

Low-flying aircraft to count deer in NE CO

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

Colorado Parks and Wildlife is advising residents and hunters in the northeast region of the state that biologists will be using a low-flying helicopter to conduct aerial deer surveys in the coming weeks.

Flight dates are weather-dependent, but generally, the flights were scheduled to start around Monday, Dec. 17 and continue through the end of January, 2013.

“We will primarily be flying west of Loveland to the Continental Divide, down to I-70, east of Denver, out to Limon and along the South Platte River up to Nebraska,” said senior terrestrial biologist Janet George.

Aerial deer surveys are part of an ongoing effort to monitor deer populations in the state. Understanding the ratio of bucks to does and fawns to does helps biologists estimate composition of the herd, which is used to estimate herd size. Using this data, wildlife biologists make decisions about the number of hunting licenses to issue in coming seasons.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife manages 42 state parks, more than 300 state wildlife areas, all of Colorado’s wildlife and a variety of outdoor recreation.

For more information, go to www.cpw.state.co.us .

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