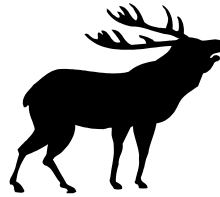


Where can I get hunting information?



****This year the San Juan National Forest and Bureau of Land Management San Juan Field Office & San Juan Mountains Association will have a hunting booth set up in Durango outside the CDOW Office. Please dress appropriately for the weather of the day.***

DATES THAT THE DURANGO BOOTHS WILL BE STAFFED:

2008 October 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 30 & 31

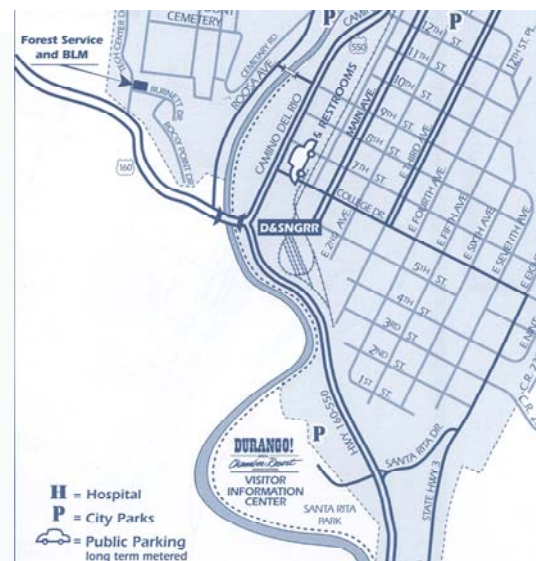
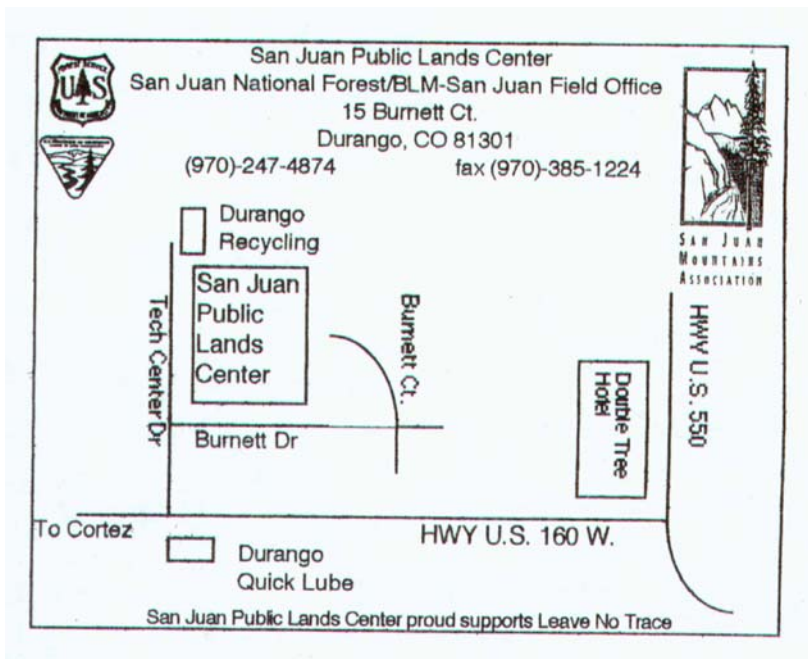
Dolores Hunting Expo at the Dolores Community Center on (Thursday) October 16.



LOCATION:

Colorado Division of Wildlife, in Durango, Colorado, 151 East 16th Street, heading north on Highway 550 (make a right just after you cross the Animas River.)

On other dates (Monday through Fridays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) we invite you to stop by the **San Juan Public Lands Center** at 15 Burnett Court in the Durango Tech Center, ½ mile west of Durango, below the Durango Recycling Center. (See map below)



FOR HUNTING LICENSING QUESTIONS ... Please contact the Colorado Division of Wildlife at (970) 247-0855, 151 East 16th Street (next to the Fish Hatchery.)



Discharging a firearm is NOT allowed within 150 yards of a residence, building, campsite, developed recreation site or occupied area, and on or across a road or body of water. Hunters may not trespass on private lands to reach public lands unless the owner of the property has specifically granted access to do so.

National Forest and BLM roads are generally not paved. The speed limit is 25 miles per hour. Downhill traffic yields to uphill. Beware of wash-boarded surfaces, and approach blind corners with caution. National Forest and BLM roads are not plowed for snow removal. Use 4WD vehicles and carry chains. Motorized vehicles should be kept on open roads and trails marked for their use. Exception: Motorists may drive up to 300 feet directly off an open road to reach a dispersed campsite - unless the area is specifically closed or very wet muddy conditions exist. Always carry a National Forest or BLM map. Respect road closures which are put in place in wet weather to protect you against landslides and protect roads from erosion.

Your OHV must be registered by the State of Colorado (cost \$25.25). Even if your OHV is registered in another state, you are now required to register your OHV in Colorado. You must carry proof of registration with you when using your OHV. Travel outside of designated areas is strictly illegal and may result in a fine. OHV Trails are limited to 50" wide machines or less (including all large ATVs or UTVs.) *(In regards to County Road, some County regulations have changed, please be aware of what county you are in and contact the county office of the area you wish to enter).*

Registrations are available at the San Juan Public Lands Center, Columbine Ranger District, Pagosa Ranger District, Colorado Division of Wildlife, Handlebar Cycle and Navajo State Park. (www.dnr.state.co.us/trails/registrationinfo.htm)

Camping is allowed most places on National Forest and BLM lands, except in areas specifically closed to camping (such as the Junction Creek area west of Durango, which is closed for the first eight miles, except within Junction Creek Campground and the Williams Creek Road Corridor within designated sites). To avoid polluting water resources, do not camp within 200 feet of rivers, lakes or streams. Bury human wastes and carry out toilet paper. Camping is restricted to 28 days, in a consecutive 60-day period, in any one spot to reduce impacts on vegetation, soils and water. After 14 days, please move 3 miles from the previous campsite. Motorists may drive up to 300 feet directly off an open road to reach a dispersed campsite

Fall weather is unpredictable in the mountains. Be prepared for rain, hail, snow, wind and freezing temperatures. One of the biggest dangers hunters face is hypothermia, a drastic drop in body temperature brought on by wind chill and dampness. Dress in layers and carry a dry change of clothing, rain gear, food and drink, first aid kit, topographic map, and compass. Let someone know where you're headed and when you plan to return.

Commercial outfitters and guides must hold a legal permit to operate on National Forest or BLM lands. They are also required to be licensed with the State of Colorado licensing board. These measures are designed to make sure outfitters and guides operate in a safe manner and to protect your investment in their services.

Wear at least 500 square inches solid DAYLIGHT FLUORESCENT ORANGE, material in an outer garment **above the waist** while hunting deer, elk, pronghorn, bear or moose during a firearm season. Part of the fluorescent orange must be a hat or

head covering visible from all directions. Camouflage orange does not qualify. Mesh garment are legal but **not recommended**. We **strongly recommend** wearing daylight fluorescent orange clothes in the field even if you're not hunting.

Only state certified weed-free hay, treated and pelletized feed, and hay cubes are allowed on the public lands to prevent the spread of noxious weeds. Certified weed-free hay (in bales bound by blue-and-orange twine or metal wiring) is sold at selected retail outlets, other State Certified hay is permitted as well.

Where can I buy a license? Before a season starts you can buy a hunting license at the following areas: CDOW, Wal-Mart, and most sporting good stores where fishing licenses are sold. (AFTER HUNTING SEASON HAS STARTED, hunters can **ONLY** purchase licenses at a Division of Wildlife Office.)

Deer/Elk Rifle Hunting Season Dates for 2008

Archery: August 30 –September 28, 2008

Muzzleloading: September 13-21, 2008

RIFLE SEASONS

1st Season: October 11-15 (*This season is by drawing only... for elk only.*)

2nd Season: October 18-26

3rd Season: November 1-7

4th Season: November 12-16

Point Restrictions

ELK: Four points or more on one side of the antlers are required for an elk to be legal. Each point must be one inch or longer. (A point should be narrower than it is high.)

“OR”

The brow tines, which are the projection of the antlers on the lower half of the main beam (sticking out forward), have to be at least 5 inches in length... (if the elk is not at least a four point.)

DEER: A legal deer has antlers that are above 5 inches or more. One can normally tell if it's legal if the antlers are extending above the ears.

Where are the Deer and Elk? What are the best hunting areas? These are common questions for us at the Forest Service/BLM front desk. The Division of Wildlife's suggestion is for us to direct hunters to a variety of areas to disperse the impacts.

Neither the CDOW nor the Forest Service/BLM can predict where the best hunting areas will be. Each year can differ. Generally deer and elk stay in higher elevations if the weather and terrain are dry and dusty. If the weather is cold and snowy, they tend to move down to lower elevations.

Where can hunters take their game to be processed?

Bane's Custom Packing
11063 Road 25
Cortez, CO
970/565-3011
(will do bears too.)

The Buck Stops Here
1051 Hwy 160 West
Pagosa Springs, CO
970/731-3535 (\$50 min. deer, \$100 min.-elk, will do bear)

or (Buck Stops Here)
 300 N. Commerce Drive
 Bayfield, CO
 970-884-1118

Chimney Rock, CO
 970/731-5237

Henslys Meat Processing
 5007 CR P
 Dove Creek, CO
 970-677-2212

Chimney Rock Processor
 18710 Hwy 160

Hunter Safety Classes

**Hunter safety cards are required for anyone born after January 1, 1949.*

City	Location	Dates	Times	Instructor	Phone	Comments
Cortez	Montezuma County Fairgrounds	Aug 9 & 10	8-5 pm	Steve Nowlan	970-247-0855	No pre-registers 10 years & older
Durango	Durango Gun Club, Florida Rd.	Aug. 18, 19, 20, 21 & 23	6:30 – 9 PM	Ben Zimmerman	970-563-0130	No-Pre-registration 10 years and older
Durango	Durango Gun Club, Florida Rd.	Oct. 1, 2, 3	6:30 p-10 p	Tom Price	970-247-1749 970-259-0516 970-385-9086	No-Pre-registration 10 years and older
Durango	Durango Gun Club, Florida Rd.	Oct. 10	8a-8p	Tom Price	970-247-1749 970-259-0516 970-385-9086	No-Pre-registration 10 years and older \$20,CRASH course
Durango	Durango Gun Club, Florida Rd.	Oct. 17	8a-8p	Tom Price	970-247-1749 970-259-0516 970-385-9086	No-Pre-registration 10 years and older \$20,CRASH course
Pagosa	Undecided Colo. Mounted Rangers Bldg or Community Center	Oct. 16,17	6p-10p 8a-5p	Don Volger	970-264-4151 ext.239	No-Pre-registration \$20
Pagosa	Undecided Colo. Mounted Rangers Bldg or Community Center	Oct. 30,31	6p-10p 8a-5p	Don Volger	970-264-4151 ext.239	No-Pre-registration \$20
Durango	Durango Gun Club, Florida Rd.	Oct. 31	8a-8p	Tom Price	970-247-1749 970-259-0516 970-385-9086	No-Pre-registration 10 years and older \$20,CRASH course

Horses should be hobbled, picketed, highlined, or in an electric fence (and move them daily or frequently) so they won't overgraze or trample areas. Keep Horses on durable surfaces. Do not tie horses to trees to avoid damaging the trees. Avoid grazing in wet, marshy areas. Never cut trees or drive nails into live trees to build corrals. Use rope corrals. Do not ride around muddy spots in the trail. This denudes trailside vegetation and enlarges the damaged area. When riding cross-country, stay on dry ground. Several sets of hooves through wet areas can cause long-term damage. Ask other trail users to wait on the downhill side of the trail while horses pass.

Yield to horseback riders by stepping off on the **downhill side of the trail**. Give pack strings plenty of room and time to pass you. Horses are often afraid of bicycles and backpacks. Don't try to hide for that only makes horses more suspicious of your intentions. Move slowly and speak in a normal tone of voice so you won't spook them.

Keep dogs at your side under control and tie an orange ribbon on their collars. Some people also tie bells on the collars. Do not let dogs chase game. (*COW citable Offense*).

Campfires (where fires are permitted)

Campfires should never be left unattended even for a few minutes. Pour water over the fire and stir the ashes until there's no smoke. Use only dead or downed wood for firewood – never cut living trees or shrubs as firewood. Also, do not build a campfire within 100 feet of rivers, lakes or streams to avoid polluting water sources. A good alternative is to use a gas stove.

Do you have names of private landowners that lease lands?

Neither the Colorado Division of Wildlife nor the Forest Service/BLM have names of private landowners to release. Hunters should have a Forest Service or BLM map so they know where private lands are located. Trespassing is a 20-point offense and a possible \$100 or higher violation. When a hunter has 20-points on his license, it may be suspended for 1-5 years, depending on the severity of the offense. (There is often a court hearing as well.)

Can a hunter hunt from his vehicle?

No. It is illegal to hunt from, on, or across a motor vehicle.

Bears!

There is no longer a spring hunt. The September fall bear hunt is by drawing only. Hunters that already have a deer or elk license, however, can buy a bear license over the counter. It is concurrent with deer/elk rifle hunting season.



Practice bear safety when camping. Food and refuse should be stored in a bear-safe manner to keep from habituating bears to human food and to keep your belongings safe from bear damage.

Hang these items at least 10 feet above the ground, or store them inside a vehicle, or an approved bear-resistant container, or inside an electrical closure. These measures are mandatory in most designated San Juan National Forest campgrounds, but should be followed also when backcountry camping. Do NOT bury trash.

Hide your coolers from a bear's view. Bears recognize coolers as a source of food!!!

What should a person do if they find a deer or elk stuck in a fence?

Normally, if the animal has only been there a couple of hours, please put a jacket or something over the animal's head so it will settle down and then cut it free from the fence. If it has been there longer, especially overnight, contact the Colorado Division of Wildlife and they will most likely ask you to put it to sleep by gun or knife. (They normally will let the person keep the meat.)

*Be cautious when cutting or getting an animal out of a fence – IT MAY HURT YOU!!

If a person hits a deer or elk with their vehicle by accident, can they keep the meat? The person can take the game home with them, as long as they go to the

Colorado Division of Wildlife within 48 hours of the incident and obtain a free permit. *This is mandatory. This does not apply to any other wildlife, such as bears.* You still must contact the CDOW about the incident. Any accident must be reported to the State Patrol (970) 249-4392.

TIDBIT ABOUT Durango's FALLS CREEK AREA

On the west side of the road there is NO PUBLIC ACCESS (which includes hunting and camping.) Per Forest Service Special Order 9525: on the east side of the road, hunting is permitted by archery or black powder muzzle load only, as long it is not an unsafe discharge 150 yards from an occupied area (roads, trails, campsite, residence, body of water). 36 CFR 261.10(d).

CERTIFIED WEED-FREE HAY DISTRIBUTORS

DURANGO

Basin Co-op
26103 U.S. Hwy 160
Durango, CO 81301
(970) 247-3066

Farmers Supply Company
696 Sawmill Road
Durango, CO 81301
(970) 247-1780

Sunny Side Farms
259 County Road 216
Durango, CO 81301
(970) 382-0074
(970) 247-0137

Wayne Vaughan
454 Linda Lane
Durango, CO 81301
(970) 382-0755

Pagosa

Boothill Pack & Feed
495 State Hwy 84
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
970-264-2640

Regional Weed Seed-Free Forage Products Order As of June 20, 2005

Background: The Rocky Mountain Region's Invasive Species Management Strategy (3/8/05) outlines four program elements: prevention, early detection and rapid response, control and management, and rehabilitation. The strategy charges us to develop an improved weed seed-free (WSF) forage closure order. We need consistency across all five states, and more clarity on specific requirements for hay, hay cubes, straw, pellets, grain, etc. Therefore we propose a new WSF forage products closure order, as highlighted below:

Regionally consistent: The existing WSF closure order (1997) prohibits non-certified forage products on NFS lands in Colorado and Wyoming only. A separate order (2000), covered the Black Hills National Forest. The proposed closure order applies to NSF lands in all five states. "New" areas, not previously covered under a closure order, but which would now be subject to WSF forage requirements include: Nebraska NF, Buffalo Gap NG, Oglala NG, Ft Pierre NG, and Cimarron NG.

Other changes from the previous orders: The new closure order requires that individual units (bales, sacks, etc.) of forage products be marked with the approved label from the state of origin. Currently, it is acceptable to carry field certification forms, or other documents. This is problematic because documentation can be saved and illegally re-used as documentation for non-certified products.

Unlike the existing closure order, the proposed closure differentiates between pelleted and cubed products, and also deals with the issue of feed grains.

- 1. Hay cubes: the proposed order allows the use of hay cubes only when made from certified hay (hay can be traced back to a certified WSF field).*

2. ***Pelleted feeds:*** new closure order allows pellets. (Note: by definition, pelleting implies a grinding and heating process, which greatly reduces or eliminates the amount of exotic weed seed. Certification is not required.
3. ***Feed grains:*** the new order allows steam-rolled grains, which are available in most all feed stores. It prohibits uncertified grain feeds.

Summary: For many years, the WSF forage closure has been one of the most important prevention and education efforts of our invasive plants program. By adopting the improved closure order, we will achieve better public understanding, and add the clarity needed to enhance the legal enforceability of this important prevention tool.

Mark Tucker
Rangeland Management Program Leader
San Juan National Forest/Field Office
Durango, Colorado
Office: 970.385.1369
FAX: 970.385.1243
Internet: mtucker@fs.fed.us

Hunter Safety Tips

The following tips are from Skip Favreau, vice-president of La Plata County Search and Rescue, based on his years of experience

Be Prepared. When hunting, carry proper clothing and equipment to spend the night in the woods, away from camp, if necessary.

Take Care of Your Hands and Feet. If your hands and feet get cold and numb, you have great difficulty doing anything, even opening your pack and putting on clothes. To keep your hands and feet dry and warm at all times, consider taking waterproof gloves or boots or shells and chemical hand / foot warmer packets.

Know How to Signal for Help and carry appropriate equipment. The best signaling methods are a whistle, a smoky fire, and a reflector.

Carry a Cell Phone and a GPS. If you are so equipped, these are very useful tools to maintain communications with your hunting partners and to assist in a rescue effort should you become injured or lost.

Outdoor Recreation Search & Rescue Cards (COSAR)– This card is actually included with your hunting license. This is what the extra \$.25 on your license is for.



The Seven Principles of Leave No Trace

By practicing the following Leave No Trace guidelines and common courtesies, we can all help ensure that quality-hunting experiences will be available to us and to future generations.

Plan Ahead and Prepare

- Know the regulations. Get information about your hunt area and route from land managers.
- Prepare for bad weather and unsafe road conditions by bringing extra food, clothing, first aid kit and signal mirror. Remember that cell phones don't always work in mountainous terrain.
- Respect private and public road closures.
- Get permission to hunt private lands well in advance.
- Bring maps and a compass. Know how to use them.



Travel and Camp on

Durable Surfaces

On the road:

- Staying on roads protects wildlife and wildlife habitat.
- Protect private property and livestock; leave gates as you find them.
- Driving closed roads, off-road or alongside existing treads leads to erosion, loss of functional habitat, and impacts wildlife.
- Prevent damage to roads and vegetation; avoid travel when conditions are muddy.

On the trail:

- Concentrate use on existing trails and campsites. If no trail is available, travel on durable surfaces such as rock, gravel, sand washes, dry grasses or snow.
- Prevent erosion and trail widening by using the existing tread surface and not cutting switchbacks.
- Remove flagging as you leave.

At camp:

- A good campsite is found, not made. Use existing campsites whenever possible. Keep campsites small.
- Place vehicles, kitchen, tents and stock on areas where obvious signs of prior use exist.
- Camp at least 200' away from all water sources.
- Reduce damage to trees. Use twine or straps as a gentle substitute for wire and nails.

- Avoid tethering horses to trees. Use a highline between two trees to tie your horses.

Dispose of Waste Properly

- Pack out everything you brought in with you – spent brass, shotgun shells, cigarette butts, old carpet, extra food, etc.
- Bury human waste in cat holes 4-8" deep at least 200' from water, camp and trails. Pack out toilet paper.
- Clean water means better fishing; wash yourself and dishes 200' from water sources.

Leave What You Find

- Bring lightweight camp furniture instead of building it.
- Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.
- Leave historical or cultural artifacts as you find them. Removing them is illegal.
- Use dead and downed trees for poles and hangs; dismantle when finished.
- Avoid introducing or transporting non-native plant species through seeds in hay, tire treads or clothing.

Minimize Campfire Impacts

- Campfires can cause lasting impacts to the backcountry. Use lightweight stoves for cooking.
- Where fires are permitted, use established fire rings, a fire pan, or build a mound fire.
- Collect only dead or downed wood or bring your own.
- Burn all wood and coals to ash and put campfires out completely before going to bed or leaving camp.

Respect Wildlife

- Keep the wild in wildlife. Don't bury food. Pack out your leftovers.
- Keep a clean campsite that doesn't attract bears, skunks and other opportunists.
- Control your pets at all times, or leave them at home.
- Gut piles attract bears. Drag piles away from trails, camps and highly visited areas.

Be Considerate of Other Visitors

- Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.
- Be courteous. Yield to other users on the trail. Step to the downhill side when encountering pack stock.
- Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises.
- Transport game out of the public's view.
- Avoid unnecessary display of game.

This message was prepared and distributed by San Juan Mountains Association volunteers & staff, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management San Juan Field Office and the Colorado Division of Wildlife. For more information, call 970-247-4874.



SAN JUAN
MOUNTAINS
ASSOCIATION

www.SJMA.org

