

**Colorado Division of Wildlife**  
**Annual Law Enforcement**  
**and**  
**Violation Report**  
**August 1, 2004**



**Bruce McCloskey**  
**Director**



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## **Preface**

*The purpose of this report is to provide a basis of understanding of, and to answer frequently asked questions about the Colorado Division of Wildlife's (DOW) law enforcement program. It is a compilation of a variety of stand-alone articles and information pieces that can be used individually or together. If something of interest is missing from this report, don't hesitate to contact the DOW, and it will be addressed 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 at the end of those sections. Others have read portions of this report and offered suggestions as to content and format. A special thanks to Ken Shew and Anita Jarrett for their intensive effort at developing our new violation management system. Migrating old database information to this new system entailed many hours of hard work that resulted in the updated statistical summaries you will find in this report. Also special thanks to Cameron Lewis who edited the case narratives. Tyler Baskerfield and Lisa Martinez did an outstanding job of formatting and editing the final product. To all who assisted in this effort, thanks; your participation has vastly improved the quality of this report.*

*This document is a work in progress, a framework for continued discussion. It is meant to answer questions posed by the general public, special interests, wildlife commissioners, legislators, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and DOW staff. It is also meant as a communication tool, a shared basis, and a foundation for Colorado's Wildlife Officers to use when asked about the state's wildlife law enforcement.*

*Your comments concerning this report or our law enforcement efforts are always welcome. Please 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 (DOW) 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 Colorado Wildlife Commission and the 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 Stadage-Accureach survey clearly indicated that the public expects the DOW to enforce wildlife laws and to protect wildlife. In a 1999 survey, Ciruli Associates found that 78 percent of Colorado residents believe that enforcing existing wildlife laws is the top priority for the agency. It is clear that Colorado's citizens want state government to manage its wildlife resources enforce the laws concerning that resource.

There are several reasons why the DOW is the best agency to provide this essential public service. Wildlife management is mainly accomplished through regulations. An appointed Colorado Wildlife Commission approves regulations and provides over site of the DOW. The 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 commission oversees. Officers who work for other agencies would have enforcement demands for their time other than wildlife law enforcement. The DOW is very responsive to its customers in relation to regulation and enforcement as we control and direct our own enforcement efforts.

The DOW has the best employees to provide wildlife law enforcement services. The public consistently rates DOW officers high with regard to their job performance. Surveys conducted during check station activities in 1994 and 1996 found that respondents felt the wildlife officers who contacted them were courteous, fair, and professional. A survey completed in 1999 by Responsive Management found that more than 90 percent of Colorado's hunters, anglers, and other residents rated DOW officers, with whom they had come into contact, 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 were higher than other states surveyed by Responsive Management at the time of the 1999 survey.

## Wildlife Law Enforcement Planning

The structure of the Colorado Division of Wildlife's (DOW) planning efforts is driven by statute, mission, management principles, strategic planning, performance measures and indicators and available financial resources. 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 mission of the agency and its strategic plan.

**Statute:** The legislative basis for the existence of the DOW 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 the statute that sets our policy and through internal and external planning efforts, the DOW developed an agency mission statement. The mission of the DOW is, ***"To perpetuate the wildlife resources of the state and provide people the opportunity to enjoy them."***

**Management Principles:** Management principles are the core beliefs that guide the DOW in fulfilling our mission, creating our goals and management strategies, and our decision making processes at all levels of the organization.

**Strategic Plan:** The statute and mission statement drive the planning efforts of the DOW. The current strategic plan was adopted in January, 2002, and it provides direction for the agency. Within that plan are the "Management Principles," which provide the core beliefs that guide the agency in developing and implementing goals, strategies, and decision making processes. This plan is divided into hunting, fishing, wildlife stewardship and awareness, and wildlife habitat and species management. Forty-two desired achievements were identified in this plan and, although all are important, the Colorado Wildlife Commission chose 10 as the highest priority. Each work unit within the DOW will focus resources toward achieving those top 10 priorities, as well as make efforts toward the accomplishment of the other 32. Additionally, the plan itself was not designed to be all encompassing for everything the DOW must do, and therefore mission critical tasks must be accounted for in planning at the unit level as well.

**Work Packages:** identify the specific activities needed to accomplish the goals. The goal of providing wildlife law enforcement has five specific work packages related to those functions. There are also work packages associated with customer service, training, and education.

**Performance Measures/Indicators:** Each year the DOW 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 DOW's performance indicators.

## Work Package 5410 – Law Enforcement Administration

**Manage Information Systems Professionally:** As a law enforcement agency, the DOW 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 DOW 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 DOW also operates the Operation Game Thief program, which provides an avenue for people to report crimes to a toll free number 1-877-COLOOGT (265-6648).

**Provide Responsive Law Enforcement:** The citizens of Colorado expect their wildlife agency to be responsive to their needs with regard 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 DOW 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, and the Wildlife Violator Compact – allow agencies to share information in a secure manner that protects the citizen as well as the agencies and the resources they protect. Since no Peace Officer Standard Training (POST) academy offers any classes on wildlife law, the DOW 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 a 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, 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 present 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 licensed customers. This direct contact is critical in the field of wildlife management and law enforcement, because field contacts offer 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 DOW 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 certain 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 contracts 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 its 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 DOW.

## 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. All employees



who are required by job title to perform enforcement functions are fully certified Colorado peace officers and meet and exceed all Colorado POST training and requirements.

**Train and Guide Employees:** DOW officers are certified as Colorado peace officers. All new hires are required to complete and pass the 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 DOW. The DOW 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 DOW 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 DOW 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 seven of those sustained). According to a recent survey by Responsive Management (2000), among Colorado hunters, anglers, and residents, more than 90 percent 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 DOW has a formal complaint policy that is available to the public on request. The agency will take complaints that it does receive seriously and use this complaint policy that ensures fairness for both the citizen and the employee. Employees and officers will learn from their mistakes and apply lessons learned to training, policies, and procedures. The DOW 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:** The DOW strives to: inform and educate the public about the importance of wildlife law enforcement to wildlife management; explain the importance of law enforcement as a tool to gain compliance; change the behavior of wildlife law violators; and show how each statute or regulation relates to safety, management of wildlife, or ethics.

## Wildlife Law Enforcement Budget

Each year, the DOW performs a budgeting process that results in determining priorities, and each year the budget is built from the prior years and adjusted for allocations based upon division-wide priorities. This process produces a budget that changes from year-to-year. Currently the law enforcement budget is approximately 4.6 million dollars. This represents approximately 5.6 percent of the total agency operating budget and is an increase of just over \$275,000 in the last five years.

There are seven programs directly related to law enforcement. These include law enforcement administration (5410); field law enforcement (5420); special investigations (5430); planning, research and evaluation (5440); forensic services (5450); annual training of officers (7630); and basic training of new officers (7640).

The DOW commissions 237 employees who work in a variety of jobs. The Public Services Branch provides the majority of the DOW's law enforcement effort. This branch currently has 140 commissioned District Wildlife Managers and 44 Wildlife Technicians who work for 18 Area Wildlife Managers (AWM). There are four commissioned Regional Managers who supervise the AWMs. The Public Services Branch also has a Law Enforcement Section which employs seven Criminal Investigators, including the Chief and Assistant Chief. The Law Enforcement Section focuses on law enforcement administration and special investigations. Additionally, personnel from other branches maintain law enforcement commissions. These include 15 Biologists, two Hatchery Technicians, and seven other administrators who provide assistance in the agency's law enforcement effort. All these "multipurpose" employees do a wide variety of jobs, including law enforcement.

The following table represents the actual Full Time Employees (FTE's\*) and expenditures for years? 2000/01, 01/02, 02/03 and current estimated budgeted FTE's and expenditures for years? 2003/04, 04/05 allocated to law enforcement programs.

### DOW Law Enforcement Labor and Operating Budget

FTE's*								
Program	5410	5420	5430	5440	5450	7630	7640	Total
FY 00-01 Actual	4.21	41.53	3.36	.30	.18	9.89	4.78	64.25
FY 01-02 Actual	5.47	41.43	2.29	.11	.07	17.58	7.15	74.10
FY 02-03 Actual	4.45	51.37	2.50	.06	.03	11.99	9.24	79.64
FY 03-04	3.01	43.08	1.98	.00	.49	10.12	4.24	62.92
FY 04-05	3.15	43.11	1.97	.00	.50	10.19	4.27	63.19
5 Year Average	4.06	44.10	2.42	.09	.25	11.95	5.94	68.82
Expenditures								
Program	5410	5420	5430	5440	5450	7630	7640	Total
FY 00-01 Actual	342,40	2,845,41	310,235	25,028	32,931	515,914	319,282	4,391,21
FY 01-02 Actual	437,90	2,906,59	253,685	5,663	21,101	615,081	519,839	4,759,86
FY 02-03 Actual	348,41	3,317,04	243,906	2,121	20,958	595,023	683,121	5,210,59
FY 03-04	304,33	2,986,60	271,710	0	55,380	424,849	535,238	4,369,75
FY 04-05	320,95	3,030,82	274,112	0	56,079	326,882	350,732	4,567,93
5 Year Average	350,80	3,017,29	270,730	6,562	37,290	495,550	481,642	4,659,87

\*FTE – Full Time Employee = 2,080 hours. These figures represent FTE equivalents of time spent by 237 multipurpose employees on law enforcement efforts. *Table figures provided by Larry Strohl, Budget Analyst.*

## Wildlife Law Enforcement Challenges

Our first challenge is to target illegal activities against Colorado's wildlife. Poachers have a wide range of motivations. A few kill for the sake of killing and Colorado has experienced several instances of numerous animals shot in killing sprees and left to rot. Ego drives some poachers who must kill the best and biggest, and will violate any regulation, season, or ethic to take trophy animals. Commercial activities, such as the legal antler trade, can drive illegal taking of wildlife. High dollar values represented in these markets provide an economic incentive to illegally take wildlife for some.

Poachers do not like to get caught and will use a variety of techniques to disguise their activities. Technological advances in night vision and thermal imaging devices, GPS, ATV's, and radios are used by poachers to enhance their ability to poach. Poaching out of season, especially on wintering grounds for big game when they are the most susceptible to illegal take, is a common practice for poachers. Poachers do their work anytime of the day or night, knowing that in the immense geography of this state, they have a good chance of not being detected by wildlife officers. Often, poachers will shoot an animal and will not approach it until later, after they have ascertained that no one responded to the shot, or come back at night to collect the head of the animal. Poachers know wildlife officers cannot be in all places at all times. These crimes usually have few witnesses. As a consequence, many wildlife violations go undetected, unreported, and are not prosecuted.

Detecting and deterring wildlife poaching requires innovative enforcement activity along with public participation and support in relation to the efforts of wildlife officers in the field. DOW officers take these crimes seriously and work long hard hours, often in hazardous conditions, to apprehend these poachers. Organized team efforts and use of the DOW's own technological resources are used throughout Colorado. A concerned public is made aware of the problems through education efforts and are encouraged to report wildlife crimes. Avenues for reporting crimes through law enforcement dispatches and programs, such as Operation Game Thief, provide a conduit for the public to report suspicious activities or illegal take of wildlife. Colorado's wildlife resources are rich and diverse, and it is through the vigilance of an interested and involved public, in partnership with wildlife officers, that it remains so.

Another challenge is ensuring that wildlife law enforcement efforts reflect the priorities and needs of the agency and the public it serves. Liaison with individuals, special interests, community leaders, and legislators will continue to be a priority for those serving in a law enforcement capacity for the DOW. Close working relationships with other local, state, and federal government agencies which have an interest in, or impact wildlife enforcement needs, will be developed, maintained and enhanced.

Education about why wildlife law enforcement is an essential public service and why the DOW is the best agency to provide that service is important from a wildlife law enforcement perspective. The public should understand the important nexus between enforcement of wildlife laws and wildlife management. Education about why wildlife law is critical for sound wildlife management is important for informed and voluntary compliance with the law. The use of enforcement of wildlife laws improves compliance with law for those who would willfully violate. The objective of enforcement is changing wildlife violator behavior.

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 public needs to be informed about lawful hunting and angling activities, as well as educate hunters and anglers concerning the sensitivity of some people toward these activities.

The demand for services is greater than the employee time available to meet that demand. This 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 are simply not enough resources to fund all the beneficial efforts, the DOW could

enact. 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. The DOW needs to maintain public support for its officers in the often-hazardous endeavor of protecting this state's wildlife resources.

The DOW 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 its 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 the agency always maintains public trust and support.

## **John D. Hart Wildlife Officer of the Year Award**

The John D. Hart Wildlife Officer of the Year Award is the Colorado Division of Wildlife's (DOW) recognition of outstanding wildlife law enforcement service. Any DOW employee may nominate a Colorado wildlife officer for the award. Nominations are then sent to all DOW commissioned officers who vote for one of the officers that have been nominated. The officer receiving the highest number of votes receives the award. This award has tremendous meaning to those who receive it, as those who have been nominated have been done so by a DOW employee and are selected by their peers as outstanding out of a field of superior officers.

The award is named after John D. Hart who was an officer that retired in 1959 as Assistant Director for the DOW. Mr. Hart began his career with the DOW in 1919 at the salary of \$75 per month and provided his own horse and gun. It was felt at the time the award was developed that Hart epitomized the qualities and values of wildlife officers then and now. He reportedly worked tirelessly (officers who worked for him later in his career said 24 hours a day, 7 days a week). Hart aggressively went after poachers, such as wielding iron rails under his car to lower the center of gravity, so that he could outmaneuver poachers in the corners when he chased them. He dressed up in bed sheets on moonlit nights to catch similarly dressed duck and goose poachers on snow-covered fields. He never issued a summons; violators were either taken immediately to court or to jail. He also recognized the biological side of his job, for example, he hand fed turkeys to get them established on the Uncompahgre Plateau. Even in those days, the concept of "multipurpose" was a good description of a wildlife officer.

In a 1913 report to then Governor Shafroth, wildlife law enforcers such as Hart were described as officers who "must have tact, know trial and court procedures, 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." Men and women who devote their lives to wildlife enforcement in Colorado today have the same kind of strength of character and willingness to go the distance as their counterparts at the beginning of the last century. Colorado has changed, technology has changed, and people have changed, but the wildlife officer's devotion to wildlife and duty to the citizen exists as strongly today as it did yesterday. The John D. Hart Officer of the Year Award recognizes outstanding service in relation to these ideals.

Colorado Division of Wildlife  
**2003 John D. Hart Officer of the Year – Glenn Smith**  
**Criminal Investigator, Montrose**

Every year, Colorado's wildlife officers choose one person to receive the John D. Hart Officer of the Year Award. In 2003, the award went to Glenn Smith. Chosen by his peers for his outstanding contributions as a wildlife officer over his long career, Smith has been a role model of those values wildlife officers hold in high esteem. Also recognized for outstanding service during the nomination process were Rich Antonio, Gary Berlin, Joe Gumber, Dave Harper, Jay Sarason, Rick Spowart, and Suzanne Turner-Kloster.

**Previous Wildlife Officer of the Year Award Winners**

1970	Eddie Kochman	1982	Roger Lowry	1993	Juan Duran
1971	Perry Olson	1983	James Jones	1994	Larry Rogstad
1972	Joe Gerrans	1984	Mike McLain	1995	Perry L. Will
1974	Robert Schmidt	1985	Wm. W. Andree	1996	Robert Holder
1975	Arthur Gresh	1986	Richard Weldon	1997	Jerry Claassen
1976	Sig Palm	1987	Jeff Madison	1998	Dave Croonquist
1977	Mike Zgainer	1988	Dave Lovell	1999	Mike Bauman
1978	John Stevenson	1989	Cliff Coghill	2000	Courtney Crawford
1979	Dave Kenvin	1990	Steve Porter	2001	Willie Travnicek
1980	Alex Chappell	1991	Thomas J. Spezze	2002	Ron Velarde
1981	Lyle Bennett	1992	Randall Hancock	2003	Glenn Smith

**Other 2003 awards for outstanding performance and contributions of wildlife officers:**

- *International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Conservation Officer of the Year – Glenn Smith*
- *Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Pogue-Elms Officer of the Year - Bob Thompson*
- *National Wild Turkey Federation Colorado Wildlife Officer of the Year - Lyle Sidner*
- *Shikar Safari Club International Colorado Wildlife Officer Of The Year – Mark Lamb*
- *Safari Club International Colorado Wildlife Officer of the Year – Glenn Smith*
- *Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Outstanding Law Enforcement Investigation – George Waters Case – Brandon Diamond, Kevin Duckett, Glenn Smith*
- *Colorado Mule Deer Association, Outstanding Law Enforcement Effort – 2003 Winter Range Saturation Patrol – Mark Caddy, Brandon Diamond, Paul Creeden, Shaun Deeney, Rich Antonio, Scott Winkler, Terry Wygant*
- *Colorado Chapter of the Wildlife Society, Professional Achievement in Education – Steve Lucero*
- *CDOW Field Training Officer of the Year - Rod Ruybalid*
- *CDOW Employee of the Year Award – Mike Crosby*

# **Wildlife Law Enforcement Unit**

## **Vision and Mission**

The Legislative Declaration that provides direction for the DOW 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 DOW 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 DOW has developed a vision and mission statement in support of the Legislative Declaration and the DOW'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 DOW 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 DOW 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 DOW, the LEU provides the leadership and guidance that directs the agency's law enforcement efforts. The DOW 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. Six investigators are assigned to service centers in Denver, Ft. Collins, Montrose, Steamboat Springs, Grand Junction, and Monte Vista. Each of these investigators is responsible for special investigations and serves as the primary contact for four or more DOW Areas in addition to their primary responsibilities for special investigations, officer training and support for field investigations. One of the investigators has special emphasis on investigative systems and processes.

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 law 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, the DOW has worked cooperative investigations and provided technical assistance to wildlife enforcement with the states of Alaska, Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, 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. Additionally, the LEU maintains ongoing communications and coordination with wildlife investigations nationwide.

The LEU works with the county sheriffs and local police departments. The unit also works closely with the Colorado Office of Outfitter Registration, the 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: the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service; the U.S. Forest Service; the Bureau of Land Management; the Drug Enforcement Administration, Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms; the Internal Revenue Service; the U.S. Postal Service; the National Park Service; and the National Marine Fisheries.

The issues arising from 9/11 has created the need for the DOW to become more involved with Homeland Security. In the event of an emergency, law enforcement officers from the DOW may be called in relation to law enforcement. The DOW is actively involved in processes within the state of Colorado in relation to Homeland Security.

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 75,000 records are currently available. The number of citations averages 6,000 per year. The LEU 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 DOW 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 percent 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, the Colorado Outfitters Association, the Colorado Wildlife Federation, Trout Unlimited, the United Sportsmen Council, the Colorado Sportsman Wildlife Fund, Safari Club International, 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 DOW 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 on-going 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 a 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.

## Colorado's Operation Game Thief (OGT)



**1-877-COLOOGT**

The Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW) initiated its Operation Game Thief (OGT) program in 1981. Since that time it has gone through many changes, most of them positive OGT began as a law enforcement tool to allow the public a chance to assist District Wildlife Managers (DWM) catch poachers. With about 200 officers to cover the entire state of Colorado, it is impossible for them to be everywhere at once. Tips and calls from the public are not only appreciated by our officers, they are desperately needed. OGT, patterned after Crime Stoppers programs, provides a free and easy way for the public to report suspected wildlife violations to the DOW. A new toll free phone number, 1-877-COLOOGT, (1-877-265-6648), is accessible in Colorado and nationwide. The OGT program provides for monetary rewards to be paid to persons who provide information that leads to the issuance of a citation by a DWM. Rewards have just been increased to \$500 for big game cases \$250 for turkey and \$100 for fish and small game cases. Callers may remain anonymous if they choose.



OGT is a nonprofit, 501-(3)(c) organization registered with the Colorado Secretary of State. It is governed by a five-person civilian board and one DOW employee, who is assigned to administer the program. The OGT Board members are Pat Carlow, Grand Junction; Richard Hess, Collbran; Jon Staples, Montrose; Gerhart Stengle, Hotchkiss and Bruce McDowell from Loveland. These men all donate their time. Until recently, Glenn Smith, a criminal investigator in Montrose, has been the administrator. Eric Harper, as the new Assistant Chief of Law Enforcement, assumed the role of OGT Administrator in 2003. The Board and the administrator meet at least once a year to discuss OGT business.

Last year (2003), the OGT program continued several new and exciting projects. These included a second sixteen-foot educational trailer, the OGT Partners Program, the use of Colorado State University (CSU) work-study students to assist in answering the OGT phone, and a new OGT brochure. These projects have been directed towards informing and educating the public about the existence of OGT in an effort to encourage more people to use the hotline to report poachers.



angered many people. The poacher was caught and prosecuted. The logo is now used on all OGT advertising and merchandise.

In 2003, the OGT board increased the rewards for big game violations to \$500 during the critical winter period, from November 15 to March 15 when the animals may be most vulnerable. The increased rewards were designed to assist and complement the increased emphasis on protecting animals on the winter range. The increased rewards seemed to be well received so the board decided in April of 2004 to permanently increase the rewards to \$500 for big game and increase the turkey reward to \$250.

The new OGT logo is a characterization of a bull elk killed illegally in 1995 in the Estes Park area. This bull elk, named "Samson" by locals, was a familiar site in the Estes Park area and his illegal killing

This new logo sparked many ideas on how to get the word out about OGT. One way was to develop a new OGT brochure. The new brochure was designed by DOW Montrose Service Center Administrative clerk, Claudette Anderson, is available at DOW offices and will be distributed by the OGT program.

The OGT educational trailers are 8' by 16' Haulmark trailers with two "concession" doors on one side. The trailer will be outfitted with items seized by wildlife officers, including such items as hides, antlers, skulls, the cross bow that killed Samson, a picture of Samson when he was alive and other similar items. DOW brochures will also be available and a TV/VCR will play DOW videos. The outside of the trailer is amply decorated with both DOW and OGT logos, and the OGT phone number and e-mail address, [game.thief@state.co.us](mailto:game.thief@state.co.us).

A group of Montrose-area DOW/OGT volunteers donated over two months of their time to convert the inside of the trailers into a very sharp-looking display. The first trailer has been exhibited many times so far, the biggest venue being the 2004 International Sportsman's Exhibition show in Denver, where it was well received. A second trailer is currently being completed by the volunteers in Montrose as of this writing. The trailers have been booked for over 20 other functions so far in 2004. Please call Eric Harper, (303)291-7216, to inquire about booking the OGT trailer.

Hand in hand with the new trailer is a program called OGT Partners. The OGT Partners program is aimed at encouraging groups, organizations and businesses to align themselves with OGT goals by donating funds to OGT and, in exchange, OGT places their logo on the trailer and passes out their brochures. A group may become a part of the OGT Partners program by donating \$250 per year or \$500 for three years. There are three partners at this time. The first to sign on was the Western Chapter of Safari Club International, the second partner is the Grand Junction Sportsmen's Warehouse store, and the third is the Colorado Bowhunters Association. OGT is looking forward to other groups participating in the Partners program. Please call Eric Harper at (303)291-7216 for information about becoming an OGT Partner.

Finally, the DOW is very excited about a new program that utilizes CSU work-study students to help answer the OGT hotline phone. This is a program that is used successfully in Maine and was brought to the attention of Glenn Smith by Tim Follensbee. Follensbee graduated from Unity College in Maine and was involved in that program in Maine. Thanks to Follensbee, the program is now in effect in the Ft. Collins office, with six CSU work-study students and several other volunteers answering the calls. This program allows for a person to actually answer the OGT hotline after normal working hours and on

weekends, instead of a caller reaching an answering machine. CSU students interested in participating in this work-study program should call Eric Harper at (303)291-7216.

One would think that most of the callers who call into the OGT hotline would ask for the reward. Just the opposite is true. Generally, less than 15 percent of the callers ask for the reward. Most callers are just interested in trying to help the DOW in protecting the state's wildlife. In 2003, 12 callers out of 299 received \$3,500 in rewards, an average of \$292. The 299 calls resulted in over \$52,000 in criminal fines, with many large cases still pending. Additionally, OGT received over \$31,000 in donations. The donations come from private sources, which are tax deductible, and from restitution from some of the wildlife cases. Criminal fines go to the state of Colorado, not OGT.

Colorado's OGT program had a successful year in 2003. The OGT board wishes to thank anyone who has helped in any way towards the continued success of the program. It is up to the citizens of this state and other states to help our wildlife officers protect Colorado's wildlife and OGT demonstrates that the citizens care and are not afraid to speak up. Take the time and make the call. It's your wildlife.



With the help of citizens, OGT will continue to try to help wildlife officers protect and manage the wildlife resources of the state of Colorado. .

*Report by Eric Harper, Assistant Chief of Law Enforcement, Denver*



## **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 could be 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 Intestate Wildlife Violator Compact (IWVC) was born in Colorado, Nevada and Oregon, with 15 other states following suit in the past 12 years. The other states are Arizona, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, Missouri, Maryland, California, Iowa, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Dakota, Georgia 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 and let them 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 they are home free, once they get back to their home state, uh-uh good buddy. The compact allows for the home state to suspend that person's hunting and fishing privileges if they do not pay the fine.

Another beneficial 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. This way, when a violator is suspended in Missouri for example, that person is likewise suspended in all of the compact states.

The record keeping process is cutting edge. The state of Utah graciously agreed to run the IWVC database. In particular, 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 Doug sends out quarterly updates on what each state has entered. In Colorado, Pam Pope, out of the DOW Montrose Service Center, does all of the IWVC data entry once she receives updated suspension from DOW Suspension Hearing Officer, Brad Frano. Pope also does the data entry of the OGT reports into an OGT database.

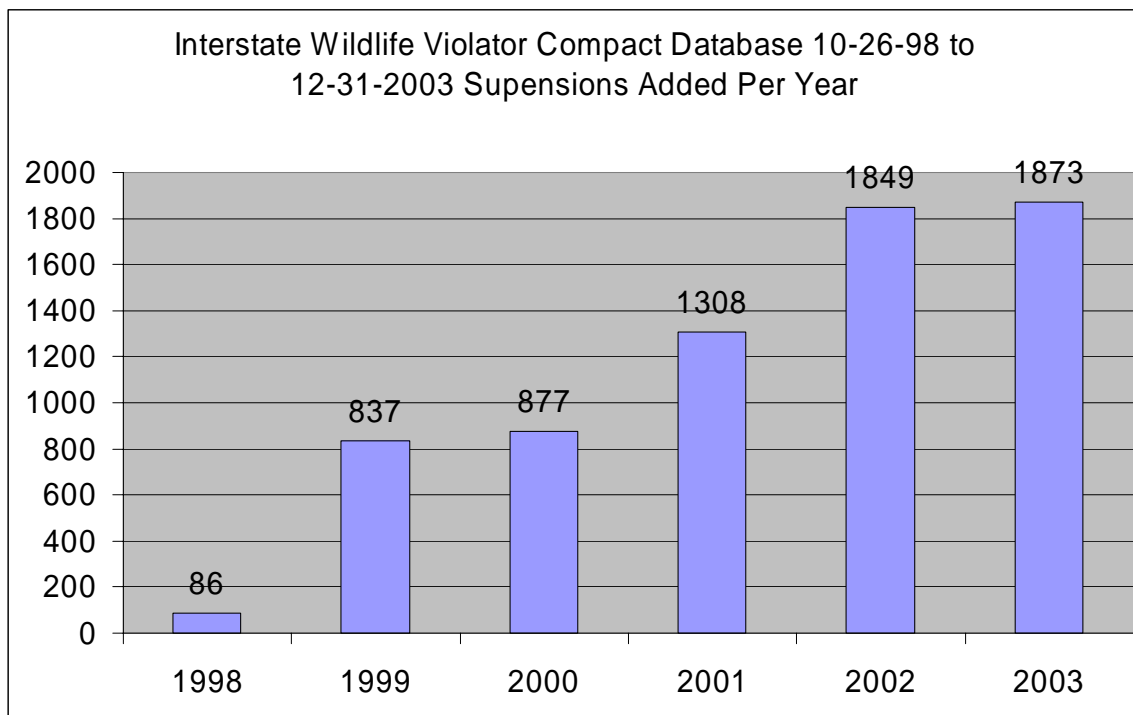
The next step will be for the limited license section to integrate the IWVC data base into their system so that – after a validation call to the suspension state to insure that person is still on suspension – any person applying for a limited license would be excluded if their name is on the database. With the point of sell license sales now initiated in the state of Colorado, it is hopeful that this process will be operational by the end of 2004.

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 by Glenn Smith, Criminal Investigator - Montrose*

The chart below shows a list of the IWVC participating states, their effective date of passage of legislation and number of suspensions from Oct. 26, 1998 to Jan. 31, 2003.

STATE	EFFECTIVE DATE	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Grand Total
ARIZONA	10/14/1991		350	39	31	41	80	541
CALIFORNIA	01/01/2002					44	53	97
COLORADO	02/25/1991		174	247	394	306	325	1446
GEORGIA	09/01/2003						3	3
IDAHO	03/15/1991	1	12	116	129	228	242	728
INDIANA	10/31/2000						8	8
IOWA	08/31/2001						190	190
MARYLAND	02/28/2000							0
MINNESOTA	03/01/2000			18	208	193	177	596
MISSOURI	12/20/1999			50	14	115	66	245
MONTANA	02/03/1996		124	137	349	188	156	954
NEVADA	02/19/1991		11		50	22	13	96
NEW MEXICO	08/30/2001					466	308	774
NORTH DAKOTA	08/15/2001					44	4	48
OREGON	02/19/1991							0
UTAH	03/01/1993	85	88	100	66	101	103	543
WASHINGTON	03/15/1991					43	115	158
WYOMING	08/03/1996		78	170	67	58	30	403
	Grand Total	86	837	877	1308	1849	1873	6830



## 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 enthusiasts typically 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 their local DOW office during normal working hours. After hours, calls can be dispatched through the Colorado State Patrol dispatch centers, sheriff's offices, or made to the 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 facilities, including commercial and private parks and lakes, as well as falconry facilities.

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 encouraged and are critical needs 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, the wildlife officers are known as "multipurpose" employees and serve their communities in many ways other than enforcement officers. 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. The state's 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 and 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 DOW, an applicant must have a minimum of a baccalaureate degree 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, but the likelihood of an applicant passing our rigorous biologically-influenced exam process is slim. 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 DOW 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 two law enforcement job suitability assessments and psychological evaluations, the assessment center does not evaluate an applicant's knowledge of law enforcement techniques. It is the desire of the DOW 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 all 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 DOW Academy prior to being assigned to a DOW district. Those courses include an additional 250 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 coursework. During their training in the DOW 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 DOW officer has ever been accused of using excessive force or resorting to the use of deadly force to affect 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 DOW district.



Every DOW commissioned officer is required to attend 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 DOW commissioned officer, all DOW 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 DOW senior staff or section and region managers.

*NOTE: Adapted from materials provided by Gary Berlin, human resource manager, and Carol Edlin, administrative assistant 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 14 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 1900’s 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:

<b>Licenses:</b>	<b>1903</b>	<b>2003</b>
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.*

<b>Fines*:</b>	<b>1903</b>	<b>2003</b>
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 2002, 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.)*

## Winter Range Patrol Effort

Over the past number of years, it has come to the attention of wildlife officers on the Western Slope that the increasing quality of our deer and elk herds has led to an increased poaching problem, especially on the winter range along the Colorado/Utah state line. Concerns by wildlife officers and the general public led DOW Regional Managers and the Law Enforcement Unit to plan and conduct a concerted effort at cracking down on winter range poachers in the winter of 2003/2004.

The effort included a two pronged approach; increase patrols in problem areas, and get the public involved. Wildlife officers began by holding several town meetings to discuss the poaching problems in Rangely, Grand Junction, Redvale, and Cortez. This effort was followed up by newspaper articles and radio spots to increase awareness. Operation Game Thief (OGT) was actively involved in the effort. OGT sponsored a billboard to advertise their anti-poaching message and followed that up with increased rewards for tips that came in during that time.

Western Slope wildlife officers, even after coming off of working months of long days during Colorado's big game seasons, started up the patrols right after the last combined big game season ended. Thousands of miles were driven and hundreds of contacts were made, both with sportsmen and the general public.

While the majority of persons contacted on these patrols were law abiding citizens, there were a number of violators who were cited for various violations. These violations included illegal possession of sage grouse, a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle, spotlighting and shooting three mule deer bucks in one night, willful destruction of wildlife (shooting a mule deer and taking only the head/antlers), as well as variety of other charges. While a number of poaching incidents were detected this past winter, the total numbers of dead animals found was down sharply from years past, indicating that efforts to protect mature bulls and bucks were successful.

In addition to protecting deer and elk, the patrols allowed officers an opportunity to check lion, bobcat, and small game hunters more frequently than in the past. And while a number of violations were detected, the majority of those contacted in the field expressed an appreciation for the winter range patrol effort and the job wildlife officers were doing.

### TOTALS:

- 4,000+ hours spent patrolling
- 50,000 miles driven
- 800 + hunter/sportsman contacts
- 41 total violations detected
- Six cases of illegal possession (big game)
- Nine ongoing investigations (big game)

Even though the emphasis was on the winter range along the Utah/Colorado state line, poachers did not ignore other winter range in western



Colorado, and neither did wildlife officers. Officers in eastern Mesa County recently arrested 2 men for the poaching of 4 bucks and a doe, all of which were shot after the seasons had ended. In Garfield County, a man was recently cited for shooting a 28" buck 5 days before Christmas. And in Glenwood Canyon, a call from a fisherman who found the head of a bighorn sheep led to the arrest of an Oklahoma man who killed it as if fed along the interstate.

Wildlife officers are diligent in their efforts to protect Colorado's wildlife resources. However without the help of the public, very few poachers would be apprehended and our wildlife would not be as numerous as it is today.

*Report by Eric Schaller, Criminal Investigator - Montrose*



## Introduction...

As Chief of Law Enforcement, I am always being asked about law enforcement cases on which our wildlife officers are working currently or in the past. People want more than just the statistics; they want the story behind the statistics.



In response we have been adding short summaries to some cases that occurred in the past calendar year in our annual report. In reading these reports the reader needs to understand that the vast majority of our hunters and anglers are law abiding citizens who, without their help, many of the relatively few poachers would go undetected in their activities and not held accountable for their acts. The hunting and fishing public support our efforts in law enforcement and want to see poachers apprehended and prosecuted as much as wildlife

officers do. Even though some of the headlines below are humorous, poaching is serious business. Wildlife officers risk a tremendous amount when they pursue mostly armed individuals who do not want to get caught and it is no laughing matter when you are face to face with one of them.

A special thanks to Cameron Lewis, public information specialist, who compiled and edited these reports into a single, readable document.

## The “Party” Is Over: Unethical and Illegal Use Of Motor Vehicles And Radios To Take Wildlife

Over the years, information had been gathered that the members of a hunting group were likely very proficient party hunters. During the third season of 1999, the group numbered about a dozen or so men holding elk licenses for Game Management Unit 48, west of Leadville. On one morning that year, the group was reported to have used their vehicles to herd and chase a group of elk in a flat sagebrush area along the Arkansas River. At least seven elk were killed and tagged by members of the group. By the time wildlife and sheriff officers could arrive at the scene, carcass tags were in place. Witnesses who were willing to help were either too far away to identify any specific persons or their reports were made too late to be of value. Evidence was lost due to the passage of time and the weather. One report claimed that at least two other elk were loaded into a truck whole and removed from the scene before law enforcement personnel could arrive on scene. Additional information, provided after the incident, indicated that the group used radios to communicate with each other while herding the elk. One of the group’s members “borrowed” several handheld radios from his employer.

Although the individuals making up the group varied from year to year, the core of the group was comprised of five or six residents of Lake County. Plans were made to monitor the group’s activities the next year by use of radio scanners. With the help of Department of Communication technician Walt Zorn, the frequencies utilized by the radios from Climax were determined. Wildlife Officers Randy Hancock and

Tom Martin had Zorn program their vehicle radios to receive those channels. The plan was originally intended to just gather intelligence for use in subsequent years, but the events of the 2000 season made it imperative that enforcement action be taken.

Criminal Investigator Jay Sarason arrived in Lake County on Sunday of the third 2000 season prepared with scanning and recording equipment to monitor the group's activities. He soon determined that the group was utilizing two different types of radios. The "little radios" were Family Service Radios (FSR). They are available to the general public utilizing 14 different frequencies. FSR radios can be purchased by anyone at outlets such as Radio Shack or Wal-Mart. The second type of radio being used was those borrowed from one of the group member's employer. Monitoring both radio types and watching from great distances, Sarason was able to document several possible violations by members of the group in the early part of the third season.

On the morning of November 8, 2000, certain group members were observed and heard trying to get closer to a herd of elk that was out in the open and grazing their way from the river to timber to the west. To get to the timber, the elk had to cross the same sagebrush flat that was the site of the 1999 incident. Partly due to the fact that only two vehicles of the group were close enough and partly due to chance, most of the elk were able to escape across a county road onto a private ranch on which the group knew they couldn't hunt. That same evening, Martin heard the group discussing plans for the next morning. One man, who seemed to be the group leader, announced that they would hunt the same spot as they did the previous morning. He was heard to say, "Duncan's gonna sit on the main road and go back and forth so if they're in there, they won't go across." Preparations were made for the next morning. Hancock and Martin would be distant observers from two different locations. Sarason and Wildlife Officer Charlie Blake would be in an unmarked vehicle as close to the area as possible.

The next morning, November 9, 2000, the elk appeared like clockwork. Just minutes before legal shooting hours, one member of the group announced that he had spotted a large elk herd (over 100). Utilizing five vehicles, the group began to surround and herd the elk onto the sagebrush flat, trying to get close enough to shoot. Scanning the group's radio conversations and observing their vehicle movements, it was obvious to the wildlife officers present that the group was well practiced and coordinated at using motor vehicles to hunt elk. For the next hour and 15 minutes, the elk were chased and herded, changing directions over a dozen times as they attempted to escape across a county road. When it was over, three cow elk and a calf elk had been shot by two men. With one exception, no one ever got out of a vehicle, except to shoot. Seven of the men present were charged. Three chose to pay their fines by mail. Three other men were convicted in two separate trials in Lake County Court. During a jury trial, the seventh man was acquitted of two charges related to his activities earlier in that season, but was found guilty by the jury of three charges related to the incident on November 9. The man appealed his convictions to the District Court, arguing, among other things, that the statements heard and recorded by scanning the radio conversations should not have been allowed to be used as evidence against him. The District Court agreed with the rulings of the Lake County Court and in the fall of 2003, the Colorado Supreme Court refused to hear any further appeals.

As the deputy district attorney who handled the case pointed out to the jury, the approach the group took toward elk hunting was perhaps best summarized by a statement made by one of the defendants and scanned by wildlife officers. Three of the men were talking about their concerns that Sarason might be "the informer." This man was heard to say, "We'll just have to all be [legal], just take your own." But with the same breath he added, "You got two cow tags still, we got a bull tag. If you just lay it down, nobody will know. We'll come back and get it later."

This case, involving seven defendants charged during and after the big game season in 2000, finally concluded in 2003 when the Colorado Supreme Court refused to hear any further appeals by the last of the seven defendants. Convictions on ten charges totaled \$7,200 in fines and surcharges.

## OGT Tipster Points to Trophy Bear Poaching

An Operation Game Thief (OGT) call indicated that a Boone and Crockett record bear was killed by a Michigan hunter during the 2001 fall seasons. Investigator Dan Miller and Wildlife Officer Mike Bauman returned to the crime scene near Craig, Colorado. It was determined that only the skull, paws, and hide were taken. An investigation by Miller and Wildlife Officer Rich Antonio cumulated in a federal search warrant on the subject's home in Michigan. The search revealed not only the illegal take of this black bear, but numerous other trophy poaching violations.



The defendant was convicted of possessing seven illegal white-tailed deer and one black bear in Michigan. In Colorado, the defendant and his co-conspirator (who tagged the illegal bear) were convicted of the illegal take of the black bear. The defendant also pled guilty to felony provisions of the Federal Lacey Act for the illegal take of the Colorado bear.

To date, this investigation has resulted in the return of the taxidermy full-body mount of the huge black bear and skull. It will be displayed in the Hunter Education Building at DOW Headquarters. The defendant has been fined \$17,550 with an additional restitution to OGT of \$10,000. The defendant is under a federal lifetime suspension and will have a felony conviction on his record. He also has

been ordered to serve 60 days of jail time. At this time, the investigation continues with additional defendants in Colorado and Wyoming for felony willful destruction of wildlife and illegal take of mule deer.

## No Guarantees: Suspended Arizona Poacher Apprehended In Colorado Lion Hunt

The defendant advertised “Guaranteed Lion Hunts” in the Maybell area during the 2003 mountain lion season. The local Wildlife Officer Rich Antonio contacted Investigator Dan Miller concerning the advertisement. The investigation revealed that the distributor of the advertisement had his hunting and fishing privileges suspended in Arizona for wildlife violations. Covert contacts were made by Miller.

The defendant agreed to provide a guided hunt in Colorado; however unknown to him his client was a covert wildlife officer. During the investigation, other wildlife violations were discovered including several violations by a cooperating taxidermist. Additional violations that were discovered pertained to another lion killed during the previous season, illegal bobcat, illegal mule deer, illegal elk in both Colorado and Arizona, and various other violations.

To date, defendants have either paid citations, pled guilty through plea agreements, or have been found guilty in a court of law. At the last minute, one tactic used by the defense was to claim the outfitting was done under the license of another outfitter. Little did the defendant know that the legally licensed outfitter would ride out of a guided hunt, three hours to a trailhead, and make it into town to testify that the defendant was not operating under his license.

The case resulted in the charging of 10 defendants for a total of 6 felony charges, 37 misdemeanors, and 10 written warnings. Five of these defendants are in the license suspension process in Colorado. Fine and restitution was ordered in the amount of \$17,000. Nine years of probation were ordered and 3 of the defendants moved from Colorado.



## City Limits: Pellet Gun Kills Deer

Early one April morning, Colorado Springs District Wildlife Manager Albert Romero received a call about a dead deer on the side walk near bus stop. The Colorado Springs Police Department had already responded and stated that three middle school aged boys had heard what they thought was a gun shot and the deer fell dead about 150 yards west of where they walked.

Romero noticed a small hole in the head, between the eyes of the animal and first thought was that it was from a .22 caliber rifle. He took the deer head to a local veterinarian for x-rays, which revealed an object in the back of the skull. Romero then took the head to the DOW office and cut the skull to remove the object, which was identified as a pellet used in pellet guns. Romero then conducted interviews throughout the neighborhood and located a man that had a habit of shooting his pellet gun at deer to scare them off his yard. A Colorado Springs Police Department Officer and Romero interviewed this man and obtained a confession. The man was charged with illegal possession, hunting out of season, and 3 counts of reckless endangerment.



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## Witness Statements Add Up To Charges for an Illegal Elk

It all started when an outfitter told Wildlife Officer Mike Reid that one of his hunters had seen a spike elk that had been shot and left by another hunter. During the course of a day-long investigation, Reid talked to 14 different witnesses who had either seen the hunter with the spike, or had other information about it. Of the 14 witnesses, 13 had not even been sure that the spike was illegal and used the brochure to determine that it was. The 14<sup>th</sup> witness told the shooter the spike wasn't legal, but never called the violation in.

The witnesses told varying accounts that included different numbers of hunters (2, 3, 4, or 7) seen with the spike. The vehicle was described as a dark blue or dark green Ford or Dodge pickup, and the vehicle may or may not have had a camper shell on it. The hunters were described as either young, middle-aged, or older, and the one that may have had a beard might have been of stocky build. One witness reported that the shooter had called a least one partner on Channel 8 of an FRS radio, and a different witness recalled seeing a Green Bay Packers logo on the shooter's truck. The witness accounts were confusing, to say the least.

Physical evidence gathered at the scene included photos of two distinctive boot tracks, two gut piles, two drag marks, and one set of tire tracks (Firestone Steel-Tex A-Ts) with wheel-base measurements, the spike elk and three expended 7mm caliber shell cases.

Wildlife Officer Doug Purcell came to assist Reid and found the only Wisconsin camp within a ten mile radius of the spike – the reported Green Bay Packers logo was a possible link to the Wisconsin hunters. Those in camp denied any knowledge, and nothing matched up with the physical evidence. The only things that matched were that they were from Wisconsin and had an FRS radio set on channel 8 in camp. (It was later determined that the shooter and his partner were already back in Wisconsin by the time the camp was found).

Later that evening, Reid returned to the camp with a witness who positively identified one of the men as the shooter. That person then made a cell phone call and said to the person he called, "Hey, Bro', you

know how much you and I look alike? Well, I'm not going down for you ... the game warden needs to talk to you."

The defendant accepted a Penalty Assessment through the mail and paid the fine. The officers still don't know what the truck really looked like.

## Making the Best of a Bad Situation: Wildlife Officer Turns Prosecution into Community Benefit

Wildlife Officer Larry Rogstad investigated a fish kill on the Poudre River. A company was secretly dumping washout effluent from cattle hauling trucks into the river. The investigation was complex and involved several agencies including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Rogstad took a solid lead and helped bring the investigation to a successful conclusion and prosecution. This case is different from most in the way Rogstad carried on beyond the conviction. The defendant was a long-time local resident and wanted to make sure that any penalty that was assessed would go back to benefit the community.

Rogstad had been working with the Town of Windsor as they acquired and dredged out the Old Windsor Reservoir. Rogstad coordinated with the defendant, the District Attorney, the Attorney General, and the Town of Windsor to create a penalty that resulted in the defendant paying a fine of \$97,000 to the Town of Windsor for the express purposes of supporting and benefiting fisheries management on the reservoir. Rogstad drafted a MOU with the town that specified the use of the funds, including construction of docks, piers, youth fisheries education, habitat improvement and law enforcement.

Rogstad is now also in the process of working with the Town of Windsor to apply for and leverage a Fishing is Fun project, utilizing the work that the town has done on the reservoir, as well as the funding available from the law enforcement case.

This is an excellent example of a creative officer taking a negative environmental incident on the Platte River, and building a positive partnership in conservation with the defendant, town and other partners. This hard work and cooperation will benefit the fisheries resource and public enjoyment for many years to come.

## Keyboard Cop: Computer Investigations Lead to Prosecution and Large Fines

Through an investigation conducted primarily from behind a computer, District Wildlife Manager Bob Morris documented the fraudulent purchase of resident hunting and fishing licenses by two non-residents. The men were charged with 57 counts of making false statements on license purchases. Mounted trophies, including two mountain goats and a bighorn sheep were recovered from their home in Georgia. Investigators from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, working closely with DOW officers, played instrumental roles in the case that resulted in one of the largest licenses fraud investigations in recent times.

One man from White Plains, GA, was charged with 35 counts of making a false statement on a license. He was fined \$14,590 and assessed 525 points against his hunting and fishing privileges in Colorado and other Wildlife Violator Compact states. His brother of Buckhead, GA was charged with 22 counts of making a false statement on a license fined \$8,028 and assessed 320 points against his hunting privileges. Charges of illegal possession of big game and federal violations for transporting the game were not filed due to the cooperation of the defendants and the substantial fines imposed. The violations date prior to 1992 when the brothers began claiming they were Colorado residents on big game license

applications and big game licenses sold over-the-counter to avoid paying higher nonresident fees and to gain more hunting opportunity reserved for Colorado's residents. Operation Game Thief will receive \$7,000 of the fines collected from the two men. Two other men, including one license agent, were also charged for violations related to this case.

Due to modern technology both of the violators, who hunted throughout the state over the past 20 years, have lost their hunting and fishing privileges for five years in Colorado and in their home state of Georgia. Georgia joined the Wildlife Violator Compact Sept. 1 of 2003.

## Neighborhood Watch: Citizen Report Results in Apprehension of Poachers

During the second big game hunting season in unit 66 in 2003, Wildlife Officers Bob Carochi and Matt Thorpe received a call about some hunters who had trespassed. A neighbor in a subdivision of summer cabins, where hunting is not allowed, had observed some hunters go onto a neighbor's parcel. The reporting party went over to where the hunters were and contacted them. He got names and vehicle descriptions and recognized the trespassers, as they are also homeowners in the subdivision. He then contacted dispatch and the DOW received the call.

Carochi and Thorpe investigated the call and tried to find an animal, but none were located. The following day, Carochi and Thorpe returned with Wildlife Officers Rick Basagoitia, Paul Jones, and Dave McCammon and were able to locate a 2x2 mule deer with a 23-inch spread. Through subsequent interviews with the two California hunters involved, they admitted to shooting and finding the buck deer before being scared away by the reporting party. They had intended to retrieve the buck at a later time but saw the wildlife officers in the area, and decided that they might try to retrieve the head later in the week.

The shooter was charged with illegal possession, trespassing, waste of game meat, and the Samson surcharge (trophy poaching provision) which he paid. The other hunter was cited for illegal possession, trespassing, and waste, which he paid.

The 2x2 buck cost them more than \$13,000 total and 50 points each. This crime was reported and solved because someone cared about the poaching, got good information, and passed it on to law enforcement channels.

## Remote Backcountry No Protection for Unwary Poachers

There is a history of violations in remote parts of big game units, such as Game Management Unit 76, in the Weminuche Wilderness, due to the desirability of trophy animals in limited units, and due to their proximity to unlimited units.

In October 2003, Wildlife Officer Brian Bechaver was patrolling the upper Rio Grande Basin and contacted a party of hunters camped below the Continental Divide in unit 76. Bechaver, working in plainclothes, was told that the hunters were hunting over the top of the divide in an unlimited unit. Assessing the long climb over the divide to access the other unit, Bechaver suspected an unregistered outfitter was conducting the camp and that the hunters were actually hunting within the boundary of the limited elk unit. Bechaver returned to the area two days later and with help from fellow officers, set about on foot patrol watching and tracking the hunters in the vast expanses above timberline.

Patience and hours of observing paid off as the party was spotted recovering parts of elk killed in the limited unit. Wildlife Officers Brent Woodward, Matt Thorpe, Bob Carochi and Jay Sarason along with assistance from a Hinsdale County Sheriff's Deputy, and USFS Officer Larry Franke, made the trek to the remote camp and interviewed the five non-resident hunters. Four illegally killed elk were recovered and

the hunters admitted to killing the elk in the improper unit. All five hunters plead guilty and paid their fines for the illegal possession of four elk and five counts of hunting without proper and valid licenses. A sixth man identified as an unregistered outfitter was also charged for each of the counts and his case is pending.

## Citizen Report Leads to the Arrest of Suspects for Trophy Poaching

On October 31, 2003, Wildlife Officer Percy Pope was contacted by a citizen from the town of Wetmore. The reporting party stated that she had seen two dead deer with the antlers removed left alongside a county road. The two carcasses had been dragged from behind a Wetmore business, down a state highway and abandoned along the county roadway. Pope responded to the scene and while inspecting the two mule deer bucks, was contacted by two Custer County road and bridge employees.

The road and bridge employees informed Pope that they had seen two fresh sets of deer antlers lying on top of a porch at a restaurant in Wetmore. Pope followed the drag marks from the site where the deer were left to the restaurant, but was unsuccessful in contacting someone at the business. Pope did notice the antlers on the porch roof and seized them as evidence. He then took the antlers back to the carcasses and was able to determine that they had been removed from the same deer.

Wildlife Officers Ron Zagar and Don Rodriguez were called to help with the investigation. The three officers met at the restaurant and subsequently, three more deer carcasses were located behind the restaurant, all of which were also missing their heads. A second attempt to contact the restaurant owner was successful and he and another employee were also questioned about the deer. The focus of the investigation eventually led to additional searches at the restaurant and a hayfield outside of Wetmore.



*From left to right: DWM's Ron Zagar, Darryl Crawford, Jake Rodriguez, Lonnie Brown, Matt Martinez and Gretchen Holschuh*

Soon, it became apparent that this case would involve multiple trophy mule deer and suspects. Wildlife officers from Pueblo, Salida and Denver joined the investigation searching for poached deer, interviewing witnesses and collecting evidence. The field investigation extended into three days and nights with little or no rest for the officers.

The total amount of collected evidence submissions and suspect interviews consumed the majority of November for Wildlife Officers Percy Pope, Ron Zagar, Jake Rodriguez, Darryl Crawford, Gretchen Holschuh, , Lonnie Brown and Matt Martinez. Wildlife Investigator Jay Sarason was instrumental in coordinating the volumes of reports needed to file charges against the "Wetmore 6" and in supporting the officers during the first three days of the interviews.

With the last of the evidence sent to the Wyoming forensic lab for DNA matching and final interviews being conducted, the officers had a clear picture of the events. Several suspects were arrested and charged with the illegal killing of the deer. A total of eight deer were discovered, three of which were large enough to qualify for the Samson (trophy poaching) surcharge. Six suspects were charged with multiple violations including illegal possession, waste of wildlife and hunting on private property without permission.

One suspect, within hours of his release from Custer County Jail where he had been taken by Wildlife Officers, appeared at the restaurant, assaulted and severely beat one of the other members of this same group. Felony charges have been filed on this individual for the assault which placed this defendant in the hospital for several days. One subject has since pleaded guilty and the other five are awaiting trial in Westcliffe.

## Return to Sender: California Man Using Division of Wildlife Office Address for License Purchase Cited

Wildlife Officer Albert Romero thought it was unusual that the mailing address given by a person for the purchase of resident hunting and fishing licenses was none other than the address for the DOW Southeast Regional Office.

Last February, Romero followed the trail of the would-be office resident and found that the individual did not stay in the same state for more than a few months, moving two or three times a year between New York, Colorado, and California. He was however, paying California taxes and claiming disability in California.

Romero found several addresses in California for the man and asked a California game warden to assist. They were able to locate the man and interviewed him about his legal residence. In addition to giving false statements for the purposes of buying resident licenses, the man also admitted to killing a 5x5 bull elk in 2002. The cape and rack were found at a taxidermist in Colorado Springs and seized as evidence. Romero contacted the officer in California and the California officer served the man Colorado citations for two counts of false statement (one fishing license and one hunting license) as well as illegal possession of the elk.

Funds to manage the wildlife of the state are generated in large part by license fees. The fraudulent purchase of licenses robs the people of the state revenues for the management of their wildlife. Cooperation between wildlife officers from different states helps apprehend those willing to defraud the system.

## Suspect Shoots Wrong Species: Tracks Not Enough to Identify Target

Wildlife Officers Michael Blanck and Kirk Oldham were on patrol during the 2003 third regular rifle season early in November. As they entered a hunting area regularly occupied by a variety of hunters called Church Park, in Middle Park, they noticed two individuals carrying rifles creeping through a meadow. The wildlife officers stopped on the road and watched to see what the two men were stalking.

The wildlife officers watched one of the men drop to a knee, look through his scope, and shoot. The other man was watching through his rifle scope as well. The shooter then stood up and began to walk towards the edge of the meadow. Blanck and Oldham could not see what the men had been shooting at.

The shooter stood at the edge of the meadow, turned around, and held his rifle above his head. He was shaking it up and down as if to indicate that he had killed what he was shooting at. The second man

walked up to the shooter. They both stared at the animal they had killed. Then one of them finally looked in the direction of the wildlife officers. The shooter's partner slowly began to walk towards them.

When Oldham contacted him, he stated that he 'thought' they had killed a moose. Since there was no moose season on, Blanck and Oldham knew that there was a problem.

The wildlife officers approached the hunter who was standing approximately 5 yards away from a large bull moose. The shooter asked them if the animal was a moose. He wasn't entirely sure that the animal lying in front of them with large palmate antlers, a dark brown/black coat, a distinctive bulbous nose pad, and a distinctive "bell" around the throat was a moose. Oldham advised the soon-to-be defendant that it was in fact a moose.

Both hunters had bull elk licenses. They stated that they had followed a set of large two-toed tracks that must have been those of an elk. The shooter said that he had seen movement in the trees at the edge of the meadow. The hunter said that he had seen an animal with antlers and a brow tine. As he continued to use the scope of his rifle to identify the animal, he had lost sight of it. As soon as he saw the antlers again, he shot once and the animal went down. He had hit it once at the base of the antler with a .300 caliber Winchester Magnum.

Oldham asked the hunters to field dress the moose. Neither of them had ever field dressed an animal before, so Blanck helped them out. Oldham brought the pickup next to the moose so that it could be loaded. The wildlife officers had a 'spike' bull elk head seized from a previous violation in the pickup bed. The shooter looked in the pickup, saw the elk head, and then asked where Oldham had picked up the 'antelope'? Blanck calmly explained that it was an elk.

The shooter was charged with hunting without a valid/proper license, unlawful possession, and the additional Samson (trophy poaching) surcharge. All totaled, the violations equaled \$15,795 and 30 points against their hunting and fishing privileges. Working with the District Attorney, the shooter pled guilty to hunting without a valid/proper license and a deferred judgment on the surcharge. He paid \$4,425 in fines and agreed to pay an additional \$5,000 to the local sheriff's department per the stipulation of the deferred judgment. Both hunters were from the Denver area.

## OGT Tip Leads To Charges Filed On Illegal Take of Bighorn Sheep

Early in December, Wildlife Officer Bailey Franklin was contacted by several local sportsmen advising that they had seen a 5/8 curl bighorn sheep in the Axial Basin area south of Craig. Franklin made note of the observations because the area is not known to hold bighorn sheep. The nearest potential source populations are the bighorns in the Cross Mountain/Dinosaur National Monument area which is approximately 25 miles west of Axial Basin.

In mid-December, Franklin received an OGT tip indicating the Axial Basin bighorn ram had been poached by a local individual and two other individuals from the Denver area who had been hunting cow elk during a late season in the same area. Franklin went to the suspected location in Axial Basin but could not find any bighorn sheep or the poached remains of a sheep. The OGT informant had provided enough information for Franklin to develop possible leads of suspect individuals by examining law enforcement databases and querying license records. Interviews of possible suspects were conducted by Franklin in the Craig area and by Wildlife Officer Bill Miles in the Fort Morgan area.

One of the suspects finally provided a statement of his involvement but advised that the sheep had been "gotten rid of." Information allowed Franklin to locate some bighorn skull and horn remains and other DNA evidence of the poached sheep from several different locations. The evidence has been submitted to the Wyoming Game & Fish Forensic Lab for DNA testing.



Additional interviews were done by Wildlife Officers Rich Antonio and John Koehler. Charges have been filed in Moffat County against four suspects by the Moffat County DA's Office with the case pending prosecution.

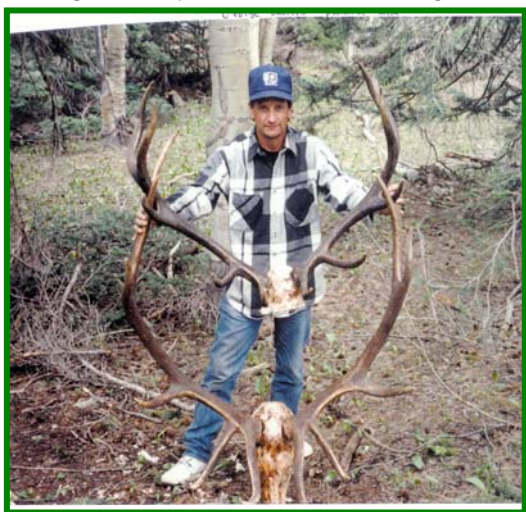
## Perseverance, Cooperation and DNA Play Role in Joint Colorado, Iowa, and Federal Trophy Poaching Investigation

Colorado wildlife officers teamed up with federal and Iowa wildlife officers in 2002 in an effort to stop a group of Iowa trophy elk and deer poachers that had been operating for over 20 years in both states. Iowa officers had been aware of the poaching activities of George Waters of West Branch, Iowa for years, but Waters always seemed to elude capture. Then Colorado officers became aware of Waters poaching trophy mule deer and elk in western Colorado in 1994. But it was not until the fall of 2002 that state and federal wildlife officers got the tip they needed to put a stop to Mr. Waters's illegal hunting activities.

An OGT tip gave Colorado officers just the information they needed. Colorado Wildlife Officer Brandon Diamond was given the OGT information and before long he located the Waters' camp and eventually what turned out to be the remains of an illegal bull elk in Game Management Unit 61, on the west side of the Uncompahgre Plateau. Diamond also found a pair of cotton gloves at the carcass site. Then, about a month later, he discovered a large set of elk antlers hidden in a Ponderosa snag, not more than 100 yards from where Waters had been camping. The antlers were cleverly camouflaged so that, unless someone was specifically looking for them, they would not have been spotted. This all fit with the original intelligence that officers had received about George Waters. He liked to kill his illegal animals, cut off the heads and antlers, leave the meat to waste, and store the antlers in trees so he could come back later to get them. In this case, Waters was hunting in a limited draw unit during archery season, something he had been doing for over 10 years. But Waters rarely had any license to hunt and he used rifles instead of archery equipment. In Colorado, he would return a year later in the summer to retrieve the head and antlers and then transport them back to Iowa.



*DWM Brandon Diamond with illegal elk antlers taken by George Waters in 2002*



*George Waters posing with two sets of illegal elk antlers taken in the late 1990's on the Uncompahgre Plateau.*

DNA examination matched the gloves, carcass and antlers as all belonging to the same bull elk. Additionally, a fingerprint found on the tape was identified as belonging to George Waters. Throughout the winter of 2002/2003, Iowa and federal wildlife officers kept a very close eye on George's hunting activities. A warrant was even obtained for a tracking device to be installed on his truck, which yielded a lot of detailed information about his travels. Other information continued to come into Iowa wildlife authorities, who allowed covert officers to make covert contacts with Waters and eventually two illegally taken sets of white-tailed deer antlers were purchased.

Finally, the U.S. Attorney in Davenport, IA, Jeff Lang, determined that there was enough evidence to obtain a search warrant for Waters' residence, as well as search warrants for other family members and hunting

associates in Iowa. Those warrants were served on April 21, 2003, resulting in over 200 sets of antlers and many firearms being seized. One fully automatic, illegal firearm was recovered from the residence of George Waters. Officers also interviewed more than 20 subjects that day. Based on the evidence recovered from the searches and the information obtained from the investigation and the interviews, George Waters was charged with two felony counts of violating the Lacey Act, charges associated with Iowa and Colorado, involving 38 illegally killed trophy animals from Colorado and Iowa. George Waters pleaded guilty to those charges on Sept. 24, 2004 and he agreed to go to Federal Prison for five years,

pay fines of \$10,000 and \$15,000 restitution to Iowa and Colorado, for a total of \$40,000. He also agreed to forfeit the trophy mounts and the nine guns seized from his home. Waters was sentenced in Federal Court on Jan. 7, 2004.



*Antlers and other evidence seized from George Waters' residence on April 21, 2003*

One of Waters' associates, Kevin L. Chelf, of Iowa City, IA, pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court on December 30, 2003, to two felony counts of the Lacey Act. He agreed to spend 8 months in Federal Prison, pay \$5,000 in fines and restitution to Iowa and Colorado in the amount of \$17,500. Chelf will also forfeit over 25 sets of trophy whitetail antlers. Chelf had accompanied Waters on at least two illegal elk and mule deer hunts in the late 1990's. He admitted to killing two elk illegally on those trips.

There are 6 or 7 other participants that are awaiting prosecution in the Waters' case. Their cases are being handled currently by U.S. Attorney Lang.

This case is an excellent example of state and federal wildlife officers and prosecuting attorneys working together to stop interstate trophy poaching. Over 60 federal and state officers were involved with the investigation, which yielded hundreds of illegally taken deer and elk antlers, along with guns and photos taken by Waters and his friends. Iowa and Colorado will seek lifetime hunting and fishing suspensions from George Waters and others involved in the investigation.



*Additional items seized from the George Waters investigation*

## Friends Don't Let Friends Shoot Too Many Elk: Party Hunting Leads to Multiple Violations

Area 6 Wildlife Officers (Craig and Meeker) investigated an OGT call reporting the discovery of three dead bull elk on Colorow Mountain. Wildlife Officers Barry Dupire and Dan Prenzlowl had found one mostly boned-out carcass with the skull plate and antlers removed, one elk partially skinned, and one elk apparently untouched. Other evidence was also found and collected at the kill site.



Upon contacting the suspects, the officers found that the hunters had several tagged deer and elk at the camp. At first, the hunters claimed that they had no knowledge of the alleged violations or dead elk found abandoned at the kill site. Wildlife Officers Jon Wangnild, Dupire, and Prenzlowl separated the suspect hunters and continued the interviews. The hunters were then confronted with the evidence, at which time, the guilty individuals finally decided to be truthful as to the details of what really took place.

Two of the hunters stated that they had previously decided to purchase one elk license to share between themselves. Unfortunately, both hunters found elk at the same time with one of the hunters killing an elk and the other hunter, some distance away, firing into a small herd of bulls killing three elk. Another hunter in the camp assisted in attempting to conceal the real story when first contacted by the officers. Once the officers sorted out the stories and facts, four hunters were issued citations for the illegally taken elk and illegal transfer of a license.

An interesting sideline of the investigation was the letter of apology written to Dupire by one of the hunters who knew him from previous hunting trips. The hunter explained that although he and others in the hunting party had tried to be good sportsmen, that because of the bad actions of one of the individuals, things had just gotten out of hand with them trying to cover-up bad judgments and actions.

The hunter apologized for their mistakes and thanked the wildlife officers for their professionalism and understanding of what took place on Colorow Mountain.

Dupire stated that the case is a classic example of the problems of party hunting: Two or more hunters decide to "share" elk license/s – one hunter sees several bulls, loses his mind, and kills more than one. In the meantime, the other "sharee" kills another elk. Then it's cover-up time which leads to waste, transfer, and dissension in camp.

## Two Men Convicted, Fined For Hunting Geese Over Bait.

An Aurora man will be paying \$1,750 and a resident of Alaska will be paying \$250 in fines, following a conviction in U.S. District Court for hunting waterfowl using bait, a violation of federal law.

A baited area is where salt, grain, or other feed has been placed or scattered, in such a way to lure or attract geese, ducks, doves or other migratory birds to, on or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them. Baiting migratory game birds is a criminal offense with fines up to \$200,000 and a one-year prison term. Hunting over a known baited area can result in up to \$15,000 in fines. It is not illegal to feed migratory birds, but it is strictly prohibited to hunt in such an area.

On January 21, 2003, the two defendants were contacted by Wildlife Officer Steph Durno, acting on a tip from the Assistant Chief of Law Enforcement, Eric Harper. Harper often drove by a particular field on I-76 west of Sable, between Commerce City and Brighton, and noticed lots of geese and pigeons feeding in the field on a regular basis.

"There was a lot more bird activity than you'd normally see in a field, so it made me think there might be baiting going on," Harper said.

He suggested that Durno investigate and she discovered a pile of corn placed near the hunting blind, approximately one foot-by-one foot and two or three inches deep. Durno observed the two men hunting Canada geese and contacted the defendants in the field at about 3:30 p.m., after they had taken three geese.

Using Durno's report and a joint state/federal investigation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Special Agent Ken Dulik issued a federal citation to the men. One defendant chose to take his case to trial and was

prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Joshua Stein in U.S. District Court in Denver. He was convicted on June 11, 2003 for the charge of hunting migratory birds (Canada geese) with the aid of bait. Magistrate Judge Boyd N. Boland sentenced the defendant on July 18, 2003 and was fined \$1,750. The other defendant agreed to plead guilty, rather than go to trial, following after the first defendant's conviction. His fine was \$250. Neither defendant will be suspended for hunting privileges.

Migratory birds are protected at the state and federal levels and the use of bait while hunting is illegal and can be prosecuted in state or federal courts. Hunters are responsible for insuring that an area has not been baited and should verify its legality prior to hunting. All migratory birds are federally protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1916.

## Illegal Alaskan Moose Ends Up In Colorado, Court Convenes By Phone

A group of hunters from Grand Junction went to Alaska to hunt moose in September. While there, one hunter killed two moose, which is contrary to Alaska law. Another hunter tagged the additional animal to "make it legal."

Apparently, not all of the members of the hunting group thought that party hunting was a good idea. The shooter and another member of the group had a dispute in a bar at the Anchorage Airport. During the course of their discussion, a table was turned over and an innocent bystander was injured.

One report stated she broke her leg. During the course of the assault and reckless endangerment investigation, it was revealed why they had gotten into the fight. The sketchy information about a group of eight hunters from Colorado who had killed two moose was relayed to Alaskan State Trooper Jim Pagel who interviewed local guides and transporters to come up with the group that matched the description. As luck would have it, Pagel had plans to hunt elk with his daughter during the first combined season on the Uncompaghre Plateau. He and his daughter flew into Grand Junction on Oct. 16 and, with the assistance of Wildlife Officer Lyle Sidener, a telephone conference was made with the principals' attorneys and later interviewed the principals themselves. The defendants agreed to plead guilty to several charges with their attorney's blessings. The defendant whose tag was used on the illegal moose agreed to plead guilty to a charge of letting his tag be used on a moose that he did not kill, a \$500 fine, and relinquished the moose (antlers, cape, and meat) to Pagel. The shooter pled guilty to illegal take of a moose, a \$2,500 fine, and hunting moose without a proper and valid license, another \$2,500 fine. He also paid \$1,000 in restitution, was sentenced to 3 years of probation, 3 years relinquishment of hunting privileges in Alaska, relinquished the rifle used to kill the moose (Sako .338 with a Zeiss scope), and agreed to write a letter of apology to the court.

Sidener had never experienced a telephonic court hearing. The hearing was held via a 3-way conference call on speaker phone between the Magistrate in Aniak, Alaska, the defendant's attorney in Anchorage, Alaska, Pagel and Sidener in an office of the DOW Northwest Regional Office in Grand Junction.



*DWM Lyle Sidener and Alaskan State Trooper Jim Pagel (right) with an illegally taken moose from Alaska. The moose was seized from hunters that live in Grand Junction, CO.*

Everything was settled by 9 p.m. (7 p.m. Alaska time). That was, of course, about 36 hours after the trooper and his daughter left Alaska.

Pagel and his daughter hunted elk, but unfortunately were subject to the same hot, dry weather that affected all the hunters during second season. After their hunt they returned home with no elk, but his 100 percent conviction rate was intact. The rifle went with Pagel back to Alaska and he turned the moose over to the DOW. The moose head will be used for the DOW's education effort, and the meat has been turned over the meat bank.

## Quick Response by Dispatch and Wildlife Officers Nabs Illegally Taken Elk

A man shot a spike bull elk and told another person he was going to take it with his cow tag. The witness called OGT with this information, including that the man was gutting the spike bull elk near Dolores. The OGT dispatcher tried to contact the officer by phone but was unable to reach her, so he called the DOW's Durango Office where Wildlife Officer Greg Martin took the information and relayed it to Wildlife Officer Robin Olterman by radio. Olterman located the suspect before he was able to leave the area and cited him for the illegal elk. Through teamwork and communication, the suspect was apprehended and learned that it's not possible to outrun the radio.

## Koi-Addicted Great Blue Heron Killed With Pellet Gun

On Christmas Day 2003, Wildlife Officer Tim Woodward received a call from OGT Dispatch regarding a Great Blue Heron that was shot with a pellet gun. The reporting party had heard a sound like a pellet gun being fired while walking, he then saw a neighbor stomping on the head of a Great Blue Heron. The reporting party confronted the suspect and then called OGT. The reporting party was willing to complete a statement if necessary. Woodward responded to the address and contacted the suspect who admitted shooting the heron with a pellet gun when it would not leave his Koi (decorative goldfish) alone. Woodward then followed the suspect to the apartment complex where he had thrown the plastic bag containing the heron carcass in the dumpster. Woodward told the suspect he would be contacted either by himself or agents with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to issue him a citation. After consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Woodward turned the case over to Special Agent Roger Gephart. The suspect has agreed to pay a fine for the federal violation notice.

## Attempt to Bury Evidence Digs Deep Hole for Man Who Wasted Elk

OGT received a call about a party who was seen burying elk parts in a camp north of Rifle. The reporting party provided the license plate of a vehicle and the first name of one party in the hunting camp. Wildlife Officer Brian Gray investigated with the assistance of officers from Colorado and Georgia. The suspect was located after interviews with the registered owner of the vehicle. The interviews with the owner of the vehicle and the suspect revealed that the person burying the elk parts had shot it in a canyon just before dark. Although others in his party advised him to go field dress the elk, he refused to go until the next morning. When the party arrived at the elk the next morning it was partially spoiled and by the time it was back at camp it was in very poor condition. The shooter decided to bury the elk and never voided his carcass tag. Gray cited the suspect for illegal possession and waste of big game. The case would not have been possible without the help of the initial anonymous caller.

## Opportunity Knocks; Trophy Mule Deer Poacher Caught

A local man just couldn't help himself when a large mule deer buck jumped up in front of him, so he shot it with the 9mm pistol that he carried on his hip. Unfortunately, wildlife officers had been expecting something like this to happen when the large 39" non-typical buck was videotaped earlier that summer on the Uncompaghre Plateau. Photographs of the buck circulated like wildfire in the small communities around the plateau and wildlife officers knew that local poachers would also be on the look out for the large buck.

Wildlife Officers Brandon Diamond and Eric Schaller got their first break when a local man bragged about seeing a huge buck in a "friend's" car trunk. A little snooping around by Diamond revealed the name of the man as well as the fact that he did not have a buck license. It did not take much persuasion for the poacher to finally admit to his wrongdoing. He turned over the large deer rack and was charged with a number of violations including assessment of the Samson trophy surcharge.

## Suspect Transports Illegal Deer Under Hood Of A Car

Two Nucla, Colorado, men were charged and convicted of poaching violations after wildlife officers served a search warrant on their home and vehicles in early 2003. The case originated with a headless deer carcass that was found on the winter range. Wildlife Officer Kevin Duckett was able to document the tracks that a small vehicle left in the mud nearby and match them to the suspect's Subaru. The search warrant revealed that this was not the only animal that they had poached that winter. Meat and parts of a number of deer, elk and antelope were found during the search. Apparently, the men poached the deer out of the Subaru and transported the meat and antlers under the hood of the car. Thanks to the tenacity of Duckett and some good game warden work, these men will not be allowed to hunt for many years.

## Ute Mountain Evidence Prompts Prison Time For Elk Poacher

Wildlife Officer Robin Olterman, other wildlife officers along with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service were able to successfully prosecute a local Cortez man after he poached a large bull elk after dark on Ute Mountain, in the Ute Indian Reservation. While the State of Colorado does not have jurisdiction on the tribal lands, when the man brought the trophy elk home, he committed violations of state law (unlawful possession of the elk) as well as federal law (transporting the illegally taken elk off of the tribal lands). A search warrant for the man's residence also turned up evidence of the cultivation of marijuana plants. Being sentenced to 4 months in Federal Prison and 4 months in a halfway house should serve as a wake-up call for the man who has a history of wildlife and other violations.

## Since We're Neighbors, Let's Be Friends: Poacher Involves Minor In Poaching

A Naturita Colorado poacher and convicted felon recently pled guilty to illegal possession of several elk and deer as part of a plea agreement with the local district attorney. Wildlife officer Brandon Diamond heard that the man had been poaching on the winter range, but had not been able to catch him in the act. Acting on a tip, wildlife officers set up a stakeout on the man's house throughout the night with little success. In an effort to stop the poaching, Diamond, with the help of other wildlife officers, obtained a consent search of the property from the owner and discovered several fresh deer carcasses. They were also able to find parts of several more animals in a shed at the home of a 15-year-old neighbor girl who was apparently poaching with him. Felony charges of illegal possession of a weapon by a prohibited person (convicted felon) were dropped as a part of the plea agreement.

## Poison Pods Prove Problematic for Texas Archers

In September of 2003, Officer Kevin Duckett was contacted by a concerned hunter who knew of a camp of Texas hunters that had killed a large mule deer buck with poison pods. The informant said that the deer had a 31-inch outside spread and the hunters still had the poison in camp. Wildlife Officers Ryan Swygman and Terry Mathieson joined up with Duckett and headed for the camp to verify the information that they had been given. At the camp, a group of Texans greeted the officers and happily showed off their only animal in camp, a large 4 x 6 mule deer. One hunter said that he had killed the buck. Duckett noticed the hunter's bow lying near his camp trailer and turned the conversation towards his bow. Eventually he removed the quiver from his bow and showed the officer the bow he used to kill his big buck. When asked what kind of quiver he was using, the hunter bent down and removed all the arrows from his quiver. While he was removing the arrows from the quiver, the officer noticed a pod near the broadhead on one of his arrows. The hunter quickly set the arrows down, covered them up with a sweatshirt, and then handed his quiver to the officer. The hunter was asked what kind of broadheads he was shooting and how he liked them. The hunter reached down, picked an arrow without a poison pod on it, and handed it to Duckett, saying he liked his broad heads just fine.

When asked what was on the other arrows and picked one up from under the sweatshirt. The hunter said, "That's my bear arrow, it has poison in that pod, and I'm scared of bears."

Eventually the hunter produced the remaining bottle of poison, and the rest of his uncharged poison pods. Interviews of all members at camp were not able to determine what happened. The hunter repeatedly said, "Why would I poison something that I'm going to eat?" Swygman and Duckett took meat samples from the arrow entrance wound and the final resting spot of the broadhead. The deer hide with the arrow entrance hole was also seized and the deer head photographed. The next day, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Special Agent Kevin Ellis was contact to see what the Ashland lab could do for analysis.

The lab identified the poison as Succinylcholine (Anectine), a muscle relaxant used during surgery on humans in the anesthesiology process. All hoofed animals, including deer are stated to be 1,000 times more sensitive to Succinylcholine than humans. A 60-milligram dose would produce complete muscular paralysis on a human adult, while a deer would require less than 1 milligram to produce the same paralytic state. The lab also explained that Succinylcholine metabolizes very quickly in the blood stream and therefore makes it very hard to detect. The Succinylcholine does not affect the meat for human consumption.

In early March of 2004, Ellis and Duckett conducted a conference call with the suspect and his lawyer in Texas. During the call, the suspect agreed to pay the state ticket, forfeit the deer head and provide information as to how he obtained the poison. The suspect said he bought the poison from a bow shop in Mississippi along with a complete kit to prepare to hunt with the stuff for about \$50.

Table 1.0 - 1994-2003 Tickets Issued per Year

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total
TICKETS ISSUED	5295	4246	4661	4045	4421	4160	5063	4894	4917	4962	46664
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5295</b>	<b>4246</b>	<b>4661</b>	<b>4045</b>	<b>4421</b>	<b>4160</b>	<b>5063</b>	<b>4894</b>	<b>4917</b>	<b>4962</b>	<b>46664</b>

Table 1.1 - 1994-2003 Violations Grouped by Major Category

VIOLATION CATEGORY	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total
BIG GAME *	600	399	491	401	419	336	539	394	409	430	4418
CARCASS CARE	109	76	102	80	81	135	113	127	111	112	1046
COMMERCIAL USE	16	0	5	1	2	1	2	4	0	7	38
FAIR CHASE	118	79	71	79	31	39	34	52	47	79	629
FISHING *	918	616	580	526	615	543	714	849	710	985	7056
LICENSING	2691	2091	2462	1919	2329	2265	2600	2723	2712	3038	24830
OTHER WILDLIFE VIOLATIONS	723	542	587	514	418	515	959	916	881	795	6850
PRIVATE PROPERTY TRESPASS	351	313	344	306	347	286	260	208	295	298	3008
SAFETY	730	585	728	718	681	540	622	538	584	606	6332
SMALL GAME *	533	545	456	466	452	408	488	433	406	389	4576
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6789</b>	<b>5246</b>	<b>5826</b>	<b>5010</b>	<b>5375</b>	<b>5068</b>	<b>6331</b>	<b>6244</b>	<b>6155</b>	<b>6739</b>	<b>58783</b>

\*does not include license violations

Chart 1.1 Total Violations by Year

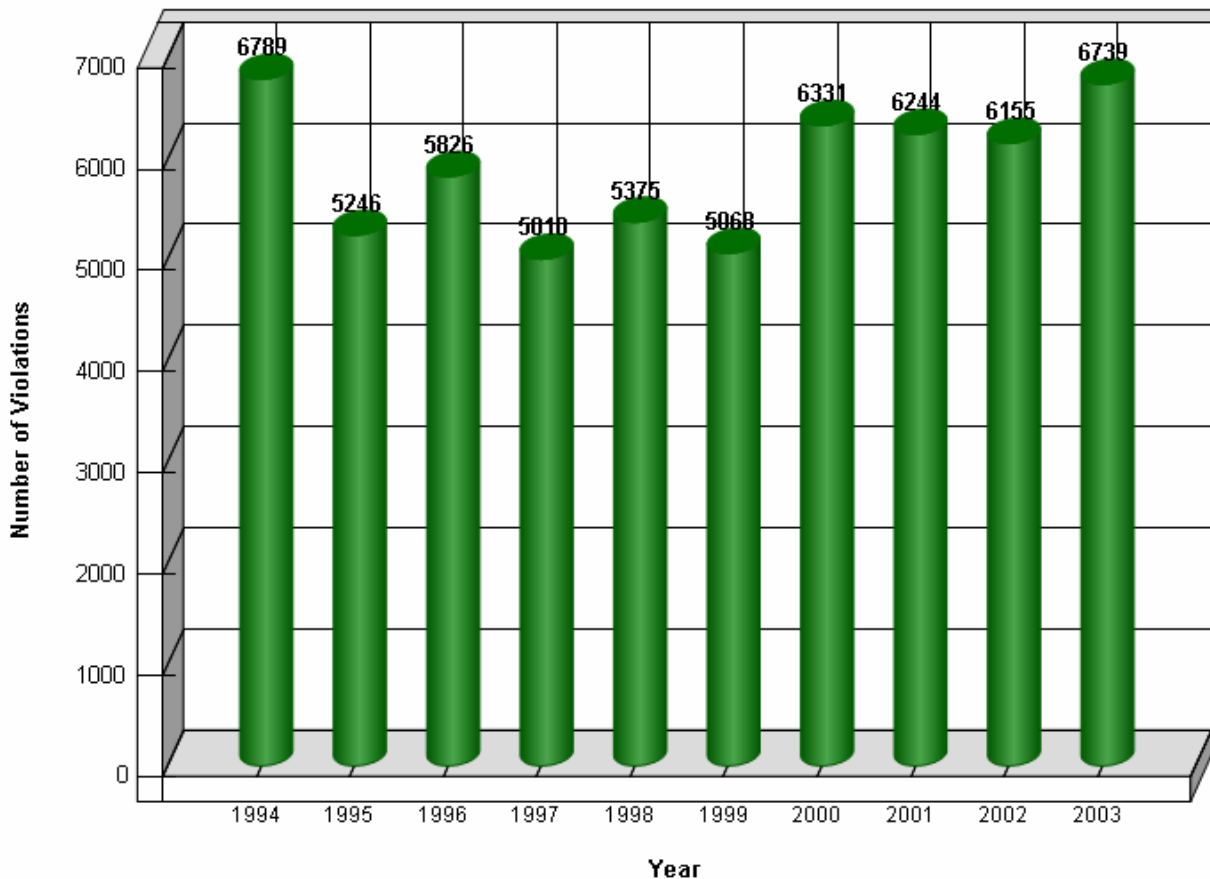


Chart 1.2 2003 Violations by Category

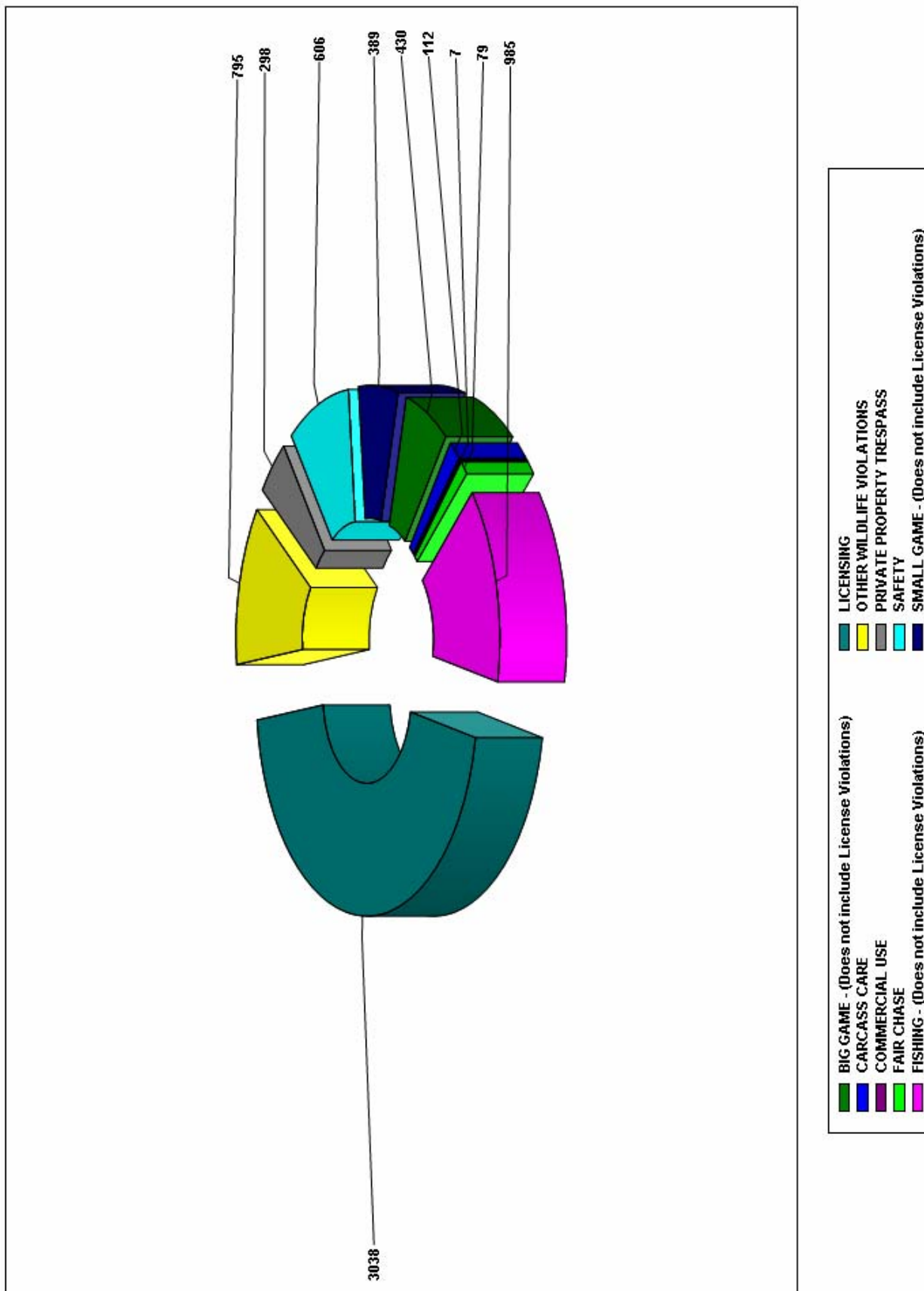


Table 1.2 - 1994-2003 Percent by Major Category/Calendar Year

VIOLATION CATEGORY	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total
BIG GAME *	8.8%	7.6%	8.4%	8.0%	7.8%	6.6%	8.5%	6.3%	6.6%	6.4%	7.5%
CARCASS CARE	1.6%	1.4%	1.8%	1.6%	1.5%	2.7%	1.8%	2.0%	1.8%	1.7%	1.8%
COMMERCIAL USE	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
FAIR CHASE	1.7%	1.5%	1.2%	1.6%	0.6%	0.8%	0.5%	0.8%	0.8%	1.2%	1.1%
FISHING *	13.5%	11.7%	10.0%	10.5%	11.4%	10.7%	11.3%	13.6%	11.5%	14.6%	11.9%
LICENSING	39.6%	39.9%	42.3%	38.3%	43.3%	44.7%	41.1%	43.6%	44.1%	45.1%	42.2%
OTHER WILDLIFE VIOLATIONS	10.6%	10.3%	10.1%	10.3%	7.8%	10.2%	15.1%	14.7%	14.3%	11.8%	11.5%
PRIVATE PROPERTY TRESPASS	5.2%	6.0%	5.9%	6.1%	6.5%	5.6%	4.1%	3.3%	4.8%	4.4%	5.2%
SAFETY	10.8%	11.2%	12.5%	14.3%	12.7%	10.7%	9.8%	8.6%	9.5%	9.0%	10.9%
SMALL GAME *	7.9%	10.4%	7.8%	9.3%	8.4%	8.1%	7.7%	6.9%	6.6%	5.8%	7.9%
<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>	

\*does not include license violations

Chart 1.3 Violations by Month for 2002/2003

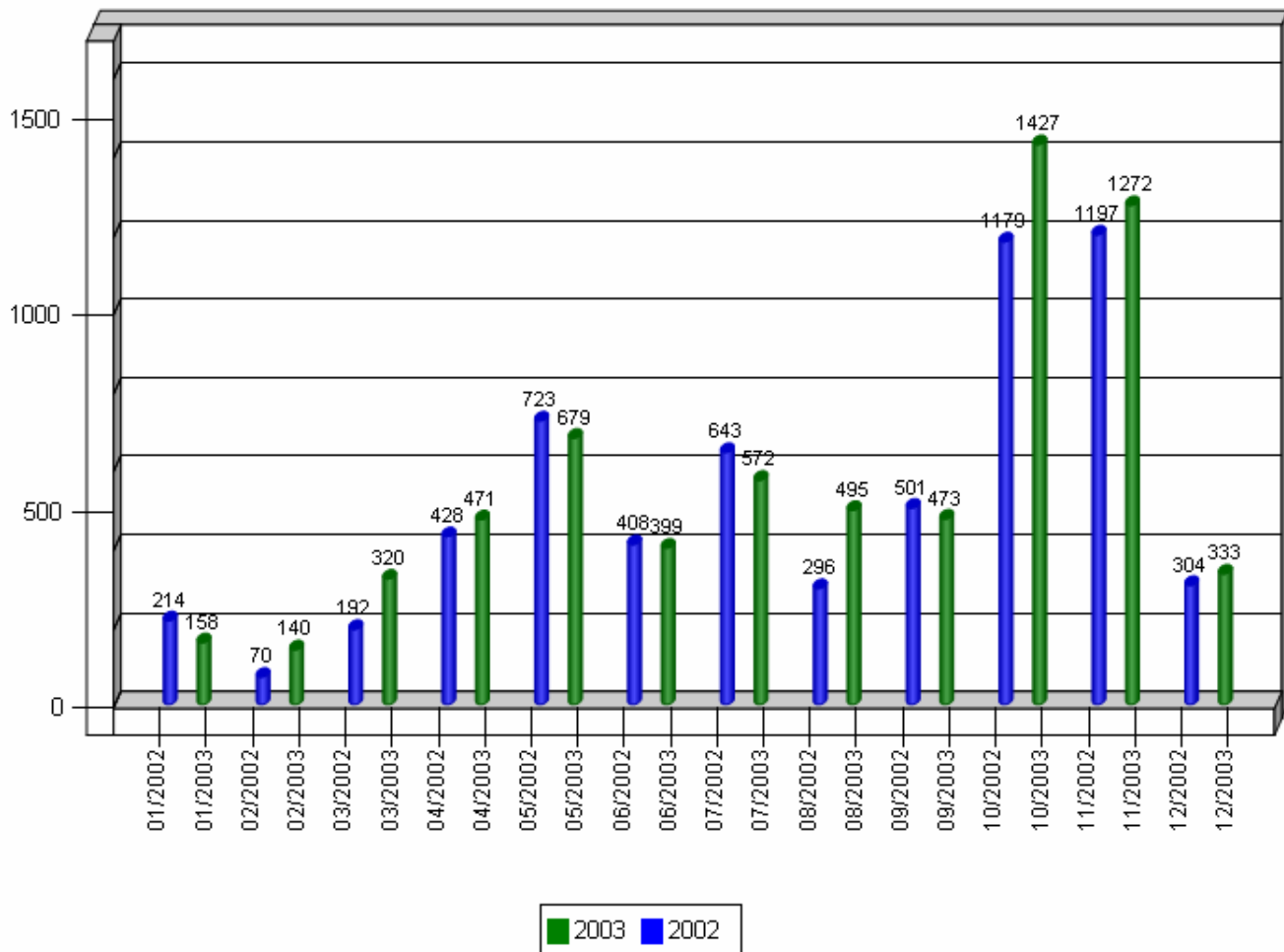




Table 1.3 - 1994-2003 Big Game (does not include license violations)

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Total</b>
SHEEP-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	4	2	3	3	4	6	1	3	0	0	26
MOUNTAIN LION-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	6	6	5	6	5	3	3	10	6	5	55
MOUNTAIN GOAT-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	3	10
MOOSE-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	4	4	2	3	12	3	4	1	6	2	41
ELK-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	241	140	218	169	195	171	302	159	236	219	2050
ELK - ACCIDENTAL KILL	33	30	3	18	9	4	2	6	6	4	115
DEER-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	201	128	145	102	95	75	128	130	90	145	1239
DEER - ACCIDENTAL KILL	15	22	0	5	2	1	1	4	1	2	53
BEAR-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	6	8	13	14	15	13	19	23	16	11	138
ANTLER POINT VIOLATION - ELK	52	20	40	47	48	31	45	31	27	16	357
ANTLER POINT VIOLATION - DEER	10	10	41	9	13	6	1	5	3	1	99
ANTELOPE-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	25	23	21	20	19	17	30	20	17	20	212
ANTELOPE - ACCIDENTAL KILL	1	6	0	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	13
BEAR - ACCIDENTAL KILL	0	0	0	2	1	4	1	0	0	2	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>4418</b>

Table 1.4 - 1994-2003 Carcass Care

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Total</b>
WILLFUL DESTRUCTION OF WILDLIFE	4	3	20	5	10	8	8	13	6	6	83
WASTE OF GAME MEAT	104	71	81	74	68	125	104	112	104	105	948
WASTE OF FISH	1	2	1	1	3	2	1	2	1	1	15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>1046</b>

Table 1.5 - 1994-2003 Commercial Use

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Total</b>
SALE OF WILDLIFE - MISDEMEANOR	7	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	12
SALE OF WILDLIFE - FELONY	9	0	4	1	1	0	1	3	0	7	26
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>38</b>

Table 1.6 - 1994-2003 Fair Chase

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Total</b>
UNLAWFUL USE OF MOTOR VEHICLE TO HUNT/HARAS	47	28	39	36	9	23	18	32	32	36	300
UNLAWFUL USE OF ARTIFICIAL LIGHT	68	47	32	43	22	16	16	20	15	43	322
UNLAWFUL USE OF AIRCRAFT AS HUNT/FISH AID	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>629</b>

Table 1.7 - 1994-2003 Fishing (does not include license violations)

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Total</b>
UNLAWFUL DEVICE-FISHING	4	3	2	6	3	0	4	1	2	3	28
UNLAWFUL BAIT OF FISH (CHUMMING)	6	20	9	6	8	10	8	5	12	5	89
UNATTENDED POLE/LINES	36	34	17	22	32	21	50	48	38	19	317
FISHING WITH BAIT IN FLY/LURE ONLY WATER	142	79	100	111	119	74	121	172	131	158	1207
FISHING W/MORE THAN LEGAL NO. OF LINES	34	32	14	27	40	58	66	42	60	33	406
FISHING W/MORE THAN LEGAL NO. OF HOOKS	1	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	8
FISHING IN A CLOSED AREA	18	15	15	13	30	10	12	9	19	18	159
FISHING DURING A CLOSED SEASON	1	2	2	7	5	3	2	0	0	0	22
FISHING BEFORE/AFTER LEGAL HOURS	5	0	3	3	7	2	2	0	0	0	22
FISH-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	671	430	414	331	370	365	449	572	447	749	4798
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>849</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>7056</b>

Table 1.8 - 1994-2003 License Violations

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Total</b>
UNREGISTERED/UNNUMBERED SNOWMOBILE/RV/BOAT	9	4	7	8	46	12	25	29	16	6	<b>162</b>
UNLAWFUL TRANSFER OF A LICENSE/PERMIT	62	50	49	53	55	64	108	68	81	80	<b>670</b>
SECOND ROD STAMP VIOLATION	120	79	137	83	88	113	67	72	77	67	<b>903</b>
PURCHASING MULTIPLE LICENSES	24	17	13	17	12	12	27	32	17	7	<b>178</b>
OUTFITTING WITHOUT REQUIRED REGISTRATION	12	2	1	2	5	5	3	3	1	4	<b>38</b>
NO MIGRATORY WATERFOWL STAMP	75	52	33	53	35	26	44	19	35	35	<b>407</b>
LICENSE VIOLATION - MISCELLANEOUS	2	4	138	23	133	164	102	219	344	392	<b>1521</b>
HUNTING WITHOUT A PROPER/VALID LICENSE	359	278	328	279	341	270	395	309	375	381	<b>3315</b>
FISHING WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION	2	2	0	4	1	1	1	0	1	0	<b>12</b>
FISH WITHOUT A PROPER/VALID LICENSE	1679	1366	1447	1107	1309	1327	1479	1625	1465	1710	<b>14514</b>
FALSE STATEMENT MADE-ACQUIRING A PERMIT	1	3	3	0	7	1	0	0	0	0	<b>15</b>
FALSE STATEMENT MADE IN PURCHASE OF LICENSE	160	106	133	99	98	84	104	94	94	189	<b>1161</b>
FAILURE TO TAG	170	112	129	151	168	141	211	191	183	146	<b>1602</b>
FAILURE TO OBTAIN ROADKILL PERMIT	1	5	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	<b>10</b>
APPLYING FOR LICENSE WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION	3	0	5	4	5	4	2	3	6	9	<b>41</b>
ALTERATION OF A LICENSE	12	9	11	4	2	2	4	4	2	1	<b>51</b>
NO PARKS PASS	0	2	19	23	18	31	25	46	7	10	<b>181</b>
HUNTING WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION	0	0	2	3	0	1	0	4	1	1	<b>12</b>
FAILURE TO CARRY LICENSE AS REQUIRED	0	0	3	2	4	1	0	1	1	0	<b>12</b>
APPLYING FOR MULTIPLE LICENSES	0	0	2	2	2	5	3	4	6	0	<b>24</b>
FAILURE TO DISPLAY LICENSE AS REQUIRED	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2691</b>	<b>2091</b>	<b>2462</b>	<b>1919</b>	<b>2329</b>	<b>2265</b>	<b>2600</b>	<b>2723</b>	<b>2712</b>	<b>3038</b>	<b>24830</b>

Table 1.9 - 1994-2003 Private Property Trespass

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Total</b>
TRAPPING W/O PERMISSION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>3</b>
HUNTING W/O PERMISSION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY	306	249	279	250	293	221	234	184	249	240	<b>2505</b>
FISHING W/O PERMISSION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY	20	14	47	25	19	20	8	10	17	42	<b>222</b>
CRIMINAL TRESPASS	23	50	18	30	35	45	18	14	29	16	<b>278</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>3008</b>

Table 1.10 - 1994-2003 Safety

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Total</b>
SWIMMING IN UNDESIGNATED AREA	2	4	10	3	5	4	7	0	0	0	<b>35</b>
SHOOTING FROM A PUBLIC ROAD	167	129	184	179	155	76	121	100	139	93	<b>1343</b>
SHOOTING FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE	1	2	20	7	26	22	20	17	19	9	<b>143</b>
SAFETY-MISCELLANEOUS	1	5	2	5	0	2	16	1	0	1	<b>33</b>
OPERATING A VESSEL W/O PROPER SAFETY EQUIP	19	17	32	30	37	29	17	22	14	16	<b>233</b>
NO HUNTER SAFETY CARD	7	7	4	11	3	11	21	19	12	19	<b>114</b>
LOADED FIREARM IN A MOTOR VEHICLE	387	301	307	348	307	280	265	269	270	357	<b>3091</b>
HUNTING WITHOUT AN ADULT	7	6	1	2	6	3	9	5	6	1	<b>46</b>
HUNTING IN CARELESS/RECKLESS/NEGLIG MANNER	15	10	18	9	6	10	10	12	16	6	<b>112</b>
FAILURE TO WEAR DAYLIGHT FLUORESCENT ORANGE	119	98	116	108	91	81	121	86	100	100	<b>1020</b>
CARELESS OPERATION OF MOTORVEHICLE	5	1	3	5	24	4	5	1	5	0	<b>53</b>
CARELESS OPERATION OF A MOTORBOAT	0	5	28	9	19	13	2	2	0	3	<b>81</b>
HUNTING UNDER THE INFLUENCE DRUGS/ALCOHOL	0	0	2	2	1	4	8	4	3	1	<b>25</b>
CARELESS OPERATION OF A SNOWMOBILE	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	<b>3</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>622</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>6332</b>

Table 1.11 - 1994-2003 Small Game (does not include license violations)

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Total</b>
WATERFOWL-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	59	64	94	35	43	19	10	16	22	23	<b>385</b>
TURKEY-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	2	9	6	8	3	5	3	8	6	3	<b>53</b>
SMALLGAME-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	46	46	31	50	38	83	68	36	60	36	<b>494</b>
UNLAWFUL USE OF TOXIC SHOT	80	98	38	50	52	20	18	18	12	23	<b>409</b>
HUNTING IN A CLOSED AREA	85	85	47	76	50	31	44	48	24	16	<b>506</b>
HUNTING DURING A CLOSED SEASON	59	87	77	88	66	82	77	72	65	61	<b>734</b>
HUNTING BEFORE/AFTER LEGAL HOURS	67	62	61	55	69	49	69	48	34	52	<b>566</b>
FAILURE TO LEAVE EVIDENCE OF SPECIES	7	1	2	0	9	1	0	0	0	2	<b>22</b>
FAILURE TO LEAVE EVIDENCE OF SEX	128	90	91	100	117	111	192	179	175	166	<b>1349</b>
TRAPPING BEFORE/AFTER LEGAL HOURS	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	<b>4</b>
FURBEARER-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	0	2	7	4	5	6	7	8	8	7	<b>54</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>533</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>4576</b>

Table 1.12 - 1994-2003 Other Wildlife Violations

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Total</b>
WEAPONS OFFENSE - ALTERED SERIAL NO.	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	<b>4</b>
UNLAWFUL MANNER OF HUNTING	91	94	45	83	61	97	83	118	87	108	<b>867</b>
UNLAWFUL METHODS OR PROCEDURES-MISC	384	273	297	196	153	192	596	384	496	392	<b>3363</b>
UNLAWFUL DEVICE-WILDLIFE	1	0	0	4	2	5	1	1	5	5	<b>24</b>
UNLAWFUL BAITING OF WILDLIFE	9	9	10	4	6	7	9	8	9	7	<b>78</b>
UNATTENDED CAMPFIRE	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	<b>5</b>
RAPTOR-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	15	7	7	3	7	7	5	3	1	3	<b>58</b>
PARKS-MISCELLANEOUS	1	0	9	22	0	17	13	2	5	0	<b>69</b>
NONGAME-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	17	23	9	5	4	5	12	53	8	22	<b>158</b>
MOTOR VEH/VESSEL OUTSIDE DESIGNATED AREA	86	40	65	53	35	66	90	146	131	118	<b>830</b>
MISCELLANEOUS-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	8	0	8	12	10	3	8	10	25	3	<b>87</b>
LITTERING	40	30	22	19	30	16	20	30	17	35	<b>259</b>
FIRE BUILT IN RESTRICTED/PROHIBITED AREA	2	4	20	2	10	3	6	3	6	10	<b>66</b>
EXCEEDING ESTABLISHED BAG LIMIT	9	0	1	1	0	1	5	28	11	10	<b>66</b>
CDOW PROPERTY REGULATION VIOLATION	1	4	25	44	26	48	42	24	13	5	<b>232</b>
CAMPING IN AN UNDESIGNATED AREA	13	1	7	9	14	2	4	9	0	6	<b>65</b>
ALLOWING DOG TO CHASE/HARASS WILDLIFE	43	52	62	54	49	37	39	40	40	47	<b>463</b>
DRUGS, POSSESSION	0	1	0	3	10	7	25	49	19	16	<b>130</b>
EXOTIC WILDLIFE-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	8	8	0	<b>18</b>
UNLAWFUL USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICE TO COMMUNICATE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	<b>8</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>916</b>	<b>881</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>6850</b>

Table 1.13 - 1998-2003 Samson Law Violation by Year  
("Samson Law" is a statute for trophy hunting)

YEAR	SPECIES	DISPOSITION	VIOLATIONS
1998	Elk	DEFERRED SENTENCE	1
	Elk	PAID	1
	Elk	GUILTY PLEA	1
	Deer	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Deer	CASE DISMISSED	1
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>
1999	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	GUILTY PLEA	1
	Deer	WARNING	1
	Bighorn Sheep	GUILTY PLEA	1
	Antelope	GUILTY PLEA	1
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>
2000	Moose	PAID	1
	Elk	DEFERRED SENTENCE	1
	Elk	GUILTY PLEA	1
	Elk	PAID	1
	Elk	GUILTY PLEA	1
	Elk	GUILTY PLEA	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	PAID	1
	Elk	WARNING	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	PAID	1
	Elk	NOT GUILTY	1
	Deer	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Deer	GUILTY PLEA	1
	Deer	VOID	1
	Bighorn Sheep	GUILTY PLEA	1
	Bighorn Sheep	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Antelope	PAID	1
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19</b>
2001	Moose	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Moose	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Moose	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	GUILTY PLEA	1
	Elk	GUILTY PLEA	1
	Elk	GUILTY PLEA	1
	Elk	PAID	1
	Elk	GUILTY PLEA	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Deer	PAID	1
	Deer	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Deer	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Deer	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Deer	CASE DISMISSED	1
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19</b>
2002	Mountain Goat	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	PENDING	1
	Elk	PENDING	1
	Elk	PENDING	1

YEAR	SPECIES	DISPOSITION	VIOLATIONS
	Elk	PENDING	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	PENDING	1
	Elk	GUILTY PLEA	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	PAID	1
	Elk	PAID	1
	Elk	WARNING	1
	Elk	PAID	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	PENDING	1
	Elk	VOID	1
	Elk	PAID	1
	Elk	WARNING	1
	Elk	PAID	1
	Elk	DEFERRED SENTENCE	1
	Deer	PENDING	1
	Deer	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Deer	GUILTY PLEA	1
	Deer	GUILTY PLEA	1
	Deer	PAID	1
	Bighorn Sheep	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Bighorn Sheep	CASE DISMISSED	1
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>2003</b>	Moose	DEFERRED SENTENCE	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	DEFERRED SENTENCE	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	WARNING	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	PAID IN FIELD	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Elk	WARNING	1
	Elk	WARNING	1
	Elk	PAID	1
	Elk	GUILTY PLEA	1
	Elk	VOID	1
	Elk	GUILTY PLEA	1
	Elk	FAILURE TO APPEAR	1
	Elk	PENDING	1
	Elk	PENDING	1
	Elk	PENDING	1
	Elk	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Deer	AMENDED	1
	Deer	VOID	1
	Deer	PAID	1
	Deer	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Deer	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Deer	WARNING	1
	Deer	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Deer	PAID IN FIELD	1
	Deer	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Deer	WARNING	1
	Deer	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Deer	CASE DISMISSED	1
	Deer	CASE DISMISSED	1
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37</b>

Table 1.14 - 1998-2003 "Samson Law" Violations by Species

("Samson Law" is a statute for trophy poaching)

SPECIES	YEAR	COUNTY	DISPOSITION	RESIDENT/NON-RESIDENT
ANTELOPE	1999	COSTILLA	GUILTY PLEA	Non-Resident
	2000	MOFFAT	PAID	Non-Resident
BIGHORN SHEEP	1999	MESA	GUILTY PLEA	Non-Resident
	2000	ADAMS	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2000	FREMONT	GUILTY PLEA	Resident
	2002	LARIMER	CASE DISMISSED	Non-Resident
	2002	CLEAR CREEK	CASE DISMISSED	Non-Resident
DEER	1998	BENT	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	1998	LA PLATA	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	1999	EAGLE	WARNING	Non-Resident
	2000	EAGLE	GUILTY PLEA	Resident
	2000	ELBERT	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2000	ELBERT	VOID	Resident
	2001	ARCHULETA	PAID	Non-Resident
	2001	OURAY	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2001	RIO BLANCO	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2001	LAS ANIMAS	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2001	PITKIN	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2002	TELLER	GUILTY PLEA	Resident
	2002	TELLER	GUILTY PLEA	Resident
	2002	EL PASO	PENDING	Resident
	2002	MONTROSE	PAID	Non-Resident
	2002	MOFFAT	CASE DISMISSED	Non-Resident
	2003	MOFFAT	AMENDED	Resident
	2003	OURAY	PAID IN FIELD	Non-Resident
	2003	MONTROSE	WARNING	Resident
	2003	GARFIELD	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2003	ROUTT	PAID	Non-Resident
	2003	ARAPAHOE	WARNING	Resident
	2003	GARFIELD	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2003	GARFIELD	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2003	ARCHULETA	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2003	ARCHULETA	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2003	GUNNISON	VOID	Non-Resident
	2003	RIO BLANCO	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2003	MONTROSE	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
ELK	1998	LAS ANIMAS	PAID	Resident
	1998	ARCHULETA	GUILTY PLEA	Non-Resident
	1998	PUEBLO	DEFERRED SENTENCE	Resident
	1999	FREMONT	GUILTY PLEA	Resident
	1999	LARIMER	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2000	LAS ANIMAS	PAID	Resident
	2000	MOFFAT	PAID	Non-Resident
	2000	LA PLATA	PAID	Non-Resident
	2000	LARIMER	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2000	MOFFAT	GUILTY PLEA	Non-Resident
	2000	ROUTT	WARNING	Resident
	2000	FREMONT	DEFERRED SENTENCE	Resident
	2000	MOFFAT	GUILTY PLEA	Non-Resident
	2000	LA PLATA	GUILTY PLEA	Resident
	2000	MOFFAT	NOT GUILTY	Non-Resident
	2000	MOFFAT	CASE DISMISSED	Non-Resident
	2000	JEFFERSON	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2001	SAGUACHE	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2001	MOFFAT	CASE DISMISSED	Resident

SPECIES	YEAR	COUNTY	DISPOSITION	RESIDENT/NON-RESIDENT
ELK Cont.	2001	LAS ANIMAS	GUILTY PLEA	Non-Resident
	2001	OURAY	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2001	EAGLE	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2001	OURAY	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2001	EAGLE	CASE DISMISSED	Non-Resident
	2001	PUEBLO	GUILTY PLEA	Resident
	2001	CHAFFEE	PAID	Resident
	2001	MINERAL	GUILTY PLEA	Non-Resident
	2001	CHAFFEE	GUILTY PLEA	Non-Resident
	2002	OURAY	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2002	EAGLE	PENDING	Resident
	2002	COSTILLA	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2002	EAGLE	GUILTY PLEA	Resident
	2002	LARIMER	PENDING	Resident
	2002	MOFFAT	CASE DISMISSED	Non-Resident
	2002	ARCHULETA	PAID	Non-Resident
	2002	EAGLE	DEFERRED SENTENCE	Non-Resident
	2002	MOFFAT	PENDING	Non-Resident
	2002	HUERFANO	PAID	Resident
	2002	ELBERT	PENDING	Resident
	2002	ARCHULETA	PAID	Non-Resident
	2002	MESA	PAID	Non-Resident
	2002	EL PASO	PENDING	Resident
	2002	EAGLE	PAID	Non-Resident
	2002	ELBERT	PENDING	Non-Resident
	2002	ELBERT	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2002	ARCHULETA	WARNING	Non-Resident
	2002	SAGUACHE	WARNING	Non-Resident
	2002	PITKIN	VOID	Non-Resident
	2003	LARIMER	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2003	GARFIELD	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2003	DOUGLAS	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2003	JEFFERSON	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2003	GUNNISON	PAID IN FIELD	Non-Resident
	2003	JEFFERSON	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2003	GUNNISON	WARNING	Non-Resident
	2003	MOFFAT	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2003	GRAND	WARNING	Non-Resident
	2003	MOFFAT	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2003	PITKIN	GUILTY PLEA	Resident
	2003	LARIMER	CASE DISMISSED	Non-Resident
	2003	ELBERT	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2003	GUNNISON	DEFERRED SENTENCE	Non-Resident
	2003	MESA	GUILTY PLEA	Resident
	2003	DOUGLAS	VOID	Resident
	2003	MESA	WARNING	Resident
	2003	DELTA	PAID	Resident
	2003	ROUTT	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2003	HUERFANO	FAILURE TO APPEAR	Resident
	2003	ELBERT	PENDING	Resident
	2003	MESA	PENDING	Resident
	2003	MOFFAT	PENDING	Resident
MOOSE	2000	JACKSON	PAID	Non-Resident
	2001	GRAND	CASE DISMISSED	Non-Resident
	2001	LARIMER	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2001	LARIMER	CASE DISMISSED	Resident
	2003	GRAND	DEFERRED SENTENCE	Resident
MOUNTAIN GOAT	2002	LARIMER	CASE DISMISSED	Non-Resident



Table 1.15 1994-2003 Complete Listing of Violations by Frequency

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Total</b>
FISH WITHOUT A PROPER/VALID LICENSE	1679	1366	1447	1107	1309	1327	1479	1625	1465	1710	<b>14514</b>
FISH-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	671	430	414	331	370	365	449	572	447	749	<b>4798</b>
UNLAWFUL METHODS OR PROCEDURES-MISC	384	273	297	196	153	192	596	384	496	392	<b>3363</b>
HUNTING WITHOUT A PROPER/VALID LICENSE	359	278	328	279	341	270	395	309	375	381	<b>3315</b>
LOADED FIREARM IN A MOTOR VEHICLE	387	301	307	348	307	280	265	269	270	357	<b>3091</b>
HUNTING W/O PERMISSION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY	306	249	279	250	293	221	234	184	249	240	<b>2505</b>
ELK-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	241	140	218	169	195	171	302	159	236	219	<b>2050</b>
FAILURE TO TAG	170	112	129	151	168	141	211	191	183	146	<b>1602</b>
LICENSE VIOLATION - MISCELLANEOUS	2	4	138	23	133	164	102	219	344	392	<b>1521</b>
FAILURE TO LEAVE EVIDENCE OF SEX	128	90	91	100	117	111	192	179	175	166	<b>1349</b>
SHOOTING FROM A PUBLIC ROAD	167	129	184	179	155	76	121	100	139	93	<b>1343</b>
DEER-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	201	128	145	102	95	75	128	130	90	145	<b>1239</b>
FISHING WITH BAIT IN FLY/LURE ONLY WATER	142	79	100	111	119	74	121	172	131	158	<b>1207</b>
FALSE STATEMENT MADE IN PURCHASE OF LICENSE	160	106	133	99	98	84	104	94	94	189	<b>1161</b>
FAILURE TO WEAR DAYLIGHT FLUORESCENT ORANGE	119	98	116	108	91	81	121	86	100	100	<b>1020</b>
WASTE OF GAME MEAT	104	71	81	74	68	125	104	112	104	105	<b>948</b>
SECOND ROD STAMP VIOLATION	120	79	137	83	88	113	67	72	77	67	<b>903</b>
UNLAWFUL MANNER OF HUNTING	91	94	45	83	61	97	83	118	87	108	<b>867</b>
MOTOR VEH/VESSEL OUTSIDE DESIGNATED AREA	86	40	65	53	35	66	90	146	131	118	<b>830</b>
HUNTING DURING A CLOSED SEASON	59	87	77	88	66	82	77	72	65	61	<b>734</b>
UNLAWFUL TRANSFER OF A LICENSE/PERMIT	62	50	49	53	55	64	108	68	81	80	<b>670</b>
HUNTING BEFORE/AFTER LEGAL HOURS	67	62	61	55	69	49	69	48	34	52	<b>566</b>
HUNTING IN A CLOSED AREA	85	85	47	76	50	31	44	48	24	16	<b>506</b>
SMALLGAME-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	46	46	31	50	38	83	68	36	60	36	<b>494</b>
ALLOWING DOG TO CHASE/HARASS WILDLIFE	43	52	62	54	49	37	39	40	40	47	<b>463</b>
UNLAWFUL USE OF TOXIC SHOT	80	98	38	50	52	20	18	18	12	23	<b>409</b>
NO MIGRATORY WATERFOWL STAMP	75	52	33	53	35	26	44	19	35	35	<b>407</b>
FISHING W/MORE THAN LEGAL NUMBER OF LINES	34	32	14	27	40	58	66	42	60	33	<b>406</b>
WATERFOWL-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	59	64	94	35	43	19	10	16	22	23	<b>385</b>
ANTLER POINT VIOLATION - ELK	52	20	40	47	48	31	45	31	27	16	<b>357</b>
UNLAWFUL USE OF ARTIFICIAL LIGHT	68	47	32	43	22	16	16	20	15	43	<b>322</b>
UNATTENDED POLE/LINES	36	34	17	22	32	21	50	48	38	19	<b>317</b>
UNLAWFUL USE OF MOTOR VEH TO HUNT/HARASS	47	28	39	36	9	23	18	32	32	36	<b>300</b>
CRIMINAL TRESPASS	23	50	18	30	35	45	18	14	29	16	<b>278</b>
LITTERING	40	30	22	19	30	16	20	30	17	35	<b>259</b>
OPERATING A VESSEL W/O PROPER SAFETY EQUIP	19	17	32	30	37	29	17	22	14	16	<b>233</b>
CDOW PROPERTY REGULATION VIOLATION	1	4	25	44	26	48	42	24	13	5	<b>232</b>
FISHING W/O PERMISSION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY	20	14	47	25	19	20	8	10	17	42	<b>222</b>
ANTELOPE-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	25	23	21	20	19	17	30	20	17	20	<b>212</b>
NO PARKS PASS	0	2	19	23	18	31	25	46	7	10	<b>181</b>
PURCHASING MULTIPLE LICENSES	24	17	13	17	12	12	27	32	17	7	<b>178</b>
UNREGISTERED/UNNUMBERED SNOWMOBILE/RV/BOAT	9	4	7	8	46	12	25	29	16	6	<b>162</b>
FISHING IN A CLOSED AREA	18	15	15	13	30	10	12	9	19	18	<b>159</b>
NONGAME-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	17	23	9	5	4	5	12	53	8	22	<b>158</b>
SHOOTING FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE	1	2	20	7	26	22	20	17	19	9	<b>143</b>
BEAR-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	6	8	13	14	15	13	19	23	16	11	<b>138</b>
DRUGS, POSSESSION	0	1	0	3	10	7	25	49	19	16	<b>130</b>
ELK - ACCIDENTAL KILL	33	30	3	18	9	4	2	6	6	4	<b>115</b>
NO HUNTER SAFETY CARD	7	7	4	11	3	11	21	19	12	19	<b>114</b>
HUNTING IN CARELESS/RECKLESS/NEGLIG MANNER	15	10	18	9	6	10	10	12	16	6	<b>112</b>
ANTLER POINT VIOLATION - DEER	10	10	41	9	13	6	1	5	3	1	<b>99</b>
UNLAWFUL BAIT OF FISH (CHUMMING)	6	20	9	6	8	10	8	5	12	5	<b>89</b>

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Total</b>
MISCELLANEOUS-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	8	0	8	12	10	3	8	10	25	3	87
WILLFUL DESTRUCTION OF WILDLIFE	4	3	20	5	10	8	8	13	6	6	83
CARELESS OPERATION OF A MOTORBOAT	0	5	28	9	19	13	2	2	0	3	81
UNLAWFUL BAITING OF WILDLIFE	9	9	10	4	6	7	9	8	9	7	78
PARKS-MISCELLANEOUS	1	0	9	22	0	17	13	2	5	0	69
EXCEEDING ESTABLISHED BAG LIMIT	9	0	1	1	0	1	5	28	11	10	66
FIRE BUILT IN RESTRICTED/PROHIBITED AREA	2	4	20	2	10	3	6	3	6	10	66
CAMPING IN AN UNDESIGNATED AREA	13	1	7	9	14	2	4	9	0	6	65
RAPTOR-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	15	7	7	3	7	7	5	3	1	3	58
MOUNTAIN LION-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	6	6	5	6	5	3	3	10	6	5	55
FURBEARER-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	0	2	7	4	5	6	7	8	8	7	54
DEER - ACCIDENTAL KILL	15	22	0	5	2	1	1	4	1	2	53
CARELESS OPERATION OF MOTORVEHICLE	5	1	3	5	24	4	5	1	5	0	53
TURKEY-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	2	9	6	8	3	5	3	8	6	3	53
ALTERATION OF A LICENSE	12	9	11	4	2	2	4	4	2	1	51
HUNTING WITHOUT AN ADULT	7	6	1	2	6	3	9	5	6	1	46
MOOSE-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	4	4	2	3	12	3	4	1	6	2	41
APPLYING FOR LICENSE WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION	3	0	5	4	5	4	2	3	6	9	41
OUTFITTING WITHOUT REQUIRED REGISTRATION	12	2	1	2	5	5	3	3	1	4	38
SWIMMING IN UNDESIGNATED AREA	2	4	10	3	5	4	7	0	0	0	35
SAFETY-MISCELLANEOUS	1	5	2	5	0	2	16	1	0	1	33
UNLAWFUL DEVICE-FISHING	4	3	2	6	3	0	4	1	2	3	28
SALE OF WILDLIFE - FELONY	9	0	4	1	1	0	1	3	0	7	26
SHEEP-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	4	2	3	3	4	6	1	3	0	0	26
HUNTING UNDER THE INFLUENCE DRUGS/ALCOHOL	0	0	2	2	1	4	8	4	3	1	25
UNLAWFUL DEVICE-WILDLIFE	1	0	0	4	2	5	1	1	5	5	24
APPLYING FOR MULTIPLE LICENSES	0	0	2	2	2	5	3	4	6	0	24
FAILURE TO LEAVE EVIDENCE OF SPECIES	7	1	2	0	9	1	0	0	0	2	22
FISHING BEFORE/AFTER LEGAL HOURS	5	0	3	3	7	2	2	0	0	0	22
FISHING DURING A CLOSED SEASON	1	2	2	7	5	3	2	0	0	0	22
EXOTIC WILDLIFE-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	8	8	0	18
FALSE STATEMENT MADE-ACQUIRING A PERMIT	1	3	3	0	7	1	0	0	0	0	15
WASTE OF FISH	1	2	1	1	3	2	1	2	1	1	15
ANTELOPE - ACCIDENTAL KILL	1	6	0	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	13
SALE OF WILDLIFE - MISDEMEANOR	7	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	12
FISHING WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION	2	2	0	4	1	1	1	0	1	0	12
FAILURE TO CARRY LICENSE AS REQUIRED	0	0	3	2	4	1	0	1	1	0	12
HUNTING WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION	0	0	2	3	0	1	0	4	1	1	12
MOUNTAIN GOAT-UNLAWFUL POSSESSION	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	3	10
FAILURE TO OBTAIN ROADKILL PERMIT	1	5	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	10
BEAR - ACCIDENTAL KILL	0	0	0	2	1	4	1	0	0	2	10
FISHING W/MORE THAN LEGAL NUMBER OF HOOKS	1	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	8
UNLAWFUL USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICE TO COMMUNICATE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	8
UNLAWFUL USE OF AIRCRAFT AS HUNT/FISH AID	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
UNATTENDED CAMPFIRE	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	5
WEAPONS OFFENSE - ALTERED SERIAL NUMBER	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
TRAPPING BEFORE/AFTER LEGAL HOURS	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4
TRAPPING W/O PERMISSION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
CARELESS OPERATION OF A SNOWMOBILE	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	3
FAILURE TO DISPLAY LICENSE AS REQUIRED	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>6789</b>	<b>5246</b>	<b>5826</b>	<b>5010</b>	<b>5375</b>	<b>5068</b>	<b>6331</b>	<b>6244</b>	<b>6155</b>	<b>6739</b>	<b>58783</b>

Table 2.1 1994-2003 Violations By Region/Area, Area Office Location

REGION	AREA	OFFICE	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total
NW	AREA 9	HOT SULPHUR SPRINGS	494	211	267	297	243	215	344	281	464	591	3407
	AREA 8	GLENWOOD SPRINGS	161	105	98	108	172	152	310	237	247	359	1949
	AREA 7	GRAND JUNCTION	238	219	221	174	179	249	339	382	379	346	2726
	AREA 6	MEEKER	300	253	292	301	312	461	463	485	507	627	4001
	AREA 10	STEAMBOAT SPRINGS	669	630	528	328	132	129	289	316	336	368	3725
	Total		1862	1418	1406	1208	1038	1206	1745	1701	1933	2291	15808
NE	AREA 5	DENVER EAST	513	386	408	137	209	157	363	532	539	283	3527
	AREA 4	FORT COLLINS	292	321	235	442	663	626	652	563	380	323	4497
	AREA 3	BRUSH	200	219	184	143	193	272	344	353	204	349	2461
	AREA 2	LOVELAND	625	343	397	289	143	240	299	373	357	535	3601
	AREA 1	DENVER WEST	191	214	201	125	175	169	241	291	198	232	2037
	Total		1821	1483	1425	1136	1383	1464	1899	2112	1678	1722	16123
SW	AREA 18	MONTROSE	208	164	164	144	112	100	112	145	314	286	1749
	AREA 17	MONTE VISTA	307	282	241	328	399	211	256	174	230	284	2712
	AREA 16	GUNNISON	206	135	155	147	174	152	171	156	208	328	1832
	AREA 15	DURANGO	341	176	351	280	274	220	369	292	244	232	2779
	Total		1062	757	911	899	959	683	908	767	996	1130	9072
	SE	AREA 14	COLORADO SPRINGS	348	272	320	284	188	176	303	355	202	170
AREA 13		SALIDA	448	369	457	385	366	315	332	337	263	291	3563
AREA 12		LAMAR	138	109	210	179	152	117	182	181	189	230	1687
AREA 11		PUEBLO	498	428	547	384	646	414	306	302	324	659	4508
Total		1432	1178	1534	1232	1352	1022	1123	1175	978	1350	12376	
OTHER	OTHER	OTHER AGENCY	338	209	278	232	263	301	341	231	322	30	2545
	OTHER	CDOW	274	201	272	303	380	392	315	258	248	216	2859
	Total		612	410	550	535	643	693	656	489	570	246	5404
Total			6789	5246	5826	5010	5375	5068	6331	6244	6155	6739	58783

Table 3.1 - 1994-2003 Non-Resident and Resident Violation Comparisons

Resident/Non-Resident	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total
Resident	5486	4242	4681	3957	4043	3962	4828	5135	4853	5133	46320
Non-Resident	1303	1004	1145	1053	1332	1106	1503	1109	1302	1606	12463
<b>Total</b>	<b>6789</b>	<b>5246</b>	<b>5826</b>	<b>5010</b>	<b>5375</b>	<b>5068</b>	<b>6331</b>	<b>6244</b>	<b>6155</b>	<b>6739</b>	<b>58783</b>

Table 3.2 - 1994-2003 Non-Resident and Resident Violation Percentage Comparisons

Resident/Non-Resident	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total
Resident	80.8%	80.9%	80.3%	79.0%	75.2%	78.2%	76.3%	82.2%	78.8%	76.2%	78.8%
Non-Resident	19.2%	19.1%	19.7%	21.0%	24.8%	21.8%	23.7%	17.8%	21.2%	23.8%	21.2%
<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>	

Chart 3.1 1994 - 2003 Non-Resident and Resident Violation Comparisons

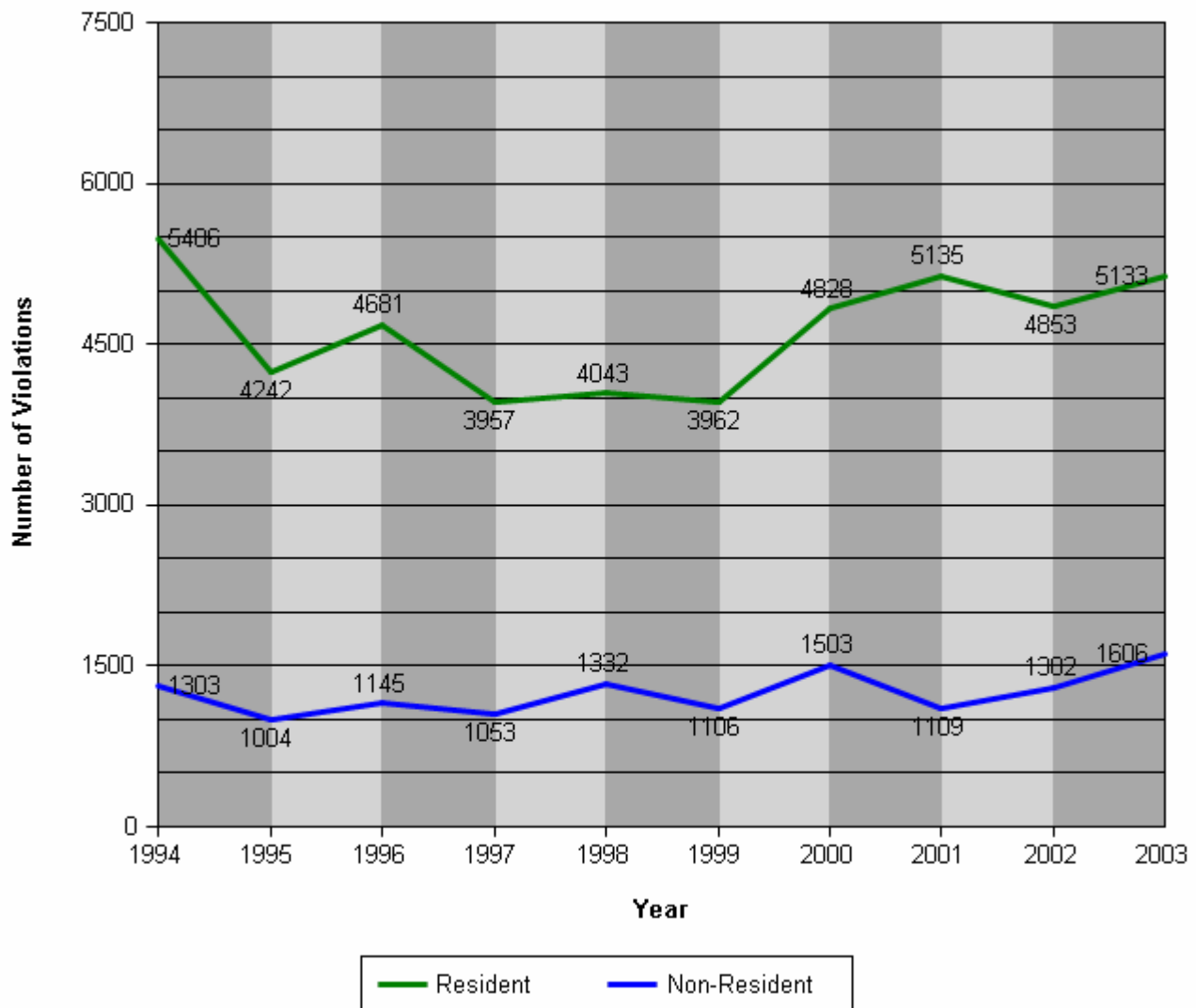


Table 4.1 - 1994-2003 Violations by County

COUNTY	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total
ADAMS	173	123	100	36	89	63	142	132	213	203	1274
ALAMOSA	4	12	14	26	12	4	3	3	5	57	140
ARAPAHOE	74	81	97	14	15	26	26	68	28	18	447
ARCHULETA	81	70	67	85	54	54	88	77	62	92	730
BACA	23	15	4	1	10	5	11	5	21	41	136
BENT	35	37	77	56	52	49	46	34	95	33	514
BOULDER	168	105	104	71	30	44	27	55	61	178	843
BROOMFIELD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	13	20
CHAFFEE	174	125	185	152	123	170	120	120	108	136	1413
CHEYENNE	9	9	19	5	5	2	25	7	4	9	94
CLEAR CREEK	17	23	36	27	15	22	12	56	55	36	299
CONEJOS	96	66	79	79	83	20	78	31	63	89	684
COSTILLA	62	51	26	38	38	51	12	16	56	62	412
CROWLEY	23	12	29	12	25	34	18	31	5	19	208
CUSTER	90	51	86	74	103	44	28	55	55	79	665
DELTA	127	87	114	73	94	55	107	97	73	77	904
DENVER	71	25	23	27	62	39	45	77	70	24	463
DOLORES	56	35	91	44	61	53	76	44	56	45	561
DOUGLAS	85	88	109	50	52	39	37	51	83	45	639
EAGLE	82	67	49	70	87	87	165	128	105	201	1041
EL PASO	166	153	183	202	91	65	177	161	108	77	1383
ELBERT	30	16	34	16	7	23	15	37	35	7	220
FREMONT	98	39	91	62	66	65	143	118	118	88	888
GARFIELD	158	130	142	118	163	129	263	241	275	255	1874
GILPIN	12	8	15	7	5	15	5	9	9	9	94
GRAND	224	112	133	212	226	167	241	130	186	370	2001
GUNNISON	137	98	151	123	161	126	242	122	157	179	1496
HINSDALE	22	25	37	23	25	38	40	36	32	33	311
HUERFANO	29	35	23	32	61	79	43	13	28	29	372
JACKSON	212	178	115	116	114	104	146	83	186	171	1425
JEFFERSON	271	177	216	69	116	72	155	262	161	153	1652
KIOWA	13	10	12	10	6	5	6	43	27	24	156
KIT CARSON	13	5	6	4	4	13	4	9	2	6	66
LA PLATA	97	66	135	99	92	101	124	111	86	70	981
LAKE	73	160	174	134	197	114	90	127	74	88	1231
LARIMER	919	726	673	562	439	594	504	607	431	424	5879
LAS ANIMAS	101	61	69	60	71	54	94	82	99	219	910
LINCOLN	33	20	7	14	9	13	25	23	36	37	217
LOGAN	39	30	25	22	60	77	68	83	45	168	617
MESA	187	153	171	126	133	234	198	233	253	227	1915
MINERAL	60	34	24	31	40	22	31	36	56	35	369
MOFFAT	229	165	155	218	165	290	390	462	495	520	3089
MONTEZUMA	88	56	58	64	83	44	78	82	48	53	654
MONTROSE	137	78	74	70	73	83	51	68	176	151	961
MORGAN	77	125	75	69	45	133	105	121	71	116	937
OTERO	9	20	68	28	26	21	25	19	11	9	236
OURAY	51	29	33	36	28	32	24	42	45	67	387
PARK	218	86	131	160	156	107	124	153	124	84	1343
PHILLIPS	13	4	6	11	6	17	17	32	12	14	132
PITKIN	18	12	26	21	13	30	55	30	53	71	329
PROWERS	16	4	21	23	11	10	16	29	21	38	189
PUEBLO	299	304	345	270	469	277	250	200	201	366	2981
RIO BLANCO	104	147	180	160	132	136	203	168	167	211	1608
RIO GRANDE	62	80	59	136	203	60	49	28	44	39	760
ROUTT	211	85	92	101	181	156	164	192	154	254	1590
SAGUACHE	64	70	64	67	61	44	78	49	59	40	596
SAN JUAN	5	1	17	3		5	14	6	3	30	84
SAN MIGUEL	31	28	24	18	58	48	58	39	40	52	396
SEDGWICK	12	9	12	15	16	41	47	24	14	20	210

COUNTY	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total
SUMMIT	177	52	95	80	87	49	114	163	223	161	1201
TELLER	104	96	113	91	87	70	113	148	45	50	917
UNKNOWN	12	2	0	0	5	154	226	155	243	4	801
WASHINGTON	39	31	38	31	38	60	96	92	51	40	516
WELD	426	413	362	329	325	210	318	239	212	185	3019
YUMA	43	31	33	27	11	20	36	49	15	38	303
<b>Total</b>	<b>6789</b>	<b>5246</b>	<b>5826</b>	<b>5010</b>	<b>5375</b>	<b>5068</b>	<b>6331</b>	<b>6244</b>	<b>6155</b>	<b>6739</b>	<b>58783</b>

Table 5.1 - 1994-2003 Case Disposition Summary

CATEGORY		1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total
PENDING	PENDING	216	220	328	307	164	231	259	375	518	610	3228
	OPEN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	23	27
	FAILURE TO APPEAR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	152	153
	Total	216	220	328	307	164	231	259	376	522	785	3408
NOT GUILTY	NOT GUILTY	16	4	17	8	7	7	3	3	5	4	74
	VOID	478	382	372	236	350	286	287	252	272	348	3263
	WARNING	772	747	748	645	681	743	1144	1093	997	996	8566
	CASE DISMISSED	577	383	426	343	369	292	382	367	276	299	3714
	Total	1843	1516	1563	1232	1407	1328	1816	1715	1550	1647	15617
GUILTY	DEFERRED SENTENCE	95	39	40	39	29	35	57	58	41	46	479
	GUILTY PLEA	1287	932	825	611	753	637	759	790	554	710	7858
	AMENDED	29	36	22	13	26	21	27	10	13	19	216
	DEFERRED PROSECUTION	19	8	16	2	4	4	5	5	0	1	64
	PAID	3300	2494	3032	2806	2992	2812	3408	3288	3461	2771	30364
	DEFERRED JUDGEMENT	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
	PAID IN FIELD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	14	759	775
	Total	4730	3510	3935	3471	3804	3509	4256	4153	4083	4307	39758
Grand Total		6789	5246	5826	5010	5375	5068	6331	6244	6155	6739	58783

Table 5.2 - 1994-2003 Case Disposition Summary by Percent

CATEGORY		1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Average
PENDING	PENDING	3.2%	4.2%	5.6%	6.1%	3.1%	4.6%	4.1%	6.0%	8.4%	9.1%	5.4%
	OPEN	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%
	FAILURE TO APPEAR	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.3%	0.2%
	Total	3.2%	4.2%	5.6%	6.1%	3.1%	4.6%	4.1%	6.0%	8.5%	11.6%	5.7%
NOT GUILTY	NOT GUILTY	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
	VOID	7.0%	7.3%	6.4%	4.7%	6.5%	5.6%	4.5%	4.0%	4.4%	5.2%	5.6%
	WARNING	11.4%	14.2%	12.8%	12.9%	12.7%	14.7%	18.1%	17.5%	16.2%	14.8%	14.5%
	CASE DISMISSED	8.5%	7.3%	7.3%	6.8%	6.9%	5.8%	6.0%	5.9%	4.5%	4.4%	6.3%
	Total	27.1%	28.9%	26.8%	24.6%	26.2%	26.2%	28.7%	27.5%	25.2%	24.4%	26.6%
GUILTY	DEFERRED SENTENCE	1.4%	0.7%	0.7%	0.8%	0.5%	0.7%	0.9%	0.9%	0.7%	0.7%	0.8%
	GUILTY PLEA	19.0%	17.8%	14.2%	12.2%	14.0%	12.6%	12.0%	12.7%	9.0%	10.5%	13.4%
	AMENDED	0.4%	0.7%	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%
	DEFERRED PROSECUTION	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
	PAID	48.6%	47.5%	52.0%	56.0%	55.7%	55.5%	53.8%	52.7%	56.2%	41.1%	51.9%
	DEFERRED	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	PAID IN FIELD	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	11.3%	1.2%
	Total	69.7%	66.9%	67.5%	69.3%	70.8%	69.2%	67.2%	66.5%	66.3%	63.9%	67.7%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Table 5.3 - 1994-2003 Case Disposition by County

COUNTY	AM	CD	FTA	GP	NG	PD	PF	PEND	VD	WA	OP	DS	DJ	DP	Total
ADAMS	2	20	4	20	1	101	5	7	21	22	0	0	0	0	203
ALAMOSA	0	0	0	57	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	57
ARAPAHOE	0	1	1	1	0	6	3	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	18
ARCHULETA	0	0	5	1	0	18	21	33	1	13	0	0	0	0	92
BACA	0	0	0	1	0	24	7	1	1	7	0	0	0	0	41
BENT	0	0	0	3	0	21	0	4	3	2	0	0	0	0	33
BOULDER	0	5	9	14	0	101	5	15	12	16	1	0	0	0	178
BROOMFIELD	0	1	0	1	0	5	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	13
CHAFFEE	0	2	2	15	0	80	9	6	17	5	0	0	0	0	136
CHEYENNE	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
CLEAR CREEK	0	1	0	0	0	28	3	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	36
CONEJOS	1	0	0	17	0	37	8	3	4	18	0	1	0	0	89
COSTILLA	0	15	2	20	0	2	2	14	1	2	0	3	1	0	62
CROWLEY	0	3	1	2	0	8	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	19
CUSTER	1	8	0	14	0	24	6	3	9	13	0	1	0	0	79
DELTA	0	2	1	6	0	26	13	7	11	11	0	0	0	0	77
DENVER	0	1	0	1	0	9	1	8	1	3	0	0	0	0	24
DOLORES	1	4	2	5	0	23	6	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	45
DOUGLAS	1	1	1	6	0	17	1	10	6	2	0	0	0	0	45
EAGLE	0	16	2	12	0	82	36	29	6	12	6	0	0	0	201
EL PASO	0	6	8	12	0	29	3	8	0	11	0	0	0	0	77
ELBERT	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	7
FREMONT	0	4	1	14	0	40	3	11	10	4	0	1	0	0	88
GARFIELD	0	9	4	22	0	109	55	16	10	28	0	2	0	0	255
GILPIN	0	0	1	2	0	4	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	9
GRAND	1	9	1	16	1	140	31	141	7	23	0	0	0	0	370
GUNNISON	0	13	0	15	1	42	61	6	16	24	0	1	0	0	179
HINSDALE	0	0	0	1	0	21	5	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	33
HUERFANO	0	1	1	1	0	8	7	4	0	4	0	3	0	0	29
JACKSON	1	0	1	10	1	50	36	5	10	54	2	1	0	0	171
JEFFERSON	0	7	3	32	0	68	2	12	15	14	0	0	0	0	153
KIOWA	0	0	0	0	0	14	2	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	24
KIT CARSON	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
LA PLATA	0	5	1	7	0	30	9	6	5	2	2	3	0	0	70
LAKE	0	10	3	8	0	50	10	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	88
LARIMER	1	21	6	46	0	190	13	27	20	93	0	6	0	1	424
LAS ANIMAS	0	10	14	11	0	122	6	14	4	38	0	0	0	0	219
LINCOLN	0	1	0	8	0	13	0	0	6	8	0	1	0	0	37
LOGAN	0	1	21	61	0	35	3	2	7	32	0	6	0	0	168
MESA	0	1	1	16	0	103	15	8	13	69	0	1	0	0	227
MINERAL	0	0	0	3	0	15	10	0	3	4	0	0	0	0	35
MOFFAT	2	31	1	29	0	144	93	59	8	143	3	7	0	0	520
MONTEZUMA	0	10	2	3	0	18	10	8	0	2	0	0	0	0	53
MONTROSE	0	15	1	22	0	63	15	18	1	14	0	2	0	0	151
MORGAN	0	0	0	1	0	60	3	9	3	39	0	1	0	0	116
OTERO	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
OURAY	0	2	0	5	0	29	17	6	0	8	0	0	0	0	67
PARK	0	2	0	1	0	47	8	11	10	3	2	0	0	0	84
PHILLIPS	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	14
PITKIN	0	1	0	7	0	28	17	6	5	7	0	0	0	0	71
PROWERS	0	6	1	4	0	18	2	3	0	2	0	2	0	0	38
PUEBLO	1	16	36	79	0	141	22	23	26	21	1	0	0	0	366

**Key:** AM=Amended, CD=Case Dismissed, , FTA=Failure to Appear, GP=Guilty Plea, NG=Not Guilty, PD=Paid, PF=Paid in Field, PEND=Pending, VD=Void, WA=Warning, OP=Open, DS=Deferred Sentence, DJ=Deferred Judgement, DP=Deferred Prosecution



COUNTY	AM	CD	FTA	GP	NG	PD	PF	PEND	VD	WA	OP	DS	DJ	DP	Total
RIO BLANCO	1	2	2	14	0	108	44	10	2	28	0	0	0	0	211
RIO GRANDE	0	1	0	2	0	17	9	0	1	8	0	1	0	0	39
ROUTT	2	5	2	18	0	104	55	10	15	43	0	0	0	0	254
SAGUACHE	0	6	0	3	0	19	6	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	40
SAN JUAN	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	10	9	3	0	0	0	0	30
SAN MIGUEL	0	1	1	0	0	13	16	1	3	15	2	0	0	0	52
SEDGWICK	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	1	1	7	0	0	0	0	20
SUMMIT	1	2	5	18	0	80	23	5	4	22	1	0	0	0	161
TELLER	1	1	0	7	0	31	4	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	50
UNKNOWN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	4
WASHINGTON	1	1	1	3	0	15	0	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	40
WELD	1	19	4	13	0	80	6	7	16	33	3	3	0	0	185
YUMA	0	0	0	0	0	23	2	0	1	12	0	0	0	0	38
<b>Total</b>	19	299	152	710	4	2771	759	610	348	996	23	46	1	1	6739

**Key:** AM=Amended, CD=Case Dismissed, , FTA=Failure to Appear, GP=Guilty Plea, NG=Not Guilty, PD=Paid, PF=Paid in Field, PEND=Pending, VD=Void, WA=Warning, OP=Open, DS=Deferred Sentence, DJ=Deferred Judgement, DP=Deferred Prosecution