2023 Regular Walk-In Atlas

ACCESS TO PROPERTIES STARTS SEPT. 1, 2023



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■ State map: counties with land in the Walk-In Access Program... BACK COVER *More maps are available in the Late Cropland Atlas. Updated maps for 2023 and the Late Cropland Atlas will be available at license agents in late October 2023.

■ Bent County27

GET THE BROCHURE ONLINE: cpw.state.co.us/wia



#LiveLifeOutside

COVER: Mule deer buck on the Eastern Plains. © Wayne D. Lewis, CPM

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COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE (CPW)

6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216 • 303-297-1192

cpw.state.co.us



OUR MISSION: The mission of Colorado Parks and Wildlife is to perpetuate the wildlife resources of the state, to provide a quality state parks system and to provide enjoyable and sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities that educate and inspire current and future generations to serve as active stewards of Colorado's natural resources.

COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE DIRECTOR

Ieff Davis

COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEMBERS. as of August 2023

Duke Phillips, IV Dallas May, Chair Richard Reading, Vice-Chair Gary T. Skiba Karen Michelle Bailey, Secretary James Jay Tutchton Jessica Beaulieu Eden Vardy

Dan Gibbs, ex-officio member Marie Haskett Jack Murphy Kate Greenberg, ex-officio member Gabriel Otero Jeff Davis, CPW Director

EDITED BY

Mindy Blazer © Wayne D. Lewis, CPW

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The Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife (CPW) receives federal financial assistance from multiple bureaus within the U.S. Department of the Interior. Under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act (as amended), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (as amended), the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior and its bureaus prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, disability or age. In addition, CPW adheres to all antidiscrimination laws of the state of Colorado. For more information on how to request an accommodation or to file a grievance, please visit cpw.info/accessibility.

NOTICE: Laws and regulations in this brochure are paraphrased for easier understanding and are intended only as a guide. Complete Colorado wildlife statutes and regulations are available at CPW offices listed below and online: **cpw.info/regulations**

CPW ADMINISTRATIVE, REGIONAL & AREA OFFICE LOCATIONS

ADMINISTRATION

6060 Broadway Denver, 80216 303-297-1192 (M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. MT) **REGISTRATION OFFICE**

Boat, Snowmobile, Off-Highway Vehicle 13787 US Hwy 85 N Littleton, 80125

ONLY the offices below can assist hunters with animal checks and taking samples that are related to hunting activities. See the CPW website for a complete list of our parks locations that can also sell licenses, issue duplicate licenses and accept some licenses for refunds.

BRUSH

28167 County Rd. T Brush, 80723 970-842-6300

COLORADO SPRINGS

4255 Sinton Rd. Colorado Springs, 80907 719-227-5200

6060 Broadway Denver, 80216 303-291-7227

DURANGO

151 E. 16th St. Durango, 81301 970-247-0855

FORT COLLINS

317 W. Prospect Rd. Fort Collins, 80526 970-472-4300

GLENWOOD SPRINGS

0088 Wildlife Way Glenwood Springs, 81601 970-947-2920

GRAND JUNCTION

711 Independent Ave. Grand Junction, 81505 970-255-6100

GUNNISON

200 S. Spruce St. Gunnison, 81230 970-641-7060

HOT SULPHUR SPRINGS

346 Grand County Rd. 362 Hot Sulphur Springs, 80451 970-725-6200

LAMAR 2500 S. Main St.

Lamar, 81052 719-336-6600

MEEKER 73485 Hwy. 64 Meeker, 81641 970-878-6090

0722 S. Rd. 1 E. Monte Vista, 81144 719-587-6900

MONTE VISTA

MONTROSE 2300 S. Townsend Ave.

Montrose, 81401 970-252-6000

600 Pueblo Reservoir Rd. Pueblo, 81005 719-561-5300

SALIDA 7405 Hwy. 50 Salida, 81201 719-530-5520

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

925 Weiss Dr. Steamboat Springs, 80487 970-870-3333

WHAT'S NEW: 2023

- ► KEEP COLORADO WILD PASS (COLORADO RESIDENTS ONLY): The \$29 Keep Colorado Wild Pass is added to annual vehicle registration through the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV). The \$29 pass fee is included automatically unless you choose to opt out.
- ► ACCESS LICENSES AND PASSES IN THE MYCOLORADO™ APP: CPW resident fishing, small game, small game fishing combination licenses and the new Keep Colorado Wild Pass are now accessible through the myColorado™ app! Visit mycolorado.gov to learn more.
- ▶ CHECK OUR OTHER REGULATION BROCHURES FOR MORE INFORMATION: While there is nothing of note that is new for the Walk-In Access Program in 2023, be sure to check out the other regulation brochures for more hunting and outdoor recreation information. Depending on the activity you'd like to do on our state's public lands, our other brochures such as the Small Game & Waterfowl, Colorado State Recreation Lands, Fishing and Big Game, contain useful additional information to help you recreate and hunt responsibly. Be sure to take a look!

LICENSE INFORMATION

LICENSE FEES & HABITAT STA	MPS	
SMALL GAME	RESIDENT	NONRESIDENT
► Habitat Stamp (required, ages 18–64)		
► Small Game		
► Small Game (one-day)		
► Small Game (additional-day)		
► Youth Small Game & Furbearer (under 18)		
► Small Game & Fishing Combo		
► Furbearer License Only		
► Furbearer Harvest Permit		
► Colorado Waterfowl Stamp		
► Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp		
► Senior Small Game/Fishing Combo	\$33.54	n/a
(Residents age 65 and older)		
➤ Senior Annual Small Game for		
Lifetime Fishing License Holders(Senior Columbine or Centennial lifetime fishing		n/a
	ilcerise floruers offiy)	
► First Responder Lifetime Small Game/Fishing Combo	fua	n /n
(Resident only, permanent occupational disabili	tree	II/a
➤ Veterans Lifetime Small Game/Fishing Combo (Resident only, 60% disabled or Purple Heart red		n/a
► Band-tailed Pigeon Permit	\$5	\$5

BIG GAME

► DEER	
Resident adult	\$45.46
Resident youth	\$17.57
Nonresident adult/fishing combo	
Nonresident youth/fishing combo	\$116.50
► ELK	
Resident adult	\$62.72
Resident youth	\$17.57
Nonresident bull/fishing combo	
Nonresident either-sex/fishing combo	\$760.99
Nonresident cow/fishing combo	\$760.99
Nonresident youth/fishing combo	\$116.50
► PRONGHORN	
Resident adult	\$45.46
Resident youth	\$17.57

Nonresident adult/fishing combo......\$456.14

Nonresident youth/fishing combo......\$116.50

Prices include the **25-cent** search-and-rescue fee and the **\$1.50 fee** for the Wildlife Education Fund if applicable.

WHAT YOU NEED TO BUY A LICENSE

See page 2 for details.

- 1 PROPER IDENTIFICATION and PROOF of residency (for Colorado residents).
- **PROOF** of hunter education.
- **HABITAT STAMP:** A 2023 (\$11.50) or lifetime (\$345.36) Habitat Stamp is required prior to buying a license for anyone ages 18–64.

NOTE: A Social Security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification number is required for hunters age 12 and older, per federal law.

LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Hunters must have an annual youth small-game/furbearer, small-game (annual, 1-day or additional day, plus the furbearer harvest permit if applicable; see number 5 below), annual combo small-game/fishing license (plus the furbearer harvest permit if applicable; see number 5 below), or furbearer license. Hunters must carry their license when hunting and show it when requested by law enforcement officers.
- 2. Annual fishing, small-game and furbearer licenses, the furbearer harvest permit, and the Colorado Waterfowl Stamps and Habitat Stamps are valid March 1 through March 31 of the following year (13 months). Lifetime combo small-game/fishing licenses are valid as long as you are a Colorado resident.
- **3.** In order to hunt small game in any seasons that continue beyond March 31, 2023, you must purchase a 2023 small-game license.
- **4.TO HUNT & TAKE SMALL GAME**, you need a small-game license, a combo small-game/fishing or a lifetime combo small-game/fishing license. Small-game hunters must register with HIP before their first hunt. See information about the Harvest Information Program (HIP) on page 5.
- **5.TO HUNT FURBEARERS,** you will need to purchase either a furbearer license (to harvest furbearers **ONLY**) or a small-game license (including daily small-game licenses and combo small-game/fishing licenses) **AND** a \$10 annual furbearer harvest permit. See number 6 below for the exception for covete
- **6.TO HUNT COYOTES**, you need a small-game license or a furbearer license. An annual furbearer harvest permit is NOT required to hunt or take coyote. During big-game seasons, if you have an unfilled big-game license for the same season and unit, you may hunt coyote without a small-game or furbearer license. You must use the same method of take for coyotes as your big-game license allows. Once the big-game license has been filled, hunters must purchase a small-game or furbearer license to continue hunting coyotes, and, if using a rifle, it must be .23 caliber or smaller.
- **7.TO HUNT EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVES,** and other invasive species, you must have a hunter education card; however, a hunting license is not required. *See* page 4.
- 8. TO HUNT COMMON SNAPPING TURTLES, you need a small-game or fishing license
- 9.TO HUNT WATERFOWL, you need a small-game hunting license. If you are 16 or older, you also must have the \$31 Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Duck Stamp) AND the \$11.50 Colorado State Waterfowl Stamp to hunt waterfowl. COLORADO WATERFOWL STAMP: The state stamp is printed on your hunting license and validated by signing your name in ink on the license. FEDERAL DUCK STAMP: The federal stamp is available after July 1 online, by phone and at select post offices (fws.gov/birds/get-involved/duck-stamp.php). It is valid when you sign your name in ink across the face of the stamp. It is also available at CPW offices and sales agents. When purchased at state outlets, an electronic stamp is issued. This instantly gives you a unique code that is valid for 45 days from the date of issue, sufficient time for the gum-backed federal stamp to arrive in the mail. A federal stamp is not required to take light geese during the conservation order season. See more about legal migratory bird hunting methods in the 2023 Colorado Small Game & Waterfowl brochure.
- **10. TO HUNT SANDHILL CRANES,** a separate federal permit number, available through HIP (*see page 5*) is required.
- **11. TO HUNT BAND-TAILED PIGEONS**, a permit (\$5) is required in addition to the small-game license. The permit is available online, by phone, at CPW offices and at sales agents.
- 12. If a license is restricted to a specific area, you can hunt only that area.
- **13.** Licenses are not transferable.
- 14. False statements made in buying a license and altering a license are illegal and void the license.
- 15. All license exchanges will be charged a \$5.00 fee.

1 RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

cpw.state.co.us/proofofresidency

- ► The physical residence address you give to buy or apply for a license must be the same as the address given for Colorado state income tax purposes. *A P.O. Box is* **NOT** *a valid physical address.*
- ➤ You terminate your Colorado residency if you apply for, buy or accept a resident hunting, fishing or trapping license issued by another state or foreign country, register to vote outside Colorado or accept a driver's license that shows an address other than in Colorado.

RESIDENCY TYPES

1. STANDARD COLORADO RESIDENT

- **a. Requirements:** You must live in Colorado for at least 6 consecutive months immediately prior to buying or applying for any resident CPW product, have your primary residence in Colorado and have not applied for or purchased a resident license or pass outside of Colorado in the last 6 months.
- b. Proof: Current and valid Colorado driver's license/ID with a Colorado address issued 6 or more months prior. If the Colorado driver's license/ID is not 6 months old, you must provide at least two forms of additional residency proof, as outlined in "Additional Residency Proofs" below.

2. STUDENT: ATTENDING SCHOOL FULL-TIME IN COLORADO

- **a. Requirements:** You must be attending school full time at an accredited Colorado school starting at least 6 months prior to buying or applying for any resident CPW product.
- **b. Proof:** Student ID, name of institution, date you became a full-time student, school transcript showing full-time status.

3. STUDENT: ATTENDING SCHOOL FULL-TIME OUTSIDE OF COLORADO

- **a. Requirements:** You must meet Colorado residency requirements and be attending an accredited school outside of Colorado, paying nonresident tuition.
- **b. Proof:** Student ID, name of institution, date you became a full-time student, proof of out-of-state tuition payment.

4. MILITARY: STATIONED IN COLORADO

- **a. Requirements:** You must be active-duty military stationed in Colorado. Military member's spouse and/or dependants share the same residency status. Residency begins the date the orders begin.
- **b. Proof:** Military ID and orders.

5. MILITARY: COLORADO HOME OF RECORD

- **a. Requirements:** You must be active-duty military stationed outside of Colorado, but with Colorado as your home of record, paying income tax as a Colorado resident. Military member's spouse and/or dependants share the same residency status.
- **b. Proof:** Military ID and orders.

6. YOUTH

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

OTHER RESIDENCY INFORMATION

1. ADDITIONAL RESIDENCY PROOFS

If you otherwise meet residency requirements but your Colorado driver's license or ID was issued or renewed less than 6 months ago, or you have a CPW-approved religious exemption to photo identification on your record, you must provide at least two additional proofs of residency showing 6 consecutive months of Colorado residency immediately prior to buying or applying for a license. Those proofs include: income sources (pay stubs), utility bills, state income tax documents (as a full-time resident), lease agreements/rent receipts, motor vehicle registration, voter registration.

2. MULTIPLE HOMES

If you have a home in Colorado and another location, call 303-297-1192 to make sure you comply with Colorado residency requirements before obtaining a CPW license or state park pass.

2 HUNTER EDUCATION

HUNTER EDUCATION (SAFETY) REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Anyone born on or after January 1, 1949, must have a hunter education card to hunt in Colorado.
- **2.** A hunter education card is needed to apply for/buy a license.
- 3. Your hunter education card must be carried while hunting, unless it is verified and your license is marked with a "V." To get your hunter education card verified, take your hunter education card to a CPW office (listed on inside front cover) or state park.
- **4.** CPW honors hunter education cards from other states, provinces and countries.

HUNTER EDUCATION EXEMPTIONS

- Individuals over age 50 or active duty U.S. military and veterans can obtain a hunter education certificate by testing out of hunter education: cpw.info/hunter-education-testout
- 2. An apprentice certificate can be obtained for hunters who are at least 10 years old and who must be accompanied by a mentor in the field. This hunter education waiver can be obtained twice in a lifetime: cpw.info/apprentice-certificate
- For more information, go to: cpw.info/huntereducation

3 HABITAT STAMPS

Habitat Stamps are **REQUIRED** for hunters and cost \$11.50; only one is required per person, per year for anyone ages 18–64. Habitat Stamps are now valid March 1–March 31 of the following year (13 months).

- ► A lifetime stamp is \$345.36.
- ► Anyone buying a one-day or additional-day license for fishing and/or small game is exempt from purchasing the Habitat Stamp with the first two of these licenses. The habitat fee will be assessed when a third one-day or additional-day license is purchased for fishing or small game.
- Anyone who is approved in the Columbine, Blue Spruce, Independence and/or Big Game Mobility programs is exempt from the Habitat Stamp requirement. See cpw.info/accessibility
- ► For more information, go to: cpw.info/habitat-stamp

SPECIAL LICENSE INFORMATION

YOUTH LICENSES & MENTOR HUNTING

People under age 18 must have a license to hunt small game. A youth small-game license is for hunters 17 and younger, and costs \$1.40. If a youth plans on hunting with a youth small-game license, they must be accompanied by a mentor and must meet hunter education requirements. A mentor must be 18 or older and must meet hunter education requirements; mentors aren't required to hunt. While hunting, youths and mentors must be able to see and hear each other without binoculars, radios, or other aids. Youths also have the option to purchase an adult small-game license, which allows them to hunt without a mentor, as long as they meet hunter education requirements.

At age 18, hunters must buy an adult license. Mentors are not permitted to hunt ducks, geese, mergansers or coots during the youth waterfowl hunt season.

CPW offers several licenses for hunters and anglers with disabilities.

Go to **cpw.info/accessibility** for more license information and how to apply. *These licenses require advance legal paperwork submissions.*

RESIDENT FIRST RESPONDER LIFETIME COMBO LICENSE

Colorado resident first responders who have proof of a permanent occupational disability can qualify for the First Responder program to obtain a lifetime combo small game/fishing license.

RESIDENT DISABLED VETERAN LIFETIME COMBO LICENSE

Military veterans who have a service-connected disability (with an overall combined rating of 60% or more by the Dept. of Veteran's Affairs) and are residents of Colorado can obtain a lifetime combo small game/fishing license.

GENERAL HUNTING LAWS

- 1. Colorado Parks and Wildlife can post firing lines at its properties.
- 2. It is illegal to kill, capture, injure or harass wildlife from a motor vehicle or an aircraft. It is also illegal to operate aircraft with intent to injure, harass, drive or rally wildlife. It is illegal to discharge a firearm or release an arrow from a motor vehicle or an aircraft.
- **3.** It is illegal to discharge a firearm or release an arrow from, on or across a public road. Hunting with rifles, handguns, shotguns firing a single slug and archery equipment is prohibited within 50 feet on each side of the center line of any public road. On a divided road, the prohibition includes the median, and the 50-foot requirement is measured from the center line of both roads.
- **4.** It is illegal to carry or have a firearm, except a pistol or revolver, in or on a motor vehicle unless the chamber is unloaded. While using artificial light from a vehicle, it is illegal to have a firearm with cartridges in the chamber or magazine, or possess a strung bow unless the bow is cased.
- **5.** You must take edible portions of meat from the field and prepare for human consumption. Do not leave wounded wildlife (or wildlife that might be wounded) without attempting to track and kill it.
- **6.** Possession of wildlife is evidence you hunted.
- 7. Small-game and migratory bird hunters are not required to wear solid, fluorescent orange or pink clothes. However, CPW encourages you to wear fluorescent orange or pink clothes for safety.
- 8. You must stop at CPW check stations when told to do so.
- **9.** Violations of Colorado wildlife laws carry point values. You can face suspension of license privileges for up to five years or more if you accumulate 20 or more points in five years.
- 10. During deer, elk, pronghorn and bear seasons, firearms (except handguns) must be unloaded in the chamber and magazine when carried on an off-highway vehicle (OHV). Firearms (except handguns) and bows carried on an OHV must be fully enclosed in a hard or soft case. Scabbards or cases with open ends or sides are prohibited. This regulation does not apply to landowners or their agents carrying a firearm on an OHV for the purpose of taking depredating wildlife on property owned or leased by them.
- **11. CALIBER RESTRICTION:** It is illegal to hunt game birds, small-game animals or furbearers with a centerfire rifle larger than .23 caliber in regular rifle deer and elk seasons west of I-25, unless you have an unfilled deer or elk license for the season you are hunting. A small-game license is required.

RESTRICTIONS

CHILD SUPPORT DELINQUENCY

State law requires a Social Security number to buy a license. It is not displayed on the license but is provided, if requested, to Child Support Enforcement authorities. Hunting and fishing licenses are not issued to those suspended for noncompliance with child support. Any current licenses become invalid if held by an individual who is noncompliant with child support.

WEAPONS RESTRICTIONS

Colorado and federal laws prohibit people convicted of certain crimes, such as domestic violence, from possessing weapons even for hunting. If you've been convicted of a crime, check with the appropriate law enforcement authority to find out how the laws apply to you.

DONATING GAME MEAT

You can donate edible parts of wildlife to a like-license holder anywhere or to anyone at the recipient's home. A like-license is for the same species, sex, dates and manner of take as the donor's license. Bag and possession limits apply to donors and recipients and birds must be properly tagged. See the 2023 Small Game & Waterfowl brochure for more information.

WILDLIFE CAUSING DAMAGE

Colorado law allows landowners to protect private property from most wild-life damage. For information, call CPW at 303-297-1192. Also see **cpw.info/regulations**, Chapter W-17: Game Damage, for updated trapping regulations and details on small-game damage.

NO HUNTING THESE BIRDS ON WIA LANDS



GAMBEL'S QUAIL

REGION FOUND: Western Colorado, primarily in the Grand and Uncompander valleys. They may inhabit some WIA properties in this area.

IDENTIFICATION: A distinctive plume feather on the

IDENTIFICATION: A distinctive plume feather on the head. Males have a black face and copper feathers on top of the head. Females have mostly gray plumage with a tannish-gray face and beige plumage underneath.

©Bill Haggerty, CPV



SAGE-GROUSE

REGION FOUND: Western Colorado. They may inhabit some WIA properties.

IDENTIFICATION: Large, grayish bird with a slow wing beat in flight. They have distinctly pointed tail feathers and black breast feathers, both of which are visible when flushed. Sage-grouse tend to be silent when flushed.



PLAINS SHARP-TAILED GROUSE

REGION FOUND: Weld, western Logan and northern Morgan counties. Plains sharp-tailed grouse are not a legal game bird in Colorado but have been transplanted into some areas to re-establish populations. When hunting in these counties, please take special care to clearly identify the target before shooting.

IDENTIFICATION: Much lighter in color than cock pheasants and have a short, distinctly pointed tail, which shows white when in flight. They often emit a low-pitched series of clucks when flushed.



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SAFE HANDLING OF GAME MEAT

Concern has grown about diseases affecting wild animals that could potentially make humans sick. Most of the time, properly handled and prepared game meat poses no greater risk than domestic meat of causing disease in humans. Hunters are encouraged to contact their local public health department or CPW office for information on wildlife diseases that may be present where they plan to hunt.

Public health officials recommend the following precautions when handling and preparing game meat:

- Do not handle animals that are obviously sick or found dead. Report sick or dead animals you find to a CPW office.
- 2. Keep game cool, clean and dry.
- 3. Do not eat, drink or smoke while dressing game.
- **4.** Use disposable gloves when cleaning game.
- 5. Wash your hands with soap and water, or use alcohol wipes after dressing game.
- **6.** Clean all tools and surfaces immediately afterward. Use hot, soapy water, then disinfect with a 10 percent chlorine bleach solution.
- 7. Cook game meat to an internal temperature of at least 165 degrees F to kill disease organisms and parasites. Juices from adequately cooked game meat should be clear.
- **8.** Do not eat any raw portions of wild game.
- 9. Do not feed raw wild game to domestic pets.

GENERAL INFORMATION

BIRD SPECIES IDENTIFICATION

A fully feathered wing or head must be attached to all birds, except turkeys, doves and bandtailed pigeons, in transit to hunter's home or commercial processor. For pheasants, a foot with visible spur can be substituted.

NOTE: While in the field or during transport, all dressed (not fully feathered) doves, including

Eurasian collared-doves, count against the daily bag and possession limit for mourning and white-winged doves during the Sept. 1–Nov. 29 dove season. Eurasian collared-doves must be fully feathered while in the field or during transport at all other times.

HUNTING INVASIVE BIRDS

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVES, EUROPEAN STARLINGS AND HOUSE (ENGLISH) SPARROWS are considered invasive species in Colorado. Because of this designation, these species may be hunted year-round. No license or Habitat Stamp is required to hunt invasive species; however, hunters must have and carry with them a hunter education card.

Hunters may harvest any number of each of these species and by any method of take approved for big- or small-game hunting. These

species may be taken at night with the use of artificial light and night vision equipment.

Commercial hunting of invasive species is prohibited, as is receiving or attempting to receive compensation by hunting these species.

Eurasian collared-doves must remain fully feathered while in the field or during transport, except when counted as part of the mourning or white-winged dove bag and possession limit during the dove season that runs from Sept. 1–Nov. 29. See page 7 for season dates and bag limits.

ENROLL YOUR PROPERTY

Are you interested in enrolling your land in the Walk-In Access program? CPW wants to enroll quality hunting lands across the state. To offer land for the 2023–2024 season, please contact a CPW office for details. *See office listings on inside cover.*

WATCH FOR BANDED BIRDS

Wildlife managers need help gathering information about the migratory bird populations. If you kill or find a banded bird, please report it to the USGS Bird Banding Lab:

reportband.gov



BE A RESPONSIBLE HUNTER

The WIA program depends on private landowners enrolling property for walk-in hunting and maintaining good relations with those landowners and their neighbors. Here are some additional guidelines that, if followed, will improve the opportunities for all hunters and contribute to future WIA enrollments.

- ► WHERE DESIGNATED PARKING AREAS ARE ESTABLISHED, USE THEM. Do not block gates or roads for the landowner or their agents who may need to work on the property. Do not park along highways. Do not park in tall grassy or weedy areas where your vehicle's catalytic converter can cause a fire.
- ► IF YOU SMOKE, make sure to completely extinguish cigarettes. Do not smoke or extinguish cigarettes in grassy or weedy areas where you could cause a fire.
- ► DON'T LITTER OR CLEAN GAME ON WIA PROPERTIES OR ALONG ROADSIDES. If trash is present, please pick it up.
- ► DON'T SHOOT NEAR OR TOWARDS HOUSES, farm buildings, livestock or equipment.
- ► DON'T HUNT IF CATTLE ARE IN, or adjacent to, enrolled parcels.
- ► HUNTERS MUST WALK INTO WIA PROPERTIES. Access by vehicle, horseback or other means is prohibited.



GENERAL INFORMATION

SMALL-GAME SURVEYS

Colorado Parks and Wildlife conducts several small-game harvest surveys annually to estimate harvest, hunter numbers and recreation days, in addition to assessing satisfaction and crowding. Past surveys are available on the CPW website at **cpw.info/small-game-stats**, and updated reports are available after annual surveys conclude. Hunters are selected randomly to participate. Small-game surveys are by telephone or by email. If contacted, your participation is not required, but responding — even if you did not hunt or harvest an animal — helps CPW manage small game.

HARVEST INFORMATION PROGRAM (HIP)

Small-game, **NEW** coyote and migratory bird hunters, including falconers, must sign up with HIP EACH YEAR before their license is valid. You can get a 2023-2024 HIP number beginning on April 1 but can get a HIP number anytime after April 1, as long as it's before you hunt small game NEW or covotes during the 2023–2024 season. Write the new HIP number on your license!

To sign up with HIP, call 1-866-265-6447 (1-866-COLOHIP) from 7 a.m. -10:30 p.m., or go to colohip.com. You will be asked for basic information, including how many birds and small game you harvested the previous season, and the species you plan to hunt this year. A season means Sept. 1 through March 15 of the next year. This information helps CPW manage migratory bird and resident small-game species by improving harvest estimates.

Live operator phone registrations at 1-866-COLO-HIP are no longer offered during the overnight hours from 10:30 p.m. to 7 a.m. The live operator system is also closed all day on major holidays (Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day). During these out-of-service periods, please call back during open service times or go to **colohip.com** and register online, still available 24/7.



NOVICE HUNTER PROGRAM

CPW has identified some properties as Novice Hunter Walk-In Access Properties. Please see the Late Cropland Walk-In Atlas for more details, or visit our website at cpw.state.co.us/novicehunterprogram.

BIG-GAME HUNTING

Continuing in 2023, big-game hunting will be available on certain Walk-In Access (WIA) properties. Big-game access within the program has been expanded to the entire eastern plains, totaling approximately 166,493 acres.

The big game program will allow public access to specified Colorado WIA properties for deer, elk and pronghorn hunting within specified big game season dates, from Sept. 1-Dec. 31, 2023.

Hunters should be aware that many WIA properties will be open for both small game and big game, while other properties will remain small game only. Small/big game combo properties will be shown as YELLOW polygons on the printed and mobile maps, and marked in the field with yellow boundary signs. Small game-only signs will be depicted as white polygons on the maps, and will be marked with white boundary signs.

Big game hunters thinking of applying for licenses in 2023, on the basis of hunting on Walk-In Access properties, should consider that each property is enrolled on an annual basis in July of each year. There can be significant turnover in properties that are available each year. All big-game properties are enrolled for the Regular Walk-In Access Brochure.



GET THE LEAD OUT

Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment and Colorado Parks and Wildlife



From the field to the table, ensuring your next harvest 1. Use lead-free shot or bullets. is safe for your family is important. Switching from lead bullets may be an option that's right for you. Science tells us ingesting lead can cause potential health problems over time. Risks are low for most people; however, you can also:

- 2. Choose a firearm with lower-velocity bullets, so bullet fragments don't scatter as far into the wound. Liberally trim and discard meat damaged by the bullet when you process an animal.
- 3. Clean your meat grinder between each animal. Lead is soft and can go through your grinder, contaminating an entire batch of ground meat. If you don't grind the meat yourself, speak with your commercial processor about their equipment cleaning process between animals.
- 4. Avoid eating game meat from animals harvested with lead bullets if you are pregnant. Children younger than 6 should also avoid it.

WALK-IN PROPERTY LAWS

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- 1. Lands are open for public access one hour before sunrise until one hour after sunset. When hunting waterfowl, deer, elk and pronghorn, public access is allowed two hours before sunrise until two hours after sunset.
- **2.** Species of take will be restricted as follows:
 - a. Lands enrolled and posted as Regular, Late Cropland or Extended Season Walk-In Access properties are open for the take of all small game, furbearers, migratory game birds and Eurasian collared-doves, except Gambel's quail, Gunnison sage-grouse and greater sage-grouse.
 - **b.** Lands enrolled and posted as Big Game Walk-In Access properties are open for the take of deer, elk and pronghorn by hunters holding a valid license for the GMU in which the property lies.
- **3.** Public access is allowed:
 - a. From September 1 through the end of February annually for lands enrolled and posted as Regular Season Walk-In Access properties.
 - **b.** From the opening day of pheasant season through the end of February annually for lands enrolled and posted as Late Season Cropland Walk-In Access properties.
 - c. From September 1 through the end of the mountain sharp-tailed grouse season annually, for all lands enrolled and posted as Grouse Walk-In Access properties.

- **d.** From the opening day of pheasant season through the end of March annually for lands enrolled and posted as Extended Walk-In Access
- e. From the opening day of pheasant season through the end of February annually for lands enrolled and posted as Novice Hunter Program Walk-In Access properties.
 - 1. A current year's graduate of the Novice Hunter Program must be present and actively hunting with each group during all hunting
 - 2. Up to four additional hunters may accompany and hunt with a graduate of the Novice Hunter Program.
- f. From September 1 through the end of December annually for lands enrolled and posted as Big Game Walk-In Access properties.
- 4. Access shall be by foot only. Entry by horseback, motorized vehicle or other means is prohibited.
- **5.** Access is allowed for hunting only; all other activities are prohibited.
- **6.** Access is prohibited as posted when the landowner is actively harvesting crops.

WALK-IN PROPERTY SIGNS

There are a variety of Walk-In Access program boundary signs. Knowing what to look for in the field will help during your hunt.



hunting.



Nov. 11, 2023.

WALK-IN

HUNTING AREA

Walking Access for nall Game Hunting Only



WALK-IN

HUNTING AREA



WALK-IN

HUNTING AREA

ity of WIA properties do not have established parking areas. Instead, hunters should park along the road, taking care to stay out of the traveled portion of the road but also not park in tall weeds and grass where a fire hazard exists.





SAFETY ZONE SIGNS are common on or near WIA properties. These signs are used to delineate safety zones around buildings, homesteads, livestock corrals or neighboring landowners' homes and properties. Please respect safety zone signs wherever you find them

posted.

WARNING!

THIS PROPERTY IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE FOR WALK-IN ACCESS HUNTING.



CLOSED! DO NOT HUNT IF FIELDS HAVE YELLOW "WARNING!" SIGNS.

Rarely, it is necessary to

remove a property from the WIA program after this brochure is printed. When that happens, boundary signs are replaced with yellow warning signs to notify hunters the property is no longer available for walk-in hunting. Remember, if you find a WIA property listed in the brochure

but boundary signs are

not present at the field

corners, please do not

hunt that field!

WALK-IN **HUNTING AREA** Walking Access for

Small Game Hunting **Big Game Hunting Allowed** for Properly Licensed Hunters

BIG GAME ACCESS

PROGRAM

CPW and partnering landowners are offering big game hunting access on many Walk-In Access (WIA) properties in Eastern Colorado. Properties that allow big-game hunting are yellow in the WIA maps in this brochure. These properties will be signed with yellow WIA boundary signs in the field. These properties are open for big-game hunting to properly licensed hunters during established big-game seasons from Sept. 1, 2023, through Dec. 31, 2023, and to small-game hunting from Sept. 1, 2023, through Feb. 29, 2024. Big-game hunters must possess a valid pronghorn, deer or elk license valid for the Game Management Unit (GMU) in which the Walk-In Access property lies. All normal WIA regulations apply. All big-game hunting regulations apply.

BEWARE OF HITCHHIKING SEEDS

Many "noxious" weeds reproduce primarily by seed. These seeds are often transported by wind, birds, rodents and other animals, but they can also be carried on shoelaces or pant cuffs. Please help control their spread by taking a few minutes as you leave the field to clean your shoelaces and pant cuffs of any seeds that may have become attached. And don't forget to give your hunting dog a quick brush over to remove any hitchhiking seeds before traveling to a new hunting spot!



SEASON DATES

Select big-and small-game season dates are included within this atlas for your convenience; however, all season dates are not listed.

A complete synopsis of the big-game hunting season dates can be found in the 2023 Colorado Big Game brochure, while the complete small-game

hunting season dates can be found in the 2023 Small Game & Waterfowl brochure. These brochures are available at license agents, CPW offices and online in downloadable PDF and interactive, searchable formats at cpw.info/ big-game-brochure and cpw.info/small-game-brochure.

SMALL-GAME SEASON DATES AND BAG LIMITS

- **► COTTONTAIL RABBIT**
- **► SNOWSHOE HARE**
- ► JACKRABBIT: WHITE-TAILED, **BLACK-TAILED** SEASON: Oct. 1-end of Feb.

DAILY BAG LIMIT: 10 of each

POSSESSION LIMIT: 20 of each species

▶ DOVE: MOURNING, WHITE-WINGED SEASON: Sept. 1-Nov. 29

AREA: Statewide

DAILY BAG LIMIT: 15 singly or in aggregate for either species POSSESSION LIMIT: 45 singly or in

aggregate

NOTE: See "Bird Species Identification" on page 4 for transit requirements.



Mourning dove © Wayne Lewis, CPW

► DOVE:

EURASIAN COLLARED

SEASON: Year-round AREA: Statewide **DAILY BAG LIMIT:** Unlimited **POSSESSION LIMIT:** Unlimited **NOTE:** Eurasians must be fully feathered while in the field and during transport, unless counted as part of the mourning and/or white-winged dove bag limits. A small-game license is not required, as these are considered an invasive species. However, a hunter education card is still required to hunt them. See page 4, "Hunting

► SOUIRREL: FOX, PINE SEASON: Oct. 1-end of Feb. **DAILY BAG LIMIT:** 5 of each species **POSSESSION LIMIT:** 10 of each species



Pine squirrel © Wayne Lewis, CPW

▶ PHEASANT

SEASON 1: Nov. 11-Jan. 31, 2024 AREA: East of I-25

SEASON 2: Nov. 11-Jan. 7, 2024 AREA: West of I-25

DAILY BAG LIMIT: 3 cocks POSSESSION LIMIT: 9 cocks

► TEAL

SEASON: Sept. 9-17 AREAS: Lake and Chaffee counties and all areas east of I-25. **DAILY BAG LIMIT:** 6 teal — bluewinged, green-winged and cinnamon teal, in aggregate **POSSESSION LIMIT: 18**

► EUROPEAN STARLING, **HOUSE (ENGLISH) SPARROW**

SEASON: Year-round **AREA:** Statewide **BAG LIMIT:** Unlimited **POSSESSION LIMIT:** Unlimited **NOTE:** A small-game license is not required, as these are considered an invasive species. See page 4, "Hunting Invasive Birds.

BIG-GAME SEASON DATES

▶ DEER **PLAINS ARCHERY**

SEASON: Oct. 1-27, Nov. 8-30, Dec. 15-31* GMUs: 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 109, 116, 117, 122, 125, 126, 127, 129, 130, 132, 136, 137, 138, 139, 141, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 951

SEASON: Oct. 1–27, Nov. 8-Dec. 31* GMUs: 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 118, 119, 120, 121, 123, 124, 128, 133, 134, 135

SEASON: Oct. 1-Nov. 30, Dec. 15-31* **GMUs:** 142

PLAINS MUZZLELOADER

SEASON: Oct. 14-22* **GMUs:** 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 951

PLAINS RIFLE

SEASON: Oct. 28-Nov. 7* GMUs: 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 141, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 951

LATE PLAINS RIFLE

SEASON: Dec. 1-14* GMUs: 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 109, 116, 117, 122, 125, 126, 127, 129, 130, 132, 136, 137, 138, 139, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 951

PLAINS ARCHERY SEASON: Sept. 2-30* **GMUs:** 104

PLAINS MUZZLELOADER

SEASON: Sept. 9-17* **GMUs:** 104, 128, 133, 134, 141, 142 **► ELK PLAINS RIFLE**

SEASON: Sept. 1-Jan. 31, 2024* (cow) **GMUs:** 104, 128

SEASON: Oct. 14-18* (bull) SEASON: Oct. 28-Nov. 5* (bull) **SEASON:** Nov. 11-17* (bull) **GMU:** 104

SEASON: Nov. 22–26* (bull) GMUs: 104, 133, 134, 141, 142

LATE PLAINS RIFLE

SEASON: Oct. 15–Jan. 31, 2024* (cow) GMUs: 133, 134, 141, 142

► PRONGHORN PLAINS ARCHERY

SEASON: Aug. 15-Sept. 20* (buck) SEASON: Sept. 1-Sept. 20* (doe) **GMUs:** 87, 88

PLAINS MUZZLELOADER

SEASON: Sept. 21-29* **GMUs:** 87, 88, 89, 90, 93, 95, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 104, 105, 106, 107, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 951

PLAINS RIFLE

SEASON: Oct. 7-15* GMUs: 87, 88, 89, 90, 93, 95, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 104, 105, 106, 107, $109,\,110,\,111,\,112,\,113,\,114,\,115,$ 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 951

SEASON: Nov. 1-Dec. 31* (doe) **GMUs:** 87, 88, 89, 95, 951

SEASON: Dec. 1–Dec. 31* (doe) GMUs: 105, 110, 111, 116, 117, 118, 119, 122, 123, 124, 127, 130, 132, 136, 137, 138, 139, 143, 144, 145, 146

SEASON: Dec. 1-5* (doe) GMUs: 128, 129, 133, 134, 135, 141, 140, 147

SEASON: Dec. 1–14* (doe) **GMUs:** 97

SEASON: Dec. 2–10* (doe) GMUs: 112, 113, 114, 115, 120, 121, 125, 126

LEGAL HUNTING HOURS

Invasive Birds.'

Legal hunting times for big game are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset, unless specifically restricted. Legal times to hunt small game are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. An exception is made for furbearers, which can be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. Go to gml.noaa.gov/grad/solcalc to pinpoint the sunrise/sunset time for your hunting location.

*Please refer to the 2023 Big Game brochure for a detailed listing of all season dates, GMUs and methods of take for deer, elk and pronghorn, as well as information about over-the-counter license dates and units.

TIPS FOR A BETTER DOVE HUNT

Mourning doves are the most widespread game bird in Colorado, occurring in all of Colorado's counties. With such wide distribution, the trick to a successful dove hunt is finding concentrations of doves during the season.

In most cases, the best dove hunting occurs on both public and private land, and the Walk-In Access Program offers a great opportunity for a hunter to get started.

While some areas may provide better dove hunting than others, harvest numbers are influenced by hunter numbers as much as dove abundance, and hunters who are willing to seek out less popular areas should find excellent

action and less hunting pressure. Doves were harvested in

45 Colorado counties during the last harvest survey period.

So what makes a good dove hunting location? There are some general things hunters should pay attention to when looking for a place to hunt.

For a lone hunter, 50 doves in a specific area might be enough to enjoy a good hunt, while a small group of hunters will require more doves. But find a concentration of several hundred or a thousand doves, and a great hunt should ensue.

Generally, doves concentrate around three primary features: roosting areas, food sources and water sources.

Find any of these alone and you should find some doves — finding two or three together can mean a large number of doves and the potential for some great action. Studying these three primary features and understanding how doves relate to them is helpful in making a list of potential dove hunting spots.

ALSO CONSIDER:

WEATHER

Weather is the most significant factor that affects doves. For example, extremely dry seasons can reduce dove numbers in rangeland where doves are reliant on annual forb seeds for food. When these foods aren't available, doves move to another food source, such as cropland.

SEASON TIMING

Sept. 1 is the earliest dove hunting can begin. Mourning doves generally begin migrating south in August. To maximize your dove-hunting opportunity, hunt the northeast early in the season and travel to hunt the southern parts of the state later in the season when there is still a good chance of finding doves in large numbers.

HABITAT COMPOSITION

Focus hunting efforts on the habitat requirement that is most limited within your hunting area. For example, in an arid climate like eastern Colorado, water is not prevalent in a normal year and often provides a good focal point for doves. But if an area happens to be unusually wet, each individual water source is less attractive to doves.

Mourning dove © Wayne Lewis, CPW
Article by Ed Gorman, CPW Small Game Coordinator

ROOST SITE TIPS

Of the three, acceptable roosting areas are generally the easiest to find. Nearly any farmstead with a windbreak and a few dead snags can provide an acceptable dove roost.

Seemingly, the species of tree isn't important, as doves concentrate in any type that meets their needs, but cottonwood, elm, ash, locust and even Rocky Mountain junipers are known to hold large numbers of doves, when they occur in the right place.

Look for sites that offer a variety of microhabitats, including shade and wind protection. By far, the best roost sites are those that are close to water or food. Old corrals, gravelly areas and dusting sites all add to the attractiveness of a roost sites. Isolated tree groves are equally valuable as hunting cover in farmland or in rangeland settings.

Roost sites can be effectively hunted throughout the day, but the mid-morning period beginning around 10 a.m. can be excellent as doves come to the roost after the morning feeding period.

HUNT NEAR THEIR FOOD

Dove foods can be categorized into two types: cultivated crops and natural food sources.

In most years, cultivated crops provide a predictable food source for doves. Hunters often find good-sized concentrations of doves around wheat stubble, proso millet stubble and domesticate sunflowers fields.

Doves shy away from dense cover at ground level, so look for fields that have bare ground underneath the growing crop.

Doves also rely on natural food sources, including croton, bee plant, kochia and pig-weed seeds. Each can support a good concentration of mourning doves when precipitation patterns and disturbance encourage their growth, but in many years these pale in comparison to annual sunflowers. When conditions are right, and eastern Colorado range and croplands are covered with sunflowers, hunters can find some amazing concentrations of doves.

Look for sunflower patches that have a thin under-story, with a good amount of bare ground. Also, pay attention to the maturity of the sunflowers. Look for those that have a good mixture of actively blooming flowers and already matured seeds that are falling to the ground.

In sunflower fields that are pulling in a good number of doves, hunters can pass-shoot birds coming to and leaving the field, or a hunter can walk the field for opportunities at flushing doves, akin to hunting pheasants. Sunflower fields don't have to be large, even a small patch a few acres in size can pull in a surprising number of doves.

Mark downed doves precisely when

hunting weedy fields and pick them up immediately. Doves blend in amazingly well and can be difficult to find if a hunter waits for even a few minutes before retrieving.

WATCH FOR WATER

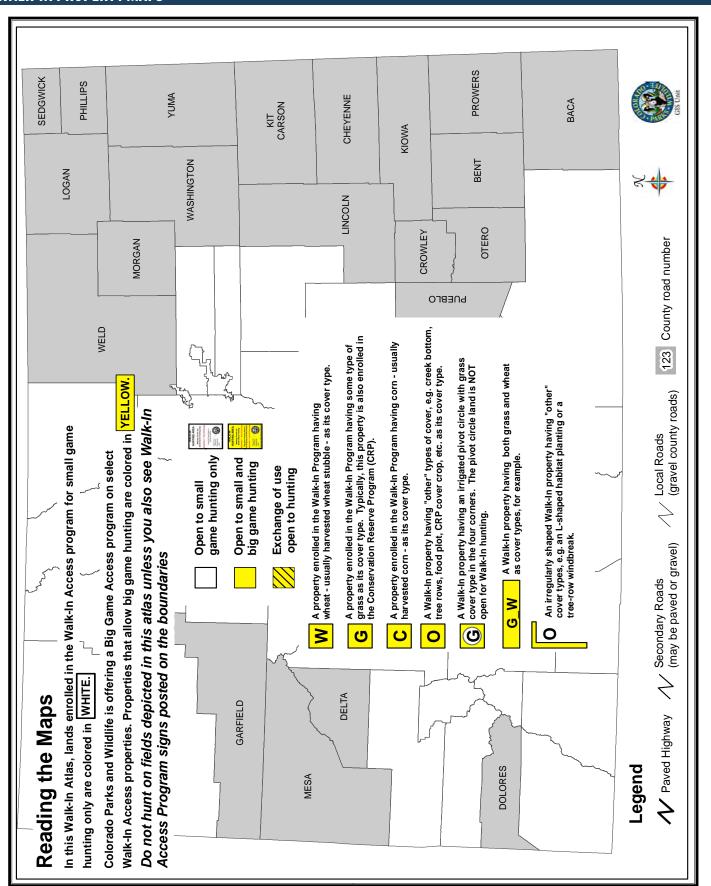
A variety of water sources are used by doves. Similar to food sources, doves seem to prefer water sources that have little or no cover at water's edge or in the adjacent uplands.

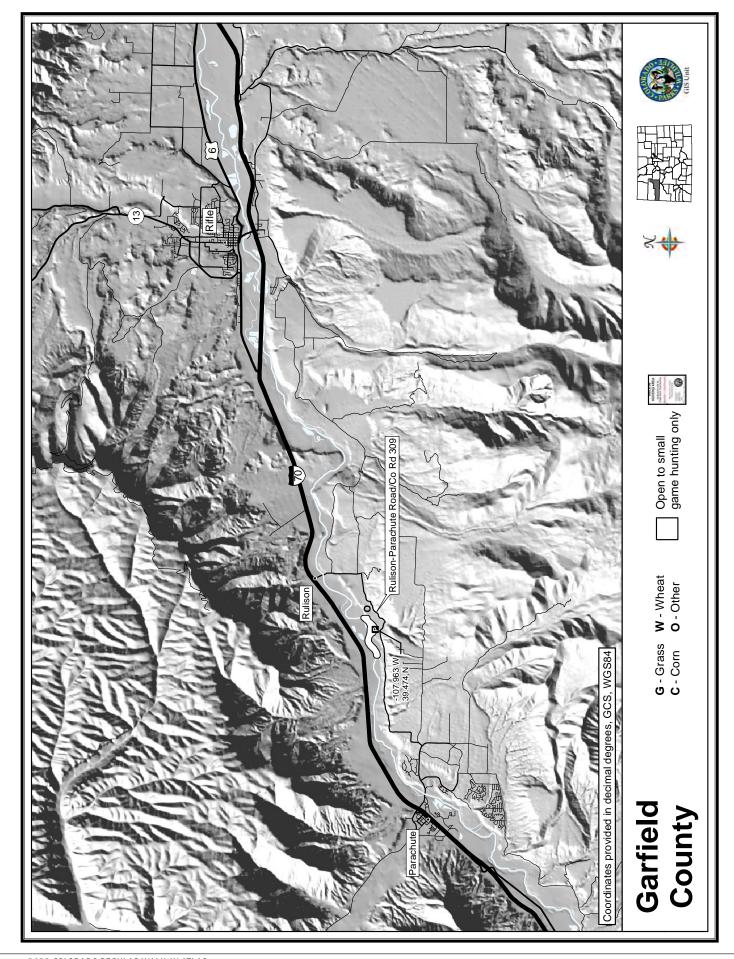
Good areas that should catch your eye include cattle watering tanks, stock ponds, gravel pits, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) guzzlers, flooded creek bottoms or small depressions that simply catch rainfall. Even a small puddle of water can pull in large numbers of doves, especially if it is near a good food source or roosting site.

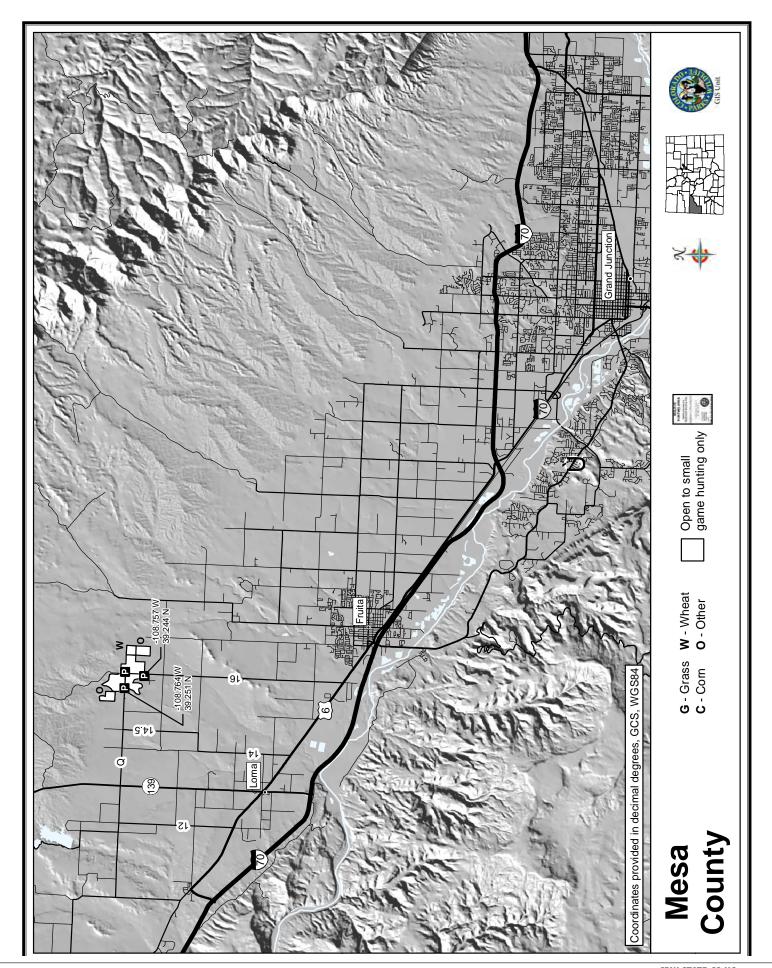
While morning hunts can be productive at watering areas, often the best activity occurs afternoon and into the early evening. On days that are unseasonably hot, hunting can be consistent throughout the afternoon, but the last 45 minutes of legal shooting hours can be fantastic at a well-used water site. Many eastern Colorado water sources are short-lived at best, but once doves start using a watering source, a good number of birds will continue to use an ever-shrinking site as long as some water is present.

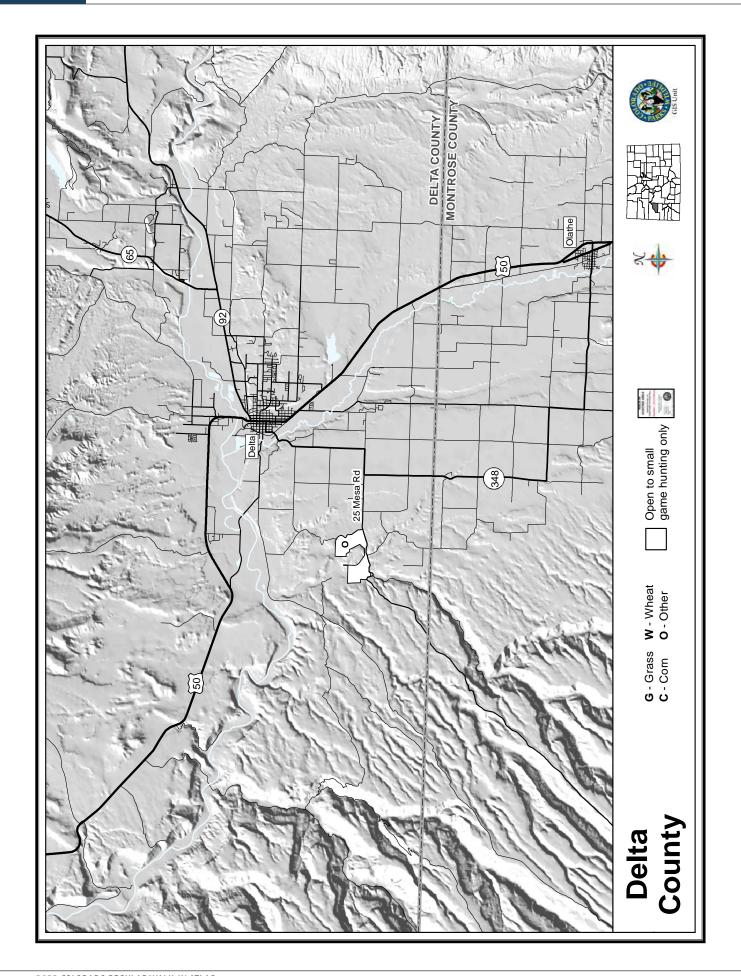
MAPS

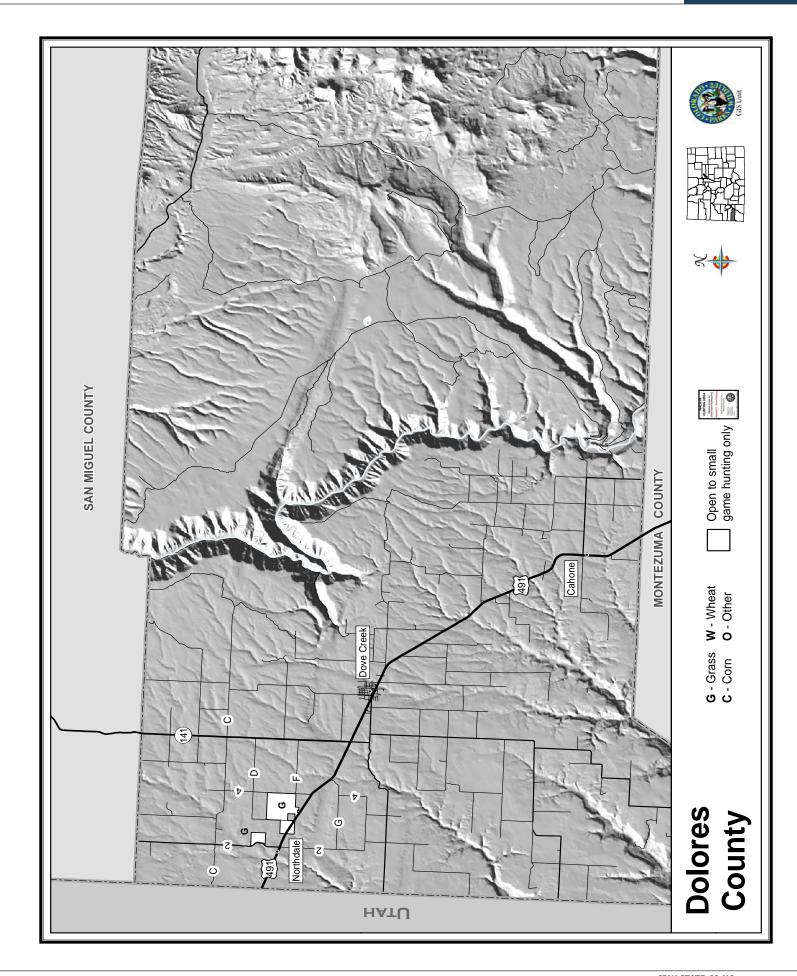
WALK-IN PROPERTY MAPS

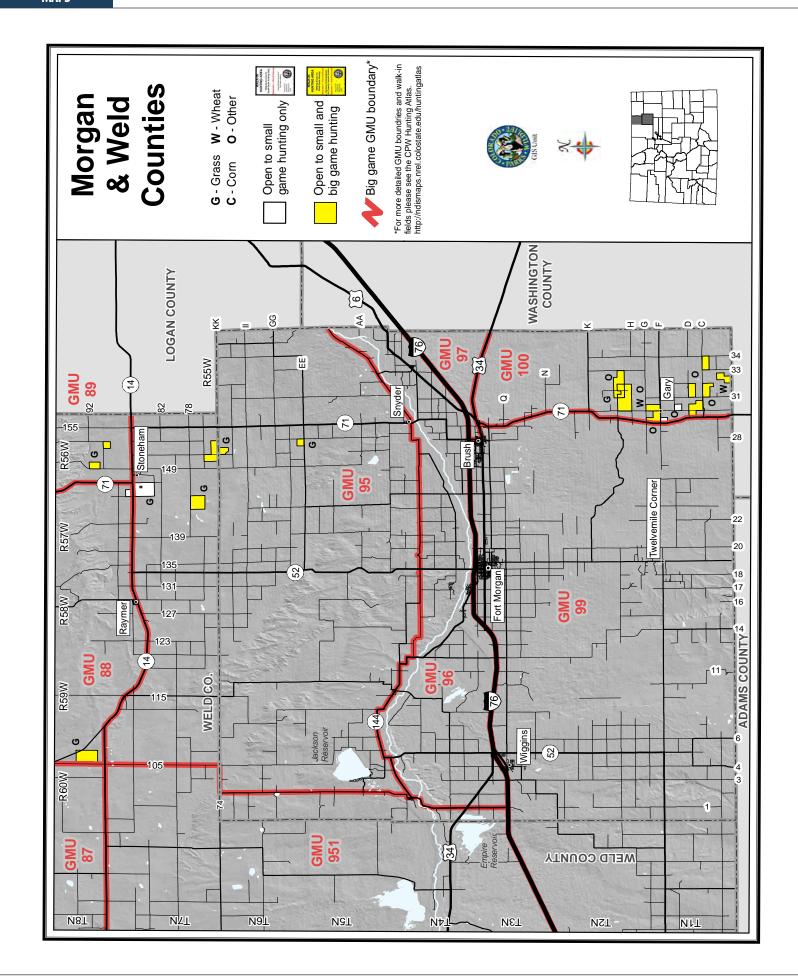


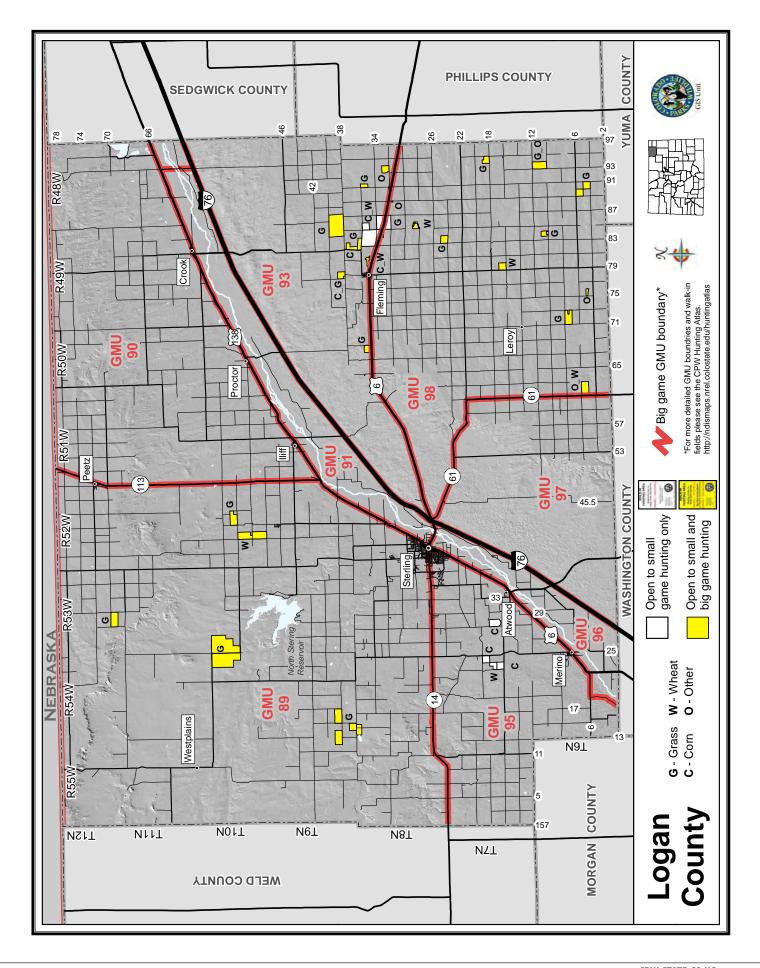


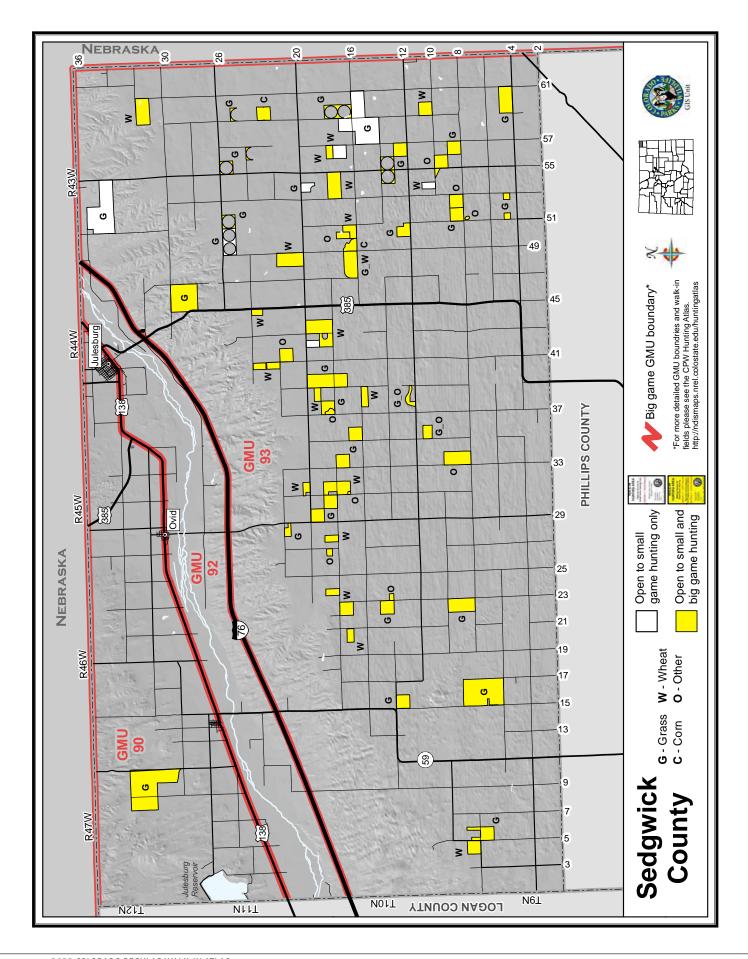


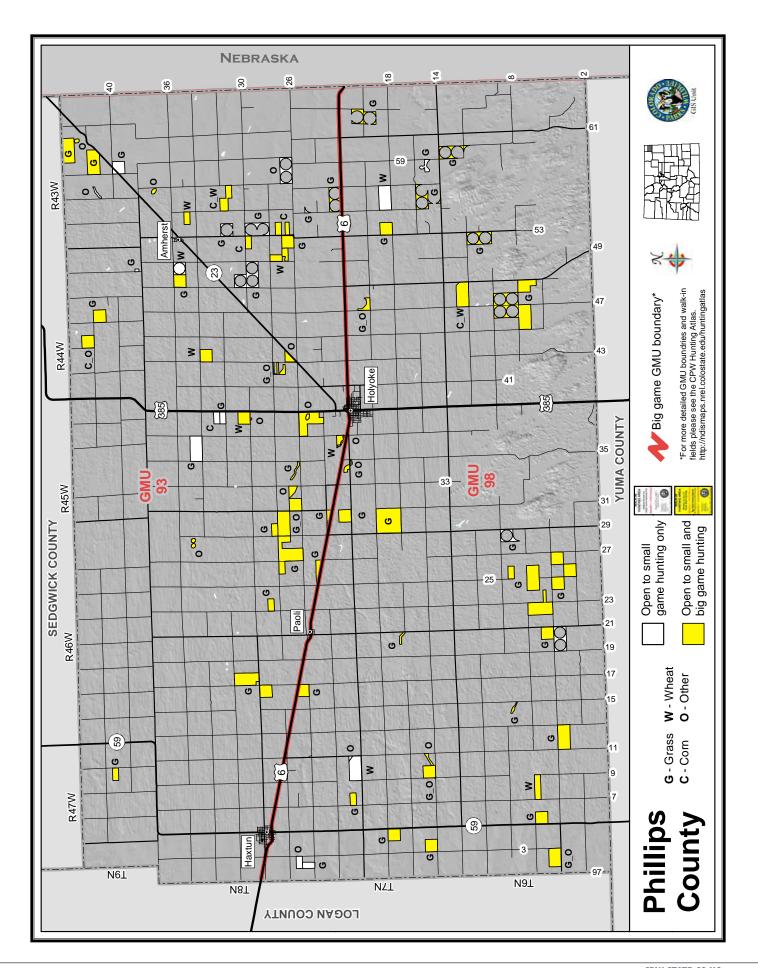


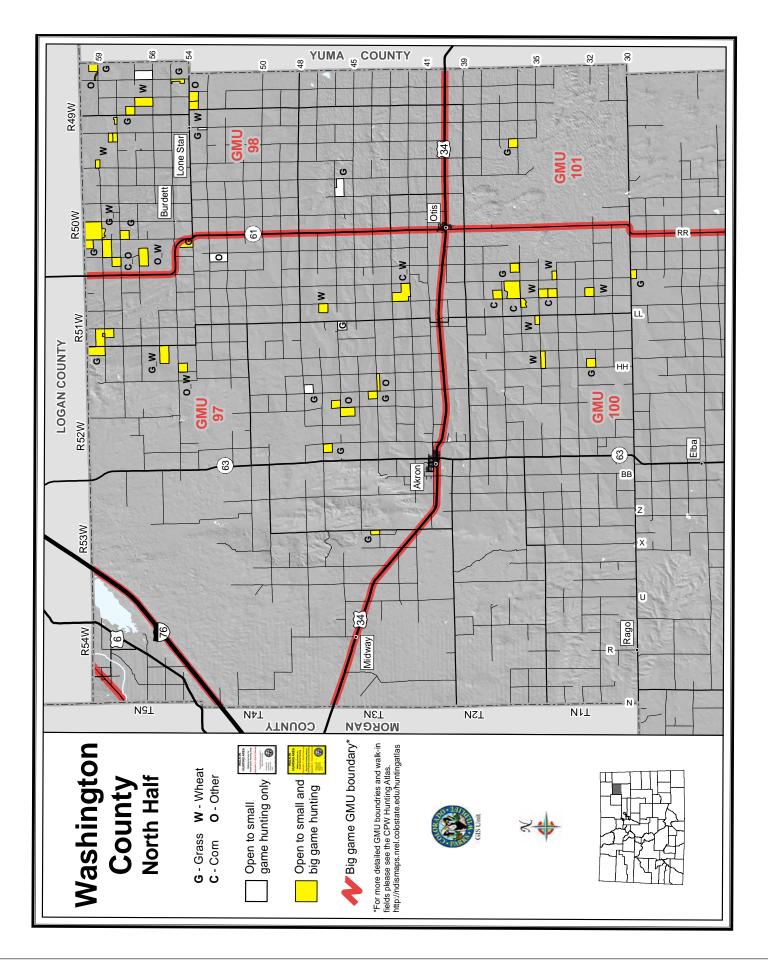


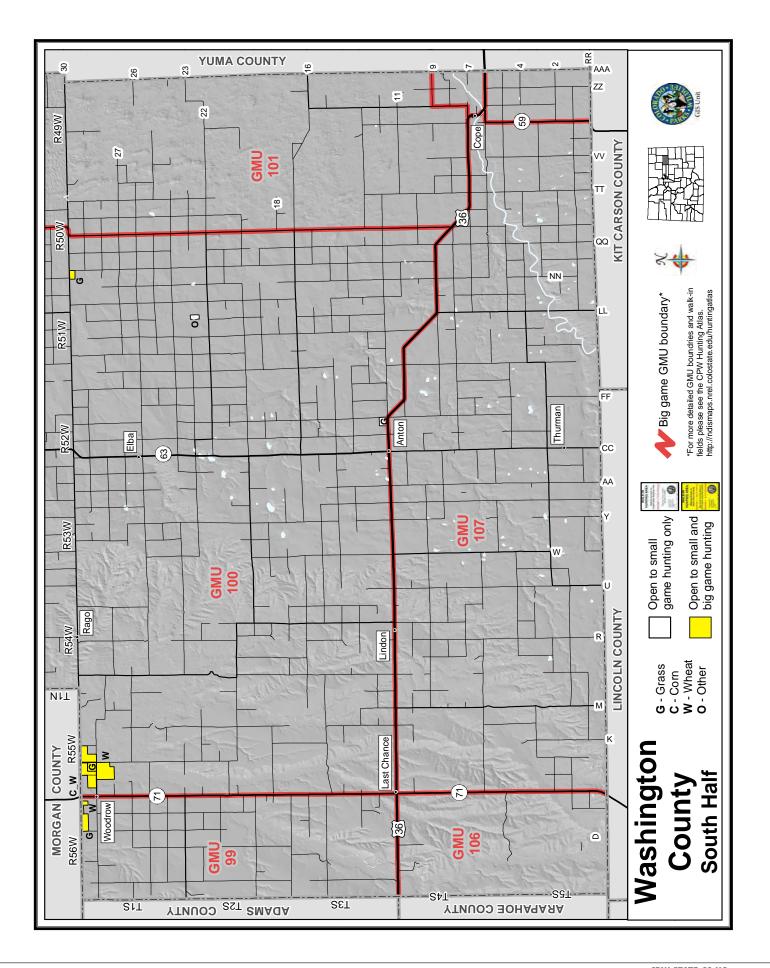


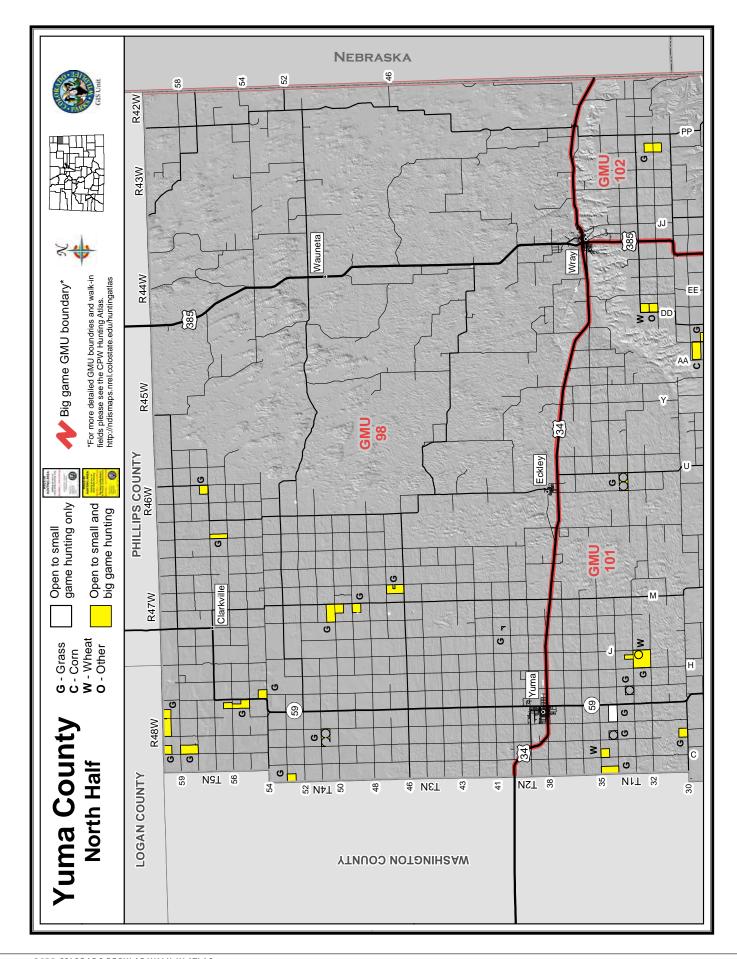


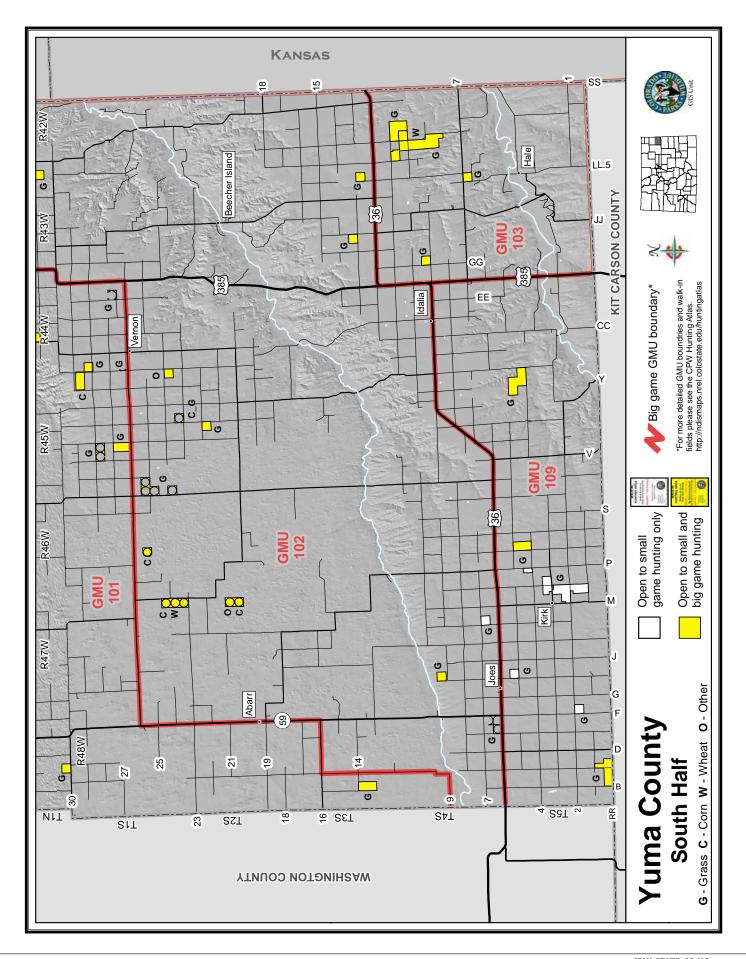


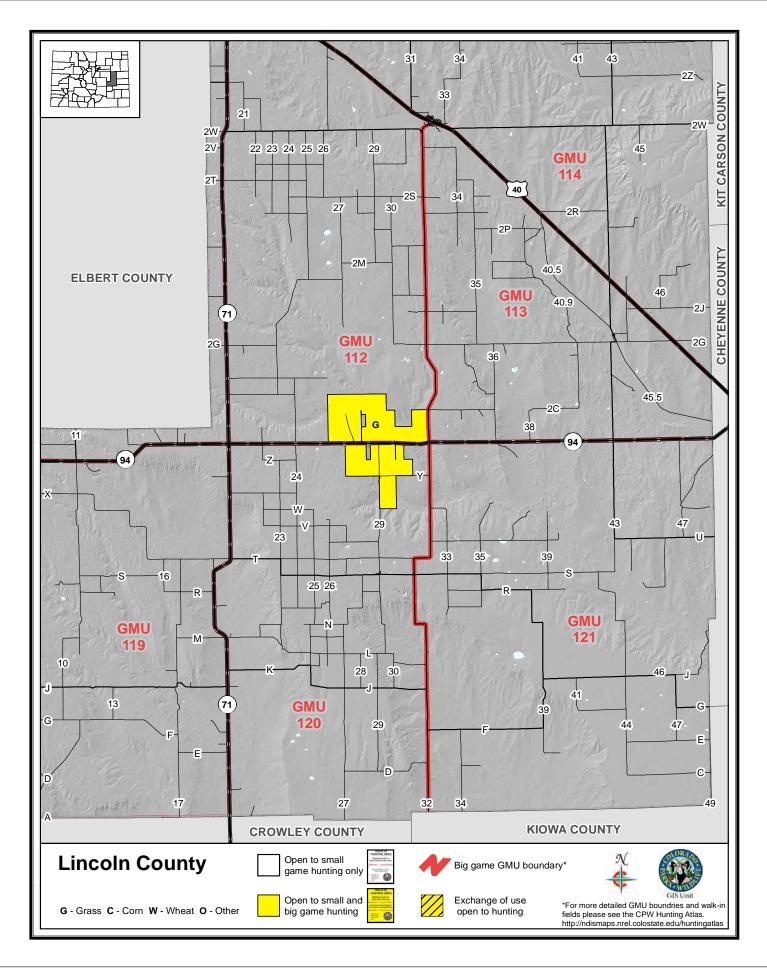


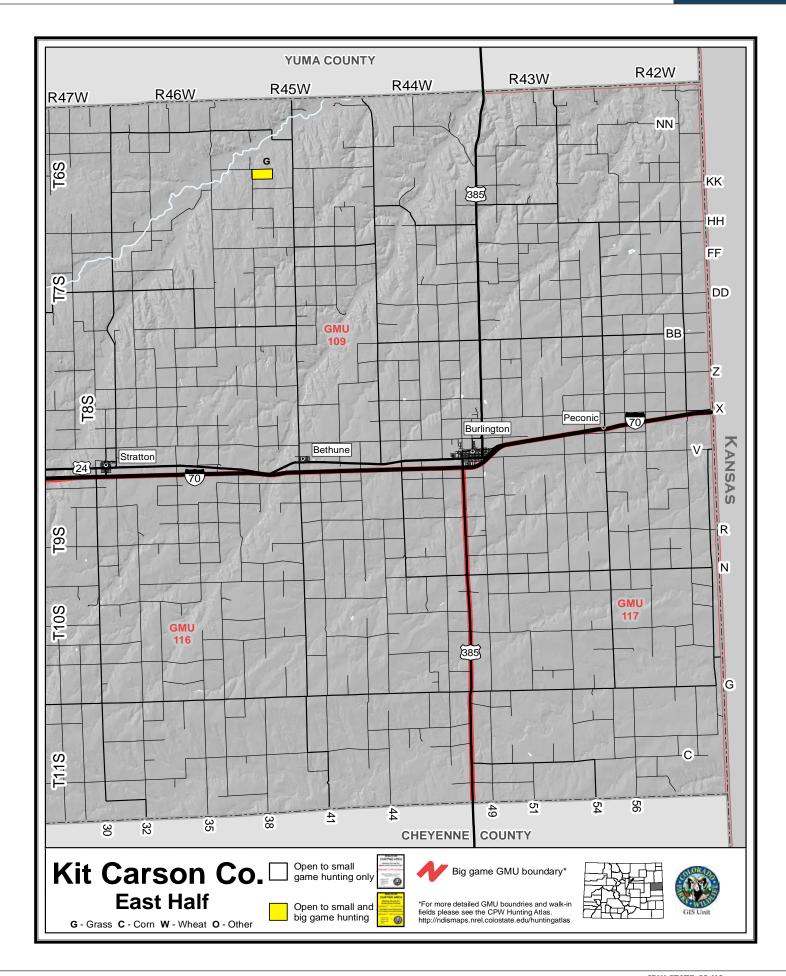


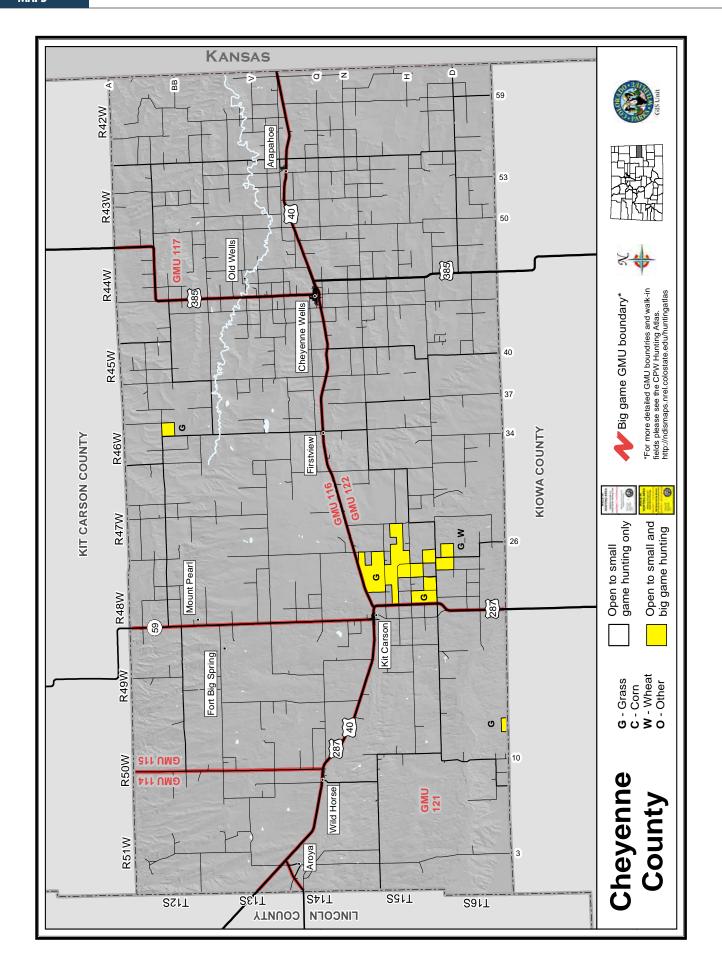


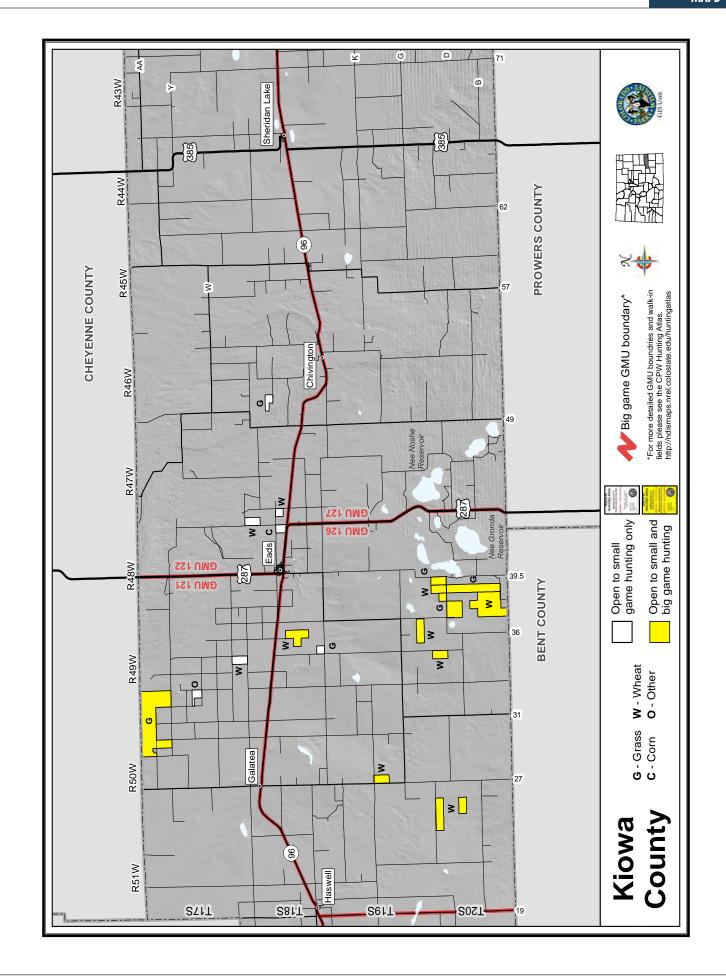


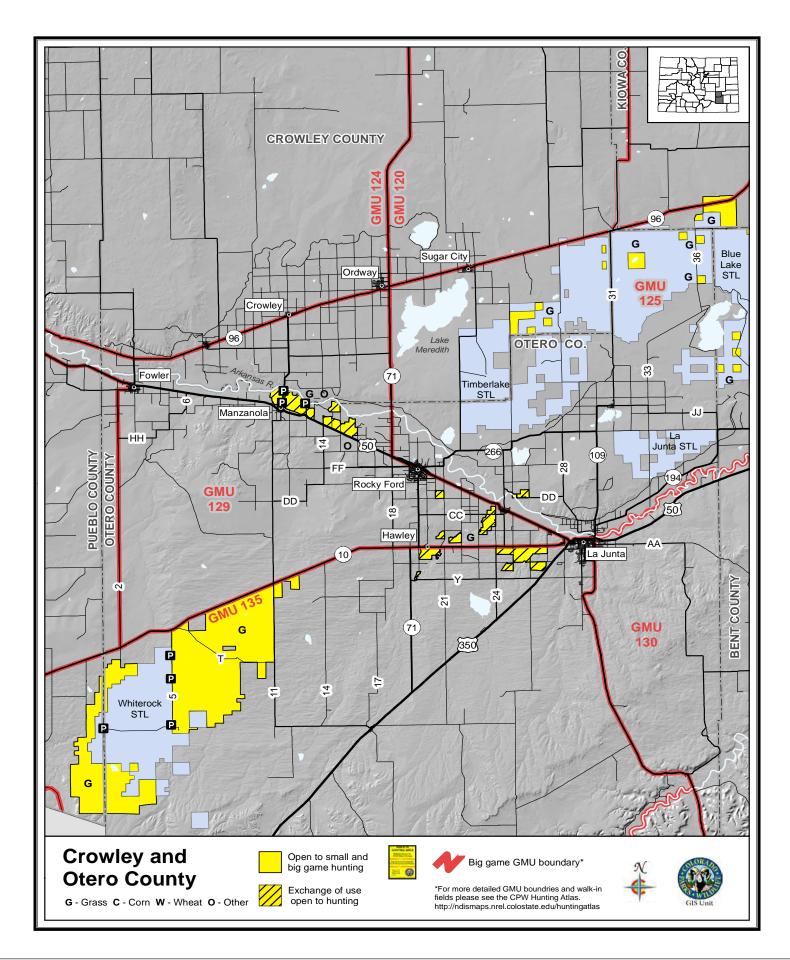


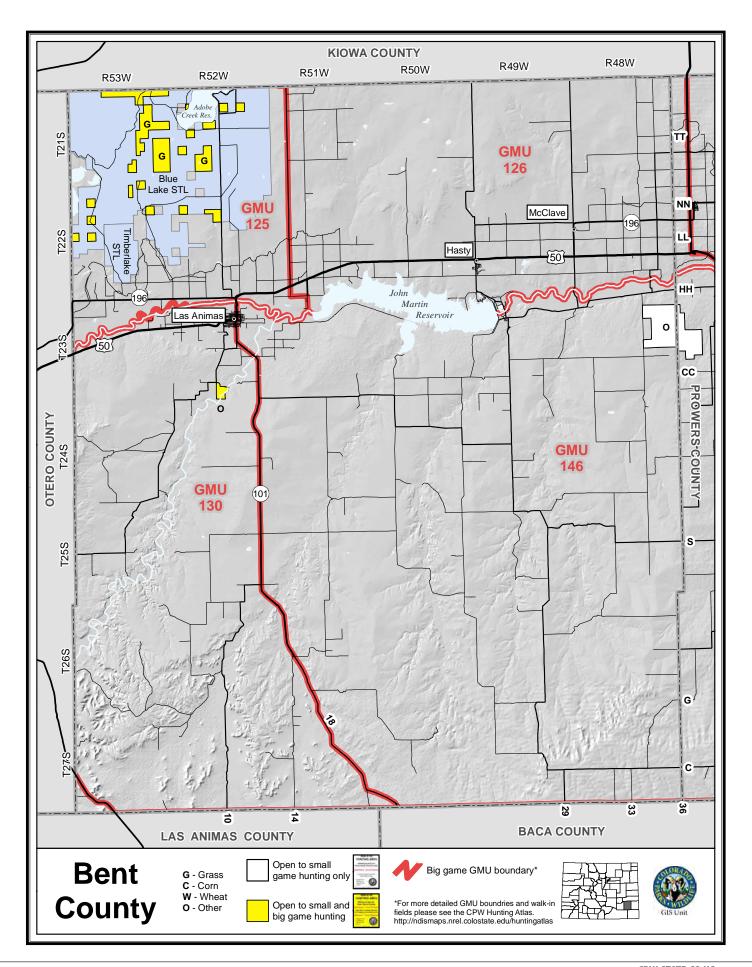


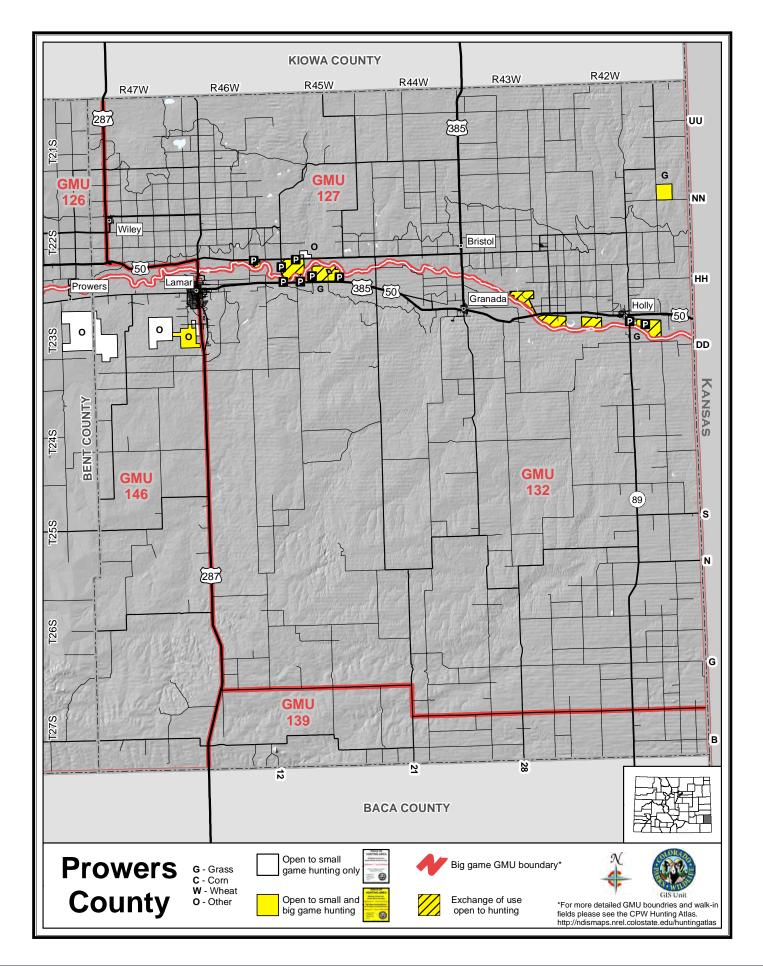


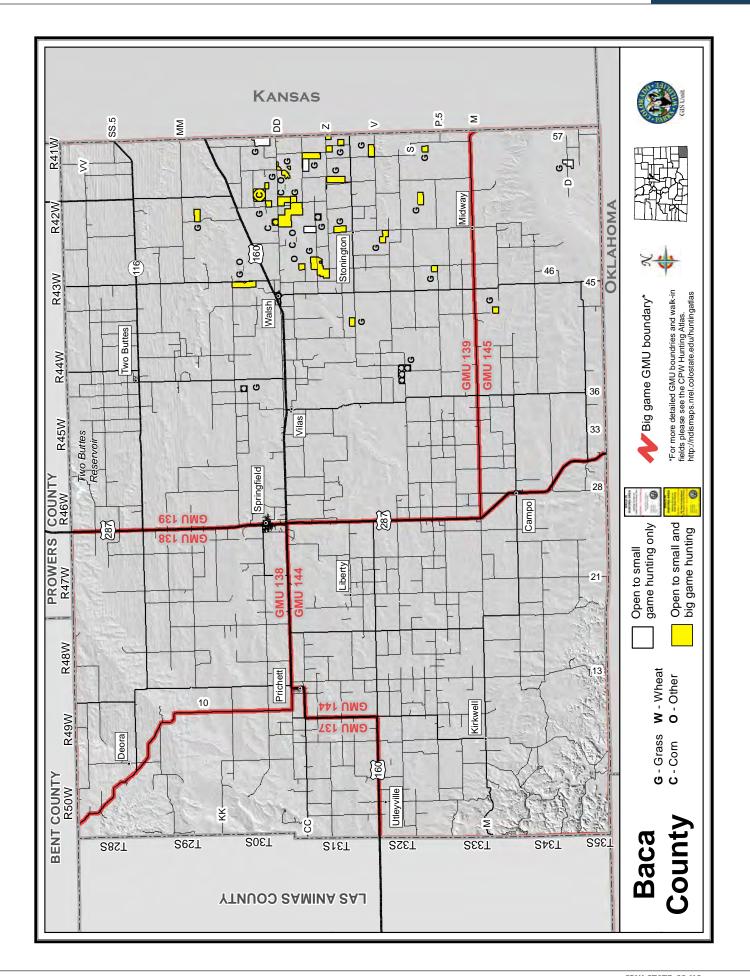


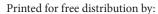
















COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE

6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216 303-297-1192

cpw.state.co.us

NOTICE ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This brochure is not a legal notice nor a complete collection of hunting regulations and laws. Copies of statutes and regulations can be obtained from a CPW office or at **cpw.info/regulations**. For questions, call CPW at 303-297-1192.



