

## **NEW: Seasonal Restrictions for Shed Antler and Horn Collection**

On Thursday, Jan. 11, 2018, the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission voted unanimously to approve the creation of a seasonal closure on shed antler and horn collection on all public lands west of I-25 from January 1 through April 30 annually.

### **The seasonal restriction will take effect on all public lands west of I-25 beginning March 2, 2018.**

Additionally, in order to maintain protection for the Gunnison sage-grouse, the new regulations include a closure to collection of shed antlers on public lands May 1 to May 15 from sunset to 10 a.m. in the Gunnison basin (GMU'S 54, 55, 66, 67 and 551).

The purpose of this seasonal closure is to reduce the recreational impacts from shed hunting on wintering big game animals during the time of year when deer, elk, pronghorn, and moose are most vulnerable to stress. The result of this stress can be decreased body condition, increased mortality, and decreased fawn/calf survival.

Winter can be extremely difficult on wildlife as body weight is down and access to food is very limited. The survival of wildlife relies heavily on keeping as many calories as possible until the green shoots pop up, heralding spring's return.

Anyone that observes illegal activity is urged to contact their local wildlife office, or to remain anonymous to contact [Operation Game Thief](#) at 877-265-6648. Rewards are available for information that leads to a citation.

Updated info on shed antler and horn hunting in Colorado will be posted to CPW's website at: <http://cpw.state.co.us/antlershed>