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Department of Natural Resources
Division of Wildlife Resources



Hunter Education Program
Conservation Outreach Section
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Annual Hunting Incident Report 2014



The International Hunter Education Association's Definition of a Hunting Incident:

An occurrence or an event that results in the physical injury or death of a person or persons which involves the discharge or use of a hunting implement while engaged in hunting activity.”

“Hunting” is described as follows: To pursue, take, attempt to take, search for, stalk or lie in wait for any animal.



2014 Hunting Incident Summary

FATAL INCIDENTS

2

NON-FATAL INCIDENTS

4

BREAKDOWN

Shooter's Age

Under 12	1
12 to 15	0
16 to 21	0
22 to 30	0
31 to 40	1
41 and over	2
Unknown	2

TOTAL 6

Possible Cause of Incident

Failure to check beyond target	1
Victim covered by shooter swinging on game	2
Defective firearm/Obstruction in barrel	1
Shooter stumbled and fell	1
Victim out of sight of shooter	1

TOTAL 6

Victim's Age

Under 12	0
12 to 15	0
16 to 21	0
22 to 30	1
31 to 40	2
41 and over	3
Unknown	0

TOTAL 6

Game Hunted

Pheasant	5
Pronghorn	1

TOTAL 6

One of the six incidents was self-inflicted.

NON- FATAL

VICTIM'S AGE & SEX	HUNTER EDUCATION TRAINED	FIREARM USED	SHOOTER'S AGE & SEX	HUNTER EDUCATION TRAINED	GAME HUNTED
61 year-old Male	Yes	Shotgun	Unknown	Unknown	Pheasant
Remarks:	The victim was guiding nine hunters and was standing on a small hill within 60-80 yards of the hunters watching to identify locations of birds as they were shot. Some pheasants flushed and all of the hunters began shooting. The victim was struck in the left eye, hands and thigh by several shotgun pellets. The victim has lost most vision in his left eye.				
Possible Cause:	Failure to check beyond target				
Location of Incident:	Cache County				

34 year-old Male	Yes	Shotgun	Self-inflicted		Pheasant
Remarks:	The victim was hunting pheasants when a pheasant flushed he took a shot and the shotgun blew apart at the forearm which was held in his left hand. The flesh and muscle between his thumb and index finger was blown away. No bones were broken.				
Possible Cause:	Defective firearm/Obstruction in barrel				
Location of Incident:	Box Elder County				

NON- FATAL

VICTIM'S AGE & SEX	HUNTER EDUCATION TRAINED	FIREARM USED	SHOOTER'S AGE & SEX	HUNTER EDUCATION TRAINED	GAME HUNTED
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24 year-old Male	Yes	Shotgun	11 years-old Male	Yes	Pheasant
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Remarks: The hunters were hunting pheasants when a bird flushed, the shooter swung on the bird and fired. The victim was out of sight and was struck in the head and chest with eight pellets.

Possible Cause: Victim covered by shooter swinging on game

Location of Incident: Cache County

38 year-old Male	Unknown	Shotgun	Unknown		Pheasant
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Remarks: The victim and a co-worker were walking through a parking lot at their place of employment. Adjacent to the parking lot is a large vacant area with trees, brush and tall grass. The victim was grazed in the neck by one shotgun pellet. The injury was minor.

Possible Cause: Victim out of sight of shooter.

Location of Incident: Utah County

FATAL

VICTIM'S AGE & SEX	HUNTER EDUCATION TRAINED	FIREARM USED	SHOOTER'S AGE & SEX	HUNTER EDUCATION TRAINED	GAME HUNTED
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49 year-old Male	Yes	Rifle	61 years-old Male	Yes	Pronghorn
Remarks:	The hunters had taken a shot at a pronghorn and missed. They got their ATV and drove up the road to locate the pronghorn as it went over the hill. Upon cresting the hill they saw the pronghorn and dismounted the ATV. The shooter got off the left side while the victim got off of the right side. The shooter went to the front of the ATV and readied for a shot. Unbeknownst to the shooter the victim had crossed behind the ATV and was now on the left side sitting on the ground. They both shot at the pronghorn. The pronghorn moved to the left and the shooter followed it with his scoped rifle. Upon taking a second shot the bullet struck the victim in the head.				
Possible Cause:	Victim covered by shooter swinging on game				
Location of Incident:	Rich County				

57 year-old Male	No	Shotgun	63 year-old Male	No	Pheasant
Remarks:	A group of four hunters were hunting pheasant along a drainage ditch. Two were on one side of the ditch and two on the other. A pheasant flushed and the shooter shot at it. He then slipped in some mud and fell, the firearm discharged striking the victim in the back.				
Possible Cause:	Shooter stumbled and fell				
Location of Incident:	Cache County				

