FACT SHEET

**The Transportation System**
There are: 4 million miles of roadways in the United States
243 million total registered vehicles
136 million registered passenger cars

**Frequent Large Mammal Roadkill Facts**
Average deer weight: 125-300 pounds
Average deer shoulder height: 3.5 feet
Average moose weight: males 1200-1600 pounds, females 900 pounds
Average moose shoulder height: 6.2 feet

**Threats to People**
There are 725,000 to 1.5 million wildlife-vehicle collisions (WVCs) in the U.S. every year
Over 200 human fatalities annually
From 2000-2006, wildlife-related crashes in the United States have claimed 2,307 human lives
WVCs cause 29,000 human injuries annually
Over a billion dollars in property damage annually
While only 2% of deer-car collisions result in human fatalities, 85% of deer-motorcycle collisions result in human fatalities
Car-deer crashes in Michigan occur about every eight minutes
More than 75,000 deer are killed in New York every year by vehicle collisions
6 percent of accidents in Colorado are with wildlife, and can be as high as 25 percent in some areas
Deer-vehicle crashes occur most frequently from October to December
Collisions causing human fatalities rose 67% from 1994 to 2006

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**Positive Steps**
In Banff National Park in Alberta, Canada, 22 wildlife underpasses and two overpasses have reduced roadkill 80 percent

In Colorado from 1993-2003:
- 26,678 WVCs
- 23 human deaths from WVCs
- 2,266 injuries
- 22,388 damaged vehicles
- $2,000 average vehicle repair cost
- $50 million in total damage costs (2003 dollars)

Young drivers ages 15-24 are more likely to be involved in a car accident with a large animal than any other age group.
Almost half of all wildlife-related car accidents are because the driver swerved to avoid an animal crossing the road

For the latest updates, visit WatchOutForWildlife.org
Watch Out For Wildlife

Citations


ii Ibid

iii Ibid

http://www.trb.org/trbnet/ProjectDisplay.asp?ProjectID=104

v Ibid


http://www.trb.org/trbnet/ProjectDisplay.asp?ProjectID=104

viii Ibid

ix Critter Crashes: How to Avoid Deer and Other Animals on a Motorcycle. 2004.
http://www.motorcyclecruiser.com/streetsurvival/preventing_fatal_deer_accidents/

x Michigan Department of Transportation. Michigan specialists to attend deer-vehicle crash workshop.
http://www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,1607,7-151-9620_11057-25787--,00.html

xi State turns dead deer into compost.

xii Building the great wall of Eagle County.

xiii Midwestern States Among Most Dangerous for Vehicles Striking Deer
http://www.statefarm.com/about/media/media_archive/deer.asp


http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5330a1.htm

xvii Ibid


xix Wildlife Collision Prevention Program
http://www.wildlifeaccidents.ca/thefacts.htm

xx The News-Press, July 22 2007, Florida Panther Dwindling Kingdom
http://myfwc.com/whatsnew/07/statewide/panther-rk.html

xxi Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.
http://myfwc.com/whatsnew/07/statewide/panther-rk.html

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