

State of Utah
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Wildlife Resources

Annual Hunting Incident Report
2012

Prepared by:

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Law Enforcement Section
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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.

NON- FATAL

VICTIM'S AGE & SEX	HUNTER EDUCATION TRAINED	FIREARM USED	SHOOTER'S AGE & SEX	HUNTER EDUCATION TRAINED	GAME HUNTED
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53 year-old Male	Unknown	ML Handgun	Self inflicted		Deer
Remarks:	The victim was getting out of his truck and grabbed his .36 caliber black powder revolver by the frame with the barrel pointed towards himself. The revolver was loaded and capped. It appears the hammer caught on something and was partially pulled back, it then fell forward striking the primer and discharging the firearm. The bullet struck the victim in the right chest and lodged near his spine. He was hunting alone and had to drive himself several miles to be able to call for help.				
Possible Cause:	Careless handling of a firearm- failure to control the direction of the muzzle, loaded firearm in a vehicle.				
Location of Incident:	Box Elder County				

15 year-old Male	Yes	Rifle	6 year-old Male	No	Rabbits
Remarks:	The victim was hunting rabbits with family. His younger brother was carrying a .22 rifle he had recently gotten for Christmas. As the younger boy was walking around with the firearm it discharged and struck his brother. The bullet entered the victim's back and exited his chest narrowly missing his heart.				
Possible Cause:	Careless handling of a firearm- failure to control the direction of the muzzle				
Location of Incident:	Kane County				

NON- FATAL

VICTIM'S AGE & SEX	HUNTER EDUCATION TRAINED	FIREARM USED	SHOOTER'S AGE & SEX	HUNTER EDUCATION TRAINED	GAME HUNTED
54 year-old Male	Yes	Rifle	90 year-old Male	Unknown	Deer
Remarks:	Two brothers and their father were hunting deer. One brother was driving an ATV with his father riding on back. The other man was walking directly to the side of the ATV. The father was carrying a rifle which discharged and the bullet struck the man walking alongside. The bullet traveled through his buttocks and exiting fragments injured his left wrist as well.				
Possible Cause:	Careless handling of a firearm- failure to control the direction of the muzzle, loaded firearm on an ATV.				
Location of Incident: Washington County					
17 year-old Male	Yes	ML Rifle	58 year-old Male	Unknown	Deer
Remarks:	The victim and the shooter were muzzleloader hunting together and spotted several deer as they drove down the road. They both jumped out of the truck and primed their firearms. The shooter had decided not to take a shot at the deer and was attempting to let down the hammer on his gun. He lost control of the hammer and the gun went off. The bullet hit the ground in front of the victim, but he was hit with multiple bullet fragments and rocks. He received injuries to his right foot, calf, thigh and hand.				
Possible Cause:	Careless handling of a firearm- failure to control the direction of the muzzle				
Location of Incident: Cache County					

NON- FATAL

VICTIM'S AGE & SEX	HUNTER EDUCATION TRAINED	FIREARM USED	SHOOTER'S AGE & SEX	HUNTER EDUCATION TRAINED	GAME HUNTED
26 year-old Male	Yes	Shotgun	34 year-old Male	Yes	Grouse
Remarks:	Victim and shooter were hunting birds together and lost sight of each other as they walked down a hill. The shooter fired at a bird and immediately heard the victim call for help. The victim was hit in the left arm, shoulder and in the face.				
Possible Cause:	Victim out of sight of shooter, victim in line of fire. Possible ricochet.				
Location of Incident: Daggett County					

13 year-old Male	Yes	Shotgun	17 year-old Male	Yes	Waterfowl
Remarks:	Three friends were hunting ducks together in the marsh. The victim moved about 50 yards away from the other two hunters towards the river. The shooter fired at a duck and hit the victim instead. The victim was injured in his the right lower leg, thigh, buttock and arm.				
Possible Cause:	Victim covered by shooter swinging on game.				
Location of Incident: Cache County					