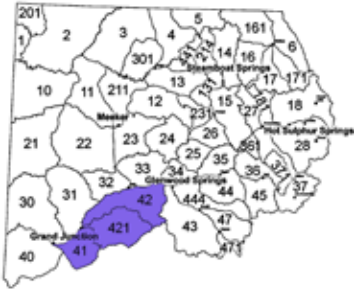




GRAND MESA (North) DEER

GMU
41, 42, 421

LOCAL CPW OFFICES
Grand Junction
(970) 255-6100



Grand Mesa terrain ranges from high elevation (11,000') spruce/fir forests to low elevation (4,800') pinyon-juniper woodlands. Weather can be rainy or snowy, then warm up and dry out the following day. Roads can become very muddy and 4WD is recommended. Hunters should be prepared to spend time on foot or horseback. Much of the area is public land. Overall, the hunting pressure is heavy.

The deer population has declined in recent years. The fourth, buck-only season was eliminated in 2018. However deer are still abundant and at the lower end of the population objective range. Deer are found on forest lands and higher elevation private lands during Oct. The resident deer stay in lower agricultural areas year round. The migrating deer herd begins to move off the forest to lower elevations in mid-Nov, often to BLM lands. The best deer hunting is at mid elevations (8,500-9,500'), with more buck opportunities in the later seasons. The Battlements can be good in late seasons, but the terrain is rugged. The open country offers good opportunities for those who get out on foot or horseback.

CPW LINKS	CPW Main Website
	CPW Big Game Website
	CPW Big Game Brochure
	CPW Hunt Atlas w/GIS Layers
AREA INFO	https://www.visitgrandjunction.com/
	BLM - Grand Junction
FEDERAL AGENCIES	USFS Grand Mesa Uncompahgre



DEER POPULATION	
Grand Mesa GMU 41, 42, 421	
Objective	Estimate
17,000-23,000	14,120

UNIT	SEASON	BUCK	DOE	FAWN	TOTAL HARVEST	TOTAL HUNTERS	2019 SUCCESS %	3 YR AVG	5 YR AVG
41	Archery	11	14	0	25	76	33	27	25
	Muzzle	19	2	0	21	50	42	36	40
	2nd Rifle	73	0	0	73	234	31	39	36
	3rd Rifle	163	0	0	163	358	46	42	45
42	Archery	30	11	0	41	115	36	25	25
	Muzzle	10	0	0	10	48	21	38	32
	2nd Rifle	91	0	0	91	260	35	39	44
	3rd Rifle	193	1	0	194	567	34	49	54
421	Archery	35	9	0	44	154	29	31	27
	Muzzle	23	1	0	24	149	16	20	23
	2nd Rifle	151	0	0	151	387	39	40	42
	3rd Rifle	88	1	0	89	333	27	45	47



GRAND MESA (North) ELK

ELK POPULATION	
Grand Mesa GMU 41, 42, 52, 411, 421, 521	
Objective	Estimate
15,000-19,000	15,390



Elk are well distributed throughout these game management units, scattered throughout the forest and on private lands. Most elk stay at higher elevations (8500- 10,000') in thick timber and oakbrush. There is limited migration during the season, movement to the more remote areas is in response to hunting pressure. Elk will seek classic cover - the heavily wooded, north-facing slopes near water. Get away from the roads and ATV trails. There are many legal bulls in the unit. More mature bulls are present but more difficult to find

UNIT	SEASON	BULL	COW	CALF	TOTAL HARVEST	TOTAL HUNTERS	2019 SUCCESS %	3 YR AVG.	5 YR AVG.
41	Archery	28	13	0	41	351	12	11	9
	Muzzle	19	6	0	25	139	18	13	15
	Early	0	46	0	46	178	26	34	37
	1st Rifle	41	30	3	74	316	23	22	19
	2nd Rifle	53	31	0	84	402	21	16	15
	3rd Rifle	32	15	5	52	321	16	11	13
	4th Rifle	17	3	0	20	164	12	13	14
42	Archery	51	30	3	84	907	9	11	12
	Muzzle	24	30	0	54	214	25	17	17
	1st Rifle	31	20	0	51	217	24	24	23
	2nd Rifle	37	52	3	92	1008	9	15	17
	3rd Rifle	65	115	18	198	897	22	19	19
	4th Rifle	0	42	16	58	239	24	20	21
421	Archery	65	68	0	133	1208	11	13	14
	Muzzle	30	20	0	50	292	17	15	15
	Early	0	87	0	87	275	32	33	39
	1st Rifle	89	8	0	97	432	22	24	23
	2nd Rifle	56	18	12	86	1004	9	12	13
	3rd Rifle	44	9	3	56	514	11	9	12
	4th Rifle	0	11	6	17	79	22	16	15