

**Colorado Division of Wildlife**  
**Annual Law Enforcement**  
**And**  
**Violation Report**  
**April 1, 2001**

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## *Preface*

*This report's purpose is to provide a basis of understanding and to answer frequently asked questions about the Colorado Division of Wildlife's law enforcement programs. It is a compilation of a variety of stand-alone articles and information pieces that can be used individually or together. If I have missed something of interest once you have read this report, don't hesitate to let me know, and I'll try to provide information on the subject in next year's report.*

*There is a long list people who have contributed to this report. Many have written entire sections and they are noted on the cover sheet for this report. Others have read portions of this report and offered suggestions as to content and format. To all of those, thanks; I think your participation has vastly improved the quality of this report.*

*This document is not designed for mass distribution. What is attached is a work in progress, a framework for continued discussion. It is meant to answer questions posed by special interests, wildlife commissioners, legislators, DNR and CDOW staff. It is also meant as a communication tool, a shared basis, and a foundation for Colorado Wildlife Officers to use when asked about Colorado wildlife law enforcement.*

*Your comments concerning this report or our law enforcement efforts are always welcome. Don't hesitate to call or write.*

*Sincerely,*

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## **Wildlife Law Enforcement is an Essential Public Service**

The Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) is charged by statute to protect, preserve, enhance, and manage wildlife for the use, benefit and enjoyment of the people of this state and its visitors. Wildlife management objectives such as determining the numbers and types of wildlife taken, and providing opportunities to hunt, fish, or engage in other wildlife-related recreation are realized through the creation of regulations by the Wildlife Commission and enforcement of season dates, bag limits, and license requirements. If everyone would follow the rules, enforcement efforts would be unnecessary, however laws for some people are only effective to the extent they are enforced. Without law enforcement effective wildlife management would not be possible. Without wildlife management Colorado's abundant and diverse wildlife populations would not exist.

A 1990 Stadge-Accureach survey clearly indicated that the public expects the CDOW to enforce wildlife laws and to protect wildlife. In a 1999 survey, Ciruli Associates found that 78% of Colorado residents believe that enforcing existing wildlife laws is the top priority for the agency. It is clear that Colorado citizens want state government to manage its wildlife resources enforce the laws concerning that resource.

There are several reasons why the CDOW is the best agency to provide this essential public service. Wildlife management is mainly accomplished through regulations. An appointed Wildlife Commission approves regulations and provides over site of the CDOW. The Wildlife Commission encourages public involvement in its rule making process. This orientation of citizen participation is further enhanced by having the enforcement of these regulations provided by employees of the same agency that the Wildlife Commission oversees. Officers who work for other agencies would have enforcement demands for their time other than wildlife law enforcement. The CDOW is very responsive to its customers in relation to regulation and enforcement as we control and direct our own enforcement efforts.

The CDOW has the best employees to provide wildlife law enforcement services. The public consistently rates CDOW officers high in regards to their job performance. Surveys conducted during check station activities in 1994 and 1996 found that respondents felt that the wildlife officers who contacted them were courteous, fair, and professional. A survey completed in 1999 by Responsive Management found that more than 90% of Colorado hunters, anglers, and other residents rated CDOW officers who they had come into contact with as professional, courteous, knowledgeable and fair. According to the report, "Wildlife Officers were given spectacular ratings among the individuals who they have had contact with, truly amazing considering the nature of the contact – law enforcement." These ratings are higher than other states surveyed by Responsive Management in the past.

## **Wildlife Law Enforcement Survey Summary**

In 1999, the Colorado Division of Wildlife conducted a survey of hunters, anglers, and the general population. Mark Duda, (Responsive Management) conducted the survey. The following is a synopsis of some of the results of that survey. For more detail about demographics, confidence intervals, visit the Colorado Division of Wildlife's web page at [www.wildlife.state.co.us](http://www.wildlife.state.co.us), or contact the Human Dimensions at 303 291 7279 or Law Enforcement Unit section at 303 291 7223. Or, write either section at Colorado Division of Wildlife, 6060 Broadway, Denver CO 80216.

### **Responses concerning Colorado wildlife enforcement in general.**

What do you know about the Colorado Division of Wildlife's law enforcement efforts?

A great deal: Hunters-8%; Anglers-14%; General Population-8%.

A moderate amount: Hunters-37%; Anglers-36%; General Population-27%.

A little: Hunters-38%; Anglers-41%; General Population-44%.

Nothing: Hunters-7%; Anglers-9%; General Population-20%.

Don't know: Hunters-1%; Anglers-1%; General Population-1%.

How would you rate the Division of Wildlife's overall law enforcement effort?

Excellent: Hunters-16%; Anglers-14%; General Population-9%.

Good: Hunters-60%; Anglers-54%; General Population-51%.

Fair: Hunters-15%; Anglers-18%; General Population-13%.

Poor: Hunters-5%; Anglers-3%; General Population-3%.

Don't know: Hunters-5%; Anglers-11%; General Population-24%.

Should Colorado Division of Wildlife efforts be increased, stay the same or decreased?

Increased: Hunters-40%; Anglers-50%; General Population-52%.

Stay the same: Hunters-54%; Anglers-42%; General Population-34%.

Decreased: Hunters-2%; Anglers-2%; General Population-2%.

Don't know: Hunters-4%; Anglers-3%; General Population-12%.

### **Responses concerning Colorado wildlife law enforcement officers.**

Do Colorado Division of Wildlife officers perform their jobs in a professional manner?

Strongly agree: Hunters-61%; Anglers-62%; General Population-51%.

Somewhat agree: Hunters-30%; Anglers-24%; General Population-26%.

Neutral/Don't Know: Hunters-6%; Anglers-8%; General Population-22%.

Somewhat disagree: Hunters-3%; Anglers-2%; General Population-1%.

Strongly disagree: Hunters-1%; Anglers-3%; General Population-1%.

Colorado Division of Wildlife are professional?

Strongly agree: Hunters-76%; Anglers-74%; General Population-83%.

Somewhat agree: Hunters-19%; Anglers-20%; General Population-13%.

Neutral/Don't Know: Hunters-3%; Anglers-2%; General Population-3%.

Somewhat disagree: Hunters-1%; Anglers-1%; General Population-0%.

Strongly disagree: Hunters-1%; Anglers-3%; General Population-2%.

Colorado Division of Wildlife officers are courteous?

Strongly agree: Hunters-79%; Anglers-77%; General Population-86%.  
Somewhat agree: Hunters-16%; Anglers-18%; General Population-10%.  
Neutral/Don't Know: Hunters-3%; Anglers-1%; General Population-2%.  
Somewhat disagree: Hunters-1%; Anglers-1%; General Populations-1%.  
Strongly disagree: Hunters-1%; Anglers-4%; General Population-1%.

Colorado Division of Wildlife officers are knowledgeable?

Strongly agree: Hunters-74%; Anglers-74%; General Population-83%.  
Somewhat agree: Hunters-21%; Anglers-20%; General Population-12%.  
Neutral/Don't Know: Hunters-2%; Anglers-4%; General Population-4%.  
Somewhat disagree: Hunters-0%; Anglers-2%; General Populations-1%.  
Strongly disagree: Hunters-3%; Anglers-1%; General Population-1%.

How safe is the job of a Colorado Division of Wildlife officer?

Very safe: Hunters-9%; Anglers-7%; General Population-6%.  
Moderately safe: Hunters-38%; Anglers-36%; General Population-37%.  
Neutral/Don't Know: Hunters-1%; Anglers-3%; General Population-7%.  
Moderately dangerous: Hunters-45%; Anglers-41%; General Populations-44%.  
Very dangerous: Hunters-7%; Anglers-13%; General Population-6%.

**Responses about the presence and amount of contact by Colorado Division of Wildlife officers.**

What kind of contact have you had with a Colorado Division of Wildlife officer?

Contacted a wildlife officer about a law/regulation: Hunters-30%; Anglers-22%;  
General Population-19%.  
Contacted a wildlife officer about access to public/private lands: Hunters-29%;  
Anglers-26%; General Population-18%.  
Contacted a wildlife officer to help you with a problem in the field: Hunters-15%;  
Anglers-14%; General Population-7%.  
Contacted a wildlife officer for other types of information: Hunters-30%;  
Anglers-24%; General Population-18%.  
Had your license checked by a wildlife officer: Hunters-63%; Anglers-56%;  
General Population-28%.  
Contacted by a wildlife officer for information from you: Hunters-28%; Anglers-  
18%; General Population-11%.  
A wildlife officer issued you a warning/citation: Hunters-6%; Anglers-2%;  
General Population-2%.  
Any other contact by a wildlife officer not mentioned: Hunters-6%; Anglers-2%;  
General Population-3%.  
Wanted to file a complaint against a wildlife officer: Hunters-4%; Anglers-6%;  
General Population-3%.  
None of these: Hunters-18%; Anglers-24%; General Population-49%.

How often has a Colorado Division of Wildlife officer contacted you?

Too much: Hunters-3%; Anglers-1%.  
About the right amount: Hunters-64%; Anglers-52%.  
Not enough: Hunters-29%; Anglers-41%.  
Don't know: Hunters-4%; Anglers-7%..

Does the Colorado Division of Wildlife have enough officers for patrol and service?

Too many: Hunters-3%; Anglers-1%.  
About the right amount: Hunters-36%; Anglers-32%.  
Too few: Hunters-58%; Anglers-62%.  
Don't know: Hunters-4%; Anglers-5%.

### **Responses concerning violators and violations.**

Do you think that a lot of people violate hunting laws?

Strongly agree: Hunters-35%; Anglers-36%; General Population-41%.  
Somewhat agree: Hunters-31%; Anglers-28%; General Population-26%.  
Neutral/Don't Know: Hunters-3%; Anglers-8%; General Population-14%.  
Somewhat disagree: Hunters-18%; Anglers-17%; General Populations-12%.  
Strongly disagree: Hunters-13%; Anglers-11%; General Population-7%.

Do you think a person violates a hunting law intentionally?

Person does not know law: Hunters-21%; Anglers-15%; General Population-12%.  
Violates intentionally: Hunters-73%; Anglers-77%; General Population-78%.  
Don't Know: Hunters-3%; Anglers-6%; General Population-7%.  
Other: Hunters-3%; Anglers-2%; General Populations-3%.

Do you think that hunting violators are caught?

Almost always: Hunters-5%; Anglers-2%; General Population-2%.  
Sometimes: Hunters-44%; Anglers-32%; General Population-35%.  
Hardly ever: Hunters-50%; Anglers-61%; General Population-58%.  
Don't know: Hunters-1%; Anglers-5%; General Populations-5%.

Do you think that a lot of people violate fishing laws?

Strongly agree: Hunters-30%; Anglers-41%; General Population-38%.  
Somewhat agree: Hunters-28%; Anglers-29%; General Population-34%.  
Neutral/Don't Know: Hunters-21%; Anglers-7%; General Population-13%.  
Somewhat disagree: Hunters-15%; Anglers-18%; General Populations-11%.  
Strongly disagree: Hunters-7%; Anglers-6%; General Population-5%.

Do you think a person violates a fishing law intentionally?

Person does not know law: Hunters-21%; Anglers-19%; General Population-17%.  
Violates intentionally: Hunters-68%; Anglers-74%; General Population-75%.  
Don't Know: Hunters-8%; Anglers-5%; General Population-6%.  
Other: Hunters-2%; Anglers-2%; General Populations-2%.

Do you think that fishing violators are caught?Q80

Almost always: Hunters-..%; Anglers-..%; General Population-..%.  
Sometimes: Hunters-..%; Anglers-..%; General Population-..%.  
Hardly ever: Hunters-..%; Anglers-..%; General Population-..%.  
Don't know: Hunters-..%; Anglers-..%; General Populations-..%.

Which hunting law do you think are violated most often?

Harvest related: Hunters-56%; Anglers-54%.  
Behavior related: Hunters-24%; Anglers-10%.  
License related: Hunters-21%; Anglers-37%.  
Methods issues: Hunters-5%; Anglers-10%.  
Don't know: Hunters-5%; Anglers-10%.

What is your opinion about the penalties for violating hunting laws?

Too high: Hunters-6%; Anglers-4%; General Population-4%.  
Appropriate: Hunters-57%; Anglers-53%; General Population-42%.  
Too low: Hunters-31%; Anglers-32%; General Population-28%.  
Don't know/no opinion: Hunters-7%; Anglers-11%, General Population-26%.

What is your opinion about the penalties for violating fishing laws?

Too high: Hunters-4%; Anglers-6%; General Population-6%.  
Appropriate: Hunters-51%; Anglers-62%; General Population-50%.  
Too low: Hunters-17%; Anglers-20%; General Population-16%.  
Don't know/no opinion: Hunters-27%; Anglers-12%, General Population-28%

What is your opinion about the penalties for violating threatened and endangered species laws?

Too high: Hunters-6%; Anglers-6%; General Population-4%.  
Appropriate: Hunters-46%; Anglers-47%; General Population-35%.  
Too low: Hunters-32%; Anglers-31%; General Population-39%.  
Don't know/no opinion: Hunters-15%; Anglers-16%, General Population-22%.

### **Responses concerning reporting violations.**

In the past 2 years have you witnessed a violation of a wildlife law?

No: Hunters-51%; Anglers-53%; General Population-73%.  
Yes, hunting violation: Hunters-42%; Anglers-30%; General Population-14%.  
Yes, fishing violation: Hunters-13%; Anglers-27%; General Population-16%.  
Yes, other violations: Hunters-1%; Anglers-2%; General Population-2%.  
Don't know: Hunters-1%; Anglers-0%; General Population-2%.

Have you ever heard of Operation Game Thief (OGT)?

Yes: Hunters-73%; Anglers-52%; General Population-29%.  
No: Hunters-26%; Anglers-48%; General Population-70%.  
Don't know: Hunters-1%; Anglers-0%; General Population-1%.

Have you tried to report a violation to Operation Game Thief (OGT)?

Yes: Hunters-3%; Anglers-5%; General Population-1%



Tried, but could not get through: Hunters-1%; Anglers-1%;  
General Population-0%  
No: Hunters-97%; Anglers-93%; General Population-98%.  
Don't know: Hunters-0%; Anglers-2%; General Population-1%.

Would you likely report a violation to Operation Game Thief (OGT) if you saw one?  
Very likely: Hunters-49%; Anglers-55%; General Population-53%  
Somewhat likely: Hunters-30%; Anglers-25%; General Population-28%  
Neutral/Don't know: Hunters-8%; Anglers-7%; General Population-7%.  
Somewhat unlikely: Hunters-8%; Anglers-7%; General Population-6%.  
Very unlikely: Hunters-5%; Anglers-6%; General Population-7%.

### **Responses concerning wildlife law enforcement priorities.**

What should be the top law enforcement priorities for the Colorado Division of Wildlife?  
Ensure license compliance: Hunter-93%; Anglers-92%; General Population-91%.  
Illegal take of wildlife: Hunters-91%; Anglers-88%; General Population-90%.  
Protect threatened and endangered species: Hunters-84%; Anglers-84%;  
General Population-90%.  
Illegal equipment to take wildlife: Hunters-81%; Anglers-79%;  
General Population-82%.  
Illegal sale of wildlife or wildlife parts: Hunters-80%; Anglers-83%;  
General Population-90%.  
Loaded firearms in vehicles: Hunters-78%; Anglers-81%;  
General Population-76%.  
Illegally blocking public access: Hunters-74%; Anglers-69%;  
General Population-65%.  
Illegal guide and outfitting: Hunters-74%; Anglers-75%;  
General Population-70%.  
Trespass on private property: Hunters-68%; Anglers-66%;  
General Population-65%.  
Protecting non-game wildlife: Hunters-61%; Anglers-59%;  
General Population-68%.  
Illegal private ownership of wildlife: Hunters-57%; Anglers-54%;  
General Population-60%.

## Wildlife Law Enforcement Planning

The structure of the Colorado Division of Wildlife's (CDOW) planning efforts is driven by statute, mission, long range planning, five and one year operational planning, goals and objectives and performance indicators. The format for wildlife law enforcement planning efforts should follow that same framework. The following incorporates this structure, and includes the priorities as determined through an understanding of the long-range plan goal for wildlife recreation.

**Statute.** The legislative basis for the existence of the CDOW is found in Colorado Revised Statute 33-1-101 (1). It states, *"It is the policy of the state of Colorado that the wildlife and their environment are to be protected, preserved, enhanced and managed for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of the people of this state and its visitors."*

**Mission.** Understanding this statute and through internal and external planning efforts the CDOW developed an agency mission statement. The mission of the CDOW is, *"To perpetuate the wildlife resources of the state and provide people the opportunity to enjoy them"*

**Long-Range Plan.** The statute and mission statement drives planning efforts of the CDOW. The current long-range plan finalized in 1994 provides direction for the agency. One of the major components falls under the heading *"Wildlife-Related Recreation"*. This part of the long-range plan states, *"The Division will encourage the broadest, deepest participation in wildlife-related activities that is feasible. The Division will provide quality opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and other forms of wildlife recreation and enjoyment, consistent with the goal of protecting the wildlife resource. By far the majority of the Division's resources will continue to be used to provide hunting and fishing opportunities. Key goals will be to maintain or increase participation in hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing, and at the same time maintain or improve the quality of these experiences."*

**Goals.** Goals have been developed to accomplish those things that were identified in the long-range plan.

**Work Packages.** Work Packages identify the specific activities needed to accomplish the goal. The Goal of providing wildlife law enforcement has five- (5) specific work packages related to it, as well as work packages associated with customer service, training, and education.

**Performance Indicators.** Each year the CDOW goes through a planning and budgeting process. During this process performance indicators are developed for overall program objectives and work packages. Each unit and each employee is responsible for the accomplishment of individual performance objectives in support of the CDOW's performance indicators.

### Work Package 5410 – Law Enforcement Administration

**Manage Information Systems Professionally.** As a law enforcement agency, the Division has information systems that relate to the detection, deterrence, and prosecution of wildlife violators. There are four systems in differing stages of development that require specialized training, security, and handling. The Wildlife Violator Compact is an interstate compact between 12 states in which a wildlife violator can be held accountable across state lines for violations of state wildlife laws. The Violation Management System is the database in which violations are recorded and court processes in relation to violations are managed. The Criminal Intelligence File System allows for the legitimate collection and management of information in relation to wildlife law violators. The Criminal

Evidence System provides a consistent and accountable method to process evidence seized as a result of the prosecution of criminal violations.

**Provide Systems to Report Violations.** Citizens have a variety of ways in which to report wildlife violations. In many communities the CDOW provides a service center that can be visited or called. In many localities the citizen may know the officer personally or can find their listing in the phone book. The CDOW also operates the Operation Game Thief program, which provides an avenue for people to report crimes to a toll free number (1-800-332-4155).

**Provide Responsive Law Enforcement.** The citizens of Colorado expect their wildlife agency to be responsive to their needs in relation to law enforcement. The agency has a variety of avenues for citizens to request assistance. Local phone calls directly to the agency during normal business hours and on-call systems that can be accessed through local sheriff or state patrol dispatches are normal operations for the CDOW throughout the state. Law enforcement calls normally take high precedence for immediate response depending on the nature of the call and if an officer is available.

**Enhance Relationships with Other Enforcement Agencies.** Law enforcement requires agencies to cooperate with each other. Wildlife law violators may also be involved in other criminal activities. Communication between law enforcement agencies both formally, in planned meetings and official associations, as well as informally, in the form of day-to-day contacts is critical. Utilization of various enforcement databases including but not limited to National Crime Information Center, Colorado Crime Information Center, Violation Management System, Operation Game Thief, Wildlife Violator Compact allow agencies to share information in a secure manner that protects the citizen as well as the agencies and resources they protect. Since no POST academy offers any classes on wildlife law, the CDOW will continue to provide wildlife enforcement training to agencies as requested. Partnership in the law enforcement community is critical in this time of limited resources and increased demand. We will work with other agencies encouraging cooperation in the enforcement of wildlife laws, as well as assisting other agencies upon request

### **Work Package 5420 – Field Law Enforcement**

**Provide Law Enforcement Presence.** Wildlife officers provide a law enforcement presence in local communities. One of the roles of the wildlife officer is to detect wildlife violations. Their presence can also deter would-be violators. Officers also contact persons who are actively engaged in hunting or fishing or other wildlife related recreation to provide service, to check for licenses, and to provide opportunities for interactions between the agency and its customers. Contacts provide opportunities to talk to lawful participants in wildlife recreation, and also allow for the detection of wildlife violations.

**Contact Hunters and Anglers.** Field patrol by wildlife officers provides an opportunity for direct contact with our licensed customers. These contacts provide the direct connection between officers and citizens that is so critical in the field of wildlife management and law enforcement. Field contacts are one of the best opportunities for exchange of information between the user and a public service provider.

**Ensure Funding of Wildlife Programs.** Wildlife protection and management requires public funding. The CDOW receives the vast majority of its funding from hunters and anglers in the form of license purchases or through federal excise tax programs that base state disbursements on the number of licensed hunters or anglers. We will continue to enforce licensing laws to provide

penalties for violators who do not support the protection and management of the wildlife through license purchases.

### **Work Package 5430 – Special Law Enforcement Investigations**

**Conduct Special Investigations.** In some circumstances special investigations are required for some types of violations. Illegal trophy and commercial poaching activities may require special efforts to detect, deter, and prosecute. Decoy and aerial special operations are used to apprehend the poacher who may be out of sight of the law-abiding citizen. Wildlife forensics services such as DNA analysis and bullet examination are state of the art. These services are provided by agencies such as the Colorado Bureau of Investigation and through contract with universities that can meet the strict legal parameters required by our court systems.

**Investigate Fraudulent License Purchase Violations.** The Colorado Outdoor Recreation Information System (CORIS), the database that contains customer license information, has improved the agency's service to our customers. The database can also be used to detect fraudulent purchases of licenses. Nonresidents who purchase resident licenses can cost the agency and thus the citizens of Colorado, millions of dollars annually. Residents and nonresidents that purchase more than the allowed number of licenses may be taking extra animals that will not be available for a lawful hunter. The detection and prosecution of fraudulent license purchases will be a high priority for the CDOW.

### **Work Package 5440 – Law Enforcement Evaluation and Research**

**Research, Plan, and Evaluate Law Enforcement Programs.** Law enforcement efforts need to have a basis of measurement, which should result from an understanding of agency priorities. Application of research and planning provides for effective and efficient efforts in enforcement activities. Performance indicators and measurement are developed and used as guidance in allocation of resources to deter, detect, and prosecute wildlife violators.

### **Work Package 5450 – Wildlife Forensic Services**

**Provide Forensics Services.** Develop understandings, relationships and contracts to provide forensic services such as DNA and fingerprint matching, firearms and bullet identification and matches, and other related laboratory services needed for successful prosecution of wildlife violators.

### **Work Package 7630/40 – Officer Training and Education**

**Protect Public Safety.** Wildlife recreation or poaching activities that endanger the public will be of the highest concern to our officers. As State of Colorado certified peace officers, our officers will respond to requests for assistance or take the initiative in circumstances where the safety of individuals may be at risk.

**Meet Public Expectations for Peace Officers.** When a citizen needs help, they expect wildlife officers to be able to function in any circumstance that involves enforcement or emergency

action. Although there is no requirement for the Peace Officers Standard Training (POST) certification for wildlife officers by statute, all officers have attained that certification. It is CDOW policy that all employees who wish to be commissioned by the agency will be POST certified.

**Train and Guide Employees.** CDOW officers are certified as Colorado peace officers. All new hires are required to complete and pass the Peace Officer Standard Training (POST) course. Intensive training continues after hiring, with approximately 40 hours of annual in-service training that includes handgun, shotgun, rifle, arrest control, baton, and legal updates. Additionally, law enforcement bulletins are sent to each officer quarterly to enhance an officer's knowledge of current law enforcement issues and subjects.

### **Work Package 7210/20/30 – Customer Service**

**Provide Excellent Customer Service.** In relation to law enforcement services customer service is critical to the CDOW. The CDOW will continue to strive to be the best at customer orientation in relation to providing wildlife law enforcement service. Professional management of resources and systems designed to meet high public demand are critical in an environment of increasing demand with limited resources.

**Meet High Professional Standards.** The CDOW is committed to meeting and exceeding the community standards for professional law enforcement, (training, equipment, response, investigations, community/customer relations, etc.). Our law enforcement will be focused, consistent, fair and professional. The public we contact is diverse in ethnicity, age, gender, race, and culture. Every person contacted by a CDOW officer can expect fair and professional treatment. We will professionally administer criminal records, investigative efforts, law enforcement planning, and policies. Supervisors will be accountable for employees meeting these high standards.

**Enhance Public Confidence in Law Enforcement Programs.** We train our officers to think of every contact as being the most important contact they will ever make. Formal complaints are relatively rare in relation to other agencies performing law enforcement activities (only 21 complaints out of the thousands of contacts made by wildlife law enforcement officers in 2000 and only 7 of those sustained). According to a recent survey by Responsive Management (2000), among Colorado hunters, anglers, and residents, more than 90% of those who had contact with a wildlife officer in the past five years felt the officer they came in contact with was professional, courteous, knowledgeable and fair.

**Investigate Complaints.** The CDOW has a formal complaint policy that is available to the public on request. The CDOW will take complaints that it does receive seriously and use this complaint policy that ensures fairness for both the citizen and the employee. The CDOW will learn through its mistakes and apply lessons learned to training, policies, and procedures. The CDOW fully understands that its existence and the ability to manage wildlife depend on the public confidence in what it does, including law enforcement.

### **Work Package 6150/6250 – Provide Information/Education on Law Enforcement**

**Inform/Educate the Public.** Inform and educate the public about the importance of wildlife law enforcement to wildlife management. Explain the importance of law enforcement as a too to

gain compliance and change the behavior of wildlife law violators. Show how each statute or regulation relates to safety, management of wildlife, or ethics.

## Wildlife Law Enforcement Budget

Each year, the Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) performs a budgeting process that results in determining priorities, and each year the budget is built from zero. This process results in a budget that will and does change from year-to-year. Currently the law enforcement budget is about 3.5 million dollars. This represents about 3.5% of a total agency budget of about 99.7 million dollars (operating and capital construction). The CDOW's Planning, Budgeting, and Evaluation Section can provide year-to-date budget and expenditure data for law enforcement programs.

There are seven programs directly related to law enforcement. These include law enforcement administration; field law enforcement; special investigations; planning, research and evaluation; forensic services; annual training of officers; and basic training of new officers.

The CDOW commissions 234 employees who work in a variety of types of jobs. Currently, there are 137 District Wildlife Managers (DWM) and 41 Wildlife Technicians who work for 18 Area Wildlife Manager (AWM) supervisors. The Law Enforcement Unit has 8 Criminal Investigators (including the Chief and Assistant Chief) that focus on law enforcement administration and special investigations. Additionally, 9 Administrators, 19 Wildlife and Habitat Biologists, and 2 Hatchery Technicians maintain law enforcement commissions and provide assistance to the agency's law enforcement effort. The majority of these "multipurpose" employees do a wide variety of jobs, including law enforcement.

The following table represents the actual expenditures FY 1999 and 2000, and current budget (FY 2001 and 2002), for FTE and operating dollars allocated to law enforcement programs.

### CDOW Law Enforcement Estimated Budget\*:

Fiscal Year	FTE**				Dollars (Personal Services and Operating)			
	FY98-99 Actual	FY99-00 Actual	FY00-01 Budget	FY01-02 Budget	FY98-99 Actual	FY99-00 Actual	FY00-01 Budget	FY01-02 Budget
<b>Law Enforcement Administration</b>	5.52	4.88	3.15	3.13	\$407,042	\$408,042	\$247,950	\$249,092
<b>Field Law Enforcement</b>	31.03	32.90	36.65	36.97	\$2,056,874	\$2,323,613	\$2,390,488	\$2,399,175
<b>Special Investigations</b>	3.63	1.68	2.06	2.06	\$299,940	\$282,467	\$230,622	\$232,800
<b>Planning, Research and Evaluation</b>	0.26	0.10	0.55	0.55	\$20,245	\$19,774	\$45,183	\$45,309
<b>Forensics Services</b>	0.14	0.05	0.30	0.30	\$22,478	\$28,574	\$41,945	\$42,105
<b>Annual Training of Officers</b>	3.69	4.57	2.94	2.86	\$232,384	\$323,026	\$213,460	\$212,344
<b>Basic Academy-Officers</b>	2.79	7.87	1.17	1.17	\$339,424	\$387,712	\$360,786	\$287,229
<b>Total</b>	47.06	52.05	46.82	47.04	\$3,378,387	\$3,773,208	\$3,530,434	\$3,468,054

Note: \*Re-allocations and adjustments may occur after the printing of this paper and are meant to show budget at the time this was written. State budgets are developed on a fiscal year basis and run from July 1 to June 30<sup>th</sup>. The budgeting cycle for the next FY does not end until the end of June in most years. \*\*FTE – Full Time Employee. These figures represent FTE equivalents of time spent by 234 multipurpose employees on law enforcement.

*Budget figures provided by Pat Miks, Budget Analyst for the CDOW.*

## 1991-2000 Wildlife Law Enforcement Violation Summary

The following tables show the actual number of written citations and the percentage of total citations for each year, in 10 major categories of violations. Each of the major categories is further delineated by the actual charges that comprise each of the major categories in the “Colorado Division of Wildlife Violation Report, April 2001”.

<b>VIOLATION CATEGORY</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Total</b>
BIG GAME - (Does not include license violations)	669	551	524	589	392	494	389	385	310	397	<b>4700</b>
CARCASS CARE	93	92	88	123	76	108	85	71	138	70	<b>944</b>
COMMERCIAL USE	5	2	1	17	1	6	1	1	1	0	<b>35</b>
FAIR CHASE	171	141	124	116	80	70	77	29	37	30	<b>875</b>
FISHING - (Does not include	546	651	480	561	432	441	405	461	352	464	<b>4793</b>
LICENSING	2641	3024	2617	2655	2073	2441	1864	2253	2126	2256	<b>23950</b>
OTHER WILDLIFE VIOLATIONS	522	595	676	702	545	592	513	390	498	883	<b>5916</b>
PRIVATE PROPERTY TRESPASS	294	361	397	347	315	331	304	318	281	232	<b>3180</b>
SAFETY	806	782	769	721	581	720	707	668	514	583	<b>6851</b>
SMALL GAME - (Does not include license violations)	818	583	603	502	528	393	430	453	369	434	<b>5113</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6565</b>	<b>6782</b>	<b>6279</b>	<b>6333</b>	<b>5023</b>	<b>5596</b>	<b>4775</b>	<b>5029</b>	<b>4626</b>	<b>5349</b>	<b>56357</b>

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Total</b>
BIG GAME	10.2%	8.1%	8.3%	9.3%	7.8%	8.8%	8.1%	7.7%	6.7%	7.4%	<b>8.3%</b>
CARCASS CARE	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	1.9%	1.5%	1.9%	1.8%	1.4%	3.0%	1.3%	<b>1.7%</b>
COMMERCIAL USE	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	<b>0.1%</b>
FAIR CHASE	2.6%	2.1%	2.0%	1.8%	1.6%	1.3%	1.6%	0.6%	0.8%	0.6%	<b>1.6%</b>
FISHING	8.3%	9.6%	7.6%	8.9%	8.6%	7.9%	8.5%	9.2%	7.6%	8.7%	<b>8.5%</b>
LICENSING	40.2%	44.6%	41.7%	41.9%	41.3%	43.6%	39.0%	44.8%	46.0%	42.2%	<b>42.5%</b>
OTHER WILDLIFE	8.0%	8.8%	10.8%	11.1%	10.9%	10.6%	10.7%	7.8%	10.8%	16.5%	<b>10.5%</b>
PRIVATE PROPERTY	4.5%	5.3%	6.3%	5.5%	6.3%	5.9%	6.4%	6.3%	6.1%	4.3%	<b>5.6%</b>
SAFETY	12.3%	11.5%	12.2%	11.4%	11.6%	12.9%	14.8%	13.3%	11.1%	10.9%	<b>12.2%</b>
SMALL GAME	12.5%	8.6%	9.6%	7.9%	10.5%	7.0%	9.0%	9.0%	8.0%	8.1%	<b>9.1%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### Wildlife Case Narratives

The following is a brief description of some of the wildlife law enforcement cases from 2000. Not all of the cases that deserve special merit have been captured here. Nor has everyone that should be credited with some great individual or team efforts been noted. There simply is not the space available. The intention behind highlighting some of the cases in this report is to capture the essence of the fine work of all our officers, the great cooperation of other law enforcement agencies, and especially the willingness of citizens to make calls that make a difference. (Note: all locations are in Colorado unless otherwise noted.)

An investigation by wildlife officers revealed that one hunter from Arkansas killed two trophy-size bull elk in the Durango area. The hunter had a valid license for one of the elk and was



written by AWM Tony Gurzick for unlawful take of the second 6x6 bull elk and the Sampson surcharge (a surcharge on wildlife citations in addition to the regular fine when a trophy animal is taken) was assessed. This particular hunter was able to pay the fine amount of \$11,370 that day with a personal check.

A man from Lewis was charged with killing two elk beyond his limit of one, which he had already tagged. Unbeknownst to the man, hunters from at least 3 other vehicles witnessed the killing and reported the violation to wildlife officer Rich Lopez. Officer Lopez had cited this same man for safety violations and unlawful take of elk in the past.

Wildlife officers responded to a call of multiple elk being killed near Cahone. An investigation revealed that at least three elk had been killed, with only one being salvaged, a second left in plain sight and a third had been wounded and had run off into the brush before dying. After interviewing multiple witnesses, a local Dolores man was charged with unlawful take of one of the abandoned elk. Of special interest in this case- this same man accidentally discharged the .270 rifle that he used to kill the elk, through the wall of his house while retrieving it from his closet for wildlife officers.

Reports of possible off-road violations by a horseback rider near Lizard Head Pass led to the conviction of two men for baiting of big game. The report, combined with a little persistence paid off when two bow hunters were contacted by wildlife officer Rich Lopez near the bait site about a month later. The two men were picked out of a photo line-up by the witness and subsequently confessed to packing the salt to their tree stand. Bleached elk bones from years past were found near the well-established "salt lick".

A Florida man was charged with unlawful take of 3 bull elk, hunting out of season and two counts of transfer of a license after members of his own hunting party turned him in. An investigation by Wildlife Officer Cary Carron and several other Durango wildlife officers led to three elk, a mule deer and the Florida man's Ford pick-up being seized as evidence. Witness statements from his own campmates, videotape of one of the poaching incidents, and a time to reflect during a short stint in the La Plata county jail all contributed to influence the man to plead guilty to the charges. Fines totaled nearly \$5000 and the man was assessed a total of 85 license suspension points. Information stemming from the investigation also led to three other hunters being cited for violations ranging from transfer of a license to unlawful takes of a mule deer.

In the fall of 1998 a field contact of an individual in Saguache County resulted in two things, a fender bender involving a state truck and suspicions about the driver, a Pennsylvania resident, as a possible unregistered outfitter. In the fall of 1999 Operation Game Thief calls came in reporting numerous wildlife violations by an unregistered outfitter in the Saguache area. The information led to the interviews of several clients of the outfitter. The clients described how they paid for a guided hunt in the San Luis Valley. The outfitter ended up killing a bull elk and wanting the clients to tag it. The elk head was brought out and most of the meat left in the field. Plainclothes surveillance led to the discovery of the elk head and the location of the outfitter. In November 1999 an arrest warrant was issued and the outfitter was arrested as he was returning from a hunt. The outfitter was charged with several counts including illegal sale of wildlife; waste of wildlife; hunting without a license; transfer of a license; and illegal possession of one bull elk. In the spring of 2000 the subject plead guilty and was sentenced to 30 days in the county jail and fined \$3895 dollars. The violator also received a deferred sentence for the felony sale, which included the condition that he not possess hunting firearms, or associate with hunters in camp.

The final saga of the poaching exploits of eight Gunnison men was finally written in the year 2000 with license suspensions being handed down from the Colorado Wildlife Commission. The

leader of the bunch was slapped with a 20-year license suspension and the other 7 each received anywhere from 1-5 year suspensions. The violations, which prompted the suspensions, occurred in 1996, however the crimes were not discovered until 1997, at which time wildlife Officer Paul Jones initiated an investigation. Due to the complexity of the investigation, the men were not convicted until 1999. The violations included the unlawful take of 5 mule deer, 5 elk, one bighorn sheep and the unlawful sale of wildlife. It is estimated that the investigation involved more than 400 hours of local wildlife officer and game warden time from other states time to prosecute these crimes.

After a two year covert investigation a Utah resident was arrested and charged for illegal sale of wildlife-unregistered outfitting, baiting big game, trespass, use of artificial light, shooting from a motor vehicle and hunting in a careless manor. A Colorado undercover officer booked a hunt with the outfitter. Present on the hunt were four other paying clients from out of state. The officer documented the violations that occurred during the five-day hunt. Court disposition is pending.

Wildlife Officers Ron Velarde and Ron Arant contacted two Texas men while patrolling southwest of Grand Junction. Both suspects were riding OHV's, (later found to be stolen) and neither of them were carrying rifles. During what started as a routine contact turned into a law enforcement investigation when one of the wildlife officers noticed blood on a cooler on one of the OHVs. Taken back to their camp, one of the suspects admitted to killing a deer without a license. However, when a wildlife officer confronted the suspects with the cut-off legs of a desert big horn hidden behind their trailer, all present knew that this was just the beginning of an intensive law enforcement effort. Both men were arrested and taken to jail. One of the suspects was fined \$37,008 for the Illegal take of a deer, elk, and desert bighorn, which included the Samson trophy-poaching surcharge. The other suspect did appear for court and a warrant has been issued for his arrest.

Operation Game Thief calls led Monte Vista Wildlife officers to a potato cellar in the Sanford area to investigate reported cases of waste of big game meat. District Wildlife Officer Phil Ehrlich was granted consent to search the cellar. In the cellar were the parts of four deer and three elk. Some of the meat was lying on the ground and was spoiled. The owner of the cellar told the officers an 18-year-old nephew and his friend killed the animals. The two young men were interviewed and after an attempt by the teenagers to blame other people, they told the investigators what they had done.

The teenagers began the 2000-hunting season hunting archery antelope in the wrong unit with a rifle. They then hunted deer and elk near their home of Sanford. The four deer and three elk were killed and hung in the cellar without any licenses attached. The two youths were charged with a total of 12 counts of wildlife violations. Charges included: waste, illegal possession of three or more big game animals, failure to tag, hunting in the wrong unit, and hunting by an unlawful method. In addition two other people were charged for transfer of licenses. After a guilty plea in Conejos County Court, the two teenagers were sentenced to pay over \$16,000 in fines and the judge warned to change their ways. The two will face suspension by the Wildlife Commission for a period of one year to life.

Utilizing radio scanners wildlife officers in the Salida area apprehended seven men in the Leadville area for violations observed during the last elk season. Wildlife Officers Tom Martin and Randy Hancock coordinated the surveillance with Investigator Jay Sarason and Wildlife Officer Charles Blake patrolling in an unmarked truck. The officers witnessed and listened in as the men used motor vehicles to chase and herd elk. The men talked openly on the radios about killing extra animals and using the vehicles to keep the herd of elk from running to the safety of the wooded forest and private land. Three of the seven hunters paid fines with the remainder set for trial. Charges included hunting without a proper and valid license, illegal take of big game and unlawful use of a motor vehicle as an aid in hunting.

In August 2000, a Colorado hunter was scouting the high country for a future hunt when he heard a shot and saw a large trophy buck drop. The witness knew that the rifle season was not open so he made a hasty trip out of the high country to notify Division of Wildlife officers. Officer Tom Martin responded and after a lengthy stakeout, apprehended the shooter. The man claimed to have killed the deer with a bow and arrow but after several trips into the high country to collect evidence for DNA and ballistic testing Officer Martin had sufficient proof to charge the suspect. The suspect, a Lake County resident, was charged for the illegal take of the deer and found guilty in an Eagle County court. He was fined \$11,052 for the killing of the buck. The suspect had killed the deer with a Thompson Contender rifle that he concealed in a daypack. Wildlife Officer Martin recalled that the same man had been charged in previous years for a similar poaching.

A license agent in Pagosa Springs suspected an employee of skimming money from the sale of non-resident big game licenses. The storeowner found out about the shortages after filing his end of year reports to the Division of Wildlife. The license agent was missing approximately 41 big game licenses valued at over ten thousand dollars. Wildlife Officer Mike Reid coordinated with Pagosa Springs Police Chief Don Volger and the store owner to set up a license buy using Colorado wildlife officers posing as out of state hunters. In December of 1999 Wildlife Officer Paul Jones and Investigator Jay Sarason purchased non-resident lion licenses from the suspected employee. Subsequent to that buy the police chief and an investigator from the District Attorney's office interviewed the employee. The agent copies of the licenses and the money were found in the employee's purse. The woman was charged for theft and in the spring of 2000 was convicted and was sentenced to 30 days in jail, a 3 year probation, ordered to under go a mental health evaluation and to pay nearly \$24,000 in restitution and \$1635 in fines and court costs.

A Fremont County judge ordered a Cañon City man to pay \$12,000 in fines for poaching elk. Colorado wildlife officers charged the suspect after learning he used a rifle to hunt at night during archery season. Division of Wildlife investigators heard about the illegal hunting from a tip the Cañon City Police Department received. A Cañon City PD officer was looking for a suspect in a failure to appear in court on a domestic violence case. When the officer entered the suspect's residence, he noticed several trophy deer and elk heads mounted on the walls. The police officer asked the man's s wife about the trophies, and she said some of them were not legal.

Once informed of this, the Division of Wildlife launched an investigation and Wildlife Officer Dean Riggs and Investigator Jay Sarason interviewed several of the suspect's relatives and acquaintances that detailed his poaching activities. A check with other states indicated that New York revoked the man's hunting privileges and he also had hunting violations in Utah and Arizona.

When confronted with the charges, the suspect confessed that he purchased Colorado archery elk licenses, but hunted at night with a rifle. After he shot the elk, he tagged them with the archery licenses and took them to taxidermy shops to have them mounted. Charges against the suspect included illegal possession of elk, failure to comply with provisions of a hunting license, unlawfully taking big game and hunting before legal hours. In addition to the \$12,000 in fines, he had to forfeit the elk mounts and several firearms. He was also assessed 45 points against his hunting and fishing privileges. As a result, he faces a possible lifetime suspension of hunting and fishing privileges in Colorado. Two other Fremont County men received deferred sentences for their involvement in the poaching incidents. These men also face license suspension hearings that could result in the suspension their privileges.

Wildlife Officer George Bock and Investigator Dan Miller were endorsed and appeared as expert witnesses in a murder trial in Grand Junction. This investigation began in 1995 as a staged "hunting accident" resulting in the death of the suspect's husband while he was big game hunting on

the Uncompahgre Plateau. Through investigation by CBI, Mesa County Sheriff's Office, Colorado Division of Wildlife, FBI, and other agencies; District Attorney Frank Daniels filed charges against the suspect and successfully prosecuted her for first-degree murder. The suspect was convicted and sentenced to life in prison. This case was further highlighted as "The Most Dangerous Game" in the February 2001 issue of "Sports Afield" magazine.

In October 2000 Wildlife Officer Jim Haskins received information from Operation Game Thief that a possible wildlife violation that had occurred south of Craig during the first rifle elk season. The information OGT had received was that an individual had killed a six point bull elk, taking only the back straps, one hindquarter, and head. The information included a vehicle description and license plate number of a suspect vehicle. Based on the information provided the suspect was identified as a resident of Newcastle, Virginia. The information also resulted in the discovery of the carcass. As reported, the carcass was of a bull elk with one hindquarter, back straps, and head missing. The carcass had not been otherwise skinned or field dressed and there was no indication that any attempt had been made to salvage any other portions of the carcass. Officer Haskins contacted Conservation Officer Roland Cox of the Virginia Game and Fish Department. Officer Cox was given the identity of the suspect as well as pertinent information regarding the case. Officer Cox went to the suspect's residence where he discovered the head of a six point bull elk hanging in a tree. A subsequent interview with the subject resulted in a confession by the individual of the crime. A Colorado Division of wildlife penalty assessment was sent to Officer Cox in Virginia and was served by him to the suspect. The suspect was charged with the unlawful possession of an elk and the Sampson trophy surcharge. The violator paid fines totaling \$11,370.

Officer Andy Hough began a criminal investigation of a Castle Rock man after the Douglas County Sheriff's Office concluded a search and rescue operation. The suspect and one of his lion hunting clients got caught in a snowstorm and spent the night in the woods. The hunter had been reported missing by his wife and the Sheriff's began the search. Officer Hough heard part of the radio traffic from the Sheriff's Office and took an interest when the suspect's name was used. Hough had been getting information from numerous sources about the suspect's illegal outfitting for lion hunters.

When the two men were rescued, Officer Hough went to the Sheriff's Office to interview the two hunters. The client was more than eager to give Hough a statement about the lion hunt. Based on that statement and interviews of other witnesses Hough was able to obtain a search warrant for the suspect's home. Substantial evidence was seized at the home. Five felony counts of sale of wildlife and illegal possession of wildlife have been filed and the case will go to trial next this year.

Officer Doug Purcell had been receiving numerous reports of wildlife violations last year concerning a group of suspects in the Kittridge area. One caller provided Purcell with enough information, in conjunction with the other reports, to obtain a search warrant for two of the suspect's homes. The Colorado Division of Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office conducted the search.

As a result, one man was charged with nine felony counts of illegal possession of elk, including the Samson trophy-poaching surcharge. He has since plead guilty to two felonies, three illegal elk, and has paid \$23,000 in fines and was sentenced to eighteen months in jail. A second suspect has been charged with four felony counts of forgery, (in relation to false license purchases), three illegal elk, and one count of hunting without a proper and valid license. This suspect's case will go to trial this year.

Wildlife Officer Matt Thorpe completed a lengthy residency case with assistance from other local wildlife officers, Investigator John Demaree, Wyoming Game & Fish, and Colorado Investigator Dan Miller. This case involved many license violations and unlawful take over many

years. During this time frame the subject was also attending school at the University of Wyoming. The subject was claiming to be a resident in both Colorado and Wyoming for hunting and fishing privileges. Wildlife Officer Thorpe and Wyoming Investigator Demaree put the puzzle together with Wyoming determined to be the place where the violations had occurred. The suspect faces fines in excess of \$10,000.

Initial investigation of a Longmont man began in 1999 with the Office of Outfitter Registration (OOR) responding to articles in a Denver newspaper regarding his waterfowl outfitting business and his hunting prowess. Following a spring 1999 covert snow goose hunt in the Las Animas area the OOR investigator approached the CDOW regarding conversations during the hunt and the belief that the illegal outfitter would also outfit for antelope in Wyoming, elk in Colorado and geese in Saskatchewan and Texas. A CDOW investigator and the OOR investigator went on a second covert snow goose hunt with the illegal outfitter in March 2000. This hunt again established illegal outfitting for geese without a license and that the outfitter had been doing it for some time. It also established that he did outfit illegally for geese in Saskatchewan and guided for geese in Texas but that he did not outfit for big game.

A search warrant was served in May 2000 and the illegal outfitter's records pertaining to his outfitting business were seized. His records indicated he had been outfitting illegally in Colorado for at least 10 years and a 1995 application for an outfitter's license showed he had knowledge of the laws. He was charged with two counts of misdemeanor outfitting without a license under Title 12 and one count of hunting waterfowl after hours (1hour, 45 minutes) from the March, 2000 hunt. The illegal outfitter pled guilty to one count of outfitting without a license and received a deferred sentence under a plea agreement. He and his associates had to repay the costs of the investigation (over \$5000) to the CDOW and OOR.

In 1999 Boulder Wildlife Officers Rick Basagoitia and Tina Jungwirth approached Investigator Dal Schaefer regarding an Eldora man's illegal hunting and outfitting activities in the Eldora and Nederland areas. During the archery and muzzle-loading season in September, 1999 investigator Schaefer worked the area covertly but was unable to contact the suspect. As it turned out the suspect was illegally guiding and outfitting clients in the field.

During the regular rifle October deer and elk hunts the illegal outfitter took one client onto Boulder County Open Space property near Nederland. The client, a non-resident from Michigan shot and wounded a bull elk but the illegal outfitter would not let him kill the animal for fear of being discovered. The illegal outfitter took the client's rifle and left him to watch the animal. When the outfitter returned with two of the client's friends (also from Michigan) the wounded elk moved off and was not found until the next morning. Finding that the meat had already spoiled the suspects took just a hindquarter, the back straps and the cape and antlers. The meat was eventually discarded and a mount was made from the cape and antlers.

Employees from the City of Boulder discovered the carcass and Boulder County personnel and Wildlife Officers Basagoitia and Jungwirth began the investigation. They eventually contacted another group of the illegal guide's hunters, (also from Michigan), and found some hair and tissue in the vehicle they had borrowed from the illegal outfitter. It was sent to the Wyoming Game and Fish lab and the DNA from the dead elk was found to match the DNA from the hair and tissue sample thus linking the suspect to the discarded elk found by the City and County of Boulder.

In May 2000 Officer Basagoitia and Investigator Schaefer flew to Michigan and interviewed four hunters in three days covering a span of 1200 miles. Two of the hunters were from the October, 1999 group that killed the elk near Nederland. During an interview conducted by Schaefer one of the men confessed to the crime and was charged with the illegal elk and hunting in a closed area. He paid

over \$1700 in fines and received a Colorado license suspension for two years. A hunter from the second October 1999 hunting party admitted to hunting in a closed area and was also cited. A hunter from the September, 1999 muzzleloader season hunting party, also admitted to wounding an elk on the near Nederland while hunting with the illegal guide and taking just the antlers when they found the carcass two days later. This man was also charged with an illegal elk and hunting in a closed area and paid over \$1700 in fines.

The illegal guide and outfitter was charged with two felony counts of willful destruction of big game, one felony count of sale of big game (outfitter provision), two counts of illegal take of elk and one count of the Samson trophy-poaching provision. The illegal outfitter pled guilty to felony sale of big game and received a two year deferred sentence under a plea agreement. He also pled guilty to two counts of illegal take of elk and was fined per the statutes. He also paid restitution to the Division of Wildlife for the costs of the investigation. This included \$1000 that was paid back to Boulder County for their help in paying for the investigator's trip to Michigan.

In March 1999 Wildlife Officer Rick Spowart, Estes Park, received information from a couple driving the winding road along the North Fork of the Big Thompson River. The couple told Spowart that they observed two men in a pickup truck with a very large set of fresh elk antlers in the back. They gave Spowart a license plate that was eventually traced to a Greeley man.

After several searches of the area the antlerless carcass of a very large bull elk was found above where the pickup had been observed. Several interviews and discussions with the Larimer County District Attorney's Office resulted in charges being filed against the Greeley man and a Denver man. The violator entered a plea of guilty to the willful destruction of wildlife (big game – elk). He received a four year deferred sentence, 200 hours of community service and will contribute \$5000 to the Division of Wildlife. In addition, it was stipulated that he would lose his hunting privileges for up to 20 years as determined by the Wildlife Commission.

Trophy deer, both white tail and mule deer, have historically been fairly common on the eastern plains of Colorado. Limited licenses and proper game management have kept their populations viable for many years. During the past 10-15 years trophy antlers have become very desirable and valuable to a certain segment of society and for the past 10-12 years Division of Wildlife personnel have been noticing a decline in trophy deer, at first gradually then increasingly more rapid in our plains units. Although actively investigating individual cases involving trophy deer since 1987 Investigator Dal Schaefer began pulling together intelligence information into one case file from officers, informants, and the public in 1995.

In 1996 and 1997 Investigator Schaefer began initiating covert operations in the northeast Colorado plains based on the information that that he had collected. In September 2000 the first arrests were made. A man from Sedgwick was arrested and charged with one felony count of unlawful sale of big game, one misdemeanor count of sale of wildlife, hunting on private property without permission, hunting without fluorescent orange, unlawful use of a motor vehicle, and shooting from a public road. Records of his outfitting activities and four firearms out of over 100 firearms were seized during a search of his house.

Also arrested were a man and wife, also from Sedgwick. Both people were charged as Class II felony Special Offenders for having firearms in close proximity to illegal substances and Class IV cultivation of marijuana. The wife was also charged with a Class V felony of possession of more than 8 ounces of marijuana. The husband was also charged with Class IV felony distribution of marijuana. The husband also was charged with Class V felony sale of big game, two counts of illegal possession of deer, hunting in a closed area, two counts of unlawful use of a motor vehicle, hunting

with artificial light, hunting under the influence and possession of a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle.

Three other associates of the husband and wife that were from Limon and Crook were also charged. One man pled guilty to hunting prairie chickens in a closed area and was fined. The other man pled guilty to the illegal take of a deer and was fined. A 25-year-old suspect in Ft. Collins was arrested and charged with felony distribution and possession of marijuana by the Larimer County Joint Task Force on Drugs. Felony arrest warrants are currently being reviewed by the District Attorney's Office for two other individuals associated with the husband and wife in association with their poaching and drug activities.

During the fall of 1999 local Greeley Wildlife Officers Larry Rogstad and Courtney Crawford contacted Investigator Dal Schaefer regarding illegal hunting activities and threats against Colorado wildlife officers. The investigator was unable to initiate an investigation at the time so Rogstad and Crawford again approached him in the fall of 2000. They presented information that the suspects involved were convicted felons, were leasing their property along the South Platte River, were heavily baiting the area with corn for ducks and geese and were threatening neighboring hunters. Our officers and local law enforcement considered both of these men extremely dangerous; (one of the suspects was convicted in 1996 of possession of automatic weapons).

In December the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was asked to assist because of the presence of waterfowl violations. Special Agents Roger Gephart and Leo Suazo immediately set up an almost continuous surveillance on the property and the subjects. They observed both men with firearms in violation of their paroles and observed them placing large amounts of bait to lure waterfowl to the property.

Investigators from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife and Division of Wildlife went to the property to hand out brochures containing the federal laws to ensure the suspects would be aware of the laws. While there they contacted two hunters from Minnesota, three from Denver, and both suspects. After being invited inside suspect's house they observed several firearms. On the basis of a violation of a felon in possession of firearms the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol and Tobacco (AT&F) was brought into the investigation and a search warrant was served that produced eleven firearms and cases of ammunition.

The USF&W and CDOW conducted numerous interviews of hunters, lease's and neighbors. This information is currently being compiled for presentation to a federal grand jury.





## **Wildlife Law Enforcement Challenges**

Illegal activities targeted against Colorado wildlife are crimes that usually have few witnesses. As a consequence, many wildlife violations go undetected and unreported, and are not prosecuted in Colorado. Detecting and deterring wildlife poaching requires public participation, and specialized training and efforts of wildlife officers. Our wildlife resources are rich and diverse and it is through the efforts of an interested and involved public in cooperation with wildlife officers that it remains so. The Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) needs to make every effort to inform the public on these problems so that public can make informed decisions in relation to our efforts and become a part of protecting the state's wildlife resources.

The CDOW needs to ensure that wildlife law enforcement efforts reflect the priorities and needs of the agency and the public it serves. The CDOW needs to ensure that opportunities exist for interactions with the citizens of this state that allow for their participation in determining priorities for our enforcement efforts. Liaison with individuals, special interests, community leaders, and legislators will be a priority for those serving in a law enforcement capacity for this agency. Close working relationships with other local, state, and federal government agencies that have an interest in or impact wildlife enforcement needs will be maintained and developed.

Education about why wildlife law enforcement is an essential public service and why the CDOW is the best agency to provide that service is important. The public should understand the important nexus between enforcement of wildlife laws and wildlife management. Compliance with wildlife law is critical for sound wildlife management. Enforcement of wildlife laws improves compliance with those law and that the objective of changing wildlife violator behavior is key to compliance.

Changing demographics creates conflicts between hunters and anglers recreating in places that have become urbanized and the residents now living in those areas. There is a high demand on law enforcement officers to resolve these conflicts when they do occur. The CDOW needs to educate the public about the need for lawful hunting and angling activities, as well as educate hunters and anglers concerning the sensitivity of some people toward these activities.

The CDOW finds itself having to do more with less. The demand for services is greater than the employee time available to meet that demand. Our wildlife agency has taken on a large number of tasks that include law enforcement, but law enforcement is just one of the important things that employees do for wildlife. Competition for resources and funding decisions is difficult when there is simply not enough resources to fund all the good things the CDOW could do. Law enforcement efforts must be oriented around planning, determining priorities, and once priorities are determined, there must be an agency commitment to meet those priorities through resource allocation.

Wildlife officers are some of the best-trained peace officers in this state. They often work in remote locations, contacting violators without immediate backup. Most of these contacts involve armed suspects who do not wish to be apprehended. The agency also serves in an assisting role whenever local law enforcement agencies call for backup. We need public support for our officers in the often-hazardous endeavor of protecting this state's wildlife resources.

The CDOW continues to face the realities of change, and needs to have the ability to recognize changing trends in the public's expectations for wildlife law enforcement. The public supports our efforts in law enforcement and views it as one of the most important things the agency does. This support comes from a public perception that we are out there protecting their wildlife, even as they go about their daily lives. It is critical that we always maintain this public trust and support.



## **Wildlife Law Enforcement Unit**

### **Vision and Mission**

The Legislative Declaration that provides direction for the Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) as an agency states, *“It is the policy of the state of Colorado that the wildlife and their environment are to be protected, preserved, enhanced and managed for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of the people of this state and its visitors.”* From this state statute, the CDOW developed the mission statement, *“To perpetuate the wildlife resources of the state and provide people the opportunity to enjoy them.”*

The Law Enforcement Unit (LEU) as an organizational unit within the CDOW has developed a vision and mission statement in support of the Legislative Declaration and the CDOW’s mission statement. The LEU vision is, *“The Colorado Division of Wildlife is the best wildlife enforcement agency in the nation”*. The mission of the LEU is, *“The Law Enforcement Unit will provide proactive leadership to ensure that the Colorado Division of Wildlife enforcement effort serves the public interest by protecting the wildlife resource in a professional and responsible manner”*.

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

As determined by our vision and mission, the LEU’s role within the CDOW is to:

- 1) Act as proponents for outstanding wildlife law enforcement efforts.
- 2) Investigate complex and commercial wildlife violations.
- 3) Support field law enforcement by uniformed officers.
- 4) Plan and evaluate wildlife law enforcement efforts.
- 5) Provide liaison and contact with the Department of Natural Resources; legislators; other CDOW staff; and other federal, state, and local agencies concerning issues relating to wildlife law enforcement.
- 6) Administer law enforcement records, files, etc.
- 7) Provide law enforcement information systems.
- 8) Provide educational programs on wildlife protection to youth, community groups, and other law enforcement agencies.

### **Description**

As the oldest continuing section in the CDOW, the LEU provides the leadership and guidance that directs the agency’s law enforcement efforts. CDOW law enforcement efforts are an essential public service as mandated by statute and public demand.

While small in size, the LEU is often the focal point for calls requesting information on statutes and regulations by not only our license buyers and employees, but also students, concerned citizens and other local, county, state, provincial, and federal governmental agencies. The Denver LEU office handles approximately 15,000 phone calls per year.

Currently staffed with ten employees, the LEU provides assistance on wildlife enforcement issues on a statewide, national and international basis. The Denver office is staffed with the Chief, Assistant Chief, and two Administrative Assistants. Five Investigators are assigned to service centers in Denver, Ft. Collins, Montrose, Steamboat Springs and Monte Vista. Each of these investigators is responsible for special investigations for about 20% of the state and serves as the primary contact for

four or more CDOW Areas in addition to their primary responsibilities for special investigations, officer training support and firearms maintenance. One other investigator has special emphasis on investigative systems and processes and is located in Montrose

The LEU provides staff support for legislative issues relating to law enforcement and development and testimony on new statutory law. The unit makes recommendations to staff and field personnel on law enforcement issues. Unit members also serve on various local, state and international wildlife enforcement boards. The LEU presents educational and informational programs on the agency's enforcement effort.

The LEU is responsible for coordinating all special investigations within Colorado with the emphasis on wildlife violations of a commercial nature, where wildlife is taken for profit or other gain. Recent investigations have concentrated on unregistered outfitters involved with the illegal take of big game, license fraud and other wildlife and criminal violations. The LEU reciprocates by providing officers for investigations in other states and provinces. Over the past few years, CDOW has worked cooperative investigations and provided technical assistance to wildlife enforcement with the states of Alaska, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Kansas, Montana, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, Wyoming, and Canadian wildlife agencies in the provinces of Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario, and the Northwest Territories, and the countries of Italy and Australia.

The LEU works with the county sheriffs and local police departments. The unit also works closely with the Colorado Office of Outfitter Registration, Colorado Department of Revenue and other state agencies as needed. The LEU has also worked with the Canadian Wildlife Service and the following federal agencies: Fish & Wildlife Service; Forest Service; Bureau of Land Management; Drug Enforcement Administration, Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms; Internal Revenue Service; Post Office; National Park Service; and the National Marine Fisheries.

The LEU is responsible for developing and maintaining data base files on all citations issued during the year and adding the information to the historical database going back to 1986. Over 65,000 records are currently available. The number of citations averages 5,500 per year. The LEU also tracks and disburses various documents needed by field officers such as citations, violation warning notices, and duplicate carcass tags and licenses.

The LEU also serves as the coordination point between the Division and the Operation Game Thief (OGT) program, a not-for-profit corporation that has been in place since September, 1981 and which pays rewards for information leading to the issuance of a citation for wildlife violations. Currently about 20% of calls coming into our offices result in citations being issued. Rewards can range from \$100 to \$1000 depending on the severity of the violation and average about \$250. The reward fund is based on OGT fund raising efforts and sale of OGT related items.

The LEU also serves as a contact and liaison with various private outdoor and commercial wildlife industries including the Colorado Bowhunters Association, Colorado Outfitters Association, Colorado Wildlife Federation, Trout Unlimited, United Sportsmen Council, Colorado Sportsman Wildlife Fund and other groups on law enforcement related questions.

Critical administrative functions of the unit include the collection of law enforcement data, criminal records accounting, and maintenance of Colorado Crime Information Center (CCIC) and National Crime Information Center (NCIC) contacts and terminals. Other administrative activities include administration of the Wildlife Violator Compact agreements.

The LEU writes law enforcement plans, establishes goals and desired outcomes in reference to enforcement efforts, and establishes performance indicators to measure enforcement efforts. The LEU provides law enforcement staff input into management of agency programs, and provides support for the administration of the law enforcement effort within the agency. The unit also

develops proactive approaches to wildlife law enforcement and evaluates and implements innovative new methods in relation to wildlife law enforcement.

The unit provides law enforcement training to wildlife officers as well as to other agencies such as sheriff's office deputies and district attorney's office in relation to wildlife law enforcement. The LEU also acts as a liaison with these offices as well as other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The unit produces bulletins, guidance and interpretation of law, and reports concerning wildlife law enforcement. The unit also responds to legislative actions and requests, and provides answers and contacts for the public in relation to statewide programs and questions.

Current priorities of the LEU include outreach and liaison with various groups, special interests, legislators, and other decision-makers. As a part of this effort the LEU conducts periodic surveys, one of which was recently completed by Responsive Management (2000) that was designed to assess customer satisfactions, expectations, and needs concerning CDOW law enforcement efforts.

Several processes require that the LEU provide guidance to the agency in relation to law enforcement. For example, evaluation and revision of the agency's law enforcement procedures to reflect organizational change in structure and function from a recent management review process will be accomplished to reflect current structure and function. Also, changing interpretations of law by state and federal courts, as well as review by the Colorado Attorney's General Office, require an ongoing review of policies to ensure appropriate law enforcement guidance and direction is provided to our wildlife law enforcement officers.

Coordination, cooperation, and integration of law enforcement perspectives in the development of regulations and other agency functions by various units within the agency is high priority for the LEU. Currently, efforts are underway to develop statewide law enforcement performance indicators and measures so that we can more accurately assess and report our law enforcement efforts to the public we serve. An orientation toward openness to change and continued improvement in performance is a primary goal of the LEU.

## Operation Game Thief



*Written by Glenn Smith, Criminal Investigator, and Operation Game Thief Coordinator.*

Over 15 years ago I wrote an article for Colorado Outdoors based around the premise that, while human victims of crime could call and report crimes against them, wildlife victims of crime could not. Human victims can call 911, Crime Stoppers or any local law enforcement agency to report crimes against them or crimes they observe against others. But when a deer or elk is poached in the dark of night in the middle of nowhere, which will call to report that crime?

At the time I wrote the article, Operation Game Thief (OGT) was still a fledgling program in Colorado and the US and was still trying to get off the ground. Being new, not many people knew about OGT, so calls were not as numerous as they are now. Through aggressive advertising, more states adopting similar programs and the increased use of cell phones, not only are the calls more numerous, but more cases are being made each year. Now, while wildlife still cannot report crimes themselves, they have the help of thousands of concerned people all over North America and the poacher can never be sure WHO may be watching and ready to make that call.

OGT takes its roots from Crime Stoppers, the very successful program used all over the US where we can call and report violations anonymously and receive a reward, if we so choose. The state of New Mexico was the first state to implement an OGT program and Colorado, recognizing a good thing when it saw it, soon followed suit. OGT began in Colorado in 1981 with Assistant Chief of Law Enforcement Dave Croonquist piloting the program, until his recent retirement. Dave's interest in wildlife law enforcement, along with his deep sense of responsibility to wildlife conservation and very capable administrative qualities, soon made Colorado's program one of the best in the US. He and other state administrators who had similar programs soon convinced most of the remaining states to implement OGT. Presently, 49 of the 50 states now have such a program, as well as most of the Canadian Provinces. Additionally, there is now a national organization dedicated to improving and promoting OGT across North America. That organization is the International Association of Natural Resources Crimestoppers (IANRC). It is composed of almost 40 states and provincial wildlife agencies, with more agencies joining each year. Dave was very instrumental in not only starting IANRC but also serving as Secretary/Treasurer and encouraging other agencies to join.

OGT is a registered not-for-profit corporation in the state of Colorado. All donations to the reward account are tax deductible by the contributor. The reward fund is used to pay rewards and any other OGT-related expenses that will benefit the program. Many individuals and organizations have donated thousands of dollars to the fund, which is administered by the DOW OGT program administrator. With Dave Croonquist retiring in 2000, I assumed his OGT responsibilities for the

Division. Little did I know what I was getting into. From the outside looking in, it did not seem like a program that would take too much time. Like the young pup who thinks he can find and retrieve quail or pheasants as well as the seasoned dog, I soon found out different. Luckily for me, Dave was around for almost a year for me to look to when I couldn't "find the birds," and I sure needed the help.

A civilian board comprised of five person's runs OGT. The board meets once a year to review the OGT operations. These five people donate their time to the board and are quite dedicated to its success. I will do a short piece on each of the board members for further issues of the PAW magazine, but for now I would just like to introduce them to you and recognize them for their contributions. They are: Gerhart (Casey) Stengel of Hotchkiss, CO; Jon Staples of Montrose, CO; Richard Hess of Collbran, CO, Bruce McDowell of Longmont, CO and Pat Carlow of Grand Junction, CO. They do a great job and help keep me on the right track. If you ever run into any of them, please take the time to thank them for their service to Colorado's wildlife resources.

There is another group of OGT folks that help me out a lot. They are the OGT volunteers. When OGT was run out of the law enforcement office in Denver, there were a number of people to take the calls and run the program. When I assumed the helm, it was moved to Montrose and it was just I doing everything. I quickly learned that I needed help. I enlisted the help of Colorado's volunteer program and now have five very qualified volunteers who help answer OGT calls, especially during the busy big game season. One of them is Jon Staples, who is also an OGT board member. The others are Ken Wagner, Gus Tranello, Jim Emerson, and Bob Dawirs, all from the Montrose area. They have been helping out for two years now and they do an outstanding job taking calls and making sure that it gets to the right DWM as fast as possible. Thanks guys.

So just how is OGT run? Presently there is just one phone number for persons to call statewide. That number is [1-800-332-4155](tel:1-800-332-4155). A shortcut for Verizon cell phone users for the same number is [#OGT](https://www.facebook.com/OGT). Up until last month there was a number for the Denver area, but now Denver area people can use the 1-800 number. There is also an email address, which is, [game.thief@state.co.us](mailto:game.thief@state.co.us). I receive both the calls and email messages in Montrose. The volunteers and I field the calls and messages year around from Montrose. While the idea behind OGT is for the calls to be related to wildlife violations, many of them turn out to be people wanting general Division information. Those people are referred to the information line in Denver, unless we can answer their question quickly.

Actual violation information is written on an OGT report form based on the caller's details. First of all, we need to make sure there is actually a violation. Sometimes people think they have observed or heard of a violation but in fact, what they saw was not a violation. In that case it becomes a matter of explaining the law to them. Sometimes a caller may have information that is more intelligence in nature rather than a violation that has occurred. In that case, we send that information to the appropriate officer for their future use.

The calls that are actual violations are recorded and we then try to contact the responsible officer as soon as possible. That could be by cell phone, email, home phone, Division office phone, or local Sheriff or CSP dispatch. As I mentioned earlier, the cell phone has greatly enhanced the "long arm of the law" in respect to reducing the time that someone observes and calls in a violation and getting an officer to respond to that caller. People are seeing violations in the field and while driving and they are calling as the crimes are in progress. Many times we are able to get an officer to the caller within 30minutes to an hour or sooner. With only about 122 DWM's to cover the entire state of Colorado, that is very good response time. Admittedly that does not happen all the time but it is happening more and more.

So what is in it for the caller? The OGT program is set up to make available rewards to people who call a wildlife violation to OGT. The reward amounts are \$250 for information leading to the issuance of citations for illegal possession of big game and endangered species and \$100 for all other wildlife violations. The rewards can be increased up to \$1000 for aggravated violations if the OGT board agrees to do so. The reward is not contingent on whether or not the violator is found guilty or not, just if the officer feels he has enough probable cause to issue the citation. And in most cases where the officer issues a citation, the violator either pays the fine or is found guilty in court.

Do all callers ask for the reward? No in fact, many do not. Many callers are just interested in getting the violator caught, not a reward. Some callers who do ask for the reward donate it to another conservation group. In the future, I hope to be able to offer callers who are not interested in the reward something of lesser value, like an OGT print. The OGT print is a concept that some states use successfully as a fund-raiser and as a reward. I will be looking into that concept in 2001.

Does a caller have to reveal their identity? By all means, NO. The concept of the OGT program, like Crimestoppers, is that the caller can remain anonymous. Assigning the caller a series of identifiers known only to the caller and the person answering the call does that. That way, if someone calls in to try to find out who did report the violation, unless they know the identifiers, we will not divulge any of the information. It has been my experience that about one-half of the callers want to remain anonymous and the other half doesn't. Sometimes trying to successfully prosecute violations where the caller remains anonymous is more difficult than the other way around. But all in all, about 25% of the calls received are successfully prosecuted. In 1999, OGT handled about 400 calls. Out of that 400 calls, about 100 cases were made, constituting over \$16,000 in fines. About 20% of the 100 cases requested rewards which resulted in about \$4650 in rewards being paid. The total donations made to OGT in 1999 were \$28,849. The figures for 2001 are in the process of being computed now and will come out in the 2001 DOW law enforcement annual report, which will be posted on the DOW web site.

The DOW web site, [www.wildlife.state.co.us](http://www.wildlife.state.co.us), has a link to an OGT site that has much more information about OGT, in addition to more information about the Division. I encourage anyone who has access to a computer to go to that site for additional information about OGT and the DOW. It is an excellent site. The 1999 law enforcement annual report is listed as well as DOW statutes and regulations.

How can you help stop poaching? If you see someone violating what you believe to be a wildlife law, please call the OGT line- [1-800-332-4155](tel:1-800-332-4155) or [#OGT](https://twitter.com/OGT) as soon as possible. Or, send a message to the OGT email address- [game.thief@state.co.us](mailto:game.thief@state.co.us). Poaching is a crime against you, your neighbors, the citizens of Colorado and even the citizens of the United States. Poachers rob you and me of a valuable resource, one that is getting scarcer and scarcer every day. We as responsible hunters or wildlife enthusiasts should take a solid stance against others who make us look bad. OGT is a way to do that.

One of the cases we handled this past year involved a person who observed two men illegally kill two bull elk on a golf course in Colorado. The person called me and the local DWM was able to get to the scene and arrest the persons responsible and salvage the two bulls. The caller did ask for the reward, which I paid. During my discussion with the caller, I learned that hunting and particularly, this incident put off her daughters. I explained that the reason we could pay a reward was due to "responsible" hunters who were likewise repulsed by such illegal activity. That seemed to make some sense to her. In one of the very few thank you letters I have received from folks who have received rewards, she told me that the reward money was used for her daughter's college fund and that her daughters now had a little less slanted view of responsible hunters. Please take a page from



this lady's book and take a stance. Poaching is a crime and we are all the victims. In the past the odds have been with the poachers. But we are reducing those odds every day.

*Make The Call & Make A Difference*

## Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact (IWVC)

Prior to 1989, the only way a non-resident could take care of a DOW penalty assessment was to pay it on the spot or post bond. Posting bond sometimes was a timely process, especially if the DWM was horseback in the high country or miles off the beaten track in their truck. Thanks to the successful passage of legislation in 1989, the IWVC was born in Colorado, Nevada and Oregon, with ten other states following suit in the past 12 years. The other states are Arizona, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, Missouri, Maryland and Indiana. Now, an officer in one of the compact states can issue a penalty assessment/citation to a non-resident from one of the other compact states. This allows the non-resident to pay it within the same time limit as a resident, instead of taking them to post bond if they did not or could not pay on the spot.

If the non-resident thinks that once they get back to their home state they are home free, they are wrong. The compact allows for the home state to suspend that person if they do not pay the fine.

Another great aspect of the IWVC is that when a person has been suspended in one of the compact states through the legal process where the violation(s) occurred, the suspension is recognized by all of the member states. So, if a violator is suspended, say in Missouri, that person is likewise suspended in all of the compact states.

So how does the record-keeping process work? The state of Utah graciously agreed to run the IWVC database. The investigator out of Cedar City, Utah, Doug Messerly, administers the IWVC database. Each member state is wired directly to the IWVC database and enters their individual suspension information. The states can access that information whenever necessary to check on an individual and Utah sends out quarterly updates on what each state has entered. In Colorado, Pam Pope, out of the Montrose Service Center, does all of the IWVC data entry once she receives updated suspension from the Hearings Officer Brad Frano.

Utah sends in quarterly updates, they are then sent to each of the Colorado investigators for their use. They only have access to those files, not the actual database. So, if someone in law enforcement would like to check in the actual IWVC database, they can call a Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) investigator.

Future steps include the ability of the CDOW's limited license section to integrate the IWVC database into their system. That way any person applying for a limited license would be excluded if their name were on the IWVC database (after a validation call to the suspension state to insure that person is still on suspension). There are still some kinks to work out in that process, so it may not be until 2002 before that will actually take place. Eventually, when we get to point of sale license purchase, the IWVC will be integrated with CORIS and over the counter license purchases would be affected too.

Representatives from each compact state try to meet once-a-year to iron out problems that occur. In the meeting last September, the representatives made the following changes:

- Regarding Juveniles: It was decided that people who are less than 18 years of age on the date of conviction will not be maintained or distributed with the IWVC revocation/suspension list.
- Regarding Revokees on Appeal: It was decided NOT to enter the name of people who have been suspended/revoked until the revocation process is finalized and the procedural appeal period has expired in the suspension state. (In Colorado, that means once the Wildlife Commission agrees with the hearing examiner's recommendation, the suspension is in effect, unless the revokee notifies the Commission that they will appeal their decision.)

- Regarding New Member States: It was decided that new states could only submit the names of people who had been revoked/suspended AFTER the date that the state formally joined the compact.

As of 9/8/2000, the IWVC database had a total of 944 records, 255 of which were from Colorado. Approximately 100 additional records for Colorado have been entered since then and another 30-40 are waiting to be entered now. Arizona had the most with 321 and Idaho had the fewest with 10.

The count by home state of violator showed 39 states and 2 foreign countries (Italy and Mexico). Again the highest state was Arizona with 297, followed by Utah with 192 and then Colorado with 151. Other states of interest were California- 37, Wyoming- 37, Minnesota- 21, Missouri- 25, Montana- 47, Texas- 13 and Pennsylvania- 10.

Hopefully more states will see the benefits of this compact and pass the necessary legislation that would enable them to join the compact. Anyone wanting additional information concerning the process of legislative passage of the IWVC please call Glenn Smith at (970) 252-6014 or contact the IWVC Chairperson, Rob Buonamici, Nevada Division of Wildlife at P.O. Box 106788, Reno, NV 89520.

*Report provided by Glenn Smith, Criminal Investigator II.*

## **The Job of a Wildlife Law Enforcement Officer**

Perhaps the most frequent and best known activity of a wildlife officer is that of contacting our customers. Hunters, anglers, and other wildlife recreationalists traditionally enjoy being contacted by the local wildlife officer. Who better to talk to about hunting, fishing, and other forms of wildlife recreation than the local expert on wildlife in the area? Law abiding citizens also expect and deserve enforcement of laws concerning licensing, manner of take, and bag limits. After all, it is the law, which allows for the fair and equitable distribution of opportunity and it is the wildlife officer who ensures that these laws are followed.

Wildlife officers respond to violations and other complaints concerning wildlife. Wildlife officers receive calls at all hours of the day and night from citizens who wish to report wildlife violations. People can call the local Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) office during normal working hours. After hours, calls can be dispatched through the Colorado State Patrol dispatch centers, sheriff's offices, or made to Operation Game Thief phone system.

Wildlife officers also perform planned law enforcement activities. They are active day and night protecting wildlife through patrols, aerial operations, decoys, and check stations. Investigations into wildlife violations (known or suspected) are also performed in response to information provided by the public, computer research, and information received from other law enforcement agencies.

Certain violations require specialized investigations. These include investigating complaints against illegal outfitters, commercial violations, environmental violations, and poisoning cases. Wildlife officers are also responsible for inspecting commercial and private parks and lakes, as well as falconry facilities when application is made for these types of specialized licenses.

Wildlife officers meet and exceed the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) certification requirements for peace officer certification in the state of Colorado. These officers have the authority to write affidavits and serve search and arrest warrants. They are fully trained in protecting the rights of citizens, processing evidence, investigating criminal cases, and testifying in court. Assisting other officers as the need arises and providing backup for local police and sheriff's officers is a critical need in the law enforcement community. Each wildlife officer is also commissioned as a Deputy Game Warden for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and works closely with federal officers on violations concerning joint jurisdictions.

In Colorado our wildlife officers are known as "multipurpose" employees and serve their communities in many ways other than as an enforcement officer. Wildlife officers manage state wildlife areas, provide wildlife education programs to schools, comment as biologists on land use in local county planning arenas, provide guidance on land and water reclamation efforts, respond to calls concerning wildlife-people conflicts, and manage wildlife populations. The list goes on. In Colorado, wildlife officers are involved in almost every aspect of wildlife management and have provided an essential public service to their communities and the wildlife resource for over 100 years.

## **Selection and Training of Wildlife Law Enforcement Officers**

Although there are a number of similarities and activities in common with other types of law enforcement, natural resource law enforcement has significant differences and requirements. In response to these differences and requirements a natural resource officer is selected and trained differently than what is expected of other law enforcement officers.

The goal of most law enforcement agencies is to hire an officer who has an interest in providing public safety through protecting people from people. A police department serves as a force in society to ensure compliance with laws. In contrast, natural resource officers are hired with an interest in serving as a liaison between the public and the resource. The natural resource officer's goal is to protect community, public property, such as wildlife, from abuses by individuals within the community.

In order to apply for a District Wildlife Manager (DWM) position with the Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW), an applicant must have a baccalaureate degree or higher in wildlife biology, fishery biology, natural resource management, or some closely related field. An applicant may also qualify for the examination process by substituting years of experience for the degree. The science based degree requirement eliminates many individuals who are predisposed to becoming single purpose law enforcement officers.

To assist in selecting candidates who possess strong biological, communication, and interpersonal skills, the CDOW uses a multiphase assessment center to screen potential applicants for the DWM position. This testing process assesses an applicant's skills in these areas, rather than testing for an applicant's knowledge in law enforcement. During the first phase of the hiring process, with the exception of a law enforcement job suitability assessment and psychological evaluations, the assessment center does not evaluate an applicant's knowledge of law enforcement techniques. It is the desire of the CDOW to hire applicants with a strong biological background, outstanding communication abilities, excellent interpersonal skills, and a willingness to learn and perform a customer service approach to effecting law enforcement.

Once hired, the DWM attends a basic Colorado Peace Officer Standard Training (POST) certified police-training academy that is required of other Colorado law enforcement officers. The 650-hour curriculum includes courses in administration of justice, basic law, community interaction, patrol procedures, traffic enforcement, investigative procedures, communications, and all subjects mandated by the POST Board for all police officers in Colorado.

Upon successful completion of the basic POST academy and certification as a Colorado Peace Officer, DWMs receive a significant amount of additional training in the CDOW Academy prior to being assigned to a CDOW district. Those courses include an additional 150 hours in customer service, community relations, officer and violator relationships, ethics, conflict management, etc. New wildlife officers also receive a considerable number of hours in law enforcement training specific to resource enforcement. Upon completion of these courses, new DWMs must complete approximately 400 hours of on-the-job training with veteran wildlife managers. DWMs who successfully complete the Field Training Officer (FTO) program then return to the classroom for a myriad of biological course work. During their training in the CDOW Academy new officers are trained in the manner in which they are to perform the law enforcement part of their job in relation to customer service.

Officers are reminded of the federal statistics that show a natural resource officer has nine times the chance of getting killed or injured in the line of duty than other law enforcement officers. With the inherent risk of being a natural resource officer, DWMs are encouraged to resolve conflicts

using their interpersonal skills rather than resorting to using force. This emphasis in conflict resolution has been beneficial to the agency. To date, no CDOW officer has ever been accused of using excessive force or resorting to the use of deadly force to effect an arrest for a wildlife-related crime.

From the time a new DWM starts employment until the date of district assignment, the officer has received ten months of intensive training. However, this intensive training does not come to an end once an officer is assigned to a CDOW district.

Every CDOW commissioned officer is required to attend about 40 hours of in-service training annually. This training includes firearms, arrest control and baton practices and proficiency qualifications, first aid and/or CPR, physical fitness certification as required and legal updates. In addition to the law enforcement courses required for every CDOW commissioned officer, all CDOW employees receive on-going training as required in customer service, supervisory training, policies and procedures, performance management and any other course deemed necessary by the CDOW Leadership Team or section and region managers.

*NOTE: Adapted from materials provided by Gary Berlin, Human Resource Manager for the Colorado Division of Wildlife.*

## History of Wildlife Law Enforcement in Colorado

Colorado citizens have a history of caring about their wildlife. The Colorado Territorial Assembly provided for the protection of the wildlife resource prior to Colorado becoming a state in 1876. The first law concerning wildlife was passed in 1861 and stated, “*it is unlawful to take trout by seine, net, basket or trap*”.

This continued interest and concern resulted in the passage of several laws such as the Preserve Game Act, The Fish Law of 1870, The Game Law of 1870, and The Fish Propagation Act. These laws provided for protection of fish, small game, waterfowl, big game and other wildlife, such as woodpeckers, orioles, swallows and larks. Activities associated with illegal buying, selling, trapping, snaring, killing and possession of wildlife were addressed prior to Colorado becoming a state. Fines ranged from \$5 to \$300, and in some cases, included jail time until the fine was paid. Fines were split in various ways between the citizens who reported violations, schools, and counties.

In 1876 the First State Legislature convened and in its “General Laws” provided for the protection of trout through fines and imprisonment for violations. The state’s first attempt at providing for wildlife protection was in the form of a “Fish Commissioner” who was hired to protect that resource through scientific management and production, as well as protection.

In 1881 the Fish Commissioner was granted the power to appoint deputy commissioners to enforce fish laws, but could not pay them. Although fourteen such deputy commissioners were appointed in 1882, and they did collect \$123 in fines, it was evident that the wildlife resource continued to be at risk from lack of enforcement of the laws. In 1891, the Fish Commissioner became the State Game and Fish Warden and was given the authority to appoint four district game and fish wardens with two deputies each. These were paid positions and wildlife enforcement as a profession in Colorado had begun. By 1894 there were three salaried deputy wardens and the results were evident as reported in the 1893-95 biennial report to the Colorado Governor; “*Investigation of 285 reported violations; arrest of 104 persons, 78 convictions. Fines of from \$250 to \$300 and in some cases imprisonment with one term of 90 days.*” By 1900, there were five district game and fish wardens.

Colorado’s citizens continued their interest in protecting their resource into the 1900s through licensing and fine structures. The following tables compare what license fees and fines were passed by the Colorado Legislature 1903 and what they are today:

Licenses:	1903	2000
Nonresident general hunting	\$25	\$40
Nonresident, 1 day bird hunting	\$2	\$5
Resident hunting	\$1	\$10
Guide license**	\$5	\$1000
Taxidermy	\$25	None
Importer’s license	\$50	\$50

\*License types from 1903 legislation matched as closely as possible with wider variety of license types today. \*\*Office of Outfitter Registration is the licensing agency for this type of license.

Fines*:	1903	2000
Elk	\$200	\$1000

Deer	\$50	\$700
Antelope	\$100	\$700
Mountain sheep	\$200	\$1000
Buffalo	\$1000	Private
Beaver	\$25	\$50
Birds	\$10	\$50
Fish	\$1	\$35

\*Fines as established in 1903 as compared to illegal possession fines in 2000, which also does not include 37% charge assessed against all penalty assessments today.

By 1903, the proud tradition of what it takes to be a wildlife law enforcement officer had begun. The state was large, poachers were tough, and the cadre of officers too small. To be a warden, then as today, took someone that had a strong commitment to the resource, had the courage to pursue poachers through all kinds of weather and terrain, and could work alone through all of it. In a 1913-1914 biennial report to the Governor, a warden was described as someone who, *“must have tact, know trial and court procedure, how to handle men, ride and drive horses, and have a strong physical constitution; men who take no cognizance of the time of day or night or weather conditions.”*

The tenacity, strength of character, and willingness to go beyond what is required describes the men and women of today’s wildlife agency just as accurately. The type of person who pursues a career in wildlife law enforcement probably has not changed, however the challenges certainly have. The game warden at the turn of the century would probably have difficulty recognizing the Colorado we live in today with its four million residents, four-wheel drive trucks, all terrain vehicles, global positioning systems, and all the other advancements and challenges a wildlife officer faces today.

*(NOTE: The background source for this introduction to the history of wildlife law enforcement comes from “Colorado’s Wildlife Story”, written by Pete Barrows and Judith Holmes published in 1990. It is available from the Colorado Division of Wildlife and is critical to understanding the development of wildlife management in Colorado.)*



## Youth Hunting & Fishing Programs Summary

This report is a first attempt at providing a summary of the State statutes, Wildlife Commission regulations and Division of Wildlife programs that promote youth hunting and angling participation. This report is complimentary to the Conservation Outreach Summary submitted earlier to the Wildlife Commission.

The Colorado Division of Wildlife uses a variety of strategies to promote or enhance angling and hunting opportunities and skills for youths and/or novices. Those strategies fall into one of two broad categories.

1. **Statutes and regulations.** State statutes authorize youth and/or novice hunting and angling opportunities and give the Wildlife Commission broad authority to create, through regulation, youth and/or novice hunting and angling opportunities.
2. **Programs.** The Division of Wildlife has a variety of programs throughout the agency that are specifically designed to promote or enhance youth and/or novice hunting and angling opportunities. Hunting and angling skill development through Division of Wildlife programs is an important participant retention strategy. Having adequate skills increases hunter and angler satisfaction. Some programs although not specifically designed as a youth hunting or angling program to create additional opportunities indirectly.

### Statutes & Regulations

**33-6-107 uses a variety of licensing provisions to increase or enhance hunting and angling opportunities.** These statutes allow anglers under the age of sixteen to fish without a license and hunters lowered the minimum age to hunt big game from 14 to 12 years of age. Most importantly for hunter recruitment, these statutes strengthen the mentor/youth hunting relationship and ensure a safe hunting experience by supporting the hunter education requirement

H.B. 1098 and Youth Hunting Opportunities!

**The new landowner program created by 33-4-103(3) creates new opportunities for youth hunting in Colorado. First, under the new program, successful landowners may receive up to 6 vouchers (depending on the size of the property). Landowners may assign vouchers to any eligible hunter before the first day of the respective hunting season. This flexibility, along with the increase in the number of potential licenses (two under the old system versus up to six under the new system) should create additional youth hunting opportunities. The Division will inform landowners about the potential opportunities under the new program and encourage them to assign vouchers to youths that would otherwise not be able to draw a license.**

Second, the new statute provides that any license not drawn in the first landowner draw (up to 15%) will be made available to eligible landowners. In most units, the female segment of the 15% is under-subscribed. These additional vouchers are available to landowners that participated in the first draw. Vouchers drawn through the 'leftover landowner draw' will be IN ADDITION to the vouchers received through the first draw. Landowners can also assign these vouchers for female licenses to youth hunters. Again, the Division will educate and inform landowners of these opportunities as well as the role hunting female animals can play in managing game populations on their property.

**33-4-117 created low cost youth hunting and combination licenses and strengthened the mentor and hunter education requirements.** Youths may purchase a small game hunting/fishing combination license for one dollar upon showing a hunter education certificate. Youth hunters must be accompanied by a mentor and may keep the full bag and possession limits of fish. Resident

youths may purchase deer, elk, or antelope licenses, for ten dollars. Nonresident youths may purchase deer, elk, or antelope licenses, for one hundred dollars.

**This statute also gave the wildlife commission the authority to establish special licensing programs for youth hunters.** With that authority, the Wildlife Commission created regulations promoting youth/mentor-hunting opportunities.

**Big game:**

- **WCR #206** makes it easier for youths to draw doe antelope, antlerless and either sex deer and elk licenses. The regulation created a “youth preference” for up to 15 percent of the number of doe antelope licenses, either-sex deer licenses and antlerless deer and elk licenses established for each GMU.
- **WCR #207** allows youths with unfilled antlerless elk licenses to hunt in any late or Private Land Only antlerless elk hunt scheduled between November 16 and January 31.

**Waterfowl:**

- **WCR 510.5** created special youth waterfowl hunting days in the Central and Pacific Flyways.

**33-1-106 gives the wildlife commission the authority to regulate taking, possession, and use of wildlife.** Specifically, it allows the wildlife commission to create free fishing days to promote family and youth angling participation.

**33-1-107 gives the wildlife commission the authority to regulate areas under its control, i.e., State Wildlife Areas and State Trust Lands.** This statute allowed the wildlife commission to authorize ten State properties as youth/mentor hunting areas.

Wildlife Commission Regulations specific to State Wildlife Areas are in **WCR #901.**

**Properties set aside for youth/mentor hunting include:**

- **Escalante State Wildlife Area, Lower Roubideau Tract** - Mesa, Delta & Montrose Counties
- **Flagler Reservoir State Wildlife Area** - Kit Carson County.
- **Horse Thief Canyon State Wildlife Area** - Mesa County
- **Melon Valley** – Otero County
- **Sand Draw State Wildlife Area** - Sedgwick County
- **White Horse State Wildlife Area** - Adams County

**Regulations specific to State Trust Lands are in WCR #902 - Properties set aside for youth/mentor hunting include:**

- **Atwood** - Logan County
- **Coal Bank Gulch** - Routt County
- **Fly Gulch** - Routt County
- **Oxbow** - Moffat County

Between the SWA’s and STL’s the Division of Wildlife has over 4,000 acres designated for youth/mentor hunting.

## Programs

The Division of Wildlife has a variety of Division-wide programs that promote or enhance youth and/or novice hunting and angling opportunities. We use two types of programming, some standardized, other with more flexibility to meet the needs, resources and/or interests of local communities.

**General wildlife education programs** including Project WILD, WIN-WIN and classroom visits by Division employees support the strong conservation messages that hunting and fishing are traditional and legitimate wildlife-related activities and pay for most wildlife management in Colorado. Further, that hunting is an important wildlife management tool and helped create the most successful wildlife restoration program in the world!

**Youth Hunting program** is an investment in youth and our hunting heritage. More than 25,000 youngsters purchased youth hunting licenses last year. The goals of the youth hunting program mirror the primary ways that we can ensure a strong future for hunting in Colorado. Those goals include increasing the quality of hunters in the field, providing hunting opportunities to meet the existing demand, removing barriers and retaining existing hunters.

Hunting does many positive things for youth. It brings families and communities together, teaches cooperation, builds self-esteem, helps set goals, builds character, teaches patience, reduces stress, and enhances concentration level, hand-eye coordination and the ability to judge distance. Through a variety of hunts (from big game to waterfowl), hunter skills training and resource materials we provide opportunities for youngsters and mentors to hunt in a safe environment. We promote a conservation message and the things that hunting is all about, e.g., camaraderie, seeing game, being close to and learning about nature, “getting away from it all” and testing physical and mental skills.

The Youth Hunting program capitalizes on the existing statutes, regulation and other existing Division programs to provide a wide range of hunting and skill development opportunities. It also leverages the Division of Wildlife’s resources through partnerships with conservation, hunting and youth organizations, as well as private landowners and industry. Examples include joint hunts with Outdoor Buddies, USA Outdoors and Pheasants Forever and youth hunting access opportunities with the Colorado Cattleman’s Association.

**Hunter Education** certifies about 18,000 students annually. Each hunter education student is a potential hunter. Yet, data matching between the hunter education and license or CORIS databases shows that only about 75% of the hunter education graduates go on to purchase licenses. (Reasons for this include people taking the course as part of a school, Boy Scout or 4-H program, without the intention of hunting.) The hunter education course is a 10-hour basic introduction to firearm safety, outdoor skills, wildlife laws, hunter ethics and other relevant topics.

Recently, we added a “where to go” portion to the basic hunter education curriculum. The goal is to increase the percentage of license buyers graduating from hunter education classes and to motivate students to learn more about hunting, shooting, wildlife and the outdoors. In this part of the course, we provide information about a variety of activities that will increase hunter participation.

**Small Game Hunting Access Program – is not primarily a youth recruitment activity but we hope it will have an impact in that area. The number of kids hunting directly correlates with the number of adults hunting. A study showed access as a major barrier to small game hunting participation. Pending Commission and Division approval, we are planning to exempt youth from purchasing the stamp to use those properties, if accompanied by an adult. We are hoping to enroll 100,000 acres next year. However, we have many legal and other hurdles to climb yet.**

The Angler Education program **provides basic fishing opportunities to recruit new anglers and instruction to retain anglers and improve angler image. Each year about 20,000 people learn to fish in more than 400 fishing clinics held statewide.**

The Division stocks waters for fishing clinics and other special events each year. Last year we stocked 63,867 catchable trout statewide. Of those, we stocked 34,000 at eleven waters in the Denver area. The Division also stocks ponds designated for youth fishing access. These ponds include Boulder, Buena Vista, Camp Alexander Pond (BSA), Canon City, Fairplay, Gunnison (Pac-Man pond), Kremmling, La Junta, Leadville, Meeker, Naturita, Ouray, Pitkin (Pitkin Pond), Ridgway, Sterling, Telluride, Trinidad, Lily Pad pond in Washington Park (Denver) and Wacker Pond in Brush. Two ponds that are not open to the public, but are great resources and used frequently for fishing clinics are Clear Creek Salvage Pond and Platte Canyon Reservoir.

Ponds stocked annually for fishing clinics include: Grand Junction, Craig, Hayden, Parachute, Granby, Rifle, Oak Creek, Silverthorne, Bayfield, Nottingham Lake at Avon and Gypsum Ponds at Gypsum and Cortez.

#### Fishing "Loaner Poles"

Regional and area offices check out fishing gear to scouts and other youth groups. This increases the number of "fishing clinics" or fishing opportunities for kids without a large time commitment from the Division.

**"FISHING IS FUN" Angler Access Program** improves angling access across the state. Opportunity plays an essential role in angler recruitment. The program creates a three-way partnership between local communities, the Federal Sportfish Restoration Act funds and the Colorado Division of Wildlife. Since its inception in 1987, "Fishing is Fun" projects have totaled to more than \$17 million have been selected for grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$400,000. Today, a total of 206, "Fishing is Fun" projects in 54 of Colorado's 63 counties offer over an estimated 1.3 million new days of recreation opportunities for anglers each year.

Seven new projects for fiscal year 2000-01 include improvements at Yuma fishing pond, Fountain Lake and Wildhorse Creek in Pueblo and creating a new seven-acre reservoir within Lake County's Hayden Meadows Recreation Area. Other projects include, new fishing access in Milliken, Brush and Craig. These seven new projects should provide new fishing opportunities for 23,375 anglers a year.

Recently, the Colorado Wildlife Commission approved a resolution to promote urban fishing access. Phil Goebel, assistant statewide fisheries manager, is leading an effort to acquire new fishing access in urban areas. Goebel's summary report should be final at the end of February 2001. "Fishing is Fun" applications from urban communities will receive high priority.

**The Division of Wildlife's website**, <http://www.wildlife.state.co.us/>, is becoming more useful in educating and providing information to hunters and anglers. About 75% of the students taking a recent hunter education class said they found out about the class on the Internet. Other information on the website includes essays from youth hunters and information about the Youth Hunting Program, a list of public shooting ranges and places to shoot, regulations and kids' pages with games.

Information about hunting safety, wildlife management, etc. is also on our website for hunters, anglers and non-traditional constituents that have an interest in learning more.

The potential opportunities on the Internet are endless. In a hunter education needs assessment done by Responsive Management for the Division of Wildlife, the only group of people that wanted information about hunting and hunter education, but did not know how to find it were

youths. (We also surveyed women and several ethnic minorities.) The Internet may be one of our best tools to connect with youths, as more schools and homes go “interactive.”

**Becoming an OutdoorsWoman, BOW**, teaches women hunting, angling and other outdoor skills. In fact, one-third of the classes offered at each BOW workshop fall into those three categories. By teaching women hunting and angling skills, they will develop the confidence to encourage their children to participate, by being an active or at least an informed participant.

**Wildlife Watch** is a family-oriented wildlife viewing skills program that promotes understanding and tolerance of hunting and angling. Specifically, the “Wildlife Management” module of Wildlife Watch addresses hunting and fishing as legitimate wildlife-related activities, as wildlife management tools and as the primary funding source for the Division of Wildlife.

Wildlife Watch reaches more diverse and larger audience. It provides an entrance for participation in wildlife recreation. Viewing in some cases may introduce and encourage people to hunt and fish. Wildlife Watch also serves as an information outlet this diverse audience that may not “know” the Division of Wildlife about how to find hunter and angler education classes, start hunting and fishing, etc. Involving the family is the best way to get and sustain youth participation.

### Summary and Contact Information

Each of the statutes, regulations and outreach programs identified in this report provide opportunity, information and/or training and support the Division of Wildlife’s legislative declaration, C.R.S. 33-1-101.

“It is the policy of the state of Colorado that the wildlife and their environment are to be protected, preserved, enhanced, and managed for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of the people of this state and its visitors. It is further declared to be the policy of this state that there shall be provided a comprehensive program designed to offer the greatest possible variety of wildlife-related recreational opportunity to the people of this state and its visitors and that, to carry out such program and policy, there shall be a continuous operation of planning, acquisition, and development of wildlife habitats and facilities for wildlife-related opportunities.”

To obtain additional information about the Division’s hunting and fishing related outreach efforts in your area, feel free to contact the education specialist in your region:

Education Section	Bob Hernbrode	Denver HQ	(303) 291-7271
NE	Debbie Lerch	Denver	(303) 291-7328
NE	Lisa Evans	Fort Collins	(970) 472-4343
SE	Steve Lucero	CO Springs	(719) 227-5203
SE	Linda Groat	Lamar	(719) 336-6608
West	Stan Johnson	Grand Jct	(970) 255-6191

To obtain additional information about specific programs contact these key people:

Project WILD	Jeff Rucks	Denver HQ	(303) 291-7262
WIN-WIN	Wendy Hanophy	Denver HQ	(303) 291-7479
Youth Hunting	Patt Dorsey	Denver HQ	(303) 291-7545
Hunter Education	Patt Dorsey	Denver HQ	(303) 291-7264
Private land	Mike King	Denver HQ	(303) 291- 7348
Small Game Access	Tom Remington	Research	(970) 472-4381

Angler Education	Scott Gilmore	Denver HQ	(303) 2917512
Angler Education	Robin Knox	Denver HQ	(303) 291-7362
Fishing Loaner Poles	Debbie Lerch	NERSC	(303) 291-7328
“Fishing is Fun” Access	Phil Goebel	Denver HQ	(303) 291-7326
Website	Bill Haggerty	Grand Jct	(970) 255-6194
BOW	Lenora Lovett	Denver HQ	(303) 291-7303
Wildlife Watch	Renee Herring	Denver HQ	(303) 291-7250

*Report by Patt Dorsey, Colorado Division of Wildlife, January 30, 2001*

*Note: Youth hunting programs are a focus of our Hunter Education Program, however the interest and questions asked many times relate to our law enforcement efforts. Patt Dorsey, the Hunter Education Coordinator gracious in allowing us to use her work in this law enforcement report.*

## Hunting Incident Report

While the Division is sorry to report a single hunting incident, we are happy to report an excellent start to the new millennium. Colorado had only four hunting incidents during our 2000 hunting seasons. In a year with over 500,000 hunting licenses sold and with field reports indicating above-average hunter harvest rates for deer and elk, we are reporting an all-time low hunting incident rate!

**What is a hunting incident?** We define a hunting incident as a firearm-related incident, causing injury or death to a person or persons that occurs while hunting. Hunting incidents do not include the variety of other incidents occurring each year while hunting such as cuts, falls, motor vehicle and horse injuries, etc. Likewise, we do not reported non-hunting firearm-related injuries or livestock injuries as hunting incidents.

**Hunting is safe and getting safer in Colorado.** Colorado has conducted hunter education training since the 1950's. It was mandated by law on January 1, 1970 (33-6-107 (8), Colorado Revised Statutes 1973). The law reads:

*"It is unlawful for any person born on or after January 1, 1949, to purchase any hunting or trapping license unless he produces a hunter education certificate issued by the division, attesting to his successful completion of a division certified hunter education course taught by a division certified instructor which totals not less than ten hours of instruction. Any person required to obtain such a certificate shall have the certificate on his person while hunting or trapping. For the purposes of this subsection (8), the division shall recognize, in addition to Colorado hunter education certificates issued on or after January 1, 1985, those Colorado hunter education certificates issued prior to January 1, 1985, and any valid temporary hunter education certificate issued by the division, and the division may recognize the hunter education programs of other states or countries as being sufficient for the purposes of purchasing a hunting or trapping license in Colorado."*

The Colorado Division of Wildlife has a Hunter Education Program that administers such activities statewide out of the Education Section of the Public Services Branch of the Denver headquarters office. The Hunter Education Program is responsible for compiling and analyzing hunting incident data in order to spot trends in hunter behavior and adjust the hunter education curriculum to prevent incidents.

The mission of the Division is to protect, preserve, enhance and manage wildlife and the environment for the use, benefit and enjoyment of the people of this state and its visitors. The Hunter Education Program assists the Division in fulfilling its mission by educating hunters to be safe, responsible, knowledgeable, and involved.

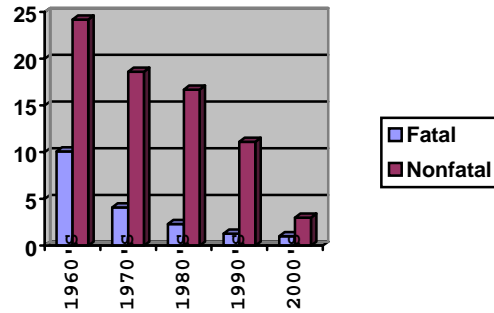
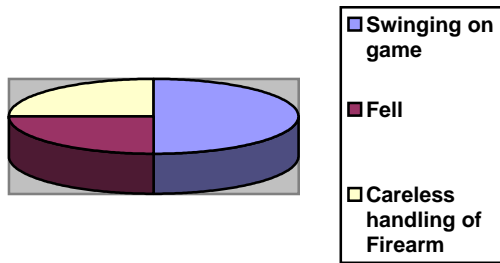
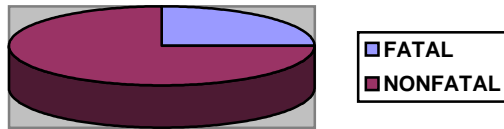
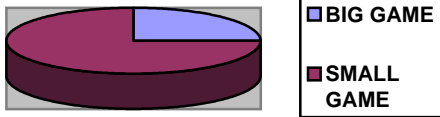
Before the legislative mandate firearm-related hunting incidents rates were extremely high. A primary goal of hunter education is to reduce incident rates, protecting human lives and preventing injuries. In the 1990's, Colorado averaged 1.3 fatal and 11.1 nonfatal hunting incidents per year. In the 1960's, we averaged 10.1 fatal and 24.2 nonfatal hunting incidents per year.

## Incident Summary

<b>Big Game</b> -	<b>1 Fatal</b>	<b>0 Nonfatal</b>
<b>Small Game</b> -	<b>0 Fatal</b>	<b>3 Nonfatal</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1 Fatal</b>	<b>3 Nonfatal</b>

### CAUSES

<b>Swinging on Game</b>	<b>0 Fatal</b>	<b>2 Nonfatal</b>
<b>Stumbled and Fell</b>	<b>1 Fatal</b>	<b>0 Nonfatal</b>
<b>Careless Handling of Firearm</b>	<b>0 Fatal</b>	<b>1 Nonfatal</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1 Fatal</b>	<b>3 Nonfatal</b>





### Individual Incident Details, 2000 Hunting Seasons

**INJURY TYPE** Nonfatal **SELF-INFLICTED** No  
**DATE** 9/3/00 **TIME** 8:00 AM **COUNTY** El Paso **LANDOWNERSHIP** Public  
**ANIMAL HUNTED** DOVE **DISTANCE FROM MUZZLE** 11-50 yards  
**SHOOTER DETAILS UNKNOWN**  
**Was a game law violated?** Yes **Which law?** 33-6-122  
**WEAPON** Shotgun  
**VICTIM SEX** M **VICTIM AGE** 35 **VICTIM CITY** Colorado Springs, CO  
**Was the victim hunter ed certified?** Yes **In which state?** CO  
**What was the victim wearing?** Camouflage trousers and cap, Blaze Orange vest  
**TOPOGRAPHY** Flat **VISIBILITY** Good **COVER TYPE** Open  
**LIGHTING** Sunny **WEATHER** Clear  
**FACTORS** Shooter swinging on game  
**SUMMARY** Victim and friends were hunting doves on the Colorado Springs SWA. They were stationary waiting for doves to fly by. Shooters swung on bird and covered victim. Victim felt pellet enter cheek, under his eye. Shooter and victim exchanged words, but did not exchange information. Shooter left the scene. (SWA was crowded, as reported by witness.)

**INJURY TYPE** Nonfatal **SELF-INFLICTED** Yes  
**DATE** 10/1/00 **TIME** **COUNTY** Phillips **LANDOWNERSHIP** Public  
**ANIMAL HUNTED** COTTONTAIL **DISTANCE FROM MUZZLE** 0-10 yards  
**SHOOTER SEX** M **SHOOTER AGE** 16 **SHOOTER CITY** HOLYOKE, CO  
**Was shooter hunter ed certified?** Yes **In which state?** CO  
**Was a game law or other laws violated?** Yes **Which law(s)?** 33-6-109 and WCR #1000a  
**WEAPON** Handgun **MAKE** RUGER **CALIBER or GAUGE** .22  
**SAFETY POSITION** Off  
**VICTIM - Self**  
**TOPOGRAPHY** Flat **VISIBILITY** Good **COVER TYPE** Medium  
**LIGHTING** Sunny **WEATHER** Clear  
**FACTORS** Careless handling of firearm, finger on trigger, safety off  
**SUMMARY** Shooter/victim and stepbrother was target practicing across the road from Frenchman Creek SWA. They left their two other brothers and went across the road to the SWA to shoot "rabbits and tweety birds." When they were ¼ mile from the road, shooter/victim shot a bull snake. He picked it up to take it back to his brothers but did not have a good grip. He put it back down and when he went to pick it up, nearer the snake's head, the snake "jumped." Shooter/victim was startled. His finger was on the trigger, but the safety was off. The bullet entered his left calf on the upper outside. It went through the calf and lodged about 2/3 of the way below his knee, on the inside. The bullet will remain in his leg since it is near an artery. \*\*\*The bullet was removed later due to an infection. Shooter/victim did not have a small game license.

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**INJURY TYPE** Fatal **SELF-INFLICTED** Yes  
**DATE** 10/22/00 **TIME** **COUNTY** Garfield **LANDOWNERSHIP** Public  
**ANIMAL HUNTED** ELK **DISTANCE FROM MUZZLE** unknown  
**SHOOTER SEX** M **SHOOTER AGE** 42 **SHOOTER CITY**  
 CRYSTAL LAKE, IL  
**Was shooter hunter ed certified?** Yes **In what state?**  
**Was a game law or other laws violated?** No **Which law(s)?**  
**WEAPON** Rifle **SAFETY POSITION** Off  
**VICTIM – Self –inflicted**  
**TOPOGRAPHY** Unknown **VISIBILITY** Unknown **COVER TYPE** Unknown  
**LIGHTING** Unknown **WEATHER** Unknown  
**FACTORS** Stumbled and fell  
**SUMMARY** Victim was last seen by guide at 07:00, 10/22/00. He did not return to camp and was reported as a lost hunter. Search & Rescue found victim deceased. (News reports say he stumbled and fell. Case has not been closed by Garfield SO as of 10/23/00)

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**INJURY TYPE** Nonfatal **SELF-INFLICTED** No  
**DATE** 10/8/00 **TIME** 9:14 AM **COUNTY** Morgan **LANDOWNERSHIP** Private  
**ANIMAL HUNTED** DUCK/GEESE **DISTANCE FROM MUZZLE** 0-10 yards  
**SHOOTER SEX** M **SHOOTER AGE** 17 **SHOOTER CITY** LAKEWOOD, CO  
**Was shooter hunter ed certified?** Yes **In what state?** CO  
**Was a game law or other laws violated?** Yes **Which law(s)?** 33-6-122  
**WEAPON** Shotgun **MAKE** REMINGTON **MODEL** 870  
**CALIBER or GAUGE** 12 **ACTION** Pump **SIGHTS** Open  
**VICTIM SEX** M **VICTIM AGE** 52 **VICTIM CITY** LAKEWOOD, CO  
**Was the victim hunter ed certified?** No **In what state?**  
**What was the victim wearing?** **TROUSERS, CAP, TORSO** Camouflage  
**TOPOGRAPHY** Flat **VISIBILITY** Good **COVER TYPE** Dense  
**LIGHTING** Sunny **WEATHER** Clear  
**FACTORS** Shooter swinging on game, victim out of sight of shooter, poor selection of blind, careless handling of firearm.  
**SUMMARY** Victim and son were hunting at a private hunting club. Victim was hunting from a designated blind, while shooter chose to hide in some cattails across a small pond. A duck flew between the two. Shooter shot at the duck as it flew past the victim's blind.

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**Report by Patt Dorsey, Hunter Education Program Administrator, January 5, 2001.**

*Note: Hunting accidents are a focus of our Hunter Education Program, however the interest and questions asked many times relate to our law enforcement efforts. Patt Dorsey, the Hunter Education Coordinator gracious in allowing us to use her work in this law enforcement report.*

# **Colorado Division of Wildlife Violation Report**

**April 2001**



Compiled by John Bredehoff, Chief of Law Enforcement;  
Glenn Smith, Criminal Investigator; and Janet Green, Programmer

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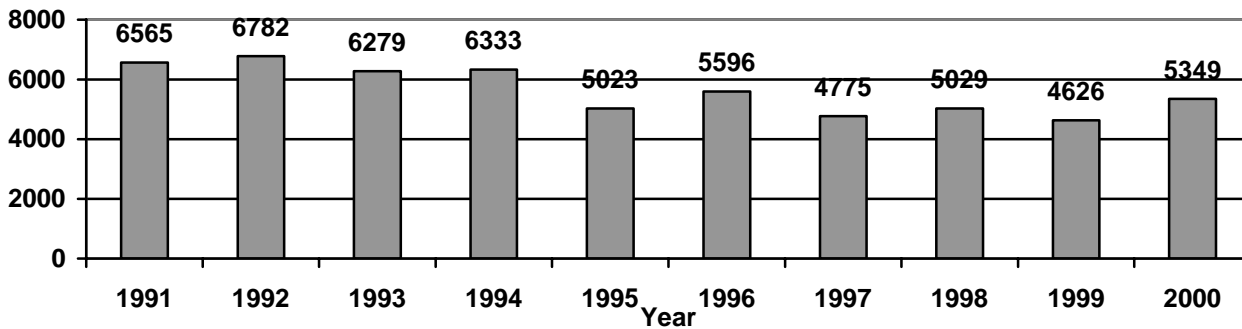
**Table 1.1, 1991-2000 VIOLATIONS GROUPED BY MAJOR CATEGORY**

VIOLATION CATEGORY	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Total
<b>BIG GAME - (Does not include Licensing)</b>	669	551	524	589	392	494	389	385	310	397	4700
CARCASS CARE	93	92	88	123	76	108	85	71	138	70	944
COMMERCIAL USE	5	2	1	17	1	6	1	1	1	0	35
FAIR CHASE	171	141	124	116	80	70	77	29	37	30	875
FISHING - (Does not include Licensing)	546	651	480	561	432	441	405	461	352	464	4793
LICENSING	2641	3024	2617	2655	2073	2441	1864	2253	2126	2256	23950
PRIVATE PROPERTY TRESPASS	294	361	397	347	315	331	304	318	281	232	3180
SAFETY	806	782	769	721	581	720	707	668	514	583	6851
SMALL GAME - (Does not include Licensing)	818	583	603	502	528	393	430	453	369	434	5113
OTHER WILDLIFE VIOLATIONS	522	595	676	702	545	592	513	390	498	883	5916
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6565</b>	<b>6782</b>	<b>6279</b>	<b>6333</b>	<b>5023</b>	<b>5596</b>	<b>4775</b>	<b>5029</b>	<b>4626</b>	<b>5349</b>	<b>56357</b>

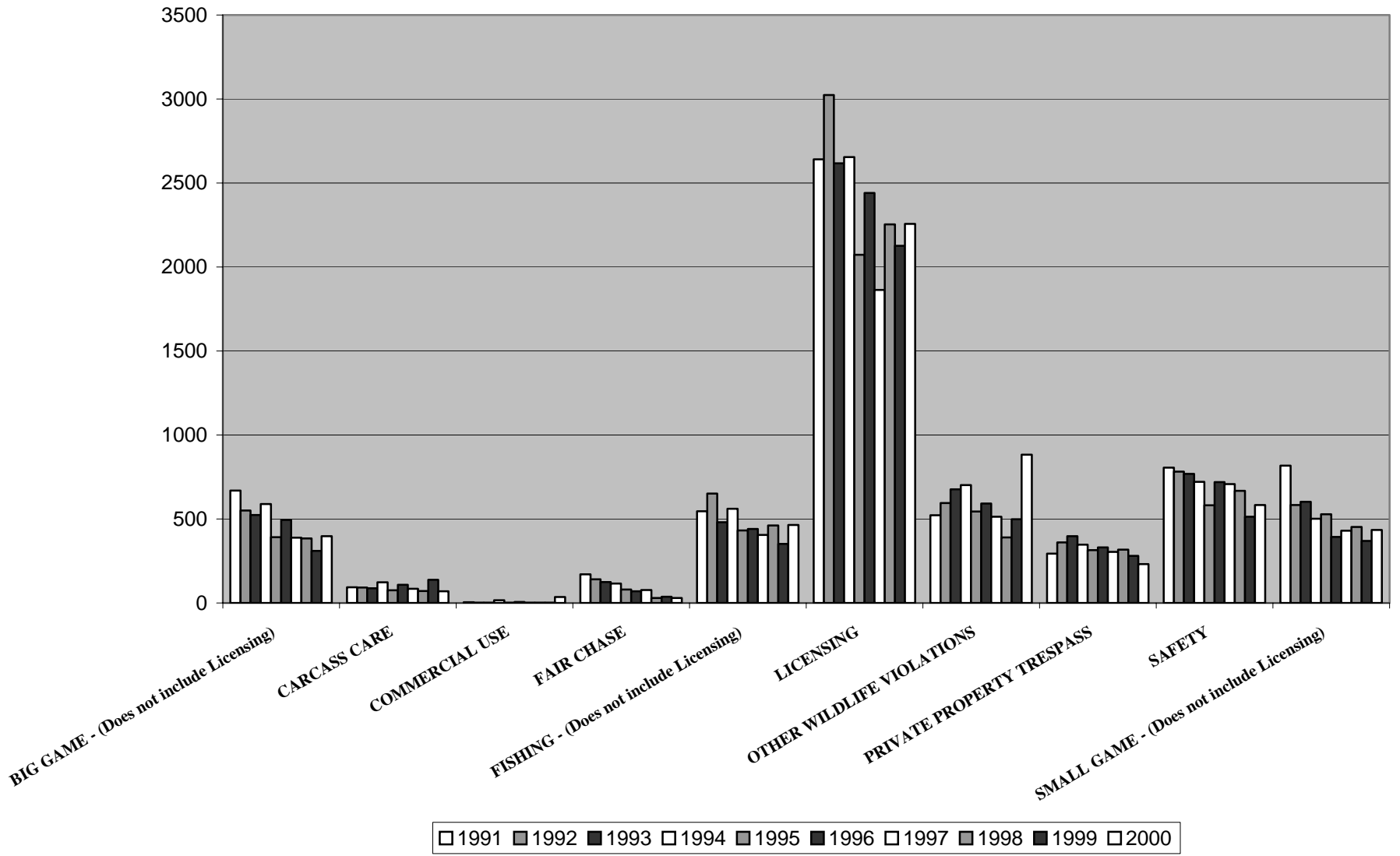
**Table 1.2, 1991-2000 PERCENT BY MAJOR CATEGORY/CALENDAR YEAR**

VIOLATION	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Total
<b>BIG GAME</b>	10.2%	8.1%	8.3%	9.3%	7.8%	8.8%	8.1%	7.7%	6.7%	7.4%	8.3%
CARCASS CARE	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	1.9%	1.5%	1.9%	1.8%	1.4%	3.0%	1.3%	1.7%
COMMERCIAL USE	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
FAIR CHASE	2.6%	2.1%	2.0%	1.8%	1.6%	1.3%	1.6%	0.6%	0.8%	0.6%	1.6%
FISHING	8.3%	9.6%	7.6%	8.9%	8.6%	7.9%	8.5%	9.2%	7.6%	8.7%	8.5%
LICENSING	40.2%	44.6%	41.7%	41.9%	41.3%	43.6%	39.0%	44.8%	46.0%	42.2%	42.5%
PRIVATE PROPERTY	4.5%	5.3%	6.3%	5.5%	6.3%	5.9%	6.4%	6.3%	6.1%	4.3%	5.6%
SAFETY	12.3%	11.5%	12.2%	11.4%	11.6%	12.9%	14.8%	13.3%	11.1%	10.9%	12.2%
SMALL GAME	12.5%	8.6%	9.6%	7.9%	10.5%	7.0%	9.0%	9.0%	8.0%	8.1%	9.1%
OTHER WILDLIFE	8.0%	8.8%	10.8%	11.1%	10.9%	10.6%	10.7%	7.8%	10.8%	16.5%	10.5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

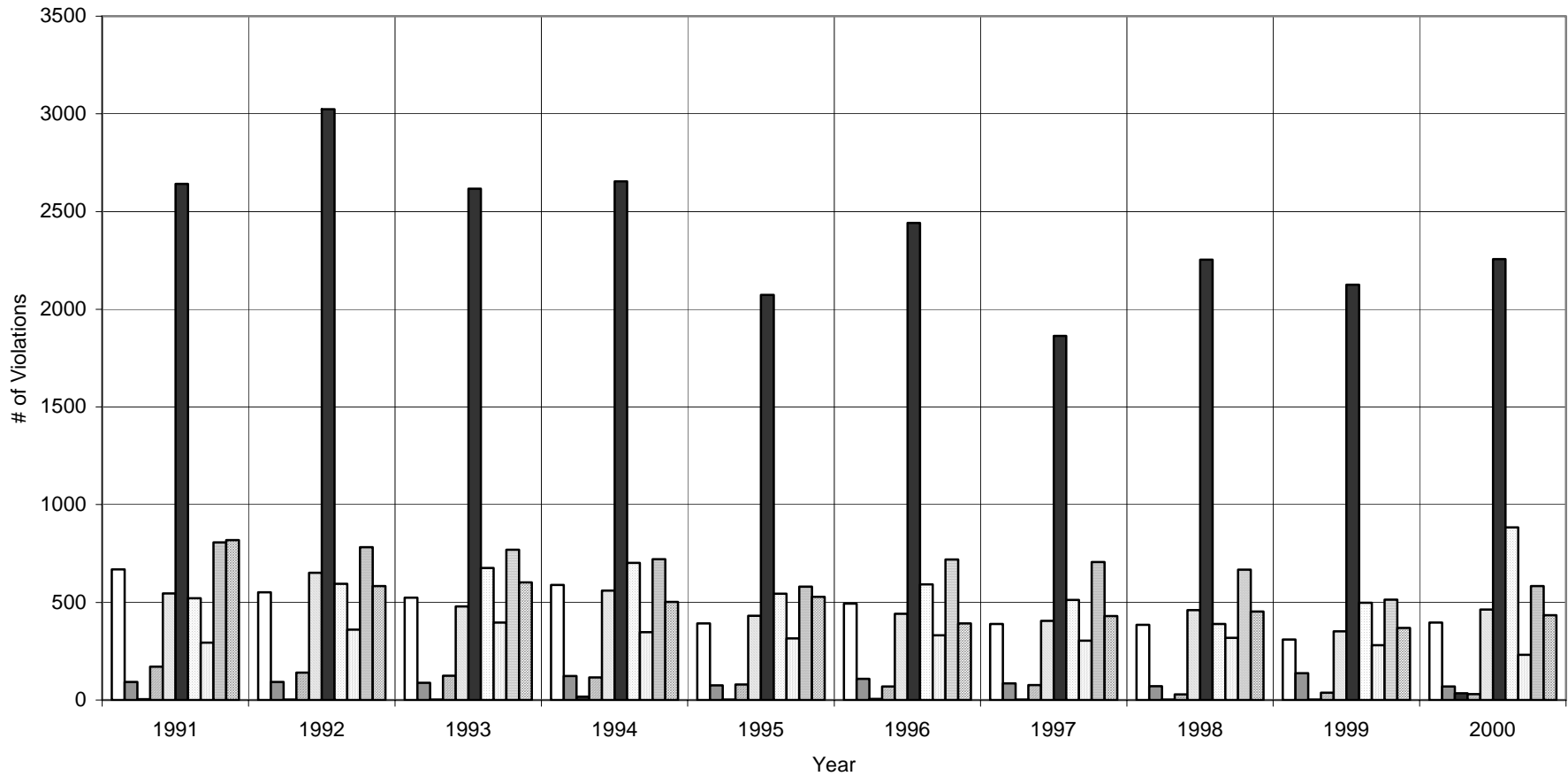
**Chart 1.1, Total Violations by Year**



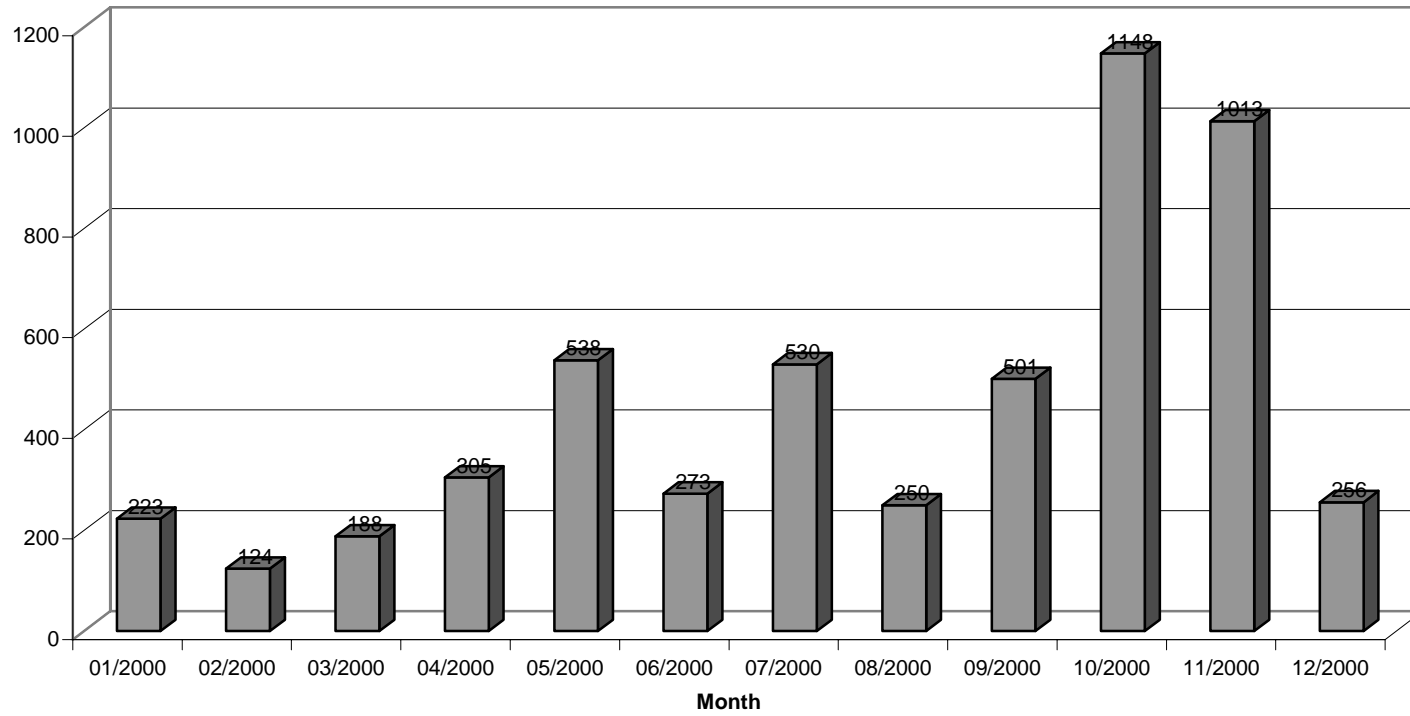
**Chart 1.2, 1991-2000 Violations by Category/Year**



**Chart 1.3, 1991-2000 Violations by Year/Category**



**Chart 1.4, Citations by Month for 2000**





**Table 1.3, 1991-2000 - BIG GAME - (Does not include License Violations)**

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Total</b>
MOUNTAIN LION-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	14	1	14	6	6	5	4	3	2	2	57
ANTELOPE - ACCIDENTAL KILL	0	0	0	1	6	0	2	0	2	1	12
SHEEP-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	2	11	2	4	2	3	3	4	2	1	34
MOUNTAIN GOAT-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	2	7
MOOSE-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	2	5	3	4	4	2	3	12	3	1	39
ELK-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	200	227	228	234	132	210	162	176	160	222	1951
ELK - ACCIDENTAL KILL	0	0	0	33	34	4	20	9	5	2	107
DEER - ACCIDENTAL KILL	0	0	0	13	22	0	5	3	0	1	44
BEAR-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	9	13	25	7	7	16	13	13	13	15	131
BEAR - ACCIDENTAL KILL	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	4	1	7
ANTLER POINT VIOLATION - ELK	60	54	33	52	18	41	43	47	28	38	414
ANTELOPE-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	17	34	34	26	24	23	20	18	16	26	238
ANTLER POINT VIOLATION - DEER	113	14	8	11	10	36	9	11	5	1	218
DEER-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	252	191	177	196	127	154	103	87	70	84	1441
<b>Total</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>4700</b>

**Table 1.4, 1991-2000 - CARCASS CARE**

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Total</b>
WASTE OF GAME MEAT	83	83	80	111	67	79	76	59	123	68	829
WASTE OF FISH	5	0	4	1	2	1	1	4	0	0	18
WILLFUL DESTRUCTION OF WILDLIFE	5	9	4	11	7	28	8	8	15	2	97
<b>Total</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>944</b>

**Table 1.5, 1991-2000 - COMMERCIAL USE**

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Total</b>
SALE OF WILDLIFE - MISDEMEANOR	3	2	1	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	14
SALE OF WILDLIFE - FELONY	2	0	0	10	1	5	1	1	1	0	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>35</b>

**Table 1.6, 1991-2000 - FAIR CHASE**

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Total</b>
UNLAWFUL USE OF AIRCRAFT AS HUNT/FISH AID	1	3	1	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	12
UNLAWFUL USE OF ARTIFICIAL LIGHT	117	85	89	66	47	32	42	21	14	16	529
UNLAWFUL USE OF MOTOR VEH TO HUNT/HARASS	53	53	34	47	29	38	35	8	23	14	334
<b>Total</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>875</b>

**Table 1.7, 1991-2000 - FISHING - (Does not include License Violations)**

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Total</b>
FISH-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	325	407	310	313	248	271	218	243	208	246	2789
<b>UNLAWFUL DEVICE-FISHING</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>41</b>
UNLAWFUL BAIT OF FISH (CHUMMING)	21	22	6	6	19	7	7	8	10	5	111
FISHING WITH BAIT IN FLY/LURE ONLY WATER	131	137	97	145	78	104	107	107	65	115	1086
UNATTENDED POLE/LINES	17	27	19	36	34	17	21	26	12	32	241
FISHING W/MORE THAN LEGAL NUMBER OF HOOKS	0	2	0	1	1	5	0	1	0	0	10
FISHING IN A CLOSED AREA	11	11	15	19	14	15	13	28	10	8	144
FISHING DURING A CLOSED SEASON	2	7	2	1	2	2	7	5	3	2	33
FISHING BEFORE/AFTER LEGAL HOURS	1	6	1	2	1	4	0	4	1	1	21
FISHING W/MORE THAN LEGAL NUMBER OF LINES	29	24	25	34	32	14	26	36	43	54	317
<b>Total</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>4793</b>

**Table 1.8, 1991-2000 - LICENSING**

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Total</b>
PURCHASING MULTIPLE LICENSES	13	23	21	26	18	13	16	11	7	23	171
HUNTING WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION	0	4	2	0	0	2	3	0	1	0	12
HUNTING WITHOUT A PROPER/VALID LICENSE	354	408	363	358	280	332	287	317	260	318	3277
LICENSE VIOLATION – MISCELLANEOUS	1	2	0	2	3	145	22	138	165	82	560
NO MIGRATORY WATERFOWL STAMP	77	38	51	58	50	28	32	32	21	42	429
FISHING WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION	2	0	1	2	2	0	4	1	0	1	13
OUTFITTING WITHOUT REQUIRED REGISTRATION	0	1	1	14	1	1	2	4	4	1	29
FAILURE TO TAG	186	195	201	167	111	128	149	168	139	194	1638
SECOND ROD STAMP VIOLATION	129	129	98	121	83	138	83	82	92	44	999
TRAPPING WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
UNLAWFUL TRANSFER OF A LICENSE/PERMIT	110	93	99	60	48	48	50	55	64	89	716
NO PARKS PASS	4	3	4	0	2	18	23	18	31	25	128
FISH WITHOUT A PROPER/VALID LICENSE	1517	1937	1605	1671	1359	1427	1079	1282	1261	1354	14492
FALSE STATEMENT MADE IN PURCHASE OF LICENSE	232	171	161	150	95	124	90	70	57	55	1205
FAILURE TO OBTAIN ROADKILL PERMIT	0	1	1	1	5	2	1	0	1	0	12
FAILURE TO DISPLAY LICENSE AS REQUIRED	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
FAILURE TO CARRY LICENSE AS REQUIRED	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	4	0	0	8
CONSERVATION-LICENSE-STAMP	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	3
APPLYING FOR MULTIPLE LICENSES	3	1	0	0	0	2	2	2	4	0	14
APPLYING FOR LICENSE WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION	1	1	2	3	0	5	4	5	3	2	26
ALTERATION OF A PERMIT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ALTERATION OF A LICENSE	10	5	3	12	9	14	5	10	3	3	74
UNREGISTERED/UNNUMBERED SNOWMOBILE/RV/BOAT	2	11	4	9	4	7	7	47	12	23	126
FALSE STATEMENT MADE-ACQUIRING A PERMIT	0	0	0	1	3	3	1	7	1	0	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>2641</b>	<b>3024</b>	<b>2617</b>	<b>2655</b>	<b>2073</b>	<b>2441</b>	<b>1864</b>	<b>2253</b>	<b>2126</b>	<b>2256</b>	<b>23950</b>

**Table 1.9, 1991-2000 - PRIVATE PROPERTY TRESPASS**

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Total</b>
HUNTING W/O PERMISSION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY	253	280	330	310	256	276	255	273	220	213	2666
TRAPPING W/O PERMISSION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
CRIMINAL TRESPASS	25	37	45	18	45	11	22	26	43	11	283
FISHING W/O PERMISSION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY	16	44	21	17	14	44	26	19	18	8	227
<b>Total</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>3180</b>

**Table 1.10, 1991-2000 - SAFETY**

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Total</b>
SHOOTING FROM A PUBLIC ROAD	216	195	209	164	126	180	177	150	68	112	1597
CARELESS OPERATION OF A MOTORBOAT	8	8	2	0	5	29	8	19	13	2	94
SWIMMING IN UNDESIGNATED AREA	10	6	8	2	4	10	3	5	4	7	59
SHOOTING FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE	0	0	1	1	3	20	6	25	21	18	95
SAFETY-MISCELLANEOUS	14	8	7	1	5	2	5	1	2	16	61
OPERATING A VESSEL W/O PROPER SAFETY EQUIP	14	20	12	19	17	32	30	38	28	16	226
NO HUNTER SAFETY CARD	15	22	9	7	8	4	11	3	11	19	109
HUNTING WITHOUT AN ADULT	9	10	4	7	6	1	3	6	3	9	58
HUNTING UNDER THE INFLUENCE DRUGS/ALCOHOL	1	2	0	0	0	2	1	1	3	4	14
HUNTING IN CARELESS/RECKLESS/NEGLIG MANNER	21	15	16	15	10	18	9	5	8	11	128
FAILURE TO WEAR DAYLIGHT FLUORESCENT ORANGE	125	119	129	118	98	111	110	90	79	112	1091
CARELESS OPERATION OF MOTORVEHICLE	0	0	1	5	1	4	4	24	4	6	49
CARELESS OPERATION OF A SNOWMOBILE	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	3
LOADED FIREARM	373	377	371	382	298	306	340	300	269	251	3267
<b>Total</b>	<b>806</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>769</b>	<b>721</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>707</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>6851</b>

**Table 1.11, 1991-2000 - SMALL GAME - (Does not include License Violations)**

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Total</b>
FURBEARER-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	3	0	3	1	2	7	4	5	4	7	36
TURKEY-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	4	7	16	2	9	6	7	3	4	3	61
TRAPPING WITHOUT A PROPER/VALID LICENSE	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	6
TRAPPING IN A CLOSED AREA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAPPING DURING A CLOSED SEASON	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
TRAPPING BEFORE/AFTER LEGAL HOURS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SMALLGAME-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	59	61	51	39	35	24	33	31	65	63	461
LEAD SHOT IN STEEL SHOT ZONE	75	38	58	75	95	32	50	51	21	18	513
HUNTING IN A CLOSED AREA	50	98	81	87	85	47	76	51	29	36	640
FAILURE TO LEAVE EVIDENCE OF SEX	427	144	195	123	89	86	88	112	103	172	1539
HUNTING BEFORE/AFTER LEGAL HOURS	74	65	56	64	67	57	53	92	51	67	646
FAILURE TO LEAVE EVIDENCE OF SPECIES	7	8	4	7	1	2	0	9	1	0	39
WATERFOWL-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	35	73	46	43	55	49	28	36	13	8	386
HUNTING DURING A CLOSED SEASON	84	88	92	61	89	80	91	63	77	60	785
<b>Total</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>5113</b>

**Table 1.12, 1991-2000 - OTHER WILDLIFE VIOLATIONS**

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Total</b>
FIRE BUILT IN RESTRICTED/PROHIBITED AREA	4	0	0	2	4	20	2	10	3	5	50
WEAPONS OFFENSE – ALTERED SERIAL NUMBER	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
UNLAWFUL WEAPON	100	108	64	95	97	41	82	61	96	77	821
UNLAWFUL METHODS OR PROCEDURES-MISC	224	296	403	367	273	314	196	121	179	560	2933
UNLAWFUL DEVICE-WILDLIFE	0	2	0	1	0	0	4	2	5	1	15
UNLAWFUL BAITING OF WILDLIFE	14	10	6	9	9	4	4	6	8	7	77
UNATTENDED CAMPFIRE	1	2	5	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	13
RAPTOR-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	14	13	17	15	7	7	3	7	6	4	93
PARKS-MISCELLANEOUS	3	3	0	1	0	10	24	0	18	11	70
NONGAME-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	10	17	12	11	24	9	5	4	5	11	108
MOTOR VEH/VESSEL OUTSIDE DESIGNATED AREA	84	35	73	85	41	65	52	35	64	91	625
CAMPING IN AN UNDESIGNATED AREA	5	9	5	13	1	7	9	14	2	4	69
LITTERING	22	51	31	41	27	22	17	28	15	20	274
FAILURE TO APPEAR	2	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	7
EXOTIC WILDLIFE-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	6
EXCEEDING ESTABLISHED BAG LIMIT	0	0	0	8	0	1	2	0	0	5	16
DRUGS, POSSESSION	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	8	7	10	29
CONSERVATION-FREE TEXT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONSERVATION-FISH	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
CONSERVATION-ENVIRONMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3
CONSERVATION-ANIMALS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONSERVATION-BIRDS	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3
CDOW PROPERTY REGULATION VIOLATION	0	0	0	0	4	25	44	26	47	40	186
ALLOWING DOG TO CHASE/HARASS WILDLIFE	37	46	59	43	53	58	53	54	36	33	472
MISCELLANEOUS-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	0	0	0	7	0	8	11	8	3	3	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>883</b>	<b>5916</b>

**Table 1.13, 1991-2000 COMPLETE LISTING OF ALL VIOLATIONS BY FREQUENCY**

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Total</b>
FISH WITHOUT A PROPER/VALID LICENSE	1517	1937	1605	1671	1359	1427	1079	1282	1261	1354	14492
HUNTING WITHOUT A PROPER/VALID LICENSE	354	408	363	358	280	332	287	317	260	318	3277
LOADED FIREARM	373	377	371	382	298	306	340	300	269	251	3267
UNLAWFUL METHODS OR PROCEDURES-MISC	224	296	403	367	273	314	196	121	179	560	2933
FISH-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	325	407	310	313	248	271	218	243	208	246	2789
HUNTING W/O PERMISSION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY	253	280	330	310	256	276	255	273	220	213	2666

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Total</b>
ELK-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	200	227	228	234	132	210	162	176	160	222	1951
FAILURE TO TAG	186	195	201	167	111	128	149	168	139	194	1638
SHOOTING FROM A PUBLIC ROAD	216	195	209	164	126	180	177	150	68	112	1597
FAILURE TO LEAVE EVIDENCE OF SEX	427	144	195	123	89	86	88	112	103	172	1539
DEER-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	252	191	177	196	127	154	103	87	70	84	1441
FALSE STATEMENT MADE IN PURCHASE OF LICENSE	232	171	161	150	95	124	90	70	57	55	1205
FAILURE TO WEAR DAYLIGHT FLUORESCENT ORANGE	125	119	129	118	98	111	110	90	79	112	1091
FISHING WITH BAIT IN FLY/LURE ONLY WATER	131	137	97	145	78	104	107	107	65	115	1086
SECOND ROD STAMP VIOLATION	129	129	98	121	83	138	83	82	92	44	999
WASTE OF GAME MEAT	83	83	80	111	67	79	76	59	123	68	829
UNLAWFUL WEAPON	100	108	64	95	97	41	82	61	96	77	821
HUNTING DURING A CLOSED SEASON	84	88	92	61	89	80	91	63	77	60	785
UNLAWFUL TRANSFER OF A LICENSE/PERMIT	110	93	99	60	48	48	50	55	64	89	716
HUNTING BEFORE/AFTER LEGAL HOURS	74	65	56	64	67	57	53	92	51	67	646
HUNTING IN A CLOSED AREA	50	98	81	87	85	47	76	51	29	36	640
MOTOR VEH/VESSEL OUTSIDE DESIGNATED AREA	84	35	73	85	41	65	52	35	64	91	625
LICENSE VIOLATION – MISCELLANEOUS	1	2	0	2	3	145	22	138	165	82	560
UNLAWFUL USE OF ARTIFICIAL LIGHT	117	85	89	66	47	32	42	21	14	16	529
LEAD SHOT IN STEEL SHOT ZONE	75	38	58	75	95	32	50	51	21	18	513
ALLOWING DOG TO CHASE/HARASS WILDLIFE	37	46	59	43	53	58	53	54	36	33	472
SMALLGAME-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	59	61	51	39	35	24	33	31	65	63	461
NO MIGRATORY WATERFOWL STAMP	77	38	51	58	50	28	32	32	21	42	429
ANTLER POINT VIOLATION - ELK	60	54	33	52	18	41	43	47	28	38	414
WATERFOWL-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	35	73	46	43	55	49	28	36	13	8	386
UNLAWFUL USE OF MOTOR VEH TO HUNT/HARASS	53	53	34	47	29	38	35	8	23	14	334
FISHING W/MORE THAN LEGAL NUMBER OF LINES	29	24	25	34	32	14	26	36	43	54	317
CRIMINAL TRESPASS	25	37	45	18	45	11	22	26	43	11	283
LITTERING	22	51	31	41	27	22	17	28	15	20	274
UNATTENDED POLE/LINES	17	27	19	36	34	17	21	26	12	32	241
ANTELOPE-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	17	34	34	26	24	23	20	18	16	26	238
FISHING W/O PERMISSION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY	16	44	21	17	14	44	26	19	18	8	227
OPERATING A VESSEL W/O PROPER SAFETY EQUIP	14	20	12	19	17	32	30	38	28	16	226
ANTLER POINT VIOLATION - DEER	113	14	8	11	10	36	9	11	5	1	218
CDOW PROPERTY REGULATION VIOLATION	0	0	0	0	4	25	44	26	47	40	186
PURCHASING MULTIPLE LICENSES	13	23	21	26	18	13	16	11	7	23	171
FISHING IN A CLOSED AREA	11	11	15	19	14	15	13	28	10	8	144
BEAR-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	9	13	25	7	7	16	13	13	13	15	131
HUNTING IN CARELESS/RECKLESS/NEGLIG MANNER	21	15	16	15	10	18	9	5	8	11	128
NO PARKS PASS	4	3	4	0	2	18	23	18	31	25	128
UNREGIST./UNNUMBERED SNOWMOBILE/RV/BOAT	2	11	4	9	4	7	7	47	12	23	126
UNLAWFUL BAIT OF FISH (CHUMMING)	21	22	6	6	19	7	7	8	10	5	111
NO HUNTER SAFETY CARD	15	22	9	7	8	4	11	3	11	19	109
NONGAME-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	10	17	12	11	24	9	5	4	5	11	108
ELK – ACCIDENTAL KILL	0	0	0	33	34	4	20	9	5	2	107
WILLFUL DESTRUCTION OF WILDLIFE	5	9	4	11	7	28	8	8	15	2	97
SHOOTING FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE	0	0	1	1	3	20	6	25	21	18	95
CARELESS OPERATION OF A MOTORBOAT	8	8	2	0	5	29	8	19	13	2	94
RAPTOR-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	14	13	17	15	7	7	3	7	6	4	93
UNLAWFUL BAITING OF WILDLIFE	14	10	6	9	9	4	4	6	8	7	77
ALTERATION OF A LICENSE	10	5	3	12	9	14	5	10	3	3	74
PARKS-MISCELLANEOUS	3	3	0	1	0	10	24	0	18	11	70
CAMPING IN AN UNDESIGNATED AREA	5	9	5	13	1	7	9	14	2	4	69
SAFETY-MISCELLANEOUS	14	8	7	1	5	2	5	1	2	16	61
TURKEY-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	4	7	16	2	9	6	7	3	4	3	61
SWIMMING IN UNDESIGNATED AREA	10	6	8	2	4	10	3	5	4	7	59

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Total</b>
HUNTING WITHOUT AN ADULT	9	10	4	7	6	1	3	6	3	9	58
MOUNTAIN LION-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	14	1	14	6	6	5	4	3	2	2	57
FIRE BUILT IN RESTRICTED/PROHIBITED AREA	4	0	0	2	4	20	2	10	3	5	50
CARELESS OPERATION OF MOTORVEHICLE	0	0	1	5	1	4	4	24	4	6	49
DEER - ACCIDENTAL KILL	0	0	0	13	22	0	5	3	0	1	44
UNLAWFUL DEVICE-FISHING	9	8	5	4	3	2	6	3	0	1	41
MISCELLANEOUS-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	0	0	0	7	0	8	11	8	3	3	40
MOOSE-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	2	5	3	4	4	2	3	12	3	1	39
FAILURE TO LEAVE EVIDENCE OF SPECIES	7	8	4	7	1	2	0	9	1	0	39
FURBEARER-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	3	0	3	1	2	7	4	5	4	7	36
SHEEP-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	2	11	2	4	2	3	3	4	2	1	34
FISHING DURING A CLOSED SEASON	2	7	2	1	2	2	7	5	3	2	33
OUTFITTING WITHOUT REQUIRED REGISTRATION	0	1	1	14	1	1	2	4	4	1	29
DRUGS, POSSESSION	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	8	7	10	29
APPLYING FOR LICENSE WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION	1	1	2	3	0	5	4	5	3	2	26
SALE OF WILDLIFE - FELONY	2	0	0	10	1	5	1	1	1	0	21
FISHING BEFORE/AFTER LEGAL HOURS	1	6	1	2	1	4	0	4	1	1	21
WASTE OF FISH	5	0	4	1	2	1	1	4	0	0	18
FALSE STATEMENT MADE-ACQUIRING A PERMIT	0	0	0	1	3	3	1	7	1	0	16
EXCEEDING ESTABLISHED BAG LIMIT	0	0	0	8	0	1	2	0	0	5	16
UNLAWFUL DEVICE-WILDLIFE	0	2	0	1	0	0	4	2	5	1	15
HUNTING UNDER THE INFLUENCE DRUGS/ALCOHOL	1	2	0	0	0	2	1	1	3	4	14
SALE OF WILDLIFE - MISDEMENOR	3	2	1	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	14
APPLYING FOR MULTIPLE LICENSES	3	1	0	0	0	2	2	2	4	0	14
UNATTENDED CAMPFIRE	1	2	5	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	13
FISHING WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION	2	0	1	2	2	0	4	1	0	1	13
HUNTING WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION	0	4	2	0	0	2	3	0	1	0	12
ANTELOPE - ACCIDENTAL KILL	0	0	0	1	6	0	2	0	2	1	12
UNLAWFUL USE OF AIRCRAFT AS HUNT/FISH AID	1	3	1	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	12
FAILURE TO OBTAIN ROADKILL PERMIT	0	1	1	1	5	2	1	0	1	0	12
FISHING W/MORE THAN LEGAL NUMBER OF HOOKS	0	2	0	1	1	5	0	1	0	0	10
FAILURE TO CARRY LICENSE AS REQUIRED	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	4	0	0	8
FAILURE TO APPEAR	2	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	7
MOUNTAIN GOAT-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	2	7
BEAR - ACCIDENTAL KILL	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	4	1	7
TRAPPING WITHOUT A PROPER/VALID LICENSE	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	6
EXOTIC WILDLIFE-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	6
TRAPPING W/O PERMISSION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
WEAPONS OFFENSE - ALTERED SERIAL NUMBER	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
CARELESS OPERATION OF A SNOWMOBILE	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	3
CONSERVAITON-BIRDS	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3
CONSERVATION-ENVIRONMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3
CONSERVATION-LICENSE-STAMP	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	3
CONSERVATION-FISH	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
FAILURE TO DISPLAY LICENSE AS REQUIRED	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
TRAPPING DURING A CLOSED SEASON	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
TRAPPING IN A CLOSED AREA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONSERVATION-ANIMALS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAPPING BEFORE/AFTER LEGAL HOURS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONSERVATION-FREE TEXT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ALTERATION OF A PERMIT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAPPING WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>6565</b>	<b>6782</b>	<b>6279</b>	<b>6333</b>	<b>5023</b>	<b>5596</b>	<b>4775</b>	<b>5029</b>	<b>4626</b>	<b>5349</b>	<b>56357</b>

**Table 2.1, 1991-2000 - VIOLATIONS BY REGION/AREA, AREA OFFICE LOCATION**

REGION	AREA	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Total
North East												
	Area 01 – Denver West	253	317	247	227	221	220	123	173	166	169	2116
	Area 02 - Loveland	696	734	595	531	356	369	277	120	221	236	4135
	Area 03 - Brush	224	208	240	206	221	176	137	193	262	312	2179
	Area 04 –Fort Collins	293	306	254	314	332	227	442	632	591	572	3963
	Area 05 – Denver Central	578	561	402	636	373	468	289	424	427	769	4994
	Total	2044	2126	1738	1914	1570	1460	1268	1542	1667	2058	17387
South East												
	Area 11 - Pueblo	548	654	531	490	387	546	370	661	423	338	4948
	Area 12 - Lamar	214	211	179	131	108	192	169	152	116	141	1613
	Area 13 - Salida	570	575	585	416	358	479	398	379	311	304	4375
	Area 14 – Colorado Springs	378	304	287	333	265	322	273	180	163	249	2754
	Area 17 – Monte Vista	296	300	302	266	272	235	328	419	194	197	2809
	Total	2006	2044	1884	1636	1390	1774	1538	1791	1207	1229	16499
West												
	Area 06 - Meeker	319	324	334	326	303	325	322	308	448	436	3445
	Area 07 – Grand Junction	164	221	240	224	212	209	167	166	227	260	2090
	Area 08 – Glenwood Springs	240	215	183	161	104	103	101	156	140	247	1650
	Area 09 – Hot Sulpher	589	594	540	515	223	288	305	243	223	292	3812
	Area 10 – Steamboat Springs	389	480	499	636	611	522	296	126	129	222	3910
	Area 15 - Durango	291	339	331	289	171	353	290	262	254	338	2918
	Area 16 - Gunnison	314	239	249	216	152	241	170	211	174	163	2129
	Area 18 - Montrose	185	156	167	178	147	160	165	111	95	94	1458
	Area SW – South West	15	37	63	64	15	21	3	0	0	0	218
	Total	2506	2605	2606	2609	1938	2222	1819	1583	1690	2052	21630
State Parks												
	Area PK – State Parks	9	7	51	174	125	140	150	113	62	10	841
	Total	9	7	51	174	125	140	150	113	62	10	841
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>6565</b>	<b>6782</b>	<b>6279</b>	<b>6333</b>	<b>5023</b>	<b>5596</b>	<b>4775</b>	<b>5029</b>	<b>4626</b>	<b>5349</b>	<b>56357</b>

**Table 3.1, 1991-2000 NON-RESIDENT AND RESIDENT VIOLATION COMPARISONS**

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Total
<b>Non-resident</b>	1661	1178	1142	1126	842	1077	956	1183	1032	1270	11467
Resident	4904	5604	5137	5207	4181	4519	3819	3846	3594	4079	44890
<b>Total</b>	<b>8556</b>	<b>8774</b>	<b>8272</b>	<b>8327</b>	<b>7018</b>	<b>7592</b>	<b>6772</b>	<b>7027</b>	<b>6625</b>	<b>7349</b>	<b>56357</b>

**Table 3.2, 1991-2000 PERCENTAGE COMPARISONS BETWEEN NON-RESIDENT & RESIDENT VIOLATIONS**

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Total
Non-resident	25.30%	17.37%	18.19%	17.78%	16.76%	19.25%	20.02%	23.52%	22.31%	23.74%	20.35%
Resident	74.70%	82.63%	81.81%	82.22%	83.24%	80.75%	79.98%	76.48%	77.69%	76.26%	79.65%

Table 4.1, 1991-2000 VIOLATIONS BY COUNTY

COUNTY	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Total	COUNTY	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Total
<b>ADAMS</b>	155	162	92	145	114	82	34	77	61	123	<b>1045</b>	KIT CARSON	42	13	4	13	5	6	4	4	13	1	<b>105</b>
ALAMOSA	2	6	15	4	12	14	25	17	4	3	<b>102</b>	LA PLATA	134	96	109	93	66	136	95	93	94	114	<b>1030</b>
ARAPAHOE	43	61	46	75	81	89	11	11	24	26	<b>467</b>	LAKE	89	68	104	68	122	157	123	161	104	82	<b>1078</b>
ARCHULETA	65	58	43	78	64	67	84	55	53	79	<b>646</b>	LARIMER	741	938	830	834	723	619	516	417	565	448	<b>6631</b>
BACA	26	44	19	23	15	4	1	9	5	6	<b>152</b>	LAS ANIMAS	536	106	280	100	61	74	52	67	46	85	<b>1407</b>
BENT	35	44	46	30	36	80	51	53	45	46	<b>466</b>	LINCOLN	21	17	13	33	20	7	14	9	11	25	<b>170</b>
BOULDER	144	190	104	152	94	87	61	21	41	23	<b>917</b>	LOGAN	44	50	41	39	31	25	22	55	66	55	<b>428</b>
CHAFFEE	181	186	158	132	122	179	140	118	136	84	<b>1436</b>	MESA	85	170	165	180	154	170	124	123	226	176	<b>1573</b>
CHEYENNE	6	8	5	8	9	18	5	5	2	9	<b>75</b>	MINERAL	44	55	37	22	34	24	31	40	22	28	<b>337</b>
CLEAR CREEK	20	38	7	17	23	36	26	15	22	12	<b>216</b>	MOFFAT	154	145	160	247	167	146	208	136	279	361	<b>2003</b>
CONEJOS	36	53	35	93	58	76	81	84	20	52	<b>588</b>	MONTEZUMA	78	101	76	81	56	63	63	77	76	66	<b>737</b>
COSTILLA	43	38	66	61	51	26	39	38	34	11	<b>407</b>	MONTROSE	87	65	88	104	68	65	86	67	80	40	<b>750</b>
CROWLEY	23	25	15	20	12	28	12	25	34	18	<b>212</b>	MORGAN	68	77	79	79	124	70	62	44	116	98	<b>817</b>
CUSTER	73	87	112	80	50	86	66	103	44	25	<b>726</b>	OTERO	55	44	11	9	20	51	28	26	21	25	<b>290</b>
DELTA	106	120	93	129	79	107	72	93	53	93	<b>945</b>	OURAY	40	26	61	51	24	33	35	28	32	21	<b>351</b>
DENVER	62	80	108	67	22	23	26	62	38	42	<b>530</b>	PARK	131	188	150	207	80	128	156	136	99	80	<b>1355</b>
DOLORES	24	89	87	56	32	95	44	58	51	65	<b>601</b>	PHILLIPS	29	11	23	13	4	5	11	6	14	17	<b>133</b>
DOUGLAS	143	74	79	85	89	107	48	52	39	37	<b>753</b>	PITKIN	47	35	24	17	11	26	20	13	25	51	<b>269</b>
EAGLE	107	125	105	81	66	52	66	87	80	160	<b>929</b>	PROWERS	5	3	15	15	4	16	20	11	10	12	<b>111</b>
EL PASO	137	181	145	159	144	179	178	81	56	149	<b>1409</b>	PUEBLO	221	382	248	286	257	335	256	438	261	242	<b>2926</b>
ELBERT	28	37	23	28	16	24	16	7	24	14	<b>217</b>	RIO BLANCO	177	160	133	89	162	183	158	123	126	170	<b>1481</b>
FREMONT	170	149	159	87	38	88	61	68	65	139	<b>1024</b>	RIO GRANDE	66	87	77	61	72	55	135	200	56	44	<b>853</b>
GARFIELD	186	155	193	151	121	126	113	153	117	212	<b>1527</b>	ROUTT	188	200	167	195	85	89	84	168	145	127	<b>1448</b>
GILPIN	5	11	15	12	8	15	7	5	8	2	<b>88</b>	SAGUACHE	98	103	84	63	70	62	63	60	47	72	<b>722</b>
GRAND	279	224	232	214	112	133	210	206	159	192	<b>1961</b>	<b>SAN JUAN</b>	10	5	1	16	3	5	14	54			
GUNNISON	223	143	175	139	92	159	117	156	122	188	<b>1514</b>	SAN MIGUEL	28	27	45	31	28	24	18	58	48	50	<b>357</b>
HINSDALE	30	27	35	20	25	35	23	22	39	34	<b>290</b>	SEDGWICK	7	18	20	12	9	11	15	11	24	32	<b>159</b>
HUERFANO	49	99	55	30	33	22	31	60	77	38	<b>494</b>	SUMMIT	143	218	165	175	50	93	78	83	52	110	<b>1167</b>
JACKSON	115	188	149	208	176	112	116	108	98	141	<b>1411</b>	TELLER	49	37	61	94	88	111	91	78	63	91	<b>763</b>
JEFFERSON	223	232	182	233	159	211	63	93	61	144	<b>1601</b>	WASHINGTON	29	37	39	39	30	35	24	38	60	94	<b>425</b>
KIOWA	11	11	9	13	10	12	10	6	5	6	<b>93</b>	WELD	347	317	329	404	404	357	316	300	203	310	<b>3287</b>
												YUMA	32	33	34	44	30	32	27	11	20	35	<b>298</b>

Table 5.1, 1991-2000 CASE DISPOSITION SUMMARY

DISPOSITION	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Total
Pending	141	191	257	319	316	457	714	530	507	866	4298
Guilty											
Amended	23	20	22	29	37	27	9	20	14	7	208
Deferred Prosecution	7	9	12	18	8	11	2	2	1	1	71
Deferred Sentence	45	66	39	54	37	38	29	18	32	11	369
Guilty Plea	1025	1194	1120	996	749	691	483	479	376	202	7315
Paid	3367	3305	3028	3150	2407	2924	2667	2783	2525	2899	29055
Warning	894	821	680	764	746	731	395	658	719	1065	7473
Subtotal	5361	5415	4901	5011	3984	4422	3585	3960	3667	4185	44491
Not Guilty											
Case Dismissed	599	594	552	515	344	334	241	201	176	55	3611
Found Not Guilty	20	33	32	12	4	16	8	3	5		133
Void	444	549	537	476	375	367	227	335	271	243	3824
Subtotal	1063	1176	1121	1003	723	717	476	539	452	298	7568
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6565</b>	<b>6782</b>	<b>6279</b>	<b>6333</b>	<b>5023</b>	<b>5596</b>	<b>4775</b>	<b>5029</b>	<b>4626</b>	<b>5349</b>	<b>56357</b>

Table 5.2, 1991-2000 CASE DISPOSITION SUMMARY BY PERCENT

DISPOSITION	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Total
Pending	2.15%	2.82%	4.09%	5.04%	6.29%	8.17%	14.95%	10.54%	10.96%	16.19%	7.63%
Guilty											
Amended	0.35%	0.29%	0.35%	0.46%	0.74%	0.48%	0.19%	0.40%	0.30%	0.13%	0.37%
Deferred Prosecution	0.11%	0.13%	0.19%	0.28%	0.16%	0.20%	0.04%	0.04%	0.02%	0.02%	0.13%
Deferred Sentence	0.69%	0.97%	0.62%	0.85%	0.74%	0.68%	0.61%	0.36%	0.69%	0.21%	0.65%
Guilty Plea	15.61%	17.61%	17.84%	15.73%	14.91%	12.35%	10.12%	9.52%	8.13%	3.78%	12.98%
Paid	51.29%	48.73%	48.22%	49.74%	47.92%	52.25%	55.85%	55.34%	54.58%	54.20%	51.56%
Warning	13.62%	12.11%	10.83%	12.06%	14.85%	13.06%	8.27%	13.08%	15.54%	19.91%	13.26%
Subtotal	81.66%	79.84%	78.05%	79.13%	79.23%	79.02%	75.08%	78.74%	79.27%	78.24%	78.94%
Not Guilty											
Case Dismissed	9.12%	8.76%	8.79%	8.13%	6.85%	5.97%	5.05%	4.00%	3.80%	1.03%	6.41%
Found Not Guilty	0.30%	0.49%	0.51%	0.19%	0.08%	0.29%	0.17%	0.06%	0.11%		0.24%
Void	6.76%	8.09%	8.55%	7.52%	7.47%	6.56%	4.75%	6.66%	5.86%	4.54%	6.79%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0.1619</b>	<b>17.34%</b>	<b>17.85%</b>	<b>15.84%</b>	<b>14.39%</b>	<b>12.81%</b>	<b>9.97%</b>	<b>10.72%</b>	<b>9.77%</b>	<b>5.57%</b>	<b>13.43%</b>

Table 5.3, 2000 CASE DISPOSITION BY COUNTY

County Name	Pending	Amended	Deferred Prosecution	Deferred Sentence	Guilty Plea	Paid	Warning	Case Dismissed	Void	Total
ADAMS	32	0	0	0	1	47	40	0	3	123
ALAMOSA	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	3
ARAPAHOE	10	0	0	0	1	6	9	0	0	26
ARCHULETA	4	0	0	0	1	52	22	0	0	79
BACA	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	6
BENT	7	0	0	1	9	16	3	1	9	46
BOULDER	5	0	0	0	1	14	1	0	2	23
CHAFFEE	5	0	0	1	9	59	1	1	8	84
CHEYENNE	7	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	9
CLEAR CREEK	2	0	0	0	0	8	2	0	0	12
CONEJOS	17	0	0	0	1	18	5	1	10	52



County Name	Pending	Amended	Deferred Prosecution	Deferred Sentence	Guilty Plea	Paid	Warning	Case Dismissed	Void	Total
COSTILLA	2	0	0	0	0	8	1	0	0	11
CROWLEY	2	0	0	0	0	12	2	0	2	18
CUSTER	3	0	0	0	1	15	6	0	0	25
DELTA	10	0	0	0	4	64	9	2	4	93
DENVER	19	0	0	0	0	13	8	0	2	42
DOLORES	2	0	0	0	3	50	9	0	1	65
DOUGLAS	10	0	0	0	0	14	9	0	4	37
EAGLE	23	0	0	0	6	109	20	0	2	160
EL PASO	27	0	0	0	6	79	33	0	4	149
ELBERT	1	1	0	0	1	4	5	1	1	14
FREMONT	45	0	0	0	8	63	14	0	9	139
GARFIELD	17	0	0	0	2	155	31	0	7	212
GILPIN	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
GRAND	30	2	1	2	10	110	22	6	9	192
GUNNISON	17	2	0	0	8	98	51	1	11	188
HINSDALE	2	0	0	0	0	30	2	0	0	34
HUERFANO	7	0	0	0	0	22	8	1	0	38
JACKSON	6	0	0	0	3	83	44	1	4	141
JEFFERSON	13	0	0	0	13	61	36	6	15	144
KIOWA	1	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	6
KIT CARSON	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
LA PLATA	17	0	0	0	1	69	19	0	8	114
LAKE	10	0	0	0	8	58	0	0	6	82
LARIMER	126	0	0	0	0	183	111	0	28	448
LAS ANIMAS	26	0	0	0	1	40	15	0	3	85
LINCOLN	3	0	0	0	2	12	8	0	0	25
LOGAN	4	0	0	0	5	35	9	0	2	55
MESA	35	0	0	0	4	94	36	1	6	176
MINERAL	2	0	0	1	3	17	4	0	1	28
MOFFAT	33	0	0	0	7	198	108	4	11	361
MONTEZUMA	6	0	0	0	3	52	3	0	2	66
MONTROSE	6	0	0	0	1	24	5	2	2	40
MORGAN	18	0	0	0	2	44	28	0	6	98
OTERO	7	0	0	0	2	12	1	0	3	25
OURAY	3	1	0	0	2	12	3	0	0	21
PARK	9	0	0	0	3	44	20	0	4	80
PHILLIPS	0	0	0	0	0	8	8	0	1	17
PITKIN	4	0	0	0	2	36	5	0	4	51
PROWERS	2	0	0	0	0	9	1	0	0	12
PUEBLO	72	0	0	5	19	91	33	6	16	242
RIO BLANCO	11	0	0	0	0	128	28	0	3	170
RIO GRANDE	4	0	0	0	5	20	13	2	0	44
ROUTT	11	0	0	0	1	80	31	0	4	127
SAGUACHE	14	0	0	0	5	39	9	5	0	72
SAN JUAN	1	0	0	0	0	8	5	0	0	14
SAN MIGUEL	5	0	0	0	6	26	13	0	0	50

SEDGWICK	0	0	0	0	2	25	3	1	1	32
SUMMIT	33	0	0	0	1	51	17	1	7	110
TELLER	14	0	0	0	7	56	10	1	3	91
WASHINGTON	6	0	0	0	4	48	31	2	3	94
WELD	54	1	0	1	17	144	75	9	9	310
YUMA	3	0	0	0	0	16	15	0	1	35
<b>Total</b>	<b>866</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>2899</b>	<b>1065</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>5349</b>

*Table 6.1, 1999-2000 CHECK STATION, NIGHT FLIGHT, AND DECOY EFFORTS*

CHECK STATIONS TYPE OF EFFORT	CHECK STATIONS						DECOYS		NIGHT FLIGHTS		TOTALS	
	BIG GAME		SMALL GAME		FISHING		1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000						
NUMBER OF EFFORTS	9	20			10	8	33	27	8	3	60	58
TOTAL VEHICLES	1814	5868			1519	121	649	515	15	1	3997	6505
VEHICLES STOPPED	642	2643			421	121	70	105	15	1	1148	2870
INDIVIDUAL CONTACTS	1296	5142			1463	1384	108	147	18	3	2885	6676
INDIVIDUAL CHARGES	28	97			21	34	34	35	13	1	96	167
<b>TOTAL FINES (DOLLARS)</b>	<b>6,800</b>	<b>15,365</b>			<b>949</b>	<b>1,644</b>	<b>3,600</b>	<b>3000</b>	<b>1,850</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>13,199</b>	<b>20,079</b>

*Table 7.1, 2000 OPERATION GAME THIEF SUMMARY*

CATEGORY	TOTAL
TOTAL OGT CALLS	744
TOTAL CASES FILED	136
CRIMINAL FINES TO DATE	\$34,456
CASES WITHOUT REWARD	109
CASES WITH REWARD	27
REWARD IN \$'S PAID	\$6050
OGT DONATIONS IN \$'S	\$16,493