2011 Calendar

Watchable Wildlife

Photos © Ron Drummond, www.rwdrummond.com

DON'T FORGET TO PLAY™

Why Watchable Wildlife?

It can begin at any age and everyone can participate. It can be five minutes or five hours. It can be rural or urban. It can be in your own backyard or it can be in one of Colorado's open spaces or state parks. Watching wildlife is a lifelong experience. From the eastern plains, to the mountains, to the western slope—anywhere you go in Colorado, wildlife is there. Colorado is home to over 960 species of wildlife and Coloradans of all ages can enjoy the wonder and excitement of our treasured wildlife.

The number and interest of wildlife viewers in Colorado is increasing. From the sleek pronghorn antelope to the tiger swallowtail butterfly, wildlife comes in all shapes and sizes. Mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, and even aquatic mollusks make up the different species of Colorado's varied wildlife. Colorado has one of the most varied landscapes in the United States. It is comprised of nine different eco-systems—from grasslands to alpine tundra. Knowing these eco-systems and learning the animals that live there will help you see more wildlife.

Colorado wildlife have faced many threats over the last century and a half. But today one single enemy looms as the greatest threat to wildlife in our state—loss of habitat. In simplest terms, habitat is home. For wildlife, habitat selection is not a matter of choice; it is a matter of survival.

Since each animal is uniquely adapted to survive in a very specific habitat, many cannot live anywhere else. It's the place wild animals live and is comprised of four factors necessary for life: food, water, shelter, and space. If a given area can't provide the right combination of food, water, shelter, or space for a species, that place becomes uninhabitable for that animal. As land in our state is developed for urban, agricultural, residential, industrial, and intensive recreational uses, it is largely lost as diverse wildlife habitat.

When viewing Colorado's vast wildlife population, remember to act responsibly around wild animals and respect the environment:

- Tread softly
- Don't make a path
- Don't disturb the flowers, seeds, or vegetation
- Leave no litter
- Don't alter the environment by feeding the animals

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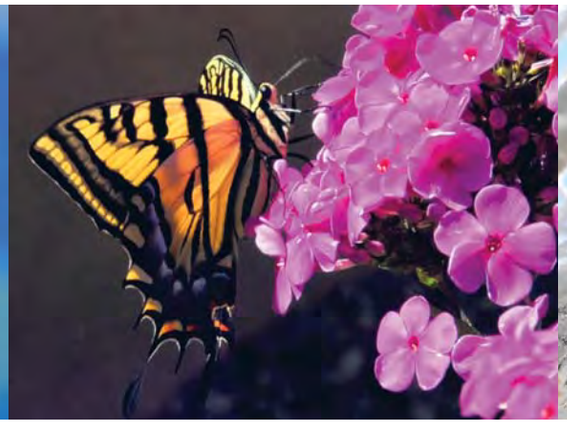
Colorado Lottery dollars, through Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO), assist the Colorado Division of Wildlife in its efforts to acquire and enhance wildlife habitat including wetlands; to improve the status of species with the ultimate goal of delisting or preventing them from being listed under the federal Threatened and Endangered Species Program; to provide youth education; and to provide wildlife viewing opportunities.

Viewing and Safety Tips:

- Time your outing for dusk or dawn, when wildlife are most active.
- Find a likely spot for animal activity, sit quietly and wait for wildlife to emerge.
- Keep your distance, both for your safety and theirs—use binoculars and scopes.
- Avoid sudden movement or loud noises—move slowly and quietly.
- Use all your senses, including smelling and hearing.
- Be patient.
- Wear muted colors and quiet fabrics.
- Leave pets at home.

So, load up the car, and go see some of the critical critters that make our state a wildlife wonderland! Wildlife is valuable to everyone and belongs to all of us collectively. We all have an impact on nature. The future of wildlife depends on all of us.



Special thanks to the Division of Wildlife for their commitment to watch wildlife and the lottery funded Project WILD. Project WILD (WILD) is one of the most widely-used conservation and environmental education programs among educators of students in kindergarten through high school.

December 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 A	2 Hanukkah	3	4
5 B	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 A	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 B	20	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day
26 A	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	

Red Fox

The red fox lives in riparian woodland and wetlands on the plains and in forest-edge communities in the mountains. Red foxes have increased greatly with the growth of irrigated agriculture on the plains, and are most active at dawn and dusk.

November 2010

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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January 2011

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23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

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January 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 New Year's Day A
2 B	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 A	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 B	17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	18	19	20	21	22
23 A / B 30	24 / 31	25	26	27	28	29

Great Horned Owl
Great horned owls are the largest of the "tufted" owls in North America. Great horned owls are mainly nocturnal, but they will hunt night or day. They feed on a variety of animals including waterfowl, rabbits, squirrels, marshbirds, hawks, rodents, frogs, eels, fish, and insects.

December 2010

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February 2011

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

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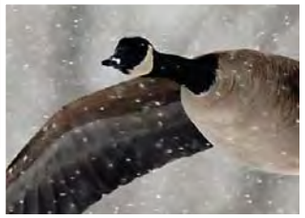
February 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 B	2	3	4	5
6 A	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 B	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18	19
20 A	21 Presidents' Day	22	23	24	25	26
27 B	28					



Canada Geese
Year-round residents, the Canada goose is a well-known Colorado waterfowl. Canada geese that do migrate through the state can fly as far north as Alaska and Canada in the summer, and as far south as Texas, southern California and sometimes parts of Mexico in the winter.

January 2011

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March 2011

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

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March 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 B	2	3	4	5
6 A	7	8	9 Ash Wednesday	10	11	12
13 *Daylight Saving Time begins* B	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19
20 *Spring begins* A	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 B	28	29	30	31		

Black Bear
Black bears are the largest of Colorado's omnivores. In Colorado, the largest populations of black bears live in areas where there is Gambel's oak and aspen, near open areas of chokecherry and serviceberry bushes. A black bear may have a range from 10 to 250 square miles.

February 2011

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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27	28					

April 2011

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

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April 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 B	2
3 A	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 B	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 A	18	19 Passover	20	21	22 Good Friday Earth Day	23
24 Easter B	25	26	27	28	29	30

Mute Swan
Although not a native of Colorado, the mute swan is a migratory bird that travels through the state. The Mute Swan is less vocal, and the most familiar sound associated with Mute Swan is the vibrant throbbing of the wings in flight.

March 2011

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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27	28	29	30	31		

May 2011

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

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May 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 A	2	3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7
8 Mother's Day B	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 A	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 B	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 A	30 Memorial Day	31				

Broad-tailed Hummer
Hummingbirds are uniquely American—North, Central, and South American. Of the 21 species recorded in the U.S., only two nest regularly in Colorado. The broad-tailed hummingbird is most abundant in Colorado, and nests in foothills and mountain forests, usually near water.

April 2011

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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June 2011

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

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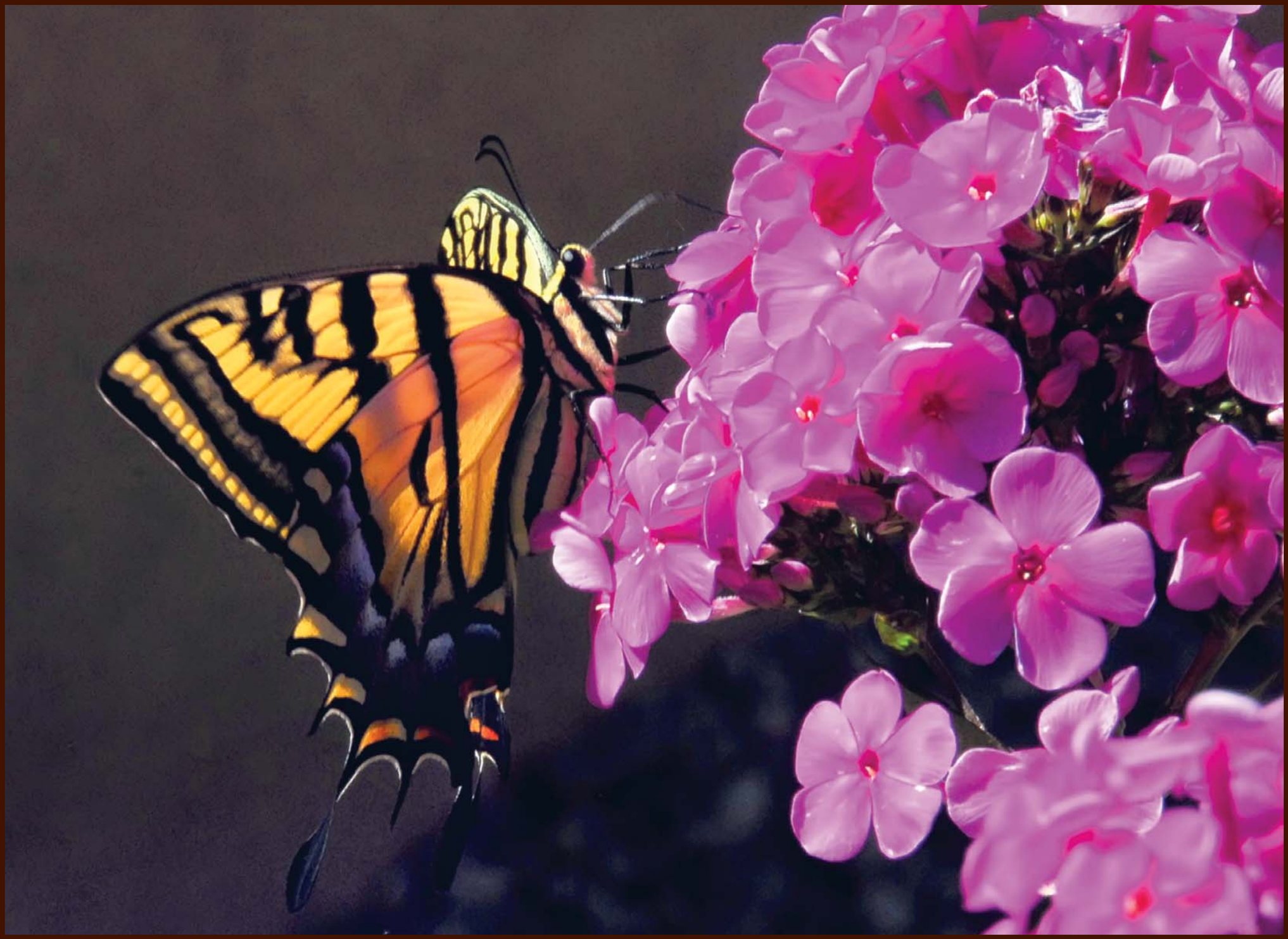
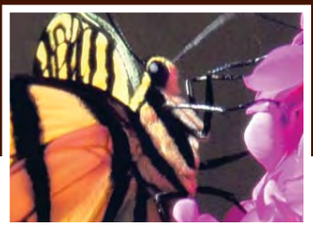


June 2011



Tiger Swallowtail
The tiger swallowtail butterfly can be found in various habitats, such as woodlands, fields, open areas, rivers, creeks, roadsides, gardens, urban parks, and city yards.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 A	2	3	4
5 B	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 A	13	14 Flag Day	15	16	17	18
19 Father's Day B	20	21 *Summer begins*	22	23	24	25
26 A	27	28	29	30		

May 2011

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

July 2011

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

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July 2011

Dragonfly
Dragonflies are valuable insects that eat mosquitos and other small insects like flies, bees, and ants. They are usually found around lakes, ponds, streams, and wetlands.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 A	2
3 B	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8	9
10 A	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 B	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 A / B 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

June 2011

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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August 2011

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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August 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 B	2	3	4	5	6
7 A	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 B	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 A	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 B	29	30	31			

Bald Eagle

Seldom seen far from water, in Colorado bald eagles are often found near reservoirs abundant with fish. Colorado is a popular wintering area for bald eagles. The San Luis Valley is a favorite because of its supply of fish and waterfowl from open water and its high population of rodents and rabbits.

July 2011

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September 2011

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September 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 B	2	3
4 A	5 Labor Day	6	7	8	9	10
11 B	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 A	19	20	21	22	23 *Autumn begins*	24
25 B	26	27	28	29 Rosh Hashanah	30	

Bighorn Sheep
The bighorn sheep is Colorado's official mammal, and is home to the largest population of the species anywhere. Two species of bighorn exist in Colorado, the Rocky Mountain, which is native, and the desert bighorn. Herds are widely scattered throughout the mountains and foothills.

August 2011

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October 2011

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23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

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October 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 B
2 A	3	4	5	6	7	8 Yom Kippur
9 B	10 Columbus Day	11	12	13	14	15
16 A	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 B A 30	24 Halloween 31	25	26	27	28	29

Rocky Mountain Goat
The mountain goat was introduced deliberately to Colorado, to expand hunting opportunities. They mostly stay in their high mountain range year around, seldom going below treeline except in severe winter weather.

September 2011

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November 2011

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27	28	29	30			

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November 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 A	2	3	4	5
6 *Daylight Saving Time ends* B	7	8	9	10	11 Veterans' Day	12
13 A	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 B	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Day	25	26
27 A	28	29	30			

Bobcat

Bobcats occur widely in North America, from southern Canada to central Mexico and throughout Colorado. Abundant in foothills, canyons, mesas, and plateaus where brush and woodland provide suitable habitat, bobcats tend to avoid open prairies, tundra, heavy sub-alpine timber, and wetlands.

October 2011

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December 2011

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December 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 A	2	3
4 B	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 A	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 B	19	20	21 Hanukkah *Winter begins*	22	23	24
25 Christmas Day A	26	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve

Coyote

Coyotes live statewide in Colorado and in many areas are quite common. The availability of food plays an important role. They are active day or night, but mostly at dawn and dusk.

November 2011

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January 2012

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2012 at a glance...

January

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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February

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March

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April

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May

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June

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July

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August

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September

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October

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November

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December

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23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

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