



Washington Department of
FISH and WILDLIFE

ANNUAL HUNTING INCIDENT REPORT

LICENSE YEAR 2015

April 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016



A successful hunt, as shown above, is defined by the memories made during a safe time afield

Safe hunting is no accident

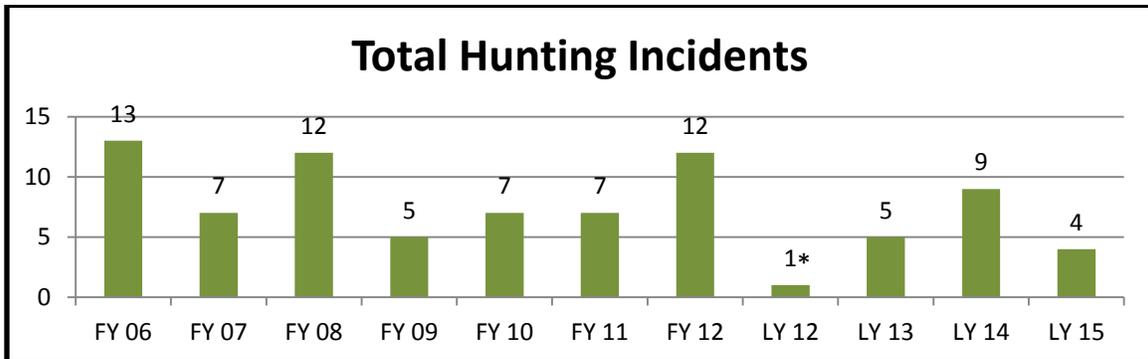
Prepared by: Kris Thorson
WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife – Hunter Education Division

HUNTING INCIDENT DATA SUMMARY

April 1, 2015 – March 31, 2016

Total number of Hunting Incidents: 4

TOTAL INCIDENTS			
	Fatal	Non-fatal	Total
	1	3	4
SPECIES PURSUED AT TIME OF INCIDENT			
Bear	0	0	0
Deer/elk	1	2	3
Waterfowl	0	0	0
Turkey	0	0	0
Upland Birds	0	0	0
Other or unknown	0	1	1
LOCATION			
Eastern Washington	1	2	3
Western Washington	0	1	1
INCIDENT TYPE			
Self-inflicted	0	2	2
Shot by person in same party	1	1	2
Shot by someone outside of party	0	0	0
Undetermined	0	0	0
HUNTING EQUIPMENT			
Shotgun	0	1	1
Rifle	0	2	2
Handgun	0	0	0
Muzzleloader	1	0	1
Archery	0	0	0
Crossbow	0	0	0



* Between 2012 and 2013 WDFW began tabulating incidents by license year (LY) as opposed to fiscal year (FY). No incidents were double counted during this conversion.

FATAL INCIDENTS

Cause: Failure to Identify Target

Shooter:	45 year old male	Victim:	31 year old male
Hunting Equipment:	Muzzleloader	Type:	Fatal
County:	Whitman	Hunter Orange:	No
Hunter Ed Graduate:	No	Date of Incident:	10/10/2015

The shooter claimed they shot at a deer and missed. The bullet then struck the victim who was the shooters nephew.

NON-FATAL INCIDENTS

Cause: Loaded firearm in a vehicle

Shooter:	53 year old male	Victim:	53 year old male
Hunting Equipment:	Rifle	Type:	Non-fatal
County:	Whitman	Hunter Orange:	No
Hunter Ed Graduate:	No	Date of Incident:	10/17/2015

The victim was getting off an ATV to shoot at a deer when the firearm discharged. The bullet struck the victim's hand.

Cause: Loaded firearm in a vehicle

Shooter:	64 year old female	Victim:	15 year old male
Hunting Equipment:	Rifle	Type:	Non-fatal
County:	Stevens	Hunter Orange:	Yes
Hunter Ed Graduate:	No	Date of Incident:	11/10/2015

The victim was shot in the hand while the firearm was being passed over the vehicle seat.

Cause: Failure to maintain muzzle control

Shooter:	Self	Victim:	32 year old male
Hunting Equipment:	Shotgun	Type:	Non-fatal
County:	Island	Hunter Orange:	No
Hunter Ed Graduate:	Yes	Date of Incident:	12/1/2015

The victim sustained a shotgun wound to their calf when the shotgun fell from a propped position that was unsteady.



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Ten Firearm Safety Rules

1. Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and under control.
2. Treat every firearm as if it were loaded.
3. Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to fire. Use your safety, but remember that safeties sometimes fail.
4. Be sure of your target and what lies beyond before firing.
5. Never place or carry a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle.
6. Never use a firearm unless you are familiar with how it works. If you need an owner's manual, write to the manufacturer.
7. Never cross a fence, climb a tree, cross a stream or jump a ditch with a loaded firearm.
8. Never point at anything you do not want to shoot.
9. Unload firearms when not in use. Store firearms and ammunition separately.
10. Never use alcohol (or drugs) before or during shooting.



Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
1111 Washington St SE
Olympia WA 98501

Hunter Education Division: (360) 902-8111, Email huntered@dfw.wa.gov
WDFW Police: (360) 902-2936, Email ENFORCEMENT-WEB@dfw.wa.gov

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If you need further assistance or information, please contact the Olympia office of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife: (360) 902-2349, or Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD), (360) 902-2207.