

Petition to Preserve OTC Elk Hunting for Colorado Residents Only

The [Colorado Resident Hunter Association](#) (Facebook group) is writing this petition because the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is currently considering the removal of Over-The-Counter (OTC) archery elk hunting in Colorado due to overcrowding. It is time to restore equity (compared to other western states) for resident hunters by preserving OTC archery elk tags and OTC rifle elk tags for resident hunters only--- starting in 2024.

We have witnessed alarming trends in OTC hunting that have significantly impacted resident hunters. CPW does not share these trends, they were obtained by CORA requests. From 2014 to 2021 there has been a staggering decline of [20% \(4,169\)](#) in OTC archery resident hunters while non-resident participation skyrocketed by over 28% (4,266). As a result, there are nearly 3,000 more nonresident archery OTC hunters than residents (see attached spreadsheet). The numbers for rifle OTC trends are similar, residents are down 10% and nonresidents are up 21%. The overcrowding issue faced during OTC seasons is not caused by resident hunters but is the result of consistent growth of non-resident participation.

By signing this petition, you are expressing your support for preserving all remaining OTC elk hunting (archery and rifle) for Colorado residents only, starting in 2024. We believe this measure will restore equity without infringing upon the rights or experiences of non-resident hunters who can still participate through limited draw hunts and non-resident caps on all OTC hunts. Please scan the QR code (pass QR code to fellow hunters) and sign electronically.

