

Board of Outfitters & Professional Guides

Mission and philosophy

The Board's mission is to safeguard and promote public health, safety and welfare by maintaining consumer confidence in obtaining professional services through adherence and enforcement of high standards for professional licensing.

Major accomplishments and efficiencies

The Board reviewed thirteen complaints during this time period, of which twelve were against licensed outfitters. Of these complaints, six were mild, three were moderate, and four were of a severe nature. The total number of complaints equals four percent of all licensed outfitters which is down two percent from last year. One of the Board's listed goals is to reduce the number of complaints filed against outfitters, outfitters placed on conditional licenses, and the number receiving public or private reprimands. This appears to be going down in all cases so this Board feels they have followed their agency mission by ensuring outfitter and guide professionalism which in turn helps with the return of clients from year to year.

Three hundred and sixty-one outfitters provided hunts for deer, antelope, elk, black bear, moose, sheep, mountain goat and mountain lion for 10,188 clients; of which 7,593 were successful.

The "Memorandum of Understanding" (MOU) between this Board; the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service – Rocky Mountain and Intermountain Regions; the Wyoming State Land and Farm Loan Office; Bureau of Land Management; the National Park Service; the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the Wyoming Game & Fish Commission has streamlined the issuance of licenses and investigations of fraudulent activity.

Board investigators spent 2,317 hours during the past year on investigations, in-service training, court appearances, covert operations and other investigations.

Problem areas

There is a continuing problem with licensed outfitters who cover the illegal activities of others. County prosecuting attorneys are not always eager to prosecute a suspected illegal outfitter case and these cases are not easy to prove, especially if the case has to do with a private landowner.

General information

Jane E. Flagg, Occupational Licensing Administrator

Agency contact

Jane E. Flagg
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1950 Bluegrass Circle, Suite 280
Cheyenne, WY 82002
jflagg@state.wy.us

Other locations

Glenrock, Mountain View

Year established

1989

Statutory references

W.S. 23-2-406 through 23-2-418 & W.S. 33-1-201

Authorized personnel

4 full-time

Organizational structure

Department of Administration & Information, Wyoming
State Board of Outfitters and Professional Guides

Clients served

Outfitters, Guides, Hunters, Public-at-Large

Budget information

Fund 551 \$311,427

Agency to which group reports

Governor, Department of Administration & Information
(Type 3 Transfer)

Number of members

Seven

Meeting frequency

Five to six times per year

Strategic plan changes

Our investigators will continue to work with the Task Force, which includes members from various law enforcement agencies, to run covert operations and coordinate efforts to reduce illegal outfitting in Wyoming. We plan to enforce the Board's statutes and rules and regulations in a more forceful manner, especially in regards to the "Code of Ethics". We will send "cease and desist" letters to those persons whom we believe are illegally outfitting, informing them of the outfitting laws, and of the penalty for outfitting without a license.

The Board has received an Attorney General's Opinion regarding the landowner exemption for outfitting on private land. The Board will notify all landowners who turned in hunting license coupons to notify them of this opinion as many have been operating illegally (not knowingly), and will work to get them licensed.