

## Ryel takes over as manager for district wildlife

Written by Kyle Arnoldy

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In her search for a higher quality and slower pace of life, Aimee Ryel has taken over as the new district wildlife manager for Phillips and Sedgwick counties.

Having spent the past 13 years in Loveland as the district wildlife manager and the two years prior to that in Denver, Ryel stated that she is looking forward to living in a rural community again. She noted that working in the city can be “overwhelming and life-stealing.”

With a week under her belt in northeastern Colorado, Ryel is focusing on identifying the needs of the community and the needs of the wildlife. She has also placed an emphasis on getting to know as many people as possible. Developing relationships with the people of the community is something she is very much looking forward to.

As the district wildlife manager, Ryel will be responsible for public outreach, hunter recruitment and retention and a number of educational courses throughout the year. She stated that her favorite part of the job is “the people and the opportunity to do a variety of jobs. No two days are the same.”

Ryel’s initial interest in the field came when she was growing up in a rural community in Brighton.

“I always just had an interest in the outdoors and knew I was never going to be able to work in an office; little did I know how much paperwork a government job has,” Ryel joked. “I was fortunate enough to go to Colorado State University, and the job found me.”

During her time at CSU, Ryel studied wildlife biology.

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In her free time, Ryel said she enjoys gardening, canning, crafts and exploring.

Holyoke Enterprise February 7, 2013