

## HUNTING INCIDENTS

1.     **SHOOTER:** 16 year-old male                   **VICTIM:**     Self-inflicted  
       **FIREARM:** .257 rifle                       **TYPE:**        Fatal  
       **COUNTY:**    Klickitat                     **BLAZE ORANGE:** N/A  
       **HUNTER ED GRADUATE:**   Yes           **DATE OF INCIDENT:** 7/27/06

**NARRATIVE:**

The victim was driving his vehicle when he apparently came upon a porcupine in the roadway. He grabbed his rifle, exited the vehicle and apparently struck the porcupine with the butt of his loaded rifle. The gun discharged into his chest, and he died in the hospital the following morning.

**CAUSE:**        Careless handling

2.     **SHOOTER:** 24 year-old male                   **VICTIM:**     Self-inflicted  
       **FIREARM:**   Bow & arrow                   **TYPE:**        Non-fatal  
       **COUNTY:**    Lewis                         **BLAZE ORANGE:** N/A  
       **HUNTER ED GRADUATE:**   Yes           **DATE OF ACCIDENT:** 9/19/06

**NARRATIVE:**

The victim was hunting alone and stalking a bull elk. The victim was at full draw, but relaxed his draw due to an obstructed shot. He moved a few steps, tripped on some vine maple roots and fell on his nocked arrow, which went completely through his right cheek. He then dialed 911 for medical help.

**CAUSE:**        Shooter stumbled and fell

3.     **SHOOTER:** 18 year-old male                   **VICTIM:**     57 year-old male  
       **FIREARM:**   Shotgun                       **TYPE:**        Non-fatal  
       **COUNTY:**    Yakima                       **BLAZE ORANGE:** Yes  
       **HUNTER ED GRADUATE:**   Yes           **DATE OF ACCIDENT:** 10/14/06

**NARRATIVE:**

The shooter was pheasant hunting with his father and another hunter. The trio had finished hunting one field and were returning to their vehicles when they came to a fence line. The victim was ahead of the shooter and was preparing to cross the fence when a gun discharged 18 feet behind him, striking him in the back. The shooter's loaded shotgun was leaning against the fence when it fell and discharged, striking the victim.

**CAUSE:**        Firearm fell from insecure rest

4. **SHOOTER:** 15 year-old male                      **VICTIM:** Self-inflicted  
**FIREARM:** .22 revolver                              **TYPE:** Non-fatal  
**COUNTY:** Garfield                                      **BLAZE ORANGE:** N/A  
**HUNTER ED GRADUATE:** Yes                          **DATE OF ACCIDENT:** 10/14/06

**NARRATIVE:**                      The victim and his father were grouse hunting. The victim borrowed his father's revolver to shoot the grouse, missing it four times. The grouse flew away and the victim stalked it, stumbling over a log as he pursued the grouse. The gun discharged as he tripped, striking the victim in the thigh just above the knee.

**CAUSE:**                      Shooter stumbled and fell

5. **SHOOTER:** 67 year-old male                      **VICTIM:** 48 year-old male  
**FIREARM:** 12 gauge shotgun                          **TYPE:** Non-Fatal  
**COUNTY:** Spokane                                      **BLAZE ORANGE:** Yes  
**HUNTER ED GRADUATE:** Yes                          **DATE OF ACCIDENT:** 11/3/06

**NARRATIVE:**                      The shooter was pheasant hunting with another hunter. A bird flushed and the shooter fired, striking a Spokane County public works employee who had been cleaning a culvert. The victim was 140 – 170 yards away from the shooter, who said, "I couldn't believe I hit someone at that distance." There were no obstructions between the shooter and the victim.

**CAUSE:**                      Victim covered by shooter swinging on game

6. **SHOOTER:** 17 year-old male                      **VICTIM:** Self-inflicted  
**FIREARM:** 7mm rifle                                      **TYPE:** Non-Fatal  
**COUNTY:** Grays Harbor                                  **BLAZE ORANGE:** N/A  
**HUNTER ED GRADUATE:** Yes                          **DATE OF ACCIDENT:** 11/19/06

**NARRATIVE:**                      This shooting incident was initially reported as a self-inflicted injury on a deer stand. Suspicious "facts", however, caused the investigating officer to double-check the details, and the victim eventually admitted what the officer suspected: The self-inflicted injury was attributed to a loaded rifle in a motor vehicle. The victim was given a written warning instead of a citation. The officer reasoned that the minor flesh wound and the vehicle damage will serve as continuous safety reminders to the victim.

**CAUSE:**                      Loaded gun in a motor-driven vehicle

7. **SHOOTER:** 15 year-old male                      **VICTIM:** Self-inflicted  
**FIREARM:** Bow & arrow                                  **TYPE:** Non-fatal

**COUNTY:** Lewis  
**HUNTER ED GRADUATE:** No

**BLAZE ORANGE:** N/A  
**DATE OF ACCIDENT:** 11/22/06

**NARRATIVE:** The victim was carrying archery hunting equipment and riding his mountain bike when he bumped a rock and tipped the bike. As the victim tumbled to the ground a broadhead-tipped arrow came loose from his quiver, impaling his arm. The victim used his Family Service Radio to call for assistance and await medical aid.

**CAUSE:** Shooter stumbled and fell (from a bicycle)

8. **SHOOTER:** Unknown **VICTIM:** 42 year-old male  
**FIREARM:** Rifle **TYPE:** Non-fatal  
**COUNTY:** Garfield **BLAZE ORANGE:** N/A  
**HUNTER ED GRADUATE:** Unknown **DATE OF ACCIDENT:** 11/22/06

**NARRATIVE:** The victim was at camp with two hunting companions and walked into his tent. A distant shot rang out and the victim exited the tent saying, "I've been shot." The bullet entered his abdomen and lodged just under the skin on his back. The investigating officer concluded that the bullet was fired from a distance of at least one mile away.

**CAUSE:** Victim out of sight of shooter

9. **SHOOTER:** 16 year-old male **VICTIM:** 25 year-old male  
**FIREARM:** .30-06 rifle **TYPE:** Non-fatal  
**COUNTY:** Okanogan **BLAZE ORANGE:** N/A  
**HUNTER ED GRADUATE:** No **DATE OF ACCIDENT:** 12/16/06

**NARRATIVE:** The victim had been wood cutting with his brother and his father. After delivering a cord of wood they returned to an area where they previously saw deer. The older brother (victim) was inside the family truck as the younger brother (shooter) handed him a loaded rifle through the slider window. The rifle discharged into the victim's hand, severing two fingers.

**CAUSE:** Loaded gun in motor-driven vehicle

10. **SHOOTER:** 43 year-old male **VICTIM:** 43 year-old male  
**FIREARM:** 12 gauge shotgun **TYPE:** Non-fatal  
**COUNTY:** Okanogan **BLAZE ORANGE:** Yes

**HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Unknown    DATE OF ACCIDENT: 12/17/06**

**NARRATIVE:**    **The shooter and victim were quail hunting between 40 and 70 yards apart. A bird flushed and flew between the two hunters, and the shooter fired, striking the victim in the chin and face.**

**CAUSE:**    **Victim covered by shooter swinging on game**

**11.    SHOOTER: 36 year-old female                      VICTIM:    45 year-old male**  
**FIREARM: .223 rifle                                    TYPE:        Non-fatal**  
**COUNTY: Yakima                                    BLAZE ORANGE: N/A**  
**HUNTER ED GRADUATE: No                        DATE OF ACCIDENT: 1/12/07**

**NARRATIVE:**    **The victim (husband) and wife (shooter) were driving to a hunting area when they saw a coyote and stopped their vehicle to shoot it. While removing her rifle from the passenger side of the vehicle the rifle discharged, striking her husband in the upper thigh.**

**CAUSE:**    **Loaded gun in motor-driven vehicle**

**12.    SHOOTER: 15 year-old male                      VICTIM:    46 year-old male**  
**FIREARM: 12 gauge shotgun                      TYPE:        Non-fatal**  
**COUNTY: Stevens                                BLAZE ORANGE: N/A**  
**HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Yes                      DATE OF ACCIDENT: 4/16/06**

**NARRATIVE:**    **The victim (father) and shooter (son) were turkey hunting and split up once a turkey responded to their calls. The father and son both moved about 30 yards apart from their original positions, with the victim positioned between the turkey and the shooter. The shooter fired at sound and motion, striking the father with 30 pellets to the calf, shoulder, arm and neck.**

**CAUSE:**    **Victim covered by shooter swinging on game; victim mistaken for game**

Fatal IncidentsNon-Fatal IncidentsTotal Incidents

1

11

12

**SHOOTER STATUS, TYPE OF FIREARM, NUMBER OF INCIDENTS**

<u>Shooter Status</u>	<u>Number of Incidents</u>	<u>Firearm Type</u>	<u>Fatal</u>	<u>Non-Fatal</u>	<u>Total</u>
Self-inflicted	5	Shotgun	0	4	4
Shot by someone in same party	5	Rifle	1	4	5
Shot by someone outside party	2	Handgun	0	1	1
Livestock	<u>0</u>	Muzzleloader	0	0	0
Total	12	Archery	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
			1	11	12

**SPECIES BEING PURSUED AT TIME OF INCIDENT**

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number Fatal Incidents</u>	<u>Number Non-Fatal Incidents</u>	<u>Total Incidents</u>
Upland birds/grouse	0	4	4
Deer/elk	0	5	5
Waterfowl	0	0	0
Coyote	0	1	1
Other	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	1	11	12

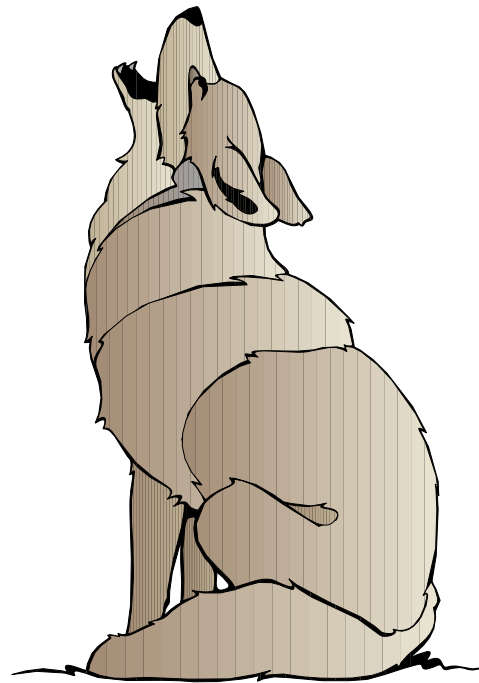
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DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

# Washington

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Hunting Incident Report  
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