

DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE



ERA D PRESENTATION

Presented by Captain **Chris Anderson** and Captain **Rich Mann**

Program Mission Statement

We serve Washington's citizens by achieving compliance with laws focused on fish, wildlife, habitat, and public safety.....



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A Growing Epidemic.

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These grow operations pose a serious environmental threat.

Growers live off of the land.

Indiscriminate use of chemicals.

Trash and garbage are left at the grow sites.



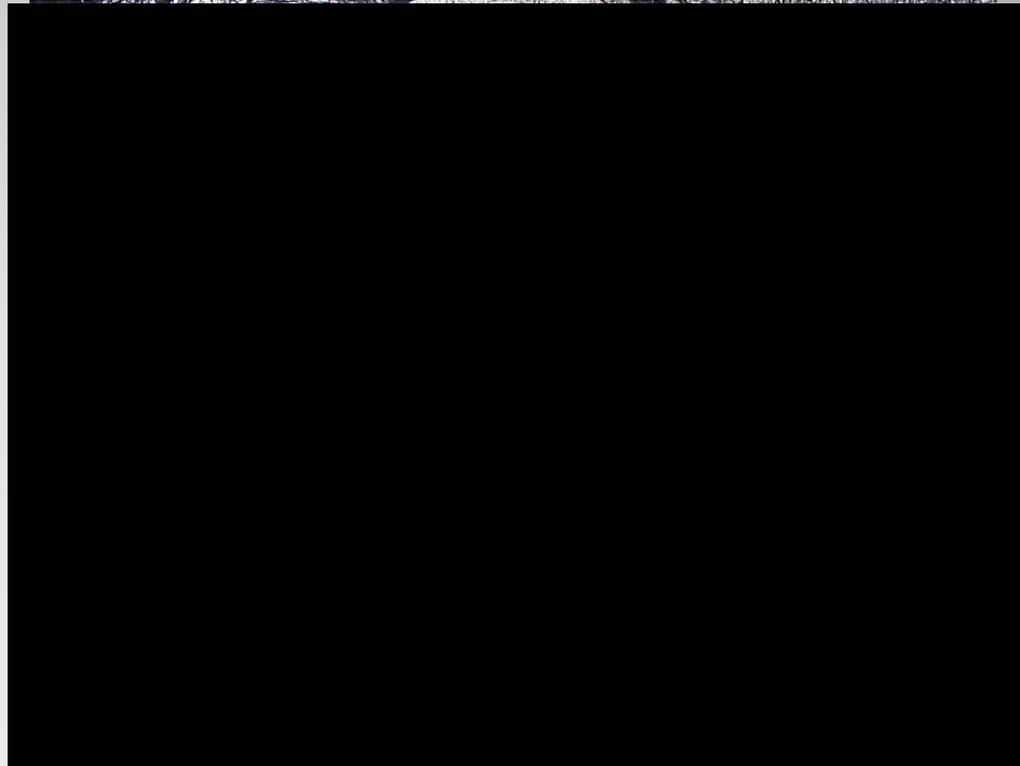
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Every grow requires water.

all streams are
dammed and diverted.

gal water storage
created.

man waste fouls
streams and ponds.



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Growers poach wildlife for camp meat.



The Development of the Eradication Team.

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WDFW developed an ERAD team in 2008 to combat the surge in illegal marijuana grow operations.



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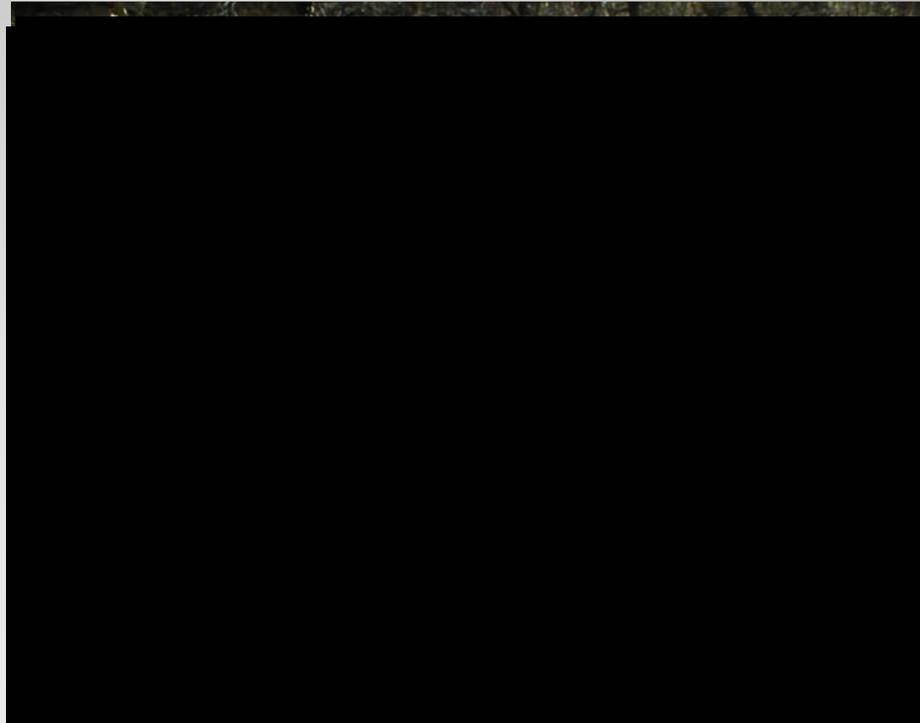
In 2011 there were four major commercial grows eradicated from WDFW land.

oad Grow located on the
sert Wildlife area near
ses Lake.

gers Pond Grow near Royal
y.

k Creek Grow near Naches.

lahekin Grow near Loomis.

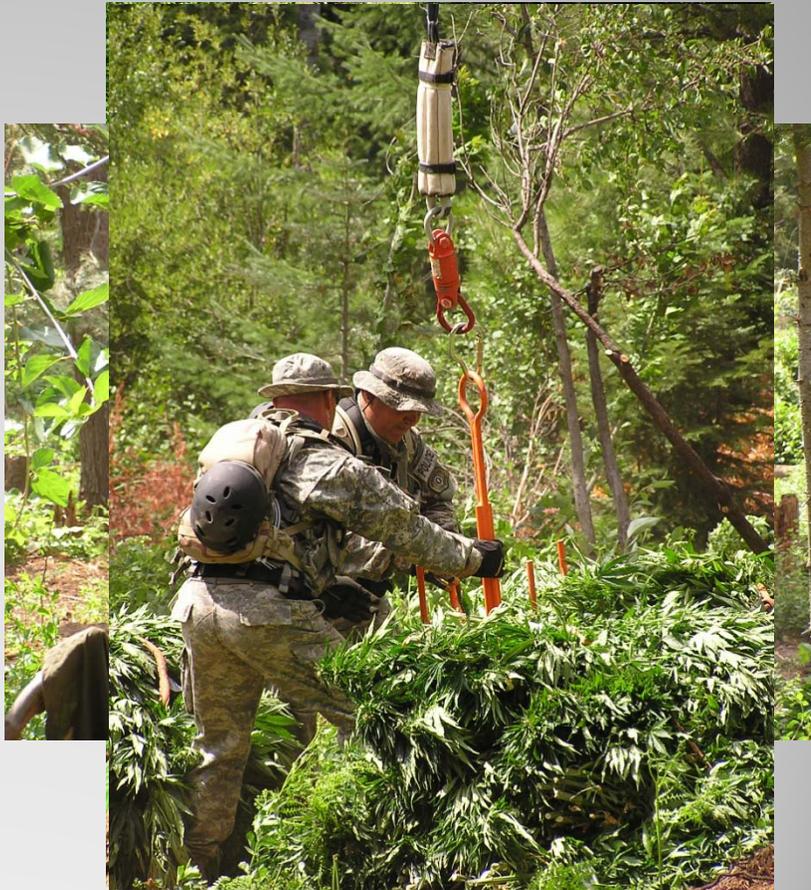


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2010, 300,000 + marijuana plants were eradicated.

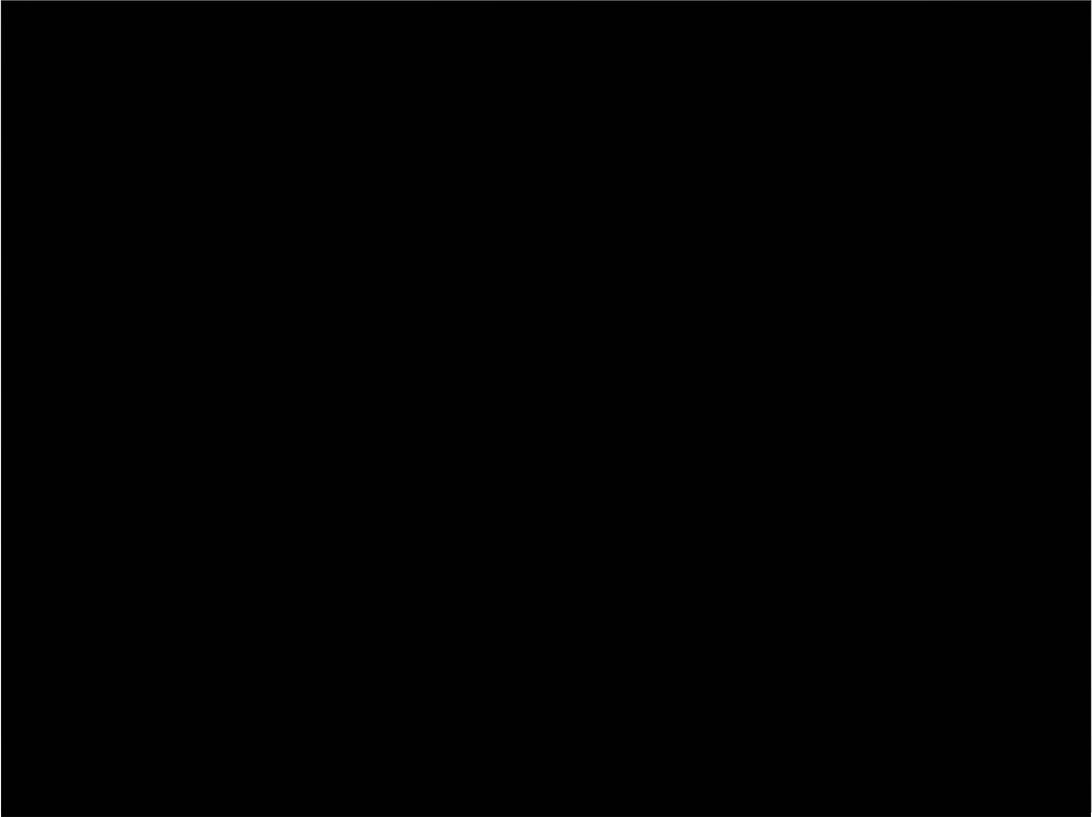
2011 320,000 + marijuana plants were eradicated.

one six foot tall mature plant has a street value of over \$1,000.00



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WDFW manages almost a million acres of land in Washington State.



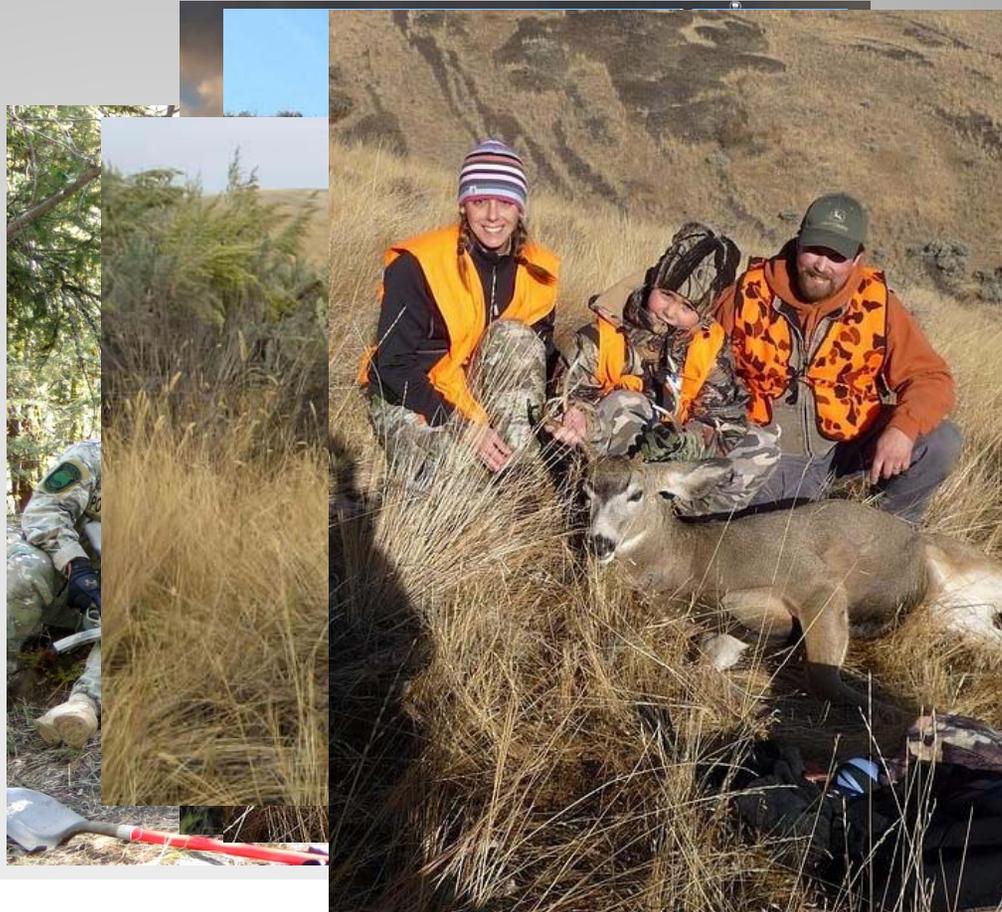
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WDFW is committed to our Mission Statement

protect our lands from
organized crime.

field a team of highly
trained officers to
respond to these threats.

provide a safe outdoor
experience to the citizens
of Washington State.



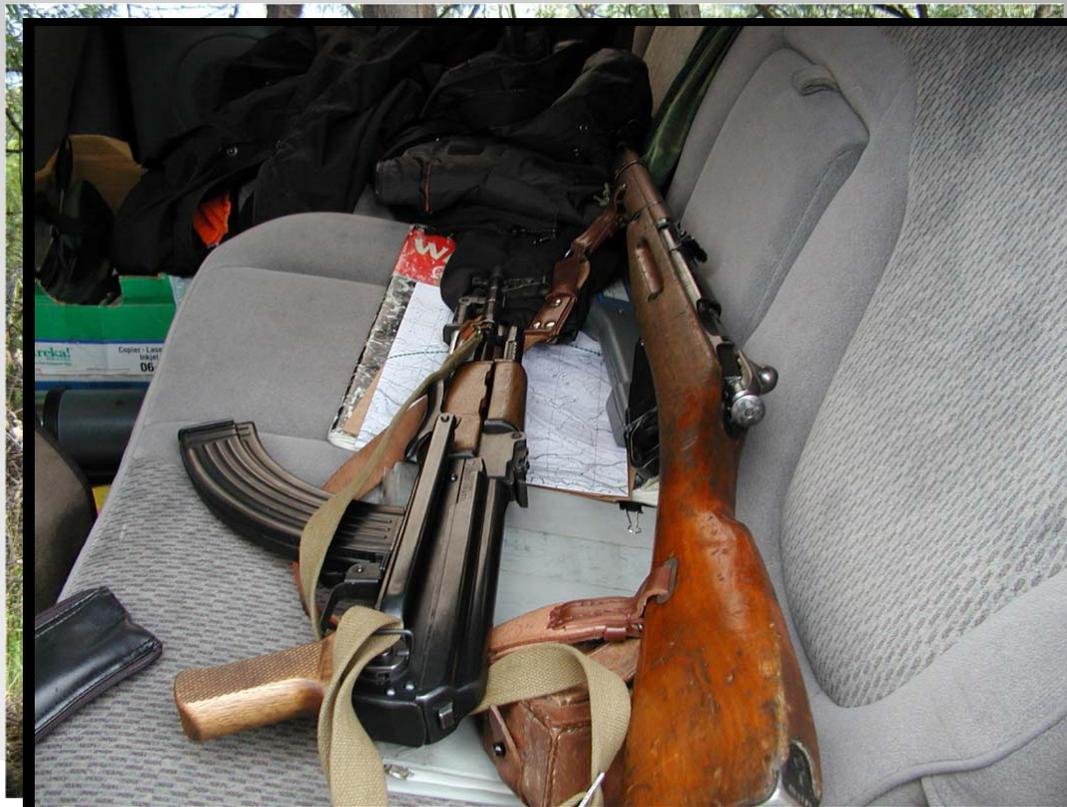
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These grow operations pose a threat to the public.

Mexican Drug Cartels invest thousands of dollars into each garden.

Gardeners are armed, and pose a serious risk to public safety.

The workers go into the field in the spring, and stay until fall.



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These gardens pose a real danger to officers and to the public.

Every garden that officers have encountered has had weapons.

Every gardener arrested has been undocumented.

These suspects always attempt to flee.



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There are no other law enforcement agencies that can respond to grows on WDFW land.

Every law enforcement agency in Western Washington is struggling with budget reductions.

They do not have the staffing to respond to calls on WDFW property.

WDFW has no other option to ensure public safety on their lands.



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DFW Officers are part
a joint statewide
eradication effort.

DFW Officers are
partly compensated
through a Federal
grant.

The grant is also used
to purchase specialized
equipment.



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The WDFW ERAD team is preparing for the 2012 season.



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Thank You.