

2022 Hunter Satisfaction Survey Results



Directorate of Public Works (DPW)

Environmental Division

Conservation Branch

Fort Carson, Colorado

Report written by Amanda Luper and Richard Riddle

Summary and Purpose

From December 15, 2022 to February 15, 2023 we asked hunters (Active Duty Soldiers, Veterans, and Civilians) from PCMS (GMU 142) and Fort Carson (GMU 591) to provide their opinions about their hunting experiences on the installation.

How do I interpret the results of the satisfaction survey?

These results are from your anonymous comments and ratings. The beginning of the report uses charts to display the results of the answers in the survey.

Questions 1-6 were yes and no, and questions 7 – 14 were rated by stars: 1 star – very dissatisfied, 2 stars - dissatisfied, 3 stars – neutral, 4 stars – satisfied, and 5 stars – very satisfied.

Questions 15- 18 were open comment boxes for you to leave details answers in the survey. At the end of the report, you can find the comments made by the participants and our comments. Your comments have not been altered or changed in this report. You can find our answers to your feedback following each section of these questions.

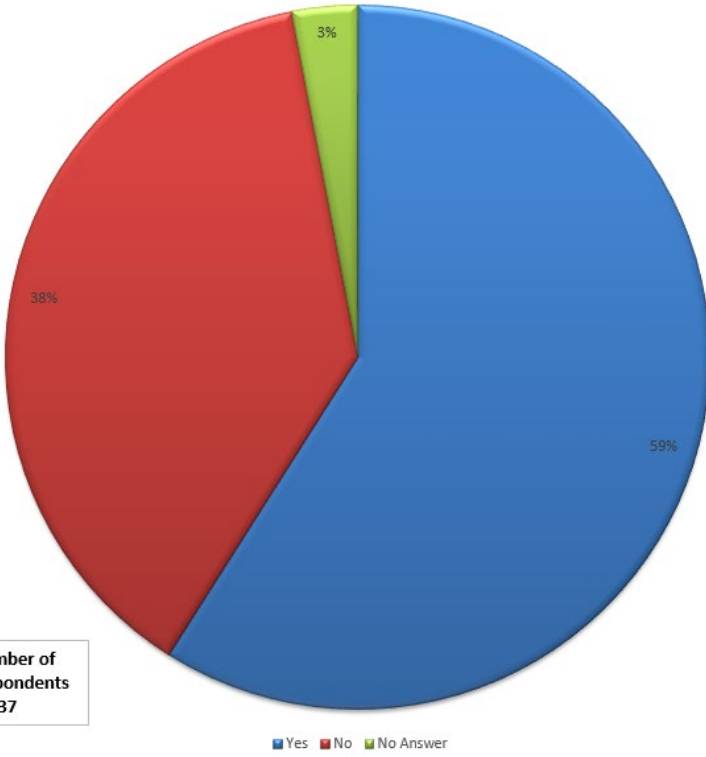
Please keep in mind that although we want your opinions and experiences, we can't use comments that are abusive or have explicit language. Those comments will be omitted from presentations and reports that are published and viewed by leadership.

For the 2023-2024 big game seasons, we anticipate the upcoming hunter survey to be published on the homepage of iSportsman by September 2024 to enable a larger sample of hunters the opportunity to participate in the next survey.

Thank you for all of your honest responses from last big game season!

- Amanda Luper & Rich Riddle

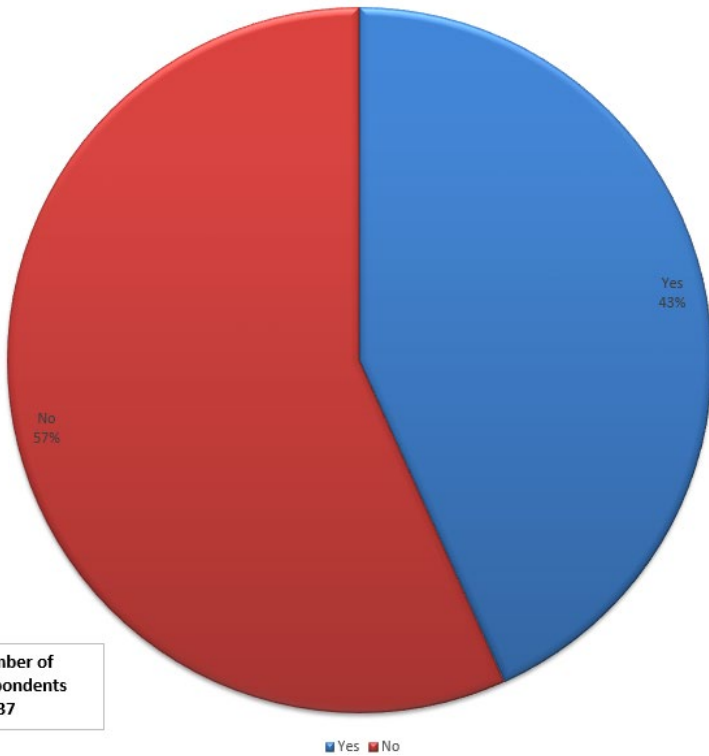
Q1 DID YOU HUNT ON FORT CARSON?



Number of respondents
n = 37

Did you hunt on Fort Carson?
59% YES
38% NO
3% NO ANSWER PROVIDED

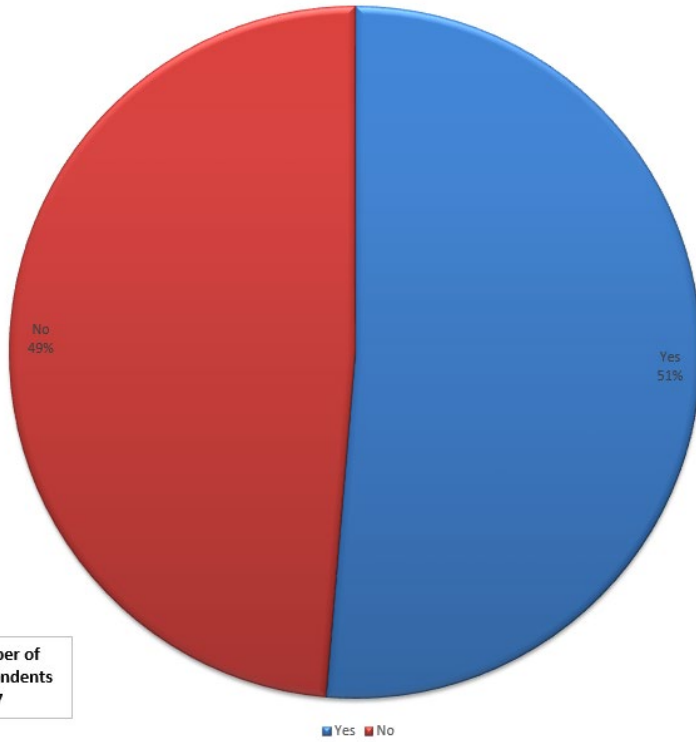
Q2 DID YOU HUNT ON PCMS?



Number of respondents
n = 37

Did you hunt on PCMS?
43% YES
57% NO

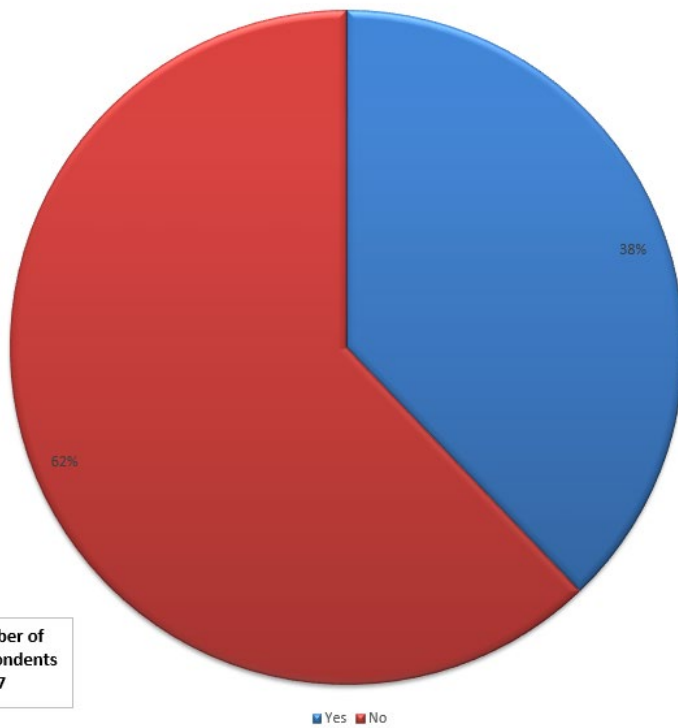
Q3 DID YOU FILL YOUR TAG THIS YEAR?



Number of respondents
n = 37

Did you fill your tag?
51% YES
59% NO

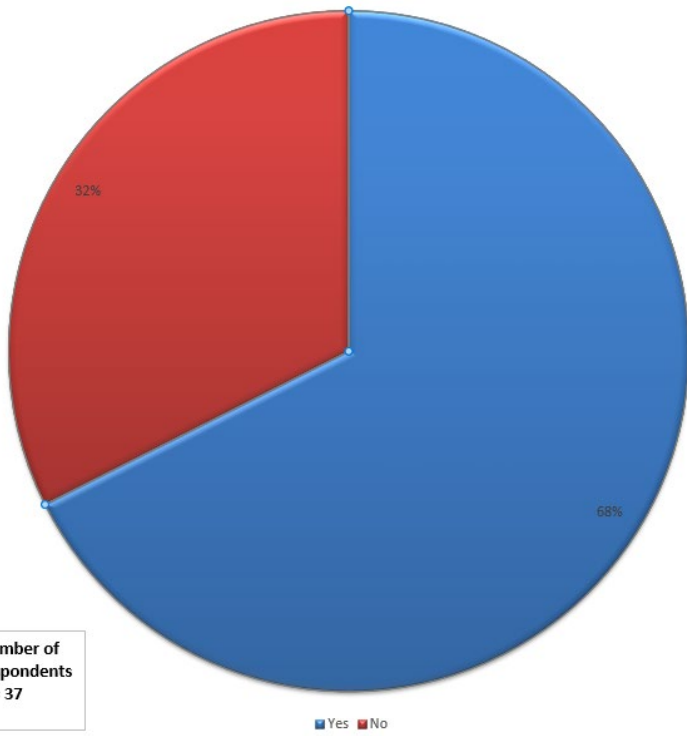
Q4 DID YOU HAVE TO USE A LOW VELOCITY WEAPON DURING RIFLE SEASON?



Number of respondents
n = 37

Did you have to use a low velocity weapon during rifle season?
38% YES
62% NO

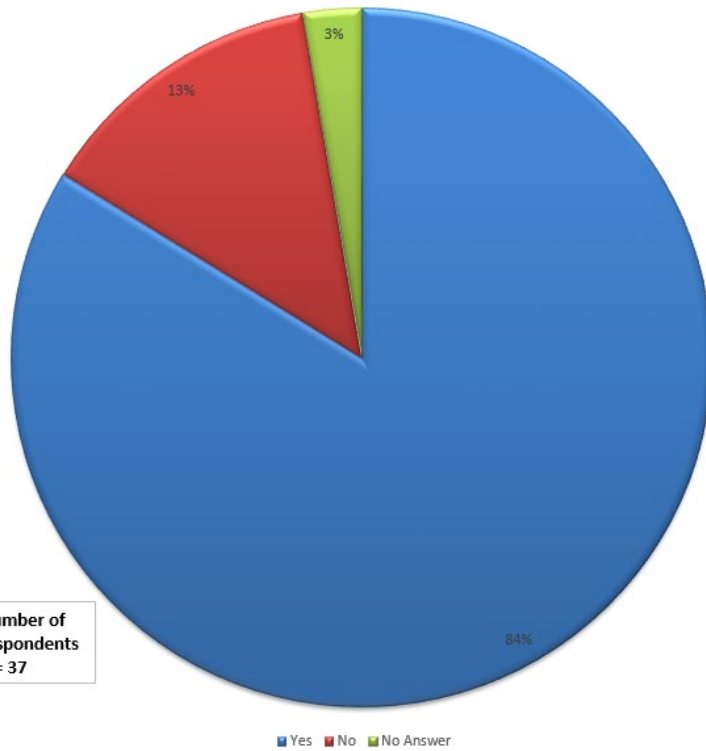
Q5 DID YOU HAVE A POSITIVE HUNTING EXPERIENCE?



Number of respondents
n = 37

Did you have a positive hunting experience?
68% YES
32% NO

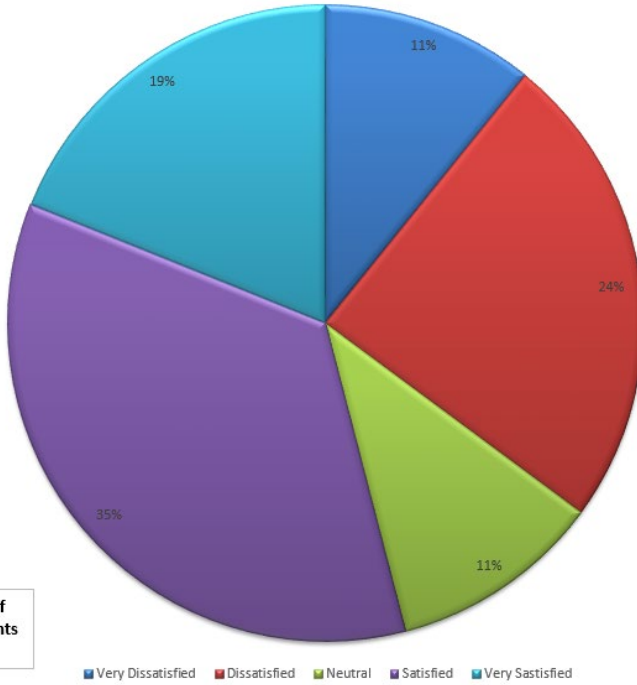
Q6 WILL YOU HUNT AGAIN AT FC/PCMS?



Number of respondents
n = 37

Will you hunt again at FC/PCMS?
84% YES
13% NO
3% NO ANSWER PROVIDED

Q7 HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH THE FC/PCMS HUNTING PROGRAM?



Number of respondents
n = 37

How satisfied are you with the FC/PCMS hunting program?

19% VERY SATISFIED

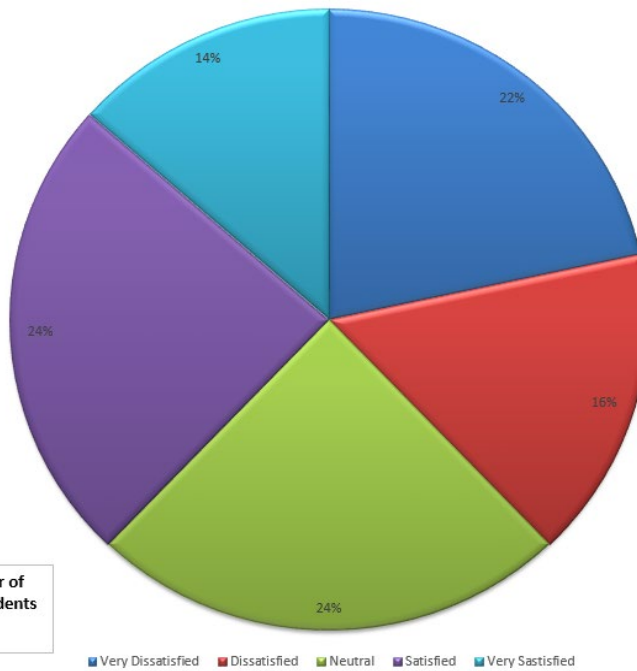
35% SATISFIED

11% NEUTRAL

24% DISSATISFIED

11% VERY DISSATISFIED

Q8 HOW SATISFIED WERE YOU WITH THE AVAILABILITY OF OPEN AREAS?



Number of respondents
n = 37

How satisfied are you with the availability of open areas?

14% VERY SATISFIED

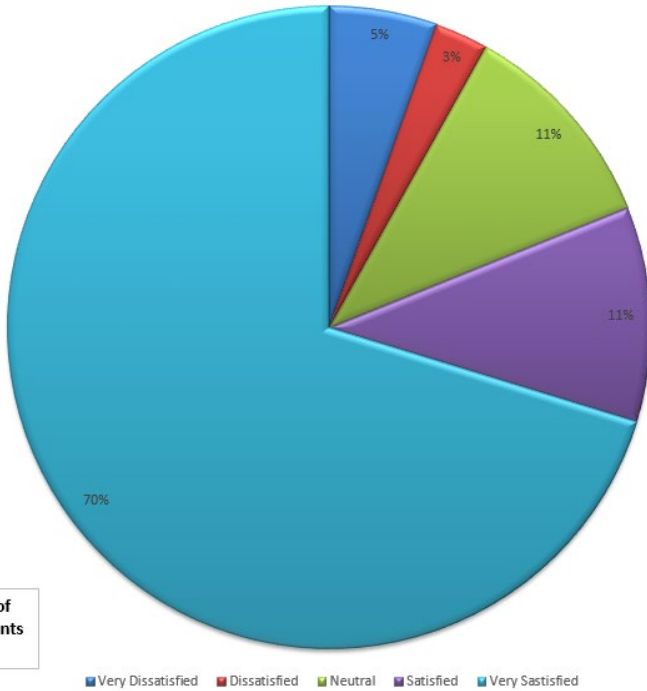
24% SATISFIED

24% NEUTRAL

16% DISSATISFIED

22% VERY DISSATISFIED

Q9 HOW SATISFIED WERE YOU WITH THE SMARTPHONE CHECKIN/OUT OPTION?



How satisfied are you with the smart phone check in/out option?

70% VERY SATISFIED

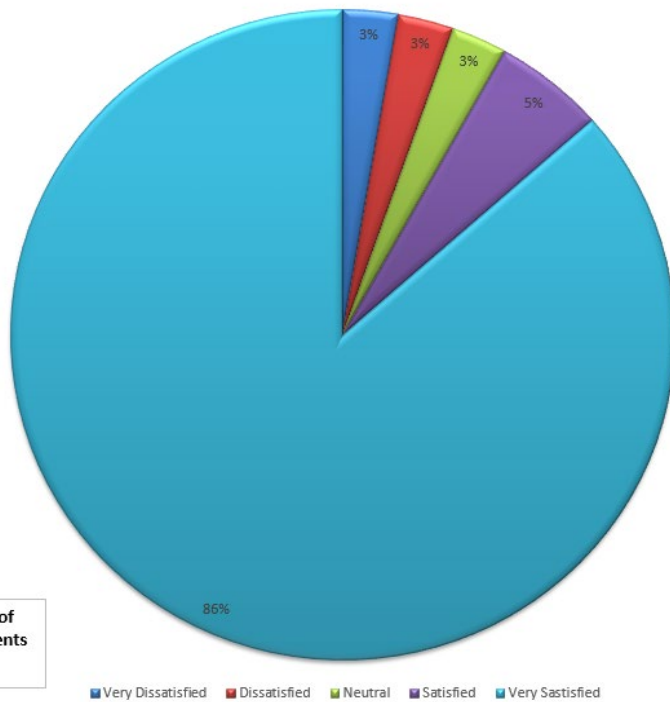
11% VERY SATISFIED

11% NEUTRAL

3% DISSATISFIED

5% VERY DISSATISFIED

Q10 HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH NO LONGER HAVING TO USE THE KISOK?



How satisfied are you with no longer having to use the kiosk(s)?

86% VERY SATISFIED

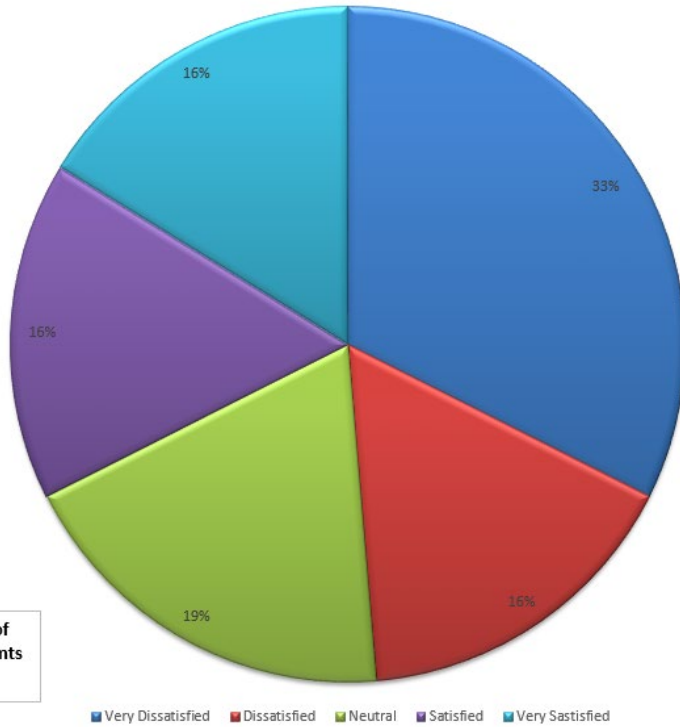
5% SATISFIED

3% NEUTRAL

3% DISSATISFIED

3% VERY DISSATISFIED

Q11 HOW SATISFIED WERE YOU WITH THE IN PERSON SAFETY BRIEFS?

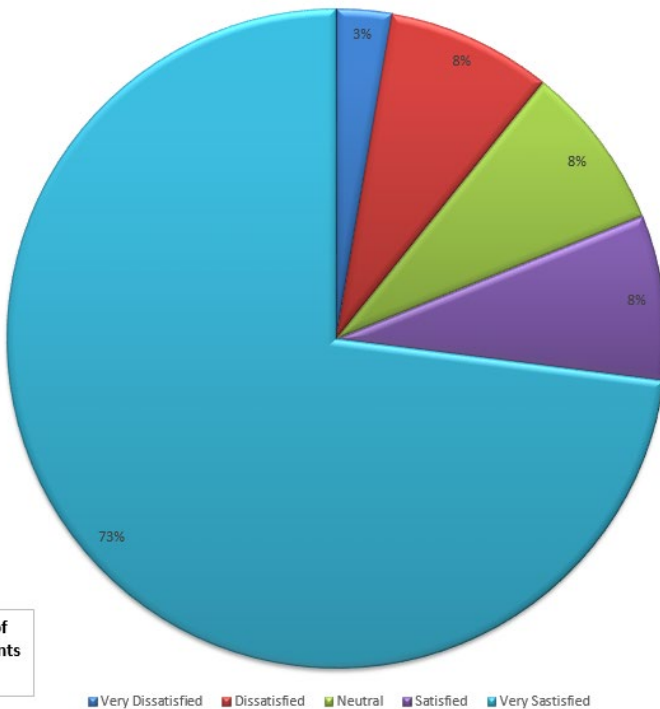


How satisfied were you with the in-person safety briefs?

- 16% VERY SATISFIED**
- 16% SATISFIED**
- 19% NEUTRAL**
- 16% DISSATISFIED**
- 33% VERY DISSATISFIED**

Number of respondents
n = 37

Q12 HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH THE ONLINE SAFETY BRIEFINGS?

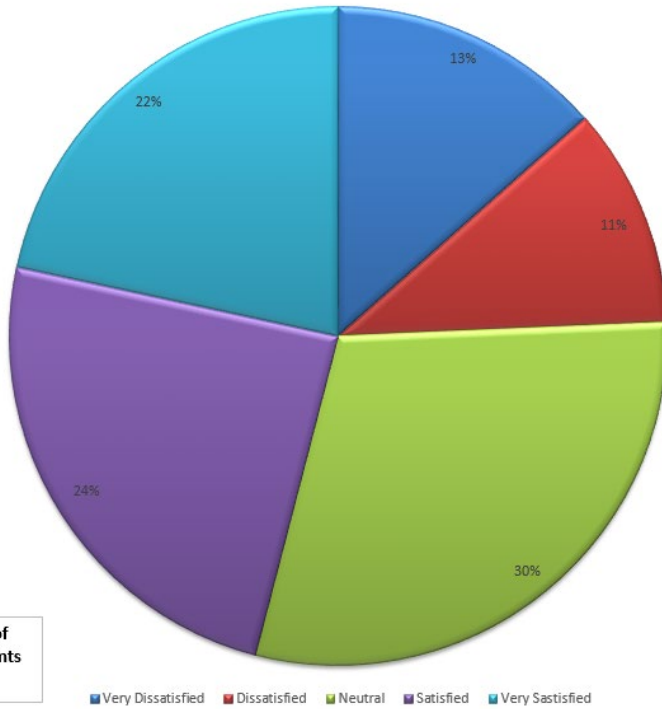


How satisfied are you with the online safety briefs?

- 73% VERY SATISFIED**
- 8% SATISFIED**
- 8% NEUTRAL**
- 8% DISSATISFIED**
- 3% VERY DISSATISFIED**

Number of respondents
n = 37

Q13 HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH THE QUALITY OF ANIMALS YOU HAVE SEEN AT FC/PCMS?



Number of respondents
n = 37

How satisfied are you with the quality of animals you have seen at FC/PCMS?

22% VERY SATISFIED

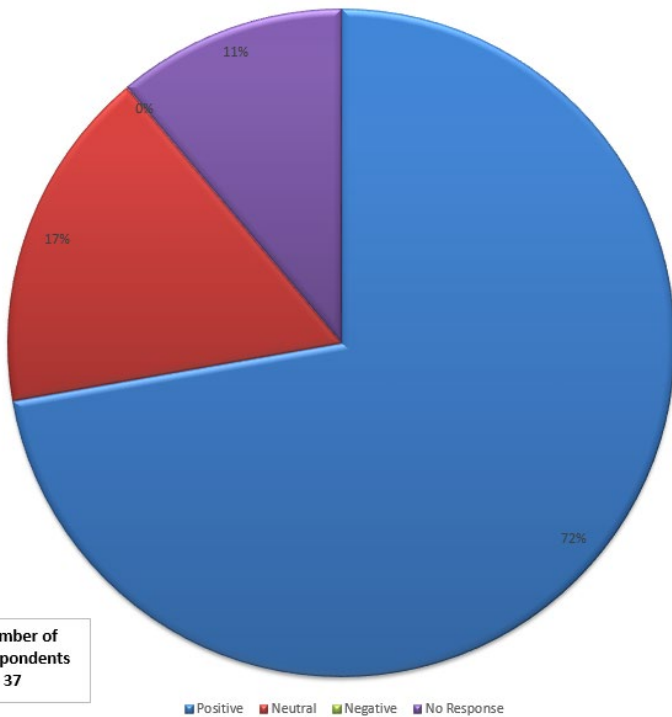
24% SATISFIED

30% NEUTRAL

11% DISSATISFIED

13% VERY DISSATISFIED

Q14 HUNTER ENCOUNTERS WITH GAME WARDENS



Number of respondents
n = 37

Hunter encounters with the game warden.

72% POSITIVE

17% NEUTRAL

0% NEGATIVE

11% NO RESPONSE PROVIDED

OPEN COMMENT QUESTIONS & OUR ANSWERS

15. If you could change one rule what would it be and why?

VARIOUS CONCERNS

- Check in times at 9:00 PM rather than 10:00. Waiting till 10, then in bed at 11 and up at 3 is not ideal. Either way, it is no big deal. Still a great outdoor experience!!

- The majority of the year checkout is at 2130 and the following check in can't be before that. Great feedback though and we will take the winter months into consideration since checkout can be much earlier than 2130

- Shorten both deer buck and cow elk to state hunt calendars (not 4 months to hunt both species) Lack of mature bucks and number of hunters in field for 4 months.

- Definitely talk to Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) about season lengths as we follow all state seasons and dates for both GMU 142 & 591

- Be able to shoot spike elk we drive 1,500 miles to hunt it'd be a nice opportunity to be able to shoot anything

- The 4 point restriction on FC is set in place by CPW. They may change this in the future or become more restrictive. Additionally, restricting the harvest of younger and smaller antlered bulls ensures there will be bigger bulls in the future and a more vigorous age class within the overall elk herd. CPW offers unlimited, either-sex over-the-counter licenses for most game management units east of I-25 with no antler point restrictions.

- 4 pt rule for elk on pinon canyon

- Not having a 4 point restriction on PCMS is also a decision that CPW wildlife managers are aware of but have yet to implement.

- No over the counter Elk Bull Tags

- GMU and species' licenses are determined by changing population dynamics and specific management goals determined by CPW wildlife managers.

- I think Active duty, retirees, veterans and gov employees should get 30 minute preference on sign in over civilians. It is really hard to get an area on Fort Carson because they are limited and competing on sign in with civilians is tough day prior.

Question # 15 Continued...

- Great feedback. We will take this into consideration.
- The in person briefs and campground at pcms being closed a lot
- Yes, there have been a lot of changes in a short time over the last 18 months. All safety briefs are now back online through iSportsman for convenience and the PCMS camp ground will be open during peak seasons and dates will be posted online.
- Leave people alone if they are glassing from the vehicles, they are not in a hunting unit they are on a gold route.
- The regulation states that unless you are checked into a block (group of one or more training areas) and have a downrange pass for that block you may not stop your vehicle regardless of the reason.
- Being able to use game cameras
- Unfortunately, the decision to restrict the use of game cameras will not change going forward due to OPSEC. While we follow all state rules and regulations, we may be more restrictive. Any of our additional restrictions can be found in the 2023 updated FC 200-6 regulation on the homepage of the iSportsman website.

LOW VELOCITY AREAS/ACCESS

- California Strip should NOT be LV Only, TA 41 needs to be broken up into some HV access. TA 9 and 16 should also still be HV. Reopen TA 37.
- Low velocity areas when no training is not going on (ie area 22/23)
- Too many low velocity TAs. 9, 16, 20, 24, 25, 28, 41 don't need to be permanently low velocity
- Low Velocity along 115 need to go back to being High Velocity will give better opportunities to harvest; open up TA's 4,5,6 even if it's low velocity, there are a large number of animals in these areas
- Too many areas are LV. Each LV area should be reviewed to see if at least parts of area can be made HV. Area 41 is a good example.

Question # 15 Continued...

- Access at FC. The low velocity TA's next to 115 need to be the same as Colorado law. The previous FC reg. stated no hunting within 150 yards of the highway and no shooting towards the highway (already stricter than Colorado Law).
- The low velocity area. There is no need for these new areas
- Make TA 41 high powered area
- Low velocity only areas down range. It is understandable near garrison buildings or in areas surrounding troops but for many of the areas being claimed low velocity only does not adhere to or even attempt to follow the states hunting guidelines.
- The closing of so many areas!!!! If not in uses for training at lease open them up for Low Velocity!!!
- Open the western boundary to high velocity. Hunter's should be ethical to not take an unsafe shot.
- Limited off road travel, Gold Belt roads Do Not offer access to all areas - without alot of walking (ie, LV areas along Hwy115)
- The low velocity TA's (9, 16, 20, 24, 25, 28, and 41) should be generally be high velocity TA's. Those TA's have a lot of topography allowing for safe backstops when shooting a high velocity firearm. It is no different than hunting on State Lands, USFS, BLM lands- where there are no restrictions in using a high velocity firearm. Also why are Fridays generally Low Velocity Only? I understand there is more training going on during the week, but when there are several TA's open for LV hunting that are adjacent together why restrict it to LV when they are HV on Sat/Sun?

Open up hunting on the weekdays at Fort Carson when units aren't training on available land.

- We understand and hear the frustration and disappointment about the low velocity areas and California strip going to all LV in 2022. However, The Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization & Security (DPTMS) has full authority to decide and change the velocity restrictions on training areas depending on a lot of factors – especially if they deem there is a possible safety liability that is not worth taking the risk. Please remember that although we follow all state laws and regulations for hunting, we may be more restrictive. You can find all of the FC/PCMS additional restrictions in the 2023 revision of the FC regulation 200-6, Wildlife Management and Recreation, on the homepage of the iSportsman website.

- **Question # 15 Answers Continued...**

- There may not be **visible** military training going on, but the TA may be reserved for use by a military unit, wildlife biologists, archeologists, maintenance or land rehabilitation personnel, and/or other Fort Carson personnel or contractors. If that is the case, the...
- ... training areas will be either closed to hunting or specified as a LV only area if it is opened.
- DPTMS has been working towards more open areas during the weekdays, but due to the amount of downrange work that goes on every day (i.e., military units, range personnel, wildlife biologists, archeologists, maintenance or land rehabilitation personnel, and/or other Fort Carson personnel or contractors) being present it is likely that you will see weekday hunting mostly around holiday block leave in November and December. LV Fridays allow hunters access while there are FC personnel/Soldiers working downrange during their normal workday. This is why those areas may change to HV on the weekend.
- Training areas that are or become permanently closed and removed from recreational access are because of OPSEC and may contain certain projects or sites that are not for the public's viewing. It is likely that these TAs will not become open again in the foreseeable future.

CHECKING IN/OUT

- Please consider eliminating the need to check in and checkout of training areas on PCMS because of the lack of cell service.
- Change the PCMS check in/out of specific TAs back to the old way where you checked into PCMS for the animal you were hunting.
- checking in and out of each unit...game does not check in and out...at 74 yrs old i DO NOT OWN A SMART PHONERT PHONE
- Changing hunting/training areas is sometimes unrealistic when on the east side of PCMS in the canyons due to spotty or nonexistent cell service.
- Having to check in out of new areas. At least make it simple like just changing locations, not having to sign out and then re-sign in.

- Having to check in to specific training areas on pcms is unnecessary. We have not had to do that for over a decade, and things have been just fine.
- Get rid of training area check in at PCMS and go back to way it was. Too much time spent driving around trying to find a cell signal.
- No Sure, control the access with the online phone tool. Not the way it was conducted last season. Check in on line then drive by the RC station sign out then resign in to change your area where you are hunting. Corporal punishment for the hunters that don't violate the rules should not be punished for those that do.
- Signing in and out for each area
- The need to check in and checkout of training areas on PCMS is a significant burden because of the lack of cell service.
- Remove requirement to check in and out of each unit at pcms
 - Thank you for all of you feedback on the change to checking in and out of smaller areas on PCMS. We know there are a lot of frustrated hunters and bad cell service at PCMS. Unfortunately, this requirement will likely not change going forward. The decision was mandated by the Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) as a way to find a lost or injured hunter more quickly to mitigate the risk of loss of life due to having to search all of PCMS versus looking in the specific area the hunter was checked into. Do people get lost or hurt? Yes, on many occasions this has happened and safety is our # 1 priority, always.
 - We understand that there is very bad cell or non-existent service at PCMS and we have let leadership know of these shortfalls. Stay tuned for more updates in the future as we try to get cellular service improved in that area.
 - We will attempt to group smaller TAs at PCMS together more to reduce the amount of checking in and out that is needed as you move around PCMS.

16. How can we improve the hunting program FC/PCMS?

VARIOUS COMMENTS

- It's good

Thank you!

Question # 16 Continued...

- Better explanation of the PCMS rules. Many changes were implemented this year at PCMS and no guidance was given

- We apologize for all the changes last year. Some changes were made to us with very short notice as well. Please keep an eye on the homepage and PCMS page of iSportsman as we strive to post them as soon as we get them.

- Thank you for the changes to access at PMCS this year! I have been hunting FC since 1993 and PCMS since 1997. This is the first time changes were made that benefitted the hunters (other than the electronic gate at PMCS) that I can remember.

- You're welcome!

- I think that the hunting program for Fort Carson is pretty outstanding from the CLEOS and biologists standpoint. The issue is that sometimes Range Control does not communicate well when it comes to open areas (see below for more comments on that)

- Thank you! Communications between directorates has been drastically improving and we hope for an even better 2023-2024 season and beyond.

- not sure, lots of training going on, I think, but it's no difference that Ft Stewart, they have Tanks as well plus 250,000 ac they manage

- Thanks for the comment.

- The program is great, but what I would recommend is better signage on the recreational roads.

- Thank you, we are working on a lot of improvements and projects. We will take your recommendation under consideration.

- Open the campground at PCMS

- Although there were some challenging circumstances during the 2022 big game season/Hill Ranch opening, we were able to open late September through mid-December. Hill Ranch will be open during designated dates during the 2023-24 big game seasons as well.

- Interactive map for FC can be misleading. I did not realize that there were brown roads on map until I was fined for being on a brown road. Brown road is not represented on map legend and its tint is similar to the gold road.

- We're sorry you had an issue with the PDF map imagery/color. We will look into this.

- **Question # 16 Continued...**

- Quit letting range control interfere with the hunt program

- Although there were some challenges that arose last year between the directorates as far as authority and guidance, they have been cleared up now; communication has improved, and if you have any issues going forward, give DPW hunting program staff a call or shoot us an email for clarification or guidance.

- Maps

- We are moving more into the digital age with maps especially since the maps change frequently. The most up to date and always free PDF, geo-referenced maps can be found on the iSportsman page under, "Maps & Navigation." Some paper maps can be found at the PCMS hunter shed or building 1219, room 320 mailbox on FC. However, no large amount of printed paper maps will be provided going forward.

ACCESS AND OPEN AREAS

- Frankly, I like the fact that you limit access to some of the best elk areas to a few weekends a season. The elk herd is amazing and it does provide some refuge during the rut. I think your management program is excellent. This is in reference to FC. I have not been to PCMS for many years I did spend a lot of time there when it was first acquired and all of the initial EIS work was being done. It was a gem!

- Open up hunting on the weekdays when land is available. The perception is: Range Control doesn't like hunters. The wildlife biologist should receive land for outdoor recreation, just like training units. Get Range Control's hand out of hunting-like other Army Post. Run the program like Fort Benning...A Soldier can hunt "everyday" on Fort Benning.

- More HV areas

- Open area 22/23 even if it's for low velocity when training isn't going on!!!!

- Let me help with the deer counts would greatly improve my ability to see more deer. Allow more open days during august before season so i can scout. Love to just take pictures.

- Open more areas! It is obvious that many areas are closed for no reason. If it does not have troops in it or moving into it then there is no reason that hunting cannot happen in that area. Also, the various areas that are never open for some reason is mind boggling. Like opening a

Question # 16 Continued...

training area up once a year is unacceptable. This MUST be addressed because lots of people are noticing.

- Hunters understand that training takes priority. Weekday access at FC would be great even if it was low velocity only and very limited units. (Comment had two concerns, so the other portion is below in the next section.)

- Open areas 22/23 to low velocity hunting

- Have the blocks of TA's bigger. More open areas during the week

- For pinion canyon more units need to be put together to sign in and out of. The unit boundaries are difficult to use when walking around. Not ideal especially with the not great phone service there. Little improvement on combining units to sign in to would help

- Open more areas when not occupied by soldier training

- Open all available areas to hunting. Including Turkey Creek Recreation Area. Areas 4, 5, 6 are not being utilized. Area 52 was open one weekend for first time in years. Seemed like some deal was made. Very unusual. Also one weekend area 28 was open HV. Very unusual. It's supposed to be LV. An animal was killed that weekend. Seems again like some deal was made. Either it's LV or HV. It should be HV.

- Seems to be poor communication between Range Control & Biologist in regards to what areas will be open and when.

- Not closing TAs if they aren't actively being used

- DPTMS sends the DPW a list of areas they can allow hunting on and we open those areas up for recreation. All areas that are sent to us can be found on iSportsman under "Open Areas" weekly for FC and for PCMS under the "PCMS Info" pages. That is the extent of their involvement in the hunting programs going forward and the DPW does not have the authority to open areas that are not approved by DPTMS.
- We will attempt to get more TAs grouped into a single block going forward depending on the circumstances to make them bigger.
- There may not be **visible** military training going on, but the TA may be reserved for use by a military unit, wildlife biologists, archeologists, maintenance or land rehabilitation personnel, and/or other Fort Carson personnel or contractors. If that is the case, the training areas will be either closed to hunting or specified as a LV only area if it is opened.

- DPTMS has been working towards more open areas during the weekdays, but due to the amount of downrange work that goes on every day (i.e., military units, range personnel, wildlife biologists, archeologists, maintenance or land rehabilitation personnel, and/or other Fort Carson personnel or contractors) being present it is likely that you will see weekday hunting mostly around holiday block leave in November and December. LV Fridays allow hunters access while there are FC personnel/Soldiers working downrange during their normal workday. This is why those areas may change to HV on the weekend.

HUNTING, TAGS, AND SEASONS

- PMCS needs a 4 point restriction on elk, the elk hunting quality would be greatly improved with this one change. Let your biologist have more say in the management of the wildlife. (Second portion of comment in above section.)
- 1) Issue fewer tags, 2) reduce micromanagement of hunting areas by not requiring specific training area check in!
- Increase bull hunting opportunities; add 1st and 4th season tags or late season.
- Install Bull elk a draw pt restriction both archery and rifle. 2 pt minimum. Way too many hunters in areas holding elk.
- Make a separate hunt code or allotment for deer and pronghorn licenses for active duty soldiers. Most soldiers are only at fort Carson for three years and typically will not have enough points to draw either license.
- Allow shooting spike elk
- Increased number of mule/whitetail deer.
- Remove all OTC tags
- Doe tags need to be limited on PCMS, the deer herd is really down in numbers over last 4 years. 4 point restriction is also needed at PCMS on elk. The young bulls get slaughtered in the rifle seasons. No need to shoot every bull on PCMS.
 - Thank you for your feedback on the Colorado state restrictions, tags, and seasons. CPW determines all seasons, dates, and tags, so unfortunately FC/PCMS DPW staff can't address these concerns.
 - For our answers on the PCMS check in requirement please see those sections above.

17. What describes you best as a hunter? (Enjoy hunting, important part of my life, most important leisure activity in my life)

- It is a deeply engrained part of my life. I've hunted FC of and on for nearly 40 years. What a great opportunity you provide right in my backyard.

-Important part of my Life

- Just having a place to get away and enjoy a day away from everyday problems!

- I love to hunt and it is a huge part of my life. It is how i provide for my family since my father taught me as a child and it is something i will pass on to my children for further generations to come to enjoy and love hunting.

- Most important thing in my life. I raised my son hunting on PCMS, which is a very remarkable place for many reasons (native habitat, archeology, game, safety, etc)

- Hunting is one of my favorite hobbies. Spending long days with my dad, grandpa and hopefully soon my son is something i really enjoy doing.

- I hunt as often as I can and hunt with family

- Most important leisure activity at this time in life and want to pass along to my young son!

- Important part of my life

- Hunting is a very important part of my lifestyle

- Avid hunter and fisherman, they are the activities that I enjoy the most

- Just getting out to enjoy the outdoors!!!

- Enjoy Hunting - but not that much.

- Extremely important part of my life

- Important part of my life

- Most important part of my life

- I enjoy hunting and being outside and watching wildlife.

- Archery hunting is the most important activity in my life.

- I enjoy the atmosphere of hiking and watching nature.

- Retired CW4, PCMS is my favorite place to hunt. I take all three of my sons. We camp and hunt. It has been an amazing place for our family

Question # 17 Continued...

- Important part of my life
- Hunting is the one thing that still gets me out and active. I have been hunting for over 50 years and it is a very big part of my life. I would really like to extend that for as long as I am capable, PMCS and FC are allowing me to do that.
- Hunting is an important part of my life, not always about the harvest but the ability to give game a fair chase
- The most important leisure activity in my life.
- Enjoy Hunting, Most important leisure activity in my life
- Stress relief from 20 years in LE and hige part of mine and my family's lives as we only eat wild game.
- Ethical hunter, I will not shoot at an animal unless I am confident that I can kill it in one shot. Hunting is something our family enjoys doing together.
- Hunting is very important to me. Essentially now as a senior citizen. Ft Carson provides me a close place to hunt that is not so physical most of time. I appreciate the fact that we can hunt there. Thank you!
- Enjoy hunting
- most important leisure activity in my life as it is a special time to be with my children and grand children
- I enjoy hunting and being able to provide myself and family meat, getting outdoors and being in nature.
- Most important leisure.
- Very important to providing quality food for my family
- my motto is "Hunting Forever"
- I enjoy hunting and it is an important part of my life.
 - Thank you all for your comments and feedback to this question! It is important to portray how essential outdoor recreation and hunting are for the quality of life of our Active Duty Soldiers, Veterans, Civilians, and Families!

18. How does having an opportunity to hunt on FC and PCMS improve your quality of life? (Improves morale for Soldiers, good for my physical activity, good for mental health, helps feed my family, etc.)

- All of the above.
- Physical Activity, mental health and feeds my family
- Being retired from the army it's important for me to seeing the soldiers assigned to Ft. Carson have a place to hunt while assigned there!!! They might not get that chance to hunt out west if it wasn't for Ft. Carson!!!
- The opportunity to hunt PCMS is an integral part of my life and improves every aspect when it comes to quality of life. It is my stress relief for after deployments and helps give me goals for improving my physical fitness. I am also able to take my father hunting and create everlasting memories that i will cherish for the rest of my life.
- PCMS is an oasis from Denver (mental health), it is a special place for my family, we have befriended many soldiers, etc.
- The mental and physical side is a great benefit for me personally.
- All hunting seasons provide outstanding opportunities for little or no preference points. Fort carson is my top choice for most big game hunting
- Physical activity and time left to hunt w +75 father whom can't hunt at elevation and safety to him.
- All the above truthfully
- the physical attributes, mental agility aspects.
- It's great having such a great place to hunt so close to home.
- It's close to home!!! We just have to stop get a cup of coffee and head out for a drive or a day fishing!!!!
- It helps me stay active, I get out with the Dogs and WE walk alot.
- Great for everything listed in the question
- Good for mental health
- Close to home.
- Good for the health, getting exercise and seeing neat things and places.

Question # 18 Continued...

- Allowing access to these government lands is such a great privilege.
- The camp area outside PCMS was an ideal location for our team to gather and bond.
- I would say it keeps me sane sometimes; my sons absolutely love hunting PCMS
- Mental health and feeds my family
- As an older hunter both PMCS and FC give me the opportunity to extend my years of hunting. I am not really able to hunt the mountains anymore and recover animals without help. Without the access to PMCS/FC my elk hunting years would probably be over. It is also great for my health, both physically and mental.
- Improves my morale, good time in the silence to clear your thoughts, decompress and enjoy the outdoors
- The ability to access, scout, and hunt PCMS is what I look forward to most during the year, provides quality meat for my family and keeps me sane in a crazy world.
- All of that
- Feeds my family and give me a break from my stressful law enforcement life.
- I love hunting and hiking and the long hunting season on FC gives me the opportunity to enjoy it for three months! Another big plus is that my family does not worry about me going hunting by myself since I'm on FC.
- A close place to get away. The world is crazy right now. And all the above.
- Meat in the freezer. Great opportunity to get out and walk around in some great country
- all of the above...at 74 years old i don't have many good years left to share what I love with my children and grand children
- I love that there is a place with fantastic hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities close to home that doesn't get the pressure as other public lands. Also, being a state game warden, the 4 month long season tags are amazing since I can hunt when the main hunting seasons are not going on.
- Yes
- A great way to spend time outdoors with my family and harvest meat
- Used to be very important to me

- Hunting on Fort Carson provides an opportunity to “get outdoors” and facilitate a “healthy” outdoor lifestyle, without breaking the bank. I live in housing on Fort Carson; I shouldn’t have to drive 50-100 miles from Post housing to go hunting, when there are several thousand acres available on Fort Carson. Hunting has provided food for my family for nearly 18 years; we do not purchase meat at the commissary or the grocery store.

- Thank you all for your comments and feedback to this question! It is important to portray how essential outdoor recreation and hunting are for morale, quality of life, and the mental health of our Active Duty Soldiers, Veterans, Civilians, and Families!

19. Is there anything else you want to mention or bring to our attention?

- I've hunted elk for 50 years all over this state. Deer too. When elk first arrived on FC back in the 80's it was a bit of a novelty but the herd grew nicely and stuck around. I do not know what the bull to cow ratio is, but it must be quite high. There are some real bruisers done here as well. And oddly, the elk off this location are the best eating elk I ever had. Now that I am in my late 60's it is very nice to have this resource so close to home and so accessible. My days of back country hunts out of a pack or on horseback are over. I worked as a guide while in my 20's and 30's and have killed a lot of elk all over the state, mostly archery. I lived my live during Colorado's best hunting years. I'll sum it up like this: I took my son down range for an elk hunt a few years ago after our old "go to" on the western slope was ravaged by beetle kill. The first morning we were standing in 17 in the middle of a bugle fest watching 3 bulls, all over 300 inches. It was a glorious fall morning. Thomas looks at me and says " I aint ever hunting anywhere else". This is 30 minutes from my house and 5 minutes from the door of my truck and it happens all the time! In hindsight, I probably should never have stopped hunting FC to PCMS. It sadly is a vanishing resource, but so am I!. Thanks for the memories guys and gals. Good Job!

- Amanda has done an amazing job with iSportsman, Rich also. More access to TA 36, TA 49 and TA 52.

- Pat Amanda, Paul, Robert, Harley and all the fish and game personal on the back!!!!!!

- The kiosk is outdated and useless for PCMS and i applaud the change to not bring it back. But the check in/out of TAs at PCMS needs to be changed back to the way it was. PCMS vast land area and minimal cell service makes it very difficult to hunt. The many big game animals out there are herd species who travel a lot and require the ability to be able to move from TAs without restrictions.

- Mr. Everett (game warden) and Mr. Riddle (biologists) are great and are exemplary public ambassadors for the Army.

Question # 19 Continued...

- Rich does an amazing job at pinon canyon. Would love to be more involved in any ways i could be allowed, mostly selfish reasons though as i love to see more of pcms and would love to help the wildlife in any way i can.
- The open areas on Fridays are great. I hunted two deer tags in other GMUs this year and wished I was in 591 the whole time.
- Why does the RC run on program (HUNTING) and not the Fishing?
- I do believe drought conditions existed this year w FC that is not under control. W that said, the amount of hunters to TAs open at specific times is too many. It is a privilege not right to hunt on military land and not priority, I understand. But making a draw for bull elk, shortening buck / cow season, and decreasing number of hunters per TA would be an option. This is not a trophy area but some areas that hold the most elk, have too many hunters per day. Avg person willing to work, can walk miles which most TAs are not sq/mi. If hunting at FC/PCMS is becoming big business tied to revenue, then all my options are moot, which is disappointing!!!!!!
- GET RID OF DPTMS AND THEIR POWER TRIP. They control way too much of this.
- Having Ft Carson and PCMS open to hunting is very much appreciated.
- Everyone that works for Ft. Carson wildlife is doing a great job!!!!
- Keep Up the Good Work, Thank You
- Open the campground at PCMS
- The lack of deer numbers in unit 142 was very concerning.
- This year has been a vast improvement over last 3 seasons with how things are being run. I appreciate the Command Team getting involved and fixing the problems.
- Why can't we drive the boarder roads in the low velocity areas? This would help keep hunter from shooting toward hwy 115? You make hunters enter these areas facing the high way but then you're worried they are going to shoot someone on the highway. Could you explain to everyone why we have these new low velocity areas? Can we put together a hunt committee to help resolve some of these issues?
- I'm retired Army and a long time hunter of both FC and PCMS I would like to thank you for many of the changes made this year. There is still work to be done but the hunting program is moving in the right direction for the first time since I have been hunting there. Many years ago the wildlife personnel would hold meetings with the hunters and fisherman. In my opinion...

Question # 19 Continued...

... these were productive for both sides to exchange ideas. It also give the opportunity to explain why decisions were made that others were not aware of. FC and PMCS are the two premiere hunting properties in the military and the hunting program should be the same.

- Thank you for your work in providing hunting access to PCMS and I hope it can continue, with reasonable rules as we move forward. Your effort is appreciated!

- The staff at pcms do an awesome job and the wardens are always a pleasure to speak to.

- Thank you Amanda. Great job. Appreciate that areas were open on Friday later in year. That was nice to see.

- PCMS needs an antler point restriction on elk

- if possible, with the understanding that this countries safety is top priority, don't make sudden changes.....give me time to plan

- Just to expand on my previous Range Control comment. There was twice, that I know of, this season when they had TA's open that active training was going on. Also, Range Controls grouping of TA's and how many people are allowed in them, doesn't make sense at times.

- I think Amanda and range control did a good job getting stuff opened. THANKS.

- Specific ta area check in/hunting is very difficult on pcms, too large of an area with limited availability for phone service to be able to change ta's while in the field!

- limit number of hunters each season

- Please open up Fort Carson for outdoor recreation on the weekdays. Try to hunt on Fort Carson is much like playing with a selfish little kid who won't let you take any toys out of the toy box. Range Control is the selfish little kid. Range Control should be removed from the process once land becomes available.

- Thank you all for your feedback and comments! Most concerns have already been addressed with our comments in the document above. We appreciate all the kind and supportive comments as well to Fort Carson staff.
- Everything will be reviewed by leadership and we will consider your comments and feedback for changes that may occur in the future for the hunting programs.
- If you feel like you need a specific concern addressed that was not addressed in this report, email: usarmy.carson.imcom-central.list.dpw-ed-isportsman@mail.mil or give us a call!