



Washington Department of  
**FISH and WILDLIFE**

# ANNUAL HUNTING INCIDENT REPORT

LICENSE YEAR 2020

*April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2021*



*Photo by Cody Nelson*

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

**Safe hunting is no accident**

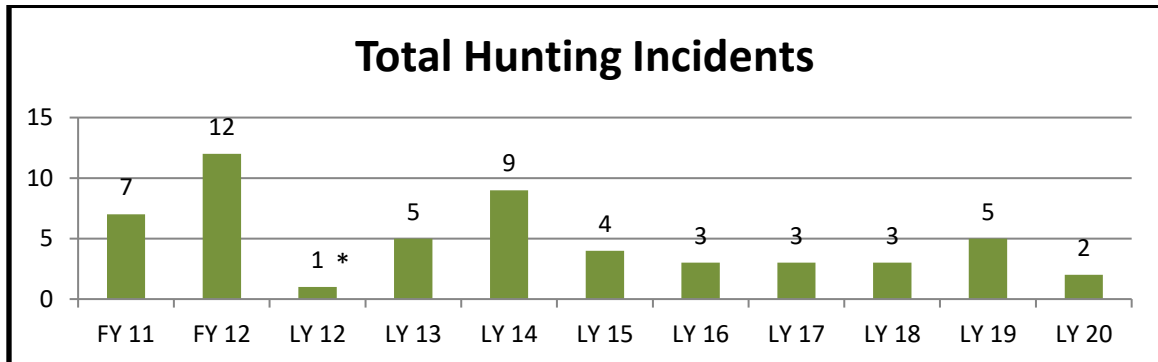
**(This page intentionally left blank.)**

# HUNTING INCIDENT DATA SUMMARY

April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021

Total number of Hunting Incidents: 2

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

<b>Shooter:</b>	44-year-old male	<b>Victim:</b>	Self
<b>Hunting Equipment:</b>	Muzzleloader	<b>Type:</b>	Non-fatal
<b>County:</b>	Stevens	<b>Hunter Orange:</b>	Unknown
<b>Hunter Ed Graduate:</b>	Unknown	<b>Date of Incident:</b>	09/01/2020

Shooter was riding in as a passenger in a vehicle and told the drive to stop because he saw a legal buck deer. Shooter primed his muzzleloader and closes the breach while he was seated in the passenger seat of the vehicle as the vehicle was coming to a stop. The muzzleloader discharged into the shooters foot.

## Cause: Equipment failure

<b>Shooter:</b>	Unknown age male	<b>Victim:</b>	Self
<b>Hunting Equipment:</b>	Archery	<b>Type:</b>	Non-fatal
<b>County:</b>	Snohomish	<b>Hunter Orange:</b>	Unknown
<b>Hunter Ed Graduate:</b>	Yes	<b>Date of Incident:</b>	10/01/2020

Shooter was hunting on his own property. He had been climbing over a fence. As he was climbing over the fence the arrow fell out of the quiver and impaled him in the leg.



Photos clockwise starting with top left: Javier Diaz, James Hyde, Bonnie James, and Sara Cook

## 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](mailto:huntered@dfw.wa.gov)  
**WDFW Police:** (360) 902-2936, Email [ENFORCEMENT-WEB@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:ENFORCEMENT-WEB@dfw.wa.gov)

*The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) receives federal assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and provides equal access to its programs, services, activities, and facilities under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968.*

*The U.S. Department of the Interior and WDFW prohibit discrimination on the bases of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, mental or physical disability, reprisal, sexual orientation, status as a parent, and genetic information. If you believe you have been discriminated against, please contact the WDFW ADA Program Manager, PO Box 43139, Olympia, WA 98504 within 45 calendar days of the alleged incident before filing a formal complaint, or write to: Chief, Public Civil Rights Division, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW, Washington DC 20240.*

*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.*