NON-FATAL INCIDENTS

1. SHOOTER: 10 year-old male VICTIM: 60 year-old male

FIREARM: 12 gauge shotgun TYPE: Non-fatal COUNTY: Yakima BLAZE ORANGE: No

HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Yes **DATE OF INCIDENT: 9/19/04**

NARRATIVE: The grandfather was not hunting as he taught his two

grandsons how to hunt quail. They were three abreast when a covey flushed in front of the shooter, about eight feet away on the grandfather's left-hand side. The

shooter—focusing on the quail in flight—fired and struck the grandfather with pellets in the face and body. The grandfather said he wouldn't have reported the incident.

CAUSE: Victim covered by shooter swinging on game

2. SHOOTER: 10 year-old male VICTIM: Self-inflicted FIREARM: .30-30 rifle TYPE: Non-fatal COUNTY: Okanogan BLAZE ORANGE: N/A

HUNTER ED GRADUATE: No DATE OF ACCIDENT: 10/12/04

NARRATIVE: The 10 year-old shooter was tagging along on a hunt with his

father and two other relatives. One of the relatives forgot binoculars in the truck and asked the 10-year old to hold his rifle while he returned to the truck to get the binoculars. The 10 year-old apparently cocked the rifle and pulled the trigger while

his middle finger rested on the muzzle.

CAUSE: Careless handling

3. SHOOTER: 17 year-old male VICTIM: Self-Inflicted FIREARM: .22 LR rifle TYPE: Non-fatal COUNTY: Cowlitz BLAZE ORANGE: N/A

HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Yes DATE OF ACCIDENT: 10/22/04

NARRATIVE: The facts of this incident were suspicious to the investigating

officer and this case is still open. In this—the second version offered by the shooter—he was grouse hunting and running with a .22 LR when he slipped and discharged the firearm into

his left leg, just above the knee.

CAUSE: Careless handling

4. SHOOTER: 11 year-old male VICTIMS: Self-inflicted FIREARM: .30-30 rifle TYPE: Non-fatal COUNTY: Stevens BLAZE ORANGE: N/A

HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Yes *DATE OF ACCIDENT: 11/1/03

NARRATIVE:

A father and son were elk hunting and the father told his son to remain by the truck while the father skirted a hillside to try and push elk towards his son. The son left the truck and began hiking downhill in thick brush. He leaned his rifle against some brush while he continued working his way downhill. As the gun fell, the son grabbed the barrel, causing it to discharge into his forearm. The son spent a week in the hospital and underwent three surgeries to save his arm. The father was a convicted felon in possession of a firearm and charges were filed against him.

(* This report did not appear in the 2004 edition of Hunting Incidents)

CAUSE: Careless handling

5. SHOOTER: 45 year-old male VICTIM: 43 year-old male

FIREARM: 20-gauge shotgun TYPE: Non-Fatal COUNTY: Okanogan BLAZE ORANGE: Yes

HUNTER ED GRADUATE: No DATE OF ACCIDENT: 11/12/04

NARRATIVE:

The shooter and victim were quail hunting in a party of four. The victim was looking for downed quail in tall sagebrush when he was struck with pellets in the side of his head, neck forearm and hand. The shooter was reportedly about 70 yards away and could not see the victim because of the terrain. The victim and witnesses all refused to sign their WDFW statements.

CAUSE: Victim covered by shooter swinging on game

6. SHOOTER: 6 year-old male VICTIM: Self-inflicted FIREARM: .410 shotgun TYPE: Non-Fatal COUNTY: Yakima BLAZE ORANGE: N/A

HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Unknown DATE OF ACCIDENT: 10/22/04

NARRATIVE:

As the victim was getting out of his father's truck, he dropped his shotgun, which struck the bumper and discharged into his right arm. The incident took place on the Yakima Nation Reservation and information about the incident was received from a third-party. No other details are available.

CAUSE: Victim removing firearm from vehicle

7. SHOOTER: 46 year-old male VICTIM: 8 year-old male

12-gauge pump shotgun TYPE: Non-Fatal FIREARM: **COUNTY:** Spokane **BLAZE ORANGE: Yes**

HUNTER ED GRADUATE: No DATE OF ACCIDENT: 11/26/04

The victim was shooting at pheasants and grouse with his BB gun **NARRATIVE:**

while two other hunters were hunting pheasants and quail. The victim reported feeling something like a bee sting to his forehead just after the shooter fired. A week later, after complaining about headaches, victim discovered a pellet was lodged in his

forehead.

CAUSE: Victim covered by shooter swinging on game

8. 42 year-old male VICTIM: 43 year-old male **SHOOTER:**

Unknown shotgun TYPE: Non-Fatal FIREARM: **COUNTY:** Chelan **BLAZE ORANGE: Yes**

HUNTER ED GRADUATE: No DATE OF ACCIDENT: 1/2/05

NARRATIVE: The shooter and victim were quail hunting about 50 yards apart

on a steep hillside. Quail flushed and the shooter fired two shots, striking the victim with pellets to the face. The shooter reported that he could not see the victim because of the slope of the hill.

CAUSE: Victim covered by shooter swinging on game

9. SHOOTER: 42 year-old male VICTIM: **Hunting dog** 12 gauge shotgun FIREARM: **TYPE:** Non-Fatal

COUNTY: Skagit **BLAZE ORANGE: N/A**

HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Yes DATE OF ACCIDENT: 11/3/04

The shooter was hunting pheasant alone without a hunting dog. **NARRATIVE:**

> He reported that several hunting dogs jumped up on him, causing his firearm to discharge accidentally. Investigating officers suspect that the shooter saw motion in the brush and

fired, striking the hunting dog.

CAUSE: Hunting dog mistaken for game animal

10. SHOOTER: VICTIM: **Elementary school student** Unknown

FIREARM: Unknown shotgun TYPE: Non-Fatal **BLAZE ORANGE: N/A COUNTY:** Yakima

HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Unknown DATE OF ACCIDENT: *12/19/03

NARRATIVE:

This incident report developed from a newspaper clipping reporting a possible hunting incident. Neither shooter nor witnesses could be found. A student was on the school playground and reportedly heard one gunshot. Although the school checked the student's reported injury, the #6 pellet in his scalp wasn't discovered until three weeks later.

(* This report did not appear in the 2004 edition of Hunting Incidents)

CAUSE: Unknown

11 SHOOTER: 16 year-old male VICTIM: Self-inflicted FIREARM: .22 LR rifle TYPE: Non-Fatal COUNTY: Clark BLAZE ORANGE: N/A

HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Yes DATE OF ACCIDENT: 9/27/04

NARRATIVE:

This incident report developed from a report in a hunter education class regarding a possible hunting incident. The victim was raccoon hunting with dogs late at night and fired at and struck a treed raccoon. As he approached the raccoon, the raccoon rose and began fighting with one of his dogs. The victim fired again, this time striking and killing one of his dogs. Distraught about his dog, the victim carelessly tossed the gun aside, causing it to discharge into his thigh.

CAUSE: Careless handling

12 SHOOTER: 22 year-old male VICTIM: 10 year-old male

FIREARM: 12-gauge semi-auto TYPE: Non-Fatal COUNTY: Whitman BLAZE ORANGE: YES HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Yes DATE OF ACCIDENT: 1/15/05

NARRATIVE:

The shooter was quail hunting with his father and younger brother when quail flushed and the shooter fired, striking his younger brother with pellets in the leg and arm. Although the father was also struck by pellets, they did not penetrate his heavier clothing.

CAUSE: Victim covered by shooter swinging on game

13 SHOOTER: 31 year-old male VICTIM: 42 year-old male

FIREARM: Bow TYPE: Non-Fatal

COUNTY: Lewis BLAZE ORANGE: N/A

HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Yes DATE OF ACCIDENT: 12/4/04

NARRATIVE:

The shooter and victim were hunting elk during the late archery season in separate hunting parties. As he watched a group of elk moving at 50 yards, the victim was hit by a ricochet arrow released by a hunter approximately 100 yards away. The shooter administered first aid and helped stabilize the victim.

CAUSE: Ricochet; victim in line of fire

14 15

Information for these two hunting incidents was either unavailable or incomplete at the time this report was prepared for hunter education instructors.

The report will be updated as data becomes available to the hunter education division staff.

FIREARM: 16 ga. shotgun TYPE: Fatal COUNTY: King BLAZE ORANGE: No

HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Yes DATE OF ACCIDENT: 12/24/04

NARRATIVE: The shooter and his brother were waterfowl hunting and target

shooting with only the shooter carrying a firearm. The shooter stepped into unexpectedly deep water, and was pulled out of the water by his brother. As he was being pulled out, the firearm hit a branch and discharged, striking the victim in the neck. The shooter insisted that the safety was on. Investigation revealed the

firearm would not fire with the safety on.

CAUSE: Careless handling

17. SHOOTER: 38 year-old male VICTIM: 52 year-old male

FIREARM: 12-gauge shotgun TYPE: Fatal

COUNTY: Grant BLAZE ORANGE: N/A

HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Unknown DATE OF ACCIDENT: 1/19/05

NARRATIVE: The shooter and victim were done goose hunting and were

carrying gear out of the field. The shooter noticed his safety was off and tried to engage the safety when the gun discharged, striking the victim in the femoral artery. Investigation revealed the shooter did not possess a small game license, a federal waterfowl stamp, or a state waterfowl migratory bird endorsement. The shooter also had lead shot in his possession.

CAUSE: Careless handling

18. SHOOTER: 28 year-old male VICTIM: 64 year-old male

FIREARM: 12-gauge shotgun TYPE: Fatal COUNTY: Stevens BLAZE ORANGE: No

HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Yes DATE OF ACCIDENT: 11/05/04

NARRATIVE: The shooter, victim and a third hunter were in a deer unit open

at the time only for youth and seniors. The shooter reportedly saw a coyote and fired one shot using 00 buck shotshells, striking and killing the victim. Three empty 00 buck shotshells were found at the scene. The county sheriff conducted the principal investigation and local fish and wildlife officers were unable to contact the shooter to clarify exactly what happened afield.

CAUSE: Careless handling

19. SHOOTER: Unknown VICTIM: 68 year-old male

FIREARM: Muzzleloading rifle TYPE: Fatal COUNTY: Skamania BLAZE ORANGE: No

HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Unknown DATE OF ACCIDENT: 10/04/04

NARRATIVE: This hunting incident was still being investigated by the county

sheriff and details are not available. The victim was killed by a

muzzleloading rifle discharge.

CAUSE: Under investigation

HUNTING INCIDENT DATA SUMMARY* July 1, 2004 — June 30, 2005

(* Two reports did not appear in the 2004 edition of Hunting Incidents)

SHOOTER STATUS, TYPE OF FIREARM, NUMBER OF INCIDENTS

Shooter Status	Number of Incidents	Firearm Type	<u>Fatal</u>	Non-Fatal	<u>Total</u>
Self-inflicted	4	Shotgun	3	7	10
Shot by someone in same party	8	Rifle	0	3	3
Shot by someone outside party	1	Handgun	0	0	0
Livestock	<u>1</u>	Muzzleloader	1	0	1
Total	14	Archery	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
			4	10	14

SPECIES BEING PURSUED AT TIME OF INCIDENT

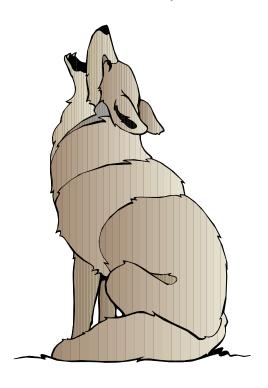
<u>Species</u>	Number Fatal Incidents	Number Non-Fatal Incidents	Total Incidents
Upland birds/grouse	0	6	6
Deer/elk	1	2	3
Waterfowl	2	0	2
Coyote	1	0	1
Other	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
	4	10	14

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Office of External Programs 4040 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 130 Arlington, VA 22203

Washington

July 1, 2004 — June 30, 2005





Preliminary Hunting Incident Report Hunter Education Division Enforcement Program

June 27, 2005