



Washington Department of
FISH and WILDLIFE

ANNUAL HUNTING INCIDENT REPORT

LICENSE YEAR 2018

April 1, 2018 - March 31, 2019



Photo by Colin Crook

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

Safe hunting is no accident

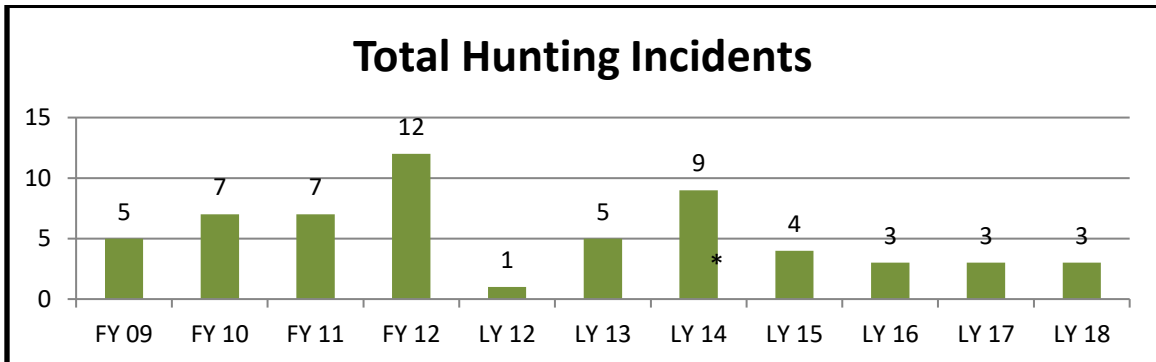
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HUNTING INCIDENT DATA SUMMARY

April 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019

Total number of Hunting Incidents: 3

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

NON-FATAL INCIDENTS

Cause: Unknown

Shooter:	51 year old male	Victim:	58 year old male
Hunting Equipment:	Shotgun	Type:	Non-fatal
County:	Garfield	Hunter Orange:	No
Hunter Ed Graduate:	Yes	Date of Incident:	05/27/2018

Unknown cause

Cause: Failure to identify the target

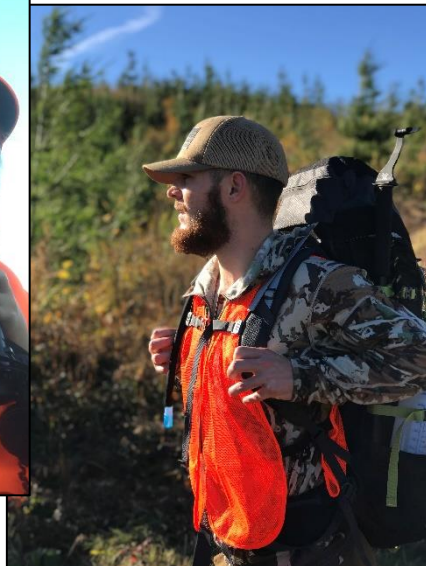
Shooter:	33 year old male	Victim:	46 year old male
Hunting Equipment:	Handgun	Type:	Non-fatal
County:	Okanogan	Hunter Orange:	Yes
Hunter Ed Graduate:	Yes	Date of Incident:	10/20/2018

Shooter was walking into an area to hunt deer and heard cougar growls and bushes moving above him. Shooter pointed the handgun near the sounds and fired. The victim and their children were sitting on a hillside above the shooter. They victim's party thought they were visible from the road but they were not.

Cause: Failure to maintain muzzle control

Shooter:	53 year old male	Victim:	Self
Hunting Equipment:	Rifle	Type:	Non-fatal
County:	Yakima	Hunter Orange:	No
Hunter Ed Graduate:	Yes	Date of Incident:	12/24/2018

Shooter was riding out to his truck on his motorcycle when his rifle discharged into his leg.



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.



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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.