

# Horsethief Canyon Challenge NRA YHEC & 4-H Hunting/Outdoor Skills Challenge (An NRA YHEC & 4-H Shooting Sports Regional Event)



Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
Fruita, Colorado

## Horsethief Canyon State Wildlife Area

This YHEC/Hunting/Outdoor Skills challenge is being co-sponsored by the Mesa County 4-H Shooting Sports Programs.

### Shooter Information Packet



# YHEC/Hunting/Outdoor Skills Challenge

- Saturday & Sunday Feb. 18th & 19th, 2012 – Saturday  
Registration/Equipment check 7:00 – 8:30 a.m. Orientation 8:30 a.m.  
Start 9:00 a.m. Sunday Start 8:00 a.m. - Open to all youth and their families.
- At the Horsethief Canyon State Wildlife Area – Fruita, Colorado

## What is the YHEC/Hunting/Outdoor Skills Event?

First, YHEC is short for Youth Hunter Education Challenge and is a program developed by the NRA exclusively for youth and their families who enjoy hunting and the outdoors. **YHEC is NOT a Colorado Hunter Safety Certification Course!** YHEC provides youth and adults with a unique opportunity to test their abilities at a variety of hunting techniques. Through completing a series of events conducted under simulated hunting conditions, participants walk away with an appreciation of all methods of hunting and gain knowledge of all types of game. This training ensures the future of the American hunting tradition as a safe, viable, recreational activity the entire family can enjoy.



The 4-H Shooting Sports Hunting/Outdoor Skills discipline teaches youth a variety of hunting heritage related skills and decision making abilities. The YHEC and 4-H Hunting/Outdoor Skills programs work hand in hand to promote the American heritage of hunting, outdoor knowledge and appreciation. The goal of all 4-H Youth Development programs is youth development. Developing the skills youth need to be productive and positive adults in our society. Decision

making, teamwork, problem solving, being responsible and having high self-esteem are just a few of the many skills 4-H helps to develop.

Youth participants are scored and ranked at this event, the program's competitive edge is diminished as the real "challenge" focuses on personal improvement. By participating in this event, all youth competitors are invited to participate in the annual NRA International YHEC event, conducted in cooperation with the International Hunter Education Association; the event rotates to locations throughout the United States to ensure the greatest number of participants. Top ranked senior (14-18) aged 4-H youth participants will qualify for the National Invitational 4-H Shoot to represent Colorado in the hunting skills contest. The National Invitational 4-H Shoot is held yearly in June.

## The Challenges consists of:

- Muzzleloading Challenge – Shooting muzzleloaders at targets from a variety of unknown distances.
- Light Rifle Challenge – Shooting .22 rifles at targets from a variety of unknown distances.
- Shotgun Challenge – Shooting at clay targets in a variety of ways ... singles, doubles and even running rabbits.
- Archery Challenge – Shooting at 3-D wildlife targets from a variety of hunter challenging positions.
- Hunter's Safety Trail Challenge – Do I shoot or not? These are some of the real life hunting scenarios that will challenge you.
- Orienteering Challenge – Can you find your way using a compass? Can you read a topographic map? If you hunt ... you should know how.



- Wildlife ID Challenge – What animal left that track? What did that feather come from? As a hunter, you need to be aware of game signs ... this will challenge your knowledge.
- Hunter Responsibility Exam – As hunters ... we are all obligated to take care of our environment. Test your knowledge of hunting and our responsibilities.
- Decision Making Challenge – Held along with the Hunter Responsibility Exam, participants

will need to place a couple of “classes” based on a hunting or outdoor scenario. You’ll need to think through your options and make the best decision.

## How many can participate?

Due to the fact that the various Challenge activities require time to complete, we are limiting participation to 100 contestants (youth and adults). First come, first served.

## How much does this cost?

The cost to youth and families is \$40.00 per shooter. This includes .22 ammunition, muzzleloader powder and ball (.50 cal.), shotgun ammunition and all targets.

## Food

Lunch and main course of dinner will be included in the fee. We will be holding a Dutch oven cooking contest for sides and desserts, please bring items to fix your favorite dish.



## What is the deadline to sign up and pay?

You will need to fill out the attached form and send it along with your check for the shooting fees to arrive at the Area Extension Office by no later than Feb. 6th, 2012. This is first come, first served. You will need to make your checks payable to the **Mesa County 4-H**. Send your registration form and check to:

Doug Laes  
1195 22 Road  
Grand Junction, CO 81505

If you have questions or need more information on the YHEC Hunting/Outdoor Skills Challenge you may call Doug Laes ([DougL3@msn.com](mailto:DougL3@msn.com)) at (970) 210-7100, Dennis Quinn ([dqfieldservice@gmail.com](mailto:dqfieldservice@gmail.com)) at (970) 242-2831, Billy Johnson ([deliveryman\\_970@yahoo.com](mailto:deliveryman_970@yahoo.com)) at (970) 245-6282, or Jon Kobylarz ([kzinca@bresnan.net](mailto:kzinca@bresnan.net)) at (970) 434-4897.

## What do I need to bring?

Shooters are encouraged to bring their own sporting arms (shotguns, .22 rifles & muzzleloaders) and bows (with arrows). In addition, shooters will need to provide adequate eye and ear protection. We will be providing the following:

- .22 cal. long rifle ammunition
- 12 ga. & 20 ga. light field loads and all clay targets
- .50 cal. round ball, Pyrodex black powder, caps and patches
- All targets for the various challenges



Due to differences in and variety of bows, we **will not** be supplying arrows for personal bows!

## What if I don't have everything?

Don't worry; we will have a limited number of sporting arms and bows for contestants to use for the various challenges. We want all contestants to try all the challenges ... so if you don't have something and you can't borrow one ... come anyway, we'll make sure you have something to shoot with.

## Miscellaneous items:

- Concessions will be available at the contest site. Since our weather is variable, have plenty of hydration liquids with you.
- Restrooms are available at various locations in the contest area (you may have a short hike to them in some instances).
- Be prepared for a variety of weather conditions ... including rain and snow. (Remember, this is early February and anything can happen.) Bring your coats & rain gear.
- If there are parents, adults or older youth who would like to help running a challenge, let us know. You do not have to have experience. We will teach you what you need to know.

## Contest Notes:

### February 18

7:00 Registration/Equipment Check  
8:30 Orientation  
9:00 Relay 1  
10:30 Relay 2  
12:00 Lunch  
1:00 Relay 3  
2:30 Relay 4  
4:00 Relay 5  
5:30 Dutch oven cooking contest prep  
6:00 Wildlife Id & Decision Making Test (Indoor location)  
8:00 Dinner

### February 19

8:00 Relay 6  
9:30 Relay 7  
11:00 Relay 8  
1:00 Awards



# Horsethief Canyon Challenge

## 2012 YHEC/Hunting/Outdoor Skills Event Registration

### Feb. 18 & 19th, 2012

Contact Person (Adult): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please Check All That Apply: (Deadline: February 6, 2011)*

Name:	Age	4-H (Y/N)	HS (Y/N)	WHEP (Y/N)	HSC (Y/N)	Contest Fee
						\$40.00
						\$40.00
						\$40.00
						\$40.00
						\$40.00
						\$40.00
						\$40.00
						\$40.00

Age = Age of Youth Participants as of December 31, 2011. Adults indicate "A".

4-H = Current Colorado 4-H Shooting Sports Member

HS = In addition to the YHEC event, scores count to top placing in Hunting Skills contest.  
(Please note that this contest is only open to Colorado 4-H Shooting Sports Members.)

WHEP = 4-H member is involved with the 4-H Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program.

HSC = Does the **Youth** Shooter have a Hunter Safety Card?

Grand Total Cost: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ← Please Enclose This Amount with this Form

**Make Checks Payable To: Mesa County 4-H**

**Mail to: Doug Laes, 1195 22 Road, Grand Junction, CO 81505**

For Office Use Only:

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Receipt Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Contestant Number: \_\_\_\_\_