern Ute boundaries you MUST obtain an access permit (\$25) from the tribe. Call (970)563-0125 for information.

## Deer Hunting

The deer herd in these units is still slightly above population objective. There is a good possibility of finding mature bucks. The areas offering the best deer hunting on public lands are: the Piedra River drainage, the mountains between the Piedra and Los Pinos rivers, and lands southeast of Pagosa Springs. Deer migrate from higher elevations in October and generally move from north to south.

**Estimated deer population: 25,500**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 33 bucks per 100 does**

## 2008 Deer Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
75	Archery	20	13	0	33	128	26
75	Muzzle	20	17	0	37	115	32
75	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	125	25	0	150	347	43
75	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	140	12	0	152	291	52
75	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	53	18	0	71	128	55
751	Archery	2	2	0	4	60	7
751	Muzzle	18	4	0	22	55	40
751	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	95	51	0	146	333	44
751	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	103	9	0	112	241	46
751	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	35	27	0	62	96	65
77	Archery	11	0	0	11	92	12
77	Muzzle	20	0	0	20	77	26
77	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	178	0	0	178	379	47
77	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	92	0	0	92	336	27
77	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	12	0	0	12	35	34
771	Archery	0	0	0	0	6	0
771	Muzzle	7	3	3	13	19	68
771	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	43	35	2	80	180	44
771	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	66	29	0	95	230	41
771	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	59	15	0	74	111	67
78	Archery	19	0	0	19	99	19
78	Muzzle	36	0	0	36	96	38
78	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	250	0	0	250	330	76
78	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	37	0	0	37	144	26
78	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	20	0	0	20	34	59

## Elk Hunting

The elk herd in these units is at objective. Hunters must be prepared to walk into remote and heavily-forested areas to find animals. Do not expect to see elk from roads. Elk prefer higher elevations until the weather turns severe. In the early seasons, stick to the spruce/fir and aspen forests. As snow accumulates, elk will move south and into lower elevations. In late seasons, ponderosa pine forests and oak brush are usually more productive.

**Estimated elk population: 19,300**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 16 bulls per 100 cows**

## 2008 Elk Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bulls	Cows	Fawns	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
75	Archery	34	19	0	53	757	7
75	Muzzle	3	7	0	10	99	10
75	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	98	44	0	142	697	20
75	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	69	20	4	93	727	13
75	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	32	9	0	41	366	11
75	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	33	16	0	49	204	24
751	Archery	23	4	0	27	370	7
751	Muzzle	3	0	3	6	64	9
751	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	54	29	0	83	253	33
751	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	48	23	0	71	533	13
751	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	22	2	0	24	279	9
751	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	0	8	2	10	108	9
77	Archery	37	19	4	60	534	11
77	Muzzle	6	3	3	12	158	8
77	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	105	54	0	159	529	30
77	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	111	33	0	144	972	15
77	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	46	40	6	92	725	13
77	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	3	20	7	30	174	17
771	Archery	4	0	0	4	42	10
771	Muzzle	3	0	0	3	16	19
771	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	0	12	0	12	46	26
771	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	11	0	0	11	135	8
771	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	11	16	0	27	147	18
771	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	0	10	0	10	99	10
78	Archery	61	16	4	81	610	13
78	Muzzle	12	15	0	27	130	21
78	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	107	54	0	161	536	30
78	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	115	12	0	127	807	16
78	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	45	9	0	54	338	16
78	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	13	24	3	40	191	21



# Uncompahgre Plateau

GMUs 61, 62

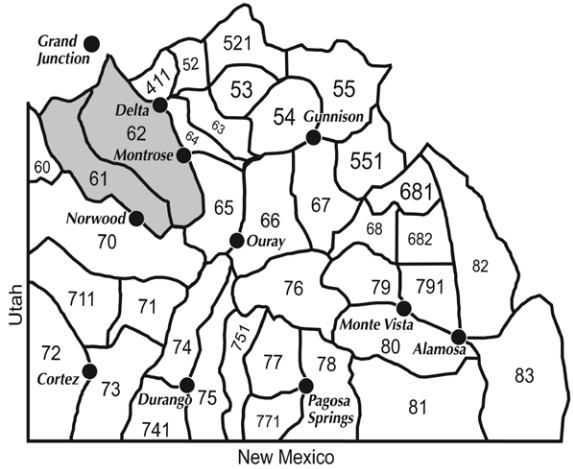
Map: Uncompahgre National Forest

Montrose DOW office: (970)252-6000

The plateau encompasses 2,300 square miles of terrain that includes large, relatively flat mesas that are bisected by deep, rugged canyons.

The elevation ranges from 4,600 feet to 10,300 feet. Be prepared for sudden weather changes. Numerous roads provide easy access to the plateau, but many canyons are accessible only by foot and on horseback. Archery and muzzleloaders should concentrate on U.S. Forest Service lands along the top of the plateau.

The highest success rates for bull hunters occur in GMU 62 during first season, but expect hunting pressure there. Animals usually move to lower elevation private lands as hunting pressure increases. GMU 61 is managed as a quality deer and quality elk unit.



## Deer Hunting

The deer population is below objective. In these units there are now doe licenses available and fourth season buck licenses. During the past five years, deer hunting has been good in GMUs 61 and 62. The number and size of bucks is increasing throughout the plateau. During the early season deer are concentrated in the aspen and oak brush. As hunting pressure increases they will move lower into the pinon and juniper.

**Estimated deer population: 24,700.**

**3-year estimate sex ratio: 33 bucks per 100 does.**

## 2008 Deer Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
61	Archery	34	3	0	37	74	50
61	Muzzle	22	5	1	28	43	65
61	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	103	90	0	193	260	74
61	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	64	42	0	106	226	47
62	Archery	2	4	0	6	25	24
62	Muzzle	31	10	0	41	112	37
62	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	328	135	12	475	800	59
62	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	301	102	3	406	698	58

## Elk Hunting

Elk are plentiful, slightly over the population objective and widely distributed across the plateau. Most stay high until hunting pressure increases; then they move lower to less accessible areas. To be successful, hunters are advised to walk far from roads. Hunters have found the most success in GMU 61 which is a limited unit. You cannot hunt in this unit with an over-the-counter tag.

If your tag is for GMU 62 be sure that you are hunting on the northeast side of the divide road.

**Estimated elk population: 10,600.**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 20 bulls per 100 cows.**

## 2008 Elk Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bulls	Cows	Fawns	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
61	Archery	46	0	0	46	101	46
61	Muzzle	25	28	2	55	99	56
61	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	73	50	9	132	270	49
61	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	81	139	3	223	483	46
61	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	18	60	14	92	191	48
61	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	16	42	4	62	131	47
62	Archery	207	90	4	301	1941	16
62	Muzzle	43	28	3	74	330	22
62	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	162	78	3	243	779	31
62	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	301	85	3	389	2029	19
62	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	82	49	0	131	911	14
62	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	13	51	1	65	243	27

# Cimarron River Drainage

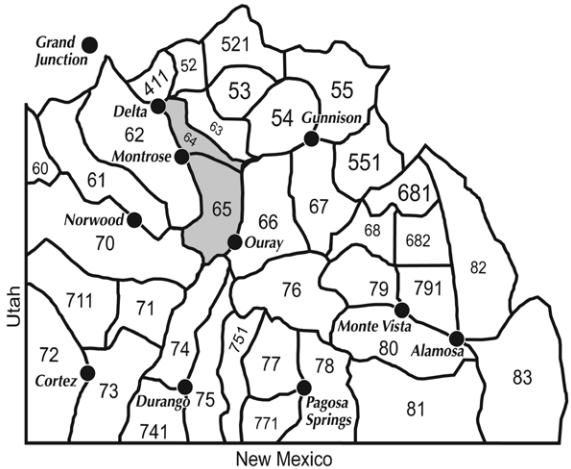
GMUs 64, 65

Maps: GMU 64,

Uncompahgre  
National Forest

Map: GMU 65, Gunnison  
National Forest

Montrose DOW office:  
(970)252-6000



These units include some of the most diverse terrain in Colorado, from 4,700 feet in the dry desert lands near Delta to 14,309-foot Uncompahgre Peak. Warm

weather at the low elevations will cause meat to spoil very quickly, so be prepared to pack meat out fast. Weather is variable and unpredictable at the higher elevations. Most of GMU 64 is private land or part of Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park. Hunting is prohibited in the national park. Much of GMU 65 is easily accessible by road, so hunting pressure is significant. Hunters must be willing to walk well away from roads if they expect to be successful. Hunters willing to enter challenging terrain can hunt in the Uncompahgre or Mount Sneffels wilderness areas at the south end of GMU 65.

## Deer Hunting

The deer population has declined due to the difficult winter of 2007-08 and is now below objective. Limited doe hunting is allowed only on private land, and there is a fourth season for buck hunting.

For the best bucks, hunt high elevations early. Go lower as the season progresses. Deer move lower and to private land as hunting pressure increases. During the second season, deer favor aspen/oak brush/serviceberry areas; they move lower to pinon/juniper during the third season. Access is relatively easy, but rewards can be great for hunters willing to go to higher and more challenging terrain.

**Estimated deer population: 9,300**

**3-year estimate sex ratio: 26 bucks per 100 does**

## 2008 Deer Harvest Statistics

GMU	Season	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
64	Archery	11	0	0	11	63	17
64	Muzzle	4	0	0	4	7	57
64	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	115	7	0	122	210	58
64	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	73	3	0	76	161	47
65	Archery	25	1	0	26	115	23
65	Muzzle	15	0	0	15	39	38
65	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	132	8	2	142	295	48
65	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	114	2	0	116	261	44

## Elk Hunting

Because of the extent of wilderness area in these units, elk find plenty of lush meadows for summer grazing. Consequently, the elk herd is stable and hunting is rated as good. The elk will stay high until hunting pressure or weather force them down. If you hunt in the wilderness areas, beware that they are bordered by numerous private ranches – especially near Ridgway and Dallas Divide. Elk will move to private land quickly, so know your location. In GMU 65 the main areas of the Cimarron drainage are good during the first and second seasons. Try the Cimarron and Billy Creek state wildlife areas in later seasons or after snow has pushed the elk down. GMU 64 is dominated by private land so hunting opportunities are limited.

Late seasons for elk run from Dec. 1 to Jan. 15 and include public land and private land only licenses. Success during these seasons is high. Hunters can put in for these licenses in the draw.

**Estimated elk population: 5,800**

**3-year estimated sex ratio: 23 bulls per 100 cows**

## 2008 Elk Hunting Statistics

GMU	Season	Bulls	Cows	Fawns	Harvest	Hunters	%Success
64	Archery	22	0	0	22	194	11
64	Muzzle	6	3	0	9	18	50
64	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	50	21	8	79	233	34
64	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	36	12	0	48	193	25
64	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	25	7	2	34	188	18
64	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	12	6	0	18	101	18
64	Late	0	22	0	22	42	52
65	Archery	61	27	0	88	572	15
65	Muzzle	23	9	0	32	126	25
65	1 <sup>st</sup> Rifle	88	45	6	139	445	31
65	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rifle	148	46	3	197	761	26
65	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rifle	20	28	0	48	363	13
65	4 <sup>th</sup> Rifle	16	35	0	51	217	24
65	Late	0	124	23	147	265	55

## Deer Preference Points

The figures in these tables provide the minimum number of points needed to draw a limited license in 2008. So, for example, in a hunt code showing 2 preference points required, an individual applying with 3 or more points will draw a license. Any remaining licenses are issued randomly to applicants with at least 2 points. Unsuccessful applicants are awarded a preference point for use in future drawings.

These charts will help you determine your chances of drawing a limited license for the 2010 big-game season. If a unit is not listed no preference points are required. For a complete list for the state, go to: [www.wildlife.state.co.us](http://www.wildlife.state.co.us).

Note on abbreviations: Rifle seasons indicated by the number; “E” indicates either sex, M-male, F-female; “L” indicates late season; “P” indicates private land only; “S” indicates a section of the GMU. “Float” indicates game management units with licenses that are shared between seasons.

### Archery

Unit	Sex	Licenses	Applicants	Pts: Res / NR
54	E	40	107	1 / 1
55	E	55	180	2 / 2
551	E	20	99	2 / 2
61	E	85	277	2 / 4
66	E	30	153	2 / 2
67	E	30	45	0 / 1
76	M	20	133	3 / 6
79	M	10	34	1 / 1
83	M - P	7	29	2 / 3

### Muzzleloader

Unit	Sex	Licenses	Applicants	Pts: Res / NR
52	M	85	293	1 / 2
53	M	35	101	1 / 2
54	F	7	14	0 / 0
54	M	35	122	2 / 4
55	M	35	206	4 / 5
55	F	7	30	0 / 0
551	F	7	28	1 / 1
551	M	15	73	3 / 3
60	M	5	18	2 / 2
61	M	35	159	5 / 10
62	M	60	185	1 / 2
63	M	35	123	1 / 2
64	M	35	75	1 / 1
65	M	35	75	1 / 2
66	M	20	121	4 / 7
67	F	7	11	1 / 1
67	M	20	71	2 / 5
68	F	80	165	1 / 1

71	F	30	19	0 / 1
71	M	100	347	1 / 2
72	F	40	20	0 / 1
76	M	15	114	5 / 6
77	M	200	339	0 / 1
78	M	200	339	0 / 1
79	M	15	23	0 / 1
80	M	110	325	1 / 1
83	M	8	44	3 / 4

## Rifle

Unit	Sex-Season	Licenses	Applicants	Pts: Res / NR
52	M3	220	412	0 / 1
52	M4	15	378	2 / 3
521	M3	220	412	0 / 1
521	M4	15	378	2 / 3
53	M2	170	418	1 / 2
53	M3	135	485	1 / 4
53	M4	10	299	3 / 7
54	F2	7	97	1 / 1
54	F3	7	40	1 / 1
54	M2	245	572	0 / 1
54	M3	60	330	3 / 5
54	M4	3	204	9 / 14
54	M2	10	15	0 / 1
54	M3	10	13	1 / 1
55	F2	7	128	2 / 2
55	F3	7	88	2 / 2
55	M2	165	705	2 / 3
55	M3	50	512	5 / 6
55	M4	3	232	7 / 13
551	F2	7	91	2 / 2
551	F3	7	61	1 / 1
551	M2	160	466	2 / 2
551	M3	25	228	4 / 4
551	M4	3	116	8 / 8
551	M3	5	1	4 / 4
60	M4	5	57	1 / 4
61	F2	25	63	0 / 4
61	F3	20	45	0 / 1
61	M2	180	753	2 / 7
61	M3	170	596	2 / 7
61	M4	10	721	9 / 14
62	F3	50	85	0 / 2
62	M3	570	889	0 / 1
62	M4	30	683	2 / 6

63	M2	110	360	1 / 2
63	M3	100	273	1 / 2
63	M4	10	207	1 / 2
64	M4	25	203	1 / 2
66	F2	7	66	1 / 2
66	F3	7	40	3 / 3
66	M2	70	517	4 / 5
66	M3	30	341	5 / 9
66	M4	3	243	11 / 14
67	F2	7	116	3 / 3
67	F3	7	52	1 / 1
67	M2	75	470	3 / 3
67	M3	30	251	5 / 6
67	M4	3	228	7 / 12
68	M2	150	665	2 / 2
68	M3	150	520	2 / 2
68	M4	15	204	3 / 3
70	F2	200	4	0 / 1
70	M3	500	877	0 / 2
70	M4	40	888	2 / 5
71	M4	50	507	1 / 2
72	M4	40	275	1 / 1
74	M1	20	282	7 / 7
741	M4	20	78	1 / 3
741	M4	20	86	2 / 2
76	M2	25	247	4 / 4
76	M3	20	137	3 / 3
77	M4	150	390	0 / 1
79	M2	75	274	2 / 2
79	M3	80	185	1 / 2
79	M4	10	112	2 / 3
80	M2	230	1130	2 / 2
80	M3	230	489	1 / 1
80	20	289	2 / 2	2 / 2
82	M-Early	30	154	6 / 10
82	M2	100	202	1 / 1
82	M4	10	73	2 / 4
83	M2	30	154	2 / 3
83	M3	30	75	2 / 2
83	M4	5	92	3 / 3

## Deer - Ranching for Wildlife

Colorado Residents only

Unit	Season	Licenses	Applicants	Pts
83	F1	60	139	1
83	M2	10	242	14

# Elk Preference Points

The figures in these tables provide the minimum number of points hunters needed to draw a limited license for the 2008 season. So, for example, in a hunt code showing 2 preference points required, an individual applying with 3 or more points will draw a license. Any remaining licenses are issued randomly to applicants with at least 2 points. Unsuccessful applicants are awarded a preference point for use in future drawings.

These charts will help you determine your chances of drawing a limited license for the 2010 big-game season. If a unit is not listed no preference points are required. The charts below are for GMUs in the southwest region. For a complete list for the state, go to: [www.wildlife.state.co.us](http://www.wildlife.state.co.us).

Note on abbreviations: Rifle season indicated by the number; “E” indicates either sex; “L” indicates late season; “P” indicates private land only; “S” indicates a section of the GMU. If no designation for sex is listed under “Season” the license is for a male animal; “Float” indicates game management units with licenses that are shared between seasons.

## Archery

Unit	Sex	Licenses	Applicants	Pts: Res / NR
61	E	85	945	9 / 12
66	E	210	459	0 / 3
67	E	75	170	1 / 2
76	E	160	792	3 / 7

## Muzzleloader

Unit	Sex	Licenses	Applicants	Pts: Res / NR
61	F	50	120	1 / 2
61	M	40	615	11 / 15
66	M	40	239	3 / 10
67	M	40	236	3 / 6
76	F	15	37	1 / 3
76	M	70	465	6 / 11

## Rifle

Unit	Season	Licenses	Applicants	Pts: Res / NR
61	F1	160	316	1 / 1
61	M1	130	1596	8 / 13
61	M2	200	987	6 / 12
61	M3	Float	347	6 / 12
61	M3	Float	347	6 / 12



66	M1	390	569	0 / 2
66	M4	6315	328	0 / 1
66	M3	190	246	0 / 1
66	M4	65	77	0 / 1
67	M4	95	177	0 / 1
72	E4	150	528	1 / 1
73	E4	150	528	1 / 1
76	E4	7	66	1 / 1
76	M1	205	1589	6 / 9
76	M2	70	455	5 / 8
76	M3	35	263	5 / 8
80	F1	7	253	1 / 1
80	F2	120	40	1 / 1

## Ranching for Wildlife

Colorado residents only

Unit	Season	Licenses	Applicants	Pts
83	E1	10	251	14
83	E1	60	197	1



## Operation Game Thief

Poaching and illegal hunting are ongoing problems. Colorado's wildlife officers depend on everyone to report law violations. If you see or are suspicious of illegal activity, contact a local wildlife officer or call Operation Game Thief at 1-877-265-6648; for Verizon cell phone users, dial #OGT. E-mail: [game.thief@state.co.us](mailto:game.thief@state.co.us); or write to: Operation Game Thief, Colorado DOW, 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216. Tips can be reported anonymously. Rewards are given for tips that lead to convictions. Wildlife officers patrol large areas. Please, help them protect your wildlife.

# Emergency information

All hunters should make sure that friends and family at home can contact them in case of an emergency. Please, fill out this form and leave it at home.

<b>Hunter's Name and address:</b>	
<b>Cell Phone:</b>	<b>Home:</b>
<b>Other Hunter(s) in Party:</b>	
<b>Vehicle Information:</b>	
<b>Hunting Location:</b>	

<b>STATE OF COLORADO</b>	
GAME DONATION CERTIFICATE	Date: _____
Donor name _____	
Donor Address _____	
Recipient name _____	
Recipient Address _____	
Kind of game donated _____	
Number/Weight of donation _____	
The above mentioned game and/or fish was legally taken on (date): _____	
using hunting license # _____	
Signature Recipient _____	
Signature Donor _____	
Make two copies - one for donor, one for recipient	

If you have questions about this booklet or suggestions,  
please contact: Joe Lewandowski, Southwest Region  
(970) 375-6708  
joe.lewandowski@state.co.us

# Travel Planning Resources

## Colorado Division of Wildlife

[www.wildlife.state.co.us](http://www.wildlife.state.co.us)

Durango Service Center	GMUs 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 77, 78, 711, 771, 741, 751, 771	(970) 247-0855
Montrose Service Center	GMUs 60 61, 62, 64, 65, 70	(970) 252-6000
Gunnison Service Center	GMUs 41,42, 52, 53, 54, 55, 63, 66, 67, 411, 421 ,521	(970) 641-7060
Monte Vista Service Center	GMUs 68, 681, 76, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83	(719) 587-6900

## U.S. Forest Service Directory

[www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)

\*RD=Ranger District

<b>GRAND MESA-UNCOMPAHGRE-GUNNISON National Forests</b>	<b>Delta</b>	<b>(970) 874-6600</b> <i>www.fs.fed.us/r2/gmug</i>
Grand Valley RD	Grand Junction	(970) 242-8211
Gunnison RD	Gunnison	(970) 641-0471
Norwood RD	Norwood	(970) 327-4261
Ouray RD	Montrose	(970) 240-5300
Paonia RD	Paonia	(970) 527-4131
<b>SAN JUAN National Forest</b>	<b>Durango</b>	<b>(970) 247-4874</b> <i>www.fs.fed.us/r2/sanjuan</i>
East Columbine RD	Durango	(970) 884-2512
West Columbine RD	Bayfield	(970) 247-4874
Dolores Public Lands Center	Dolores	(970) 882-7296
Pagosa RD	Pagosa Springs	(970) 264-2268

## Bureau of Land Management Directory

[www.co.blm.gov](http://www.co.blm.gov)

\*FO=Field Office

Southwest Center	Montrose	(970) 240-5300
Columbine FO	Durango	(970) 247-4874
Del Norte FO	Del Norte	(719) 657-3321
Dolores Public Lands Center	Dolores	(970) 882-7296
Gunnison FO	Gunnison	(970) 641-0471
La Jara FO	La Jara	(719) 274-8971
Pagosa FO	Pagosa Springs	(970) 264-2268
Saguache FO	Saguache	(719) 655-2547
San Juan Public Lands Center	Durango	(970) 247-4874
Uncompahgre Basin FO	Montrose	(970) 240-5300