Job: E2

## Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Project №: W-15-R Title of Job: Spring 2019 Turkey Hunter Survey



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The spring turkey hunter survey is conducted each year at the end of the spring season. In 2019, the spring season closed on 31 May. The objective of the survey is to obtain information on the spring turkey harvest and success, to determine age and sex of the harvest, and to assess characteristics of the hunt and hunters (e.g., satisfaction). This year's survey was available to hunters from 14-28 June 2019, inclusive. A summary of estimated harvest and success is available in a separate report, *2019 Spring Wild Turkey Harvest*.

*Caveats*. The spring Wild Turkey Hunter Survey samples spring turkey hunters who provided valid email addresses at the time they purchased their permit(s). As such, the sample frame may be biased and not strictly generalizable to the population of all spring turkey hunters. For the spring 2019 season, however, 72.2% of unique, individual permit buyers provided an email address. A reminder email was sent to all non-respondents one week after the initial invitation was sent, but no further attempts were made to contact hunters who failed to respond to the survey. Therefore, results might be biased toward successful hunters, if successful hunters respond more readily to harvest surveys. There is some evidence that responses were biased with respect to residency, sex, and age (see 2019 Spring Wild Turkey Harvest report); non-residents and men were over-represented among respondents, and were older compared to all permit buyers or the survey sample.

*Interpretations*. Non-resident hunters during the spring 2019 season came largely from Colorado and Minnesota, and residents from Lancaster, Douglas, and Sarpy Counties. Most resident hunters did not hunt in other states (94%), but the majority of non-residents (76%) had hunted in other states, including Kansas and Minnesota. Spring 2019 turkey hunters spent an average of 4.9 days afield hunting turkeys. Dawes and Lincoln Counties were reported as being hunted in most frequently. Whereas residents were not pursuing a specific subspecies (76%), non-residents reported pursuing Merriam's more than other subspecies (47%). Almost all resident (97%) and non-resident (94%) hunters would hunt Nebraska again based on their experiences in the spring of 2019. Although in general, most hunters did not think they saw too many hunters, hunters in the Northwest region may be beginning to see some crowding. Among resident hunters, availability of permits, turkey abundance, and having family in the state were most important in their decision to hunt in Nebraska. Among non-residents, subspecies available, the number of permits allowed per hunter, and success rates were also important. Non-resident hunters spent, on average, 4.57 days in Nebraska during their spring hunts.

*Take-home Message*: Spring turkey hunting continues to be a popular and satisfying experience for turkey hunters. Although crowding is not generally an issue in Nebraska, hunters in the Northwest appeared less comfortable with the number of hunters they encountered compared to other regions.

*Methods*. This year's survey was composed and administered in-house using Snap Survey development software (Snap v11) and Snap Webhosting service. An initial invitation to participate in the survey for the spring 2019 season was sent to 15,726 permit buyers (72.2% of unique permit buyers), but 630 were bounced back as undeliverable, giving an effective sample size of 15,096 permitted hunters. Initial invitations were emailed on 14 June 2019, and a reminder email was sent to all non-responding hunters on 21 June 2019. The survey was closed on 28 June 2019. The survey was also available on the NGPC website for hunters who did not have valid emails associated with their permits. The website survey was open over the same period as the invitation-only version. At the end of the survey period, responses had been received from 2,807 spring turkey hunters, representing 4,050 individual permits for the spring 2019 season. The raw response rate was, therefore, 18.6% and the permit response rate was 26.8%. Each survey respondent represented 7.8 spring 2019 permit buyers.

**Results**. Below are figures and tables that summarize hunter responses to survey questions. In most cases, the results are presented for residents, non-residents, and all hunters combined.

| Table 1. | Statistics on time | respondents spent | (in minutes) | taking the 2019 survey. |
|----------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
|----------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------|

|                       | Descriptive Statistics                               |     |       |   |     |   |  |  |  |
|-----------------------|--|-----|-------|---|-----|---|--|--|--|
|                       | Total Minimum Maximum Median Mean Standard Deviation |     |       |   |     |   |  |  |  |
| Duration of interview | 2,807  | 0.6 | 253.2 | 7 | 8.3 | 8 |  |  |  |

**Table 2**. Top ten states in which spring 2019 nonresident turkey hunters (n = 1,503) resided and raw number of respondents from each.

| State of residence |     |     |
|--------------------|-----|-----|
| Colorado           | 280 | 19% |
| Minnesota          | 152 | 10% |
| Missouri           | 105 | 7%  |
| Arkansas           | 100 | 7%  |
| Mississippi        | 74  | 5%  |
| lowa               | 72  | 5%  |
| Wisconsin          | 57  | 4%  |
| Illinois           | 55  | 4%  |
| Indiana            | 49  | 3%  |
| Georgia            | 41  | 3%  |

**Table 3.** Number and percent of non-residentswho reported having been a Nebraskan at somepoint in the past.

| Have you ever been a resident |      |
|-------------------------------|------|
| the state of Nebraska?        |      |
| Yes                           | 125  |
| Tes l                         | 8%   |
| No                            | 1349 |
| NO                            | 92%  |

**Table 4**. Among Nebraska residents, top 10 counties of residence and raw number of respondents from each for the spring 2019 turkey season.

| County |           |     |     |
|--------|-----------|-----|-----|
|        | Lancaster | 207 | 16% |
|        | Douglas   | 159 | 12% |
|        | Sarpy     | 95  | 7%  |
|        | Buffalo   | 50  | 4%  |
|        | Hall      | 47  | 4%  |
|        | Adams     | 37  | 3%  |
|        | Madison   | 33  | 3%  |
|        | Seward    | 29  | 2%  |
|        | Platte    | 28  | 2%  |
|        | Saunders  | 28  | 2%  |

| Table 5. Resident, non-resident, and total number of hunters reporting hunting wild turkey in states othe | r |
|---|---|
| than Nebraska during the spring 2019 season.  |   |

| Did you hunt turkeys during the spring 2019 season in any state other than Nebraska? | Total | Resident | Non-resident |
|--|-------|----------|--------------|
| Voc  | 1216  | 78       | 1138         |
| Yes  | 43%   | 6%       | 76%          |
| No   | 1591  | 1227     | 364          |
| No   | 57%   | 94%      | 24%          |

**Table 6**. State most frequently hunted by resident, non-resident, and all hunters who indicated that they hunted in states other than Nebraska during the spring 2019 turkey season.

| Total       |     |     | Resident     |    |     | Non-resident |     |     |
|-------------|-----|-----|--------------|----|-----|--------------|-----|-----|
| Kansas      | 147 | 13% | Kansas       | 20 | 43% | Kansas       | 127 | 11% |
| Minnesota   | 95  | 8%  | lowa         | 5  | 11% | Minnesota    | 95  | 8%  |
| Missouri    | 89  | 8%  | South Dakota | 4  | 9%  | Missouri     | 87  | 8%  |
| Colorado    | 74  | 6%  | Texas        | 3  | 7%  | Colorado     | 72  | 6%  |
| Iowa        | 68  | 6%  | Colorado     | 2  | 4%  | lowa         | 63  | 6%  |
| Wisconsin   | 60  | 5%  | Missouri     | 2  | 4%  | Wisconsin    | 60  | 5%  |
| Mississippi | 59  | 5%  | Oklahoma     | 2  | 4%  | Mississippi  | 59  | 5%  |
| Arkansas    | 55  | 5%  | Wyoming      | 2  | 4%  | Arkansas     | 55  | 5%  |
| Texas       | 40  | 3%  | Delaware     | 1  | 2%  | Illinois     | 37  | 3%  |
| Illinois    | 38  | 3%  | Florida      | 1  | 2%  | Texas        | 37  | 3%  |

| Table 7. Number of resident, non-resident, and total respondents who indicated whether they hunted |
|--|
| turkeys in Nebraska during the spring 2019 spring turkey season.                                   |

| Did you hunt turkeys in Nebraska during the spring 2019 season? | Total | Resident | Non-resident |
|---|-------|----------|--------------|
| Yes   | 2730  | 1246     | 1484         |
| Tes L   | 97%   | 95%      | 99%          |
| No  | 77    | 59       | 18           |
| No  | 3%    | 5%       | 1%           |

**Table 8**. Total and average number of days afield during the 2019 spring turkey season reported by resident,non-resident, and total hunter respondents who hunted.

| How many days did you hunt turkeys during the 2019 spring season? | Total | Resident | Non-resident |
|---|-------|----------|--------------|
| Total   | 13424 | 7246     | 6178         |
| Days per hunter   | 4.92  | 5.82     | 4.16         |

**Table 9**. Top 10 counties resident, non-resident, and all hunters reported hunting in most frequently duringthe 2019 spring turkey-hunting season.

| Total     |     |    | Resi      | dent |    | Non-resident |     |     |
|-----------|-----|----|-----------|------|----|--------------|-----|-----|
| Dawes     | 173 | 7% | Lancaster | 73   | 6% | Dawes        | 149 | 11% |
| Unknown   | 128 | 5% | Knox      | 46   | 4% | Unknown      | 125 | 9%  |
| Lincoln   | 112 | 4% | Lincoln   | 43   | 4% | Lincoln      | 69  | 5%  |
| Knox      | 103 | 4% | Cass      | 42   | 4% | Custer       | 58  | 4%  |
| Custer    | 94  | 4% | Custer    | 36   | 3% | Knox         | 57  | 4%  |
| Lancaster | 78  | 3% | Otoe      | 35   | 3% | Frontier     | 43  | 3%  |
| Holt      | 72  | 3% | Seward    | 34   | 3% | Harlan       | 42  | 3%  |
| Frontier  | 63  | 2% | Holt      | 32   | 3% | Hitchcock    | 41  | 3%  |
| Harlan    | 58  | 2% | Gage      | 31   | 3% | Red Willow   | 41  | 3%  |
| Keya Paha | 56  | 2% | Saunders  | 29   | 2% | Holt         | 40  | 3%  |

| Subspecies               | Total | Resident | Non-resident |
|--------------------------|-------|----------|--------------|
| Fastara                  | 240   | 143      | 97           |
| Eastern                  | 9%    | 12%      | 7%           |
| Marriania                | 882   | 192      | 690          |
| Merriam's                | 33%   | 16%      | 47%          |
| Die Crende               | 237   | 40       | 197          |
| Rio Grande               | 9%    | 3%       | 13%          |
| No porticular subspacios | 1595  | 934      | 661          |
| No particular subspecies | 59%   | 76%      | 45%          |

**Table 10**. Turkey sub-species resident, non-resident and total hunters reported pursuing during the 2019spring turkey season. The sub-species with the greatest share of hunters is highlighted.

**Table 11**. Top 10 counties of harvest for the first turkey harvested for resident, non-resident, and totalhunters during the 2019 spring turkey season.

| То        | tal |    | Resi      | dent |    | Non-re     | sident |    |
|-----------|-----|----|-----------|------|----|------------|--------|----|
| Lincoln   | 93  | 5% | Lancaster | 40   | 5% | Dawes      | 77     | 7% |
| Dawes     | 92  | 5% | Custer    | 27   | 4% | Lincoln    | 67     | 6% |
| Custer    | 87  | 5% | Lincoln   | 26   | 3% | Custer     | 60     | 6% |
| Knox      | 75  | 4% | Gage      | 25   | 3% | Knox       | 50     | 5% |
| Holt      | 61  | 3% | Knox      | 25   | 3% | Holt       | 45     | 4% |
| Frontier  | 51  | 3% | Otoe      | 24   | 3% | Frontier   | 37     | 4% |
| Cherry    | 47  | 3% | Cass      | 22   | 3% | Harlan     | 36     | 3% |
| Harlan    | 46  | 3% | Seward    | 20   | 3% | Cherry     | 34     | 3% |
| Keya Paha | 45  | 2% | Douglas   | 17   | 2% | Red Willow | 34     | 3% |
| Lancaster | 45  | 2% | Saunders  | 17   | 2% | Keya Paha  | 33     | 3% |

**Table 12**. Top 10 counties of harvest for the second turkey harvested for resident, non-resident, and totalhunters during the 2019 spring turkey season.

| То         | tal |    | Resi      | dent |    | Non-re     | sident |    |
|------------|-----|----|-----------|------|----|------------|--------|----|
| Custer     | 30  | 5% | Lancaster | 13   | 8% | Knox       | 24     | 6% |
| Knox       | 30  | 5% | Dawes     | 8    | 5% | Custer     | 23     | 6% |
| Dawes      | 28  | 5% | Morrill   | 8    | 5% | Holt       | 22     | 6% |
| Holt       | 27  | 5% | Custer    | 7    | 4% | Lincoln    | 22     | 6% |
| Lincoln    | 27  | 5% | Knox      | 6    | 3% | Dawes      | 20     | 5% |
| Frontier   | 22  | 4% | Otoe      | 6    | 3% | Frontier   | 18     | 5% |
| Cherry     | 18  | 3% | Gage      | 5    | 3% | Red Willow | 15     | 4% |
| Red Willow | 18  | 3% | Holt      | 5    | 3% | Boyd       | 14     | 4% |
| Boyd       | 16  | 3% | Lincoln   | 5    | 3% | Cherry     | 14     | 4% |
| Keya Paha  | 15  | 3% | Pawnee    | 5    | 3% | Keya Paha  | 14     | 4% |

| То         | tal |    | Resi     | dent |    | Non-re    | sident |    |
|------------|-----|----|----------|------|----|-----------|--------|----|
| Lincoln    | 8   | 5% | Saunders | 3    | 8% | Lincoln   | 7      | 6% |
| Custer     | 7   | 5% | Buffalo  | 2    | 5% | Custer    | 6      | 5% |
| Dawes      | 6   | 4% | Dawes    | 2    | 5% | Holt      | 6      | 5% |
| Holt       | 6   | 4% | Douglas  | 2    | 5% | Dundy     | 5      | 4% |
| Knox       | 6   | 4% | Knox     | 2    | 5% | Antelope  | 4      | 4% |
| Buffalo    | 5   | 3% | Morrill  | 2    | 5% | Dawes     | 4      | 4% |
| Dundy      | 5   | 3% | Nemaha   | 2    | 5% | Gage      | 4      | 4% |
| Red Willow | 5   | 3% | Adams    | 1    | 3% | Keya Paha | 4      | 4% |
| Antelope   | 4   | 3% | Brown    | 1    | 3% | Knox      | 4      | 4% |
| Dawson     | 4   | 3% | Cass     | 1    | 3% | Pawnee    | 4      | 4% |

**Table 13**. Top 10 counties of harvest for the <u>third</u> turkey harvested for resident, non-resident, and totalhunters during the 2019 spring turkey season.

**Table 14**. Hunting activity and timing of harvest by week of season for resident, non-resident, and totalhunters during the 2019 spring turkey season.

|                                     | То     | tal       | Resi   | dent      | Non-re | esident   |
|-------------------------------------|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| Week of season                      | Hunted | Harvested | Hunted | Harvested | Hunted | Harvested |
| Archery & Youth                     | 404    | 148       | 232    | 58        | 172    | 90        |
| Archery (25 March-6<br>April)       | 8%     | 8%        | 8%     | 7%        | 10%    | 9%        |
| Youth                               | 264    | 62        | 200    | 40        | 64     | 22        |
| Shotgun/Archery (7<br>April-31 May) | 5%     | 3%        | 6%     | 5%        | 4%     | 2%        |
| Week 1, any weapon                  | 869    | 361       | 555    | 164       | 314    | 197       |
| (14-20 April)                       | 18%    | 20%       | 18%    | 20%       | 18%    | 20%       |
| Week 2, any weapon                  | 847    | 355       | 568    | 177       | 279    | 178       |
| (21-27 April)                       | 17%    | 20%       | 18%    | 22%       | 16%    | 18%       |
| Week 3, any weapon                  | 796    | 281       | 500    | 132       | 296    | 149       |
| (28 April-4 May)                    | 16%    | 16%       | 16%    | 16%       | 17%    | 15%       |
| Week 4, any weapon                  | 688    | 244       | 415    | 101       | 273    | 143       |
| (5-11 May)                          | 14%    | 14%       | 13%    | 12%       | 15%    | 15%       |
| Week 5, any weapon                  | 529    | 190       | 323    | 70        | 206    | 120       |
| (12-18 May)                         | 11%    | 11%       | 10%    | 9%        | 12%    | 12%       |
| Late Season, any                    | 469    | 160       | 289    | 73        | 180    | 87        |
| weapon (19-31 May)                  | 10%    | 9%        | 9%     | 9%        | 10%    | 9%        |

| and total hunters during |  |
|--------------------------|--|

|                |      | Tota | al  |     | Resident |     |     |    | Non-resident |     |     |     |
|----------------|------|------|-----|-----|----------|-----|-----|----|--------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Number         |      |      |     |     |          |     |     |    |              |     |     |     |
| harvested      | 0    | 1    | 2   | 3   | 0        | 1   | 2   | 3  | 0            | 1   | 2   | 3   |
| Adult males    | 224  | 1037 | 346 | 133 | 129      | 454 | 102 | 33 | 95           | 583 | 244 | 100 |
| (toms)         | 13%  | 60%  | 20% | 8%  | 18%      | 63% | 14% | 5% | 9%           | 57% | 24% | 10% |
| Juvenile males | 970  | 380  | 47  | 6   | 381      | 209 | 22  | 5  | 589          | 171 | 25  | 1   |
| (jakes)        | 69%  | 27%  | 3%  | 0%  | 62%      | 34% | 4%  | 1% | 75%          | 22% | 3%  | 0%  |
| Bearded hens   | 1232 | 18   | 1   | -   | 535      | 8   | -   | -  | 697          | 10  | 1   | -   |
| Bearded nens   | 98%  | 1%   | 0%  | -   | 99%      | 1%  | -   | -  | 98%          | 1%  | 0%  | -   |
| Unknown        | 1235 | 3    | 1   | -   | 537      | -   | -   | -  | 698          | 3   | 1   | -   |
| age/sex        | 100% | 0%   | 0%  | -   | 100%     | -   | -   | -  | 99%          | 0%  | 0%  | -   |

| Table 15.         Number of turkeys harvested by age and sex by resident, non-resident, and total hunters during |
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| the 2019 spring turkey season. Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding errors.                           |

**Table 16**. Allocation of harvest by residents, non-residents, and total hunters between private land where permission was required to hunt and public lands during the 2019 spring season. Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding errors.

|   |             | Tot         | al         |            |            | Resid      | ent        |           | Non-resident |            |            |           |
|---|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|--------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Turkeys<br>harvested<br>on                              | 0           | 1           | 2          | 3          | 0          | 1          | 2          | 3         | 0            | 1          | 2          | 3         |
| private land<br>where<br>permission<br>was<br>required? | 230<br>17%  | 1007<br>81% | 381<br>88% | 144<br>85% | 82<br>14%  | 492<br>88% | 125<br>85% | 45<br>82% | 148<br>19%   | 515<br>76% | 256<br>89% | 99<br>86% |
| land open<br>to public<br>hunting?                      | 1147<br>83% | 235<br>19%  | 53<br>12%  | 26<br>15%  | 522<br>86% | 69<br>12%  | 22<br>15%  | 10<br>18% | 625<br>81%   | 166<br>24% | 31<br>11%  | 16<br>14% |

Figure 1. Resident and non-resident hunters' rating of the number of turkeys observed during the spring 2019 turkey season. Median score indicated by black dot.

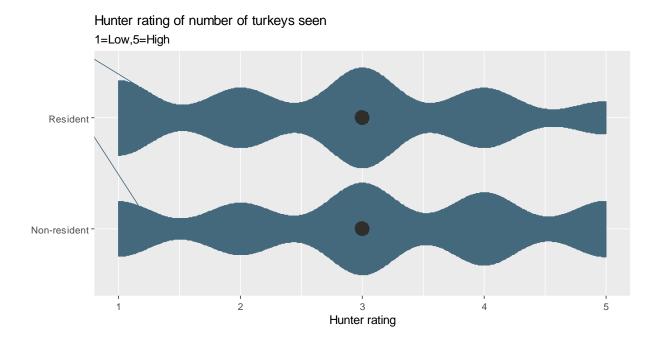
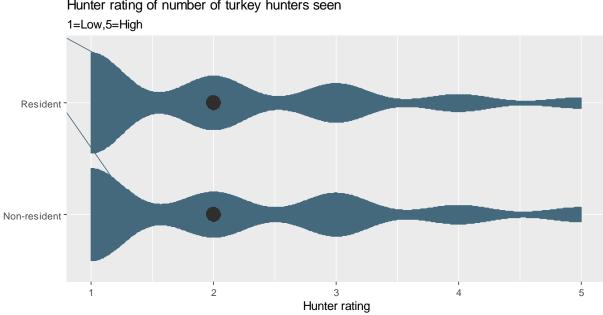


Figure 2. Resident, non-resident, and total hunter rating of the number of turkey hunters encountered during the spring 2019 turkey season.



Hunter rating of number of turkey hunters seen

| Table 17. Resident and non-resident agreement with statements related to their hunting experiences in Nebraska during the 2019 spring turkey |
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| season. The agreement scores for each item with the highest frequency of selection by respondents is highlighted.                            |

|   |                      |     | Total   |     |                   |                      |     | Resident |     |                   |                      | N   | on-resider | nt  |                  |
|---|----------------------|-----|---------|-----|-------------------|----------------------|-----|----------|-----|-------------------|----------------------|-----|------------|-----|------------------|
|   | Strongly<br>Disagree |     | Neutral |     | Strongly<br>Agree | Strongly<br>Disagree |     | Neutral  |     | Strongly<br>Agree | Strongly<br>Disagree |     | Neutral    |     | Strongly<br>Agee |
| "I saw too<br>many  | 1421                 | 595 | 465     | 126 | 120               | 668                  | 266 | 205      | 45  | 61                | 753                  | 329 | 260        | 81  | 59               |
| hunters"  | 52%                  | 22% | 17%     | 5%  | 4%                | 54%                  | 21% | 16%      | 4%  | 5%                | 51%                  | 22% | 18%        | 5%  | 4%               |
| "I was<br>satisfied with<br>the number                    | 389                  | 500 | 631     | 655 | 554               | 217                  | 253 | 297      | 296 | 183               | 172                  | 247 | 334        | 359 | 371              |
| of turkeys<br>seen"                                       | 14%                  | 18% | 23%     | 24% | 20%               | 17%                  | 20% | 24%      | 24% | 15%               | 12%                  | 17% | 23%        | 24% | 25%              |
| "I was<br>satisfied with<br>the amount                    | 294                  | 408 | 1162    | 504 | 322               | 177                  | 217 | 526      | 207 | 107               | 117                  | 191 | 636        | 297 | 215              |
| of land open<br>to public<br>hunting"                     | 11%                  | 15% | 43%     | 19% | 12%               | 14%                  | 18% | 43%      | 17% | 9%                | 8%                   | 13% | 44%        | 20% | 15%              |
| "Overall, I<br>was satisfied<br>with the<br>guality of my | 142                  | 299 | 593     | 833 | 859               | 79                   | 162 | 304      | 371 | 327               | 63                   | 137 | 289        | 462 | 532              |
| hunting<br>experience"                                    | 5%                   | 11% | 22%     | 31% | 32%               | 6%                   | 13% | 24%      | 30% | 26%               | 4%                   | 9%  | 19%        | 31% | 36%              |

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|   |                      | "I saw too mar       | iy hunters." |         |     |                   |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|---------|-----|-------------------|
|   | Turkeys<br>Harvested | Strongly<br>Disagree |              | Neutral |     | Strongly<br>Agree |
| uo  | 0                    | 69                   | 55           | 67      | 16  | 23                |
| stec  | 0                    | 30%                  | 24%          | 29%     | 7%  | 10%               |
| arve  | 1                    | 538                  | 235          | 166     | 45  | 22                |
| iys h<br>e lan  | 1                    | 53%                  | 23%          | 17%     | 4%  | 2%                |
| f turkeys hai<br>Private land   | 2                    | 234                  | 61           | 59      | 12  | 15                |
| Pr  | 2                    | 61%                  | 16%          | 15%     | 3%  | 4%                |
| uber  | 3                    | 64                   | 36           | 26      | 7   | 10                |
| Nun   | 3                    | 45%                  | 25%          | 18%     | 5%  | 7%                |
| l on  | 0                    | 626                  | 246          | 193     | 47  | 34                |
| Sted  | 0                    | 55%                  | 21%          | 17%     | 4%  | 3%                |
| arve<br>ing (   | 1                    | 76                   | 60           | 61      | 16  | 22                |
| iys h<br>clud   | 1                    | 32%                  | 26%          | 26%     | 7%  | 9%                |
| urke<br>d (in   | 2                    | 15                   | 12           | 12      | 7   | 7                 |
| Number of turkeys harvested on public land (including OFW) Private land | 2                    | 28%                  | 23%          | 23%     | 13% | 13%               |
| nber<br>ublic   | 3                    | 4                    | 7            | 11      | 1   | 3                 |
| Nur<br>p  | 3                    | 15%                  | 27%          | 42%     | 4%  | 12%               |

| Table 19. Overall respondent agreement with the statement, "I was satisfied with the number of turkeys I |
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| saw" by number of turkeys harvested on public or private land during the spring 2019 turkey season.      |
| Strongest agreement for each harvest level and land type are highlighted.                                |

|  |                      | "I was satisfied     | l with the numb | er of turkeys I s | aw." |                   |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------|-------------------|
|  | Turkeys<br>Harvested | Strongly<br>Disagree |                 | Neutral           |      | Strongly<br>Agree |
| uo   | 0                    | 21                   | 39              | 59                | 64   | 47                |
| sted   | 0                    | 9%                   | 17%             | 26%               | 28%  | 20%               |
| arve<br>d  |                      | 87                   | 169             | 246               | 287  | 217               |
| ys h<br>e lan  | 1                    | 9%                   | 17%             | 24%               | 29%  | 22%               |
| f turkeys hai<br>Private land                              |                      | 22                   | 53              | 81                | 99   | 126               |
| oft<br>Pr  | 2                    | 6%                   | 14%             | 21%               | 26%  | 33%               |
| Number of turkeys harvested on<br>Private land             | 2                    | 13                   | 21              | 27                | 40   | 43                |
| Nun  | 3                    | 9%                   | 15%             | 19%               | 28%  | 30%               |
| uo (   |                      | 100                  | 188             | 259               | 320  | 279               |
| sted<br>DFW  | 0                    | 9%                   | 16%             | 23%               | 28%  | 24%               |
| arve<br>ing (  |                      | 15                   | 39              | 57                | 68   | 56                |
| ys h,<br>clud  | 1                    | 6%                   | 17%             | 24%               | 29%  | 24%               |
| urke<br>d (in  | 2                    | 7                    | 5               | 14                | 17   | 10                |
| Number of turkeys harvested on public land (including OFW) | 2                    | 13%                  | 9%              | 26%               | 32%  | 19%               |
| nber<br>ublic  | 2                    | -                    | 6               | 8                 | 6    | 6                 |
| nu<br>D  | 3                    | -                    | 23%             | 31%               | 23%  | 23%               |

| season. Strong   | gest agreement for   | each harvest le      | vel and land typ | e are nignlighte | 20.             |                   |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
|  |                      | "I was satisfied     | l with the amou  | nt of land open  | to public hunti | ng."              |
|  | Turkeys<br>Harvested | Strongly<br>Disagree |                  | Neutral          |                 | Strongly<br>Agree |
| uo p   | 0                    | 26                   | 26               | 59               | 72              | 47                |
| stec   | 0                    | 11%                  | 11%              | 26%              | 31%             | 20%               |
| arve   | 1                    | 109                  | 148              | 464              | 175             | 94                |
| f turkeys haı<br>Private land  | 1                    | 11%                  | 15%              | 47%              | 18%             | 9%                |
| urke<br>ivato  | 2                    | 29                   | 47               | 197              | 48              | 53                |
| of t<br>Pr   | 2                    | 8%                   | 13%              | 53%              | 13%             | 14%               |
| lber   | 3                    | 14                   | 27               | 62               | 23              | 16                |
| NUN  |                      | 10%                  | 19%              | 44%              | 16%             | 11%               |
| l on<br>()   |                      | 119                  | 169              | 563              | 177             | 109               |
| Stec   | 0                    | 10%                  | 15%              | 50%              | 16%             | 10%               |
| arve<br>ing (  | 1                    | 25                   | 33               | 56               | 74              | 47                |
| iys h<br>clud  | 1                    | 11%                  | 14%              | 24%              | 31%             | 20%               |
| Number of turkeys harvested on Number of turkeys harvested on public land (including OFW) Private land |                      | 6                    | 6                | 8                | 18              | 15                |
| oft<br>clan  | 2                    | 11%                  | 11%              | 15%              | 34%             | 28%               |
| ublic  |                      | 1                    | 2                | 8                | 11              | 4                 |
| nun<br>Did   | 3                    | 4%                   | 8%               | 31%              | 42%             | 15%               |

Table 20. Overall respondent agreement with the statement, "I was satisfied with the amount of land open to public hunting" by number of turkeys harvested on public or private land during the spring 2019 turkey socon. Strongest agreement for each harvest level and land type are highlighted

| Table 21. Overall respondent agreement with the statement, "Overall, I was satisfied with the quality of my |
|---|
| hunting experience" by number of turkeys harvested on public or private land during the spring 2019 turkey  |
| season. Strongest agreement for each harvest level and land type are highlighted.                           |

|   |                      | "Overall, I was      | satisfied with | the quality of m | y hunting expe | rience."          |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
|   | Turkeys<br>Harvested | Strongly<br>Disagree |                | Neutral          |                | Strongly<br>Agree |
| L<br>L  | 0                    | 10                   | 12             | 47               | 89             | 72                |
| ted o   | 0                    | 4%                   | 5%             | 20%              | 39%            | 31%               |
| d   |                      | 16                   | 80             | 185              | 350            | 373               |
| ys ha<br>e lano   | 1                    | 2%                   | 8%             | 18%              | 35%            | 37%               |
| f turkeys har<br>Private land                                 |                      | 10                   | 18             | 51               | 113            | 189               |
| r of t<br>Pr  | 2                    | 3%                   | 5%             | 13%              | 30%            | 50%               |
| Number of turkeys harvested on<br>Private land                |                      | 3                    | 7              | 22               | 37             | 74                |
| NZ  | 3                    | 2%                   | 5%             | 15%              | 26%            | 52%               |
| L.  |                      | 25                   | 89             | 194              | 373            | 464               |
| ted o<br>FW)  | 0                    | 2%                   | 8%             | 17%              | 33%            | 41%               |
| irves<br>ng O   |                      | 7                    | 10             | 45               | 101            | 72                |
| ys ha<br>cludi  | 1                    | 3%                   | 4%             | 19%              | 43%            | 31%               |
| Number of turkeys harvested on<br>public land (including OFW) |                      | 2                    | 3              | 13               | 22             | 13                |
| r of t<br>c lan   | 2                    | 4%                   | 6%             | 25%              | 42%            | 25%               |
| mbe<br>oubli  |                      | -                    | 1              | 5                | 9              | 11                |
| N   | 3                    | -                    | 4%             | 19%              | 35%            | 42%               |

**Table 22**. Resident, non-resident, and total number of hunters who would hunt turkeys in Nebraska again in the future given their experiences during the 2019 spring season. See Appendix 1 for a list of responses to the question, "If no, why?"

| Response | Total | Resident | Non-resident |
|----------|-------|----------|--------------|
| Yes      | 2608  | 1208     | 1400         |
|          | 96%   | 97%      | 94%          |
| No       | 118   | 36       | 82           |
|          | 4%    | 3%       | 6%           |

**Table 23.** Respondents agreement with the statement, "I saw too many hunters," by Nebraska Game & Parks Commission administrative districts. Agreement was measured on a 5-point scale (1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree), and is based on 2,404 responses. Determination of which district to assign a respondent to was made based on the county the respondent reported they hunted in the most. The most frequent selections are in highlighted. The mean agreement score across regions was 1.87.

|               | "I saw too many hunters." |         |          |          |         |       |          |  |
|---------------|---------------------------|---------|----------|----------|---------|-------|----------|--|
|               | Number of                 | Average | Strongly |          |         |       | Strongly |  |
| District      | Respondents               | Score   | Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Agree    |  |
| Northeast     | 628                       | 1.71    | 361      | 145      | 85      | 19    | 18       |  |
| Northeast     | 020                       | 1.71    | 57.5%    | 23.1%    | 13.5%   | 3.0%  | 2.9%     |  |
| Northwest     | 396                       | 2.25    | 154      | 90       | 84      | 34    | 34       |  |
| Northwest     | 390                       | 2.25    | 38.9%    | 22.7%    | 21.2%   | 8.6%  | 8.6%     |  |
| Southeast     | FGO                       | 1 01    | 311      | 119      | 95      | 27    | 17       |  |
| Southeast     | heast 569 1.81            | 1.81    | 54.7%    | 20.9%    | 16.7%   | 4.7%  | 3.0%     |  |
| Couthwast     | 011                       | 1 07    | 416      | 178      | 151     | 32    | 34       |  |
| Southwest 811 | 1.87                      | 51.3%   | 21.9%    | 18.6%    | 3.9%    | 4.2%  |          |  |

**Table 24**. Respondents agreement with the statement, "I was satisfied with the number of turkeys I saw," by Nebraska Game & Parks Commission administrative districts. Agreement was measured on a 5-point scale (1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree), and is based on 2,404 responses. Determination of which district to assign a respondent to was made based on the county the respondent reported they hunted in the most. The most frequent selections are in highlighted. The mean agreement score across regions was 3.16.

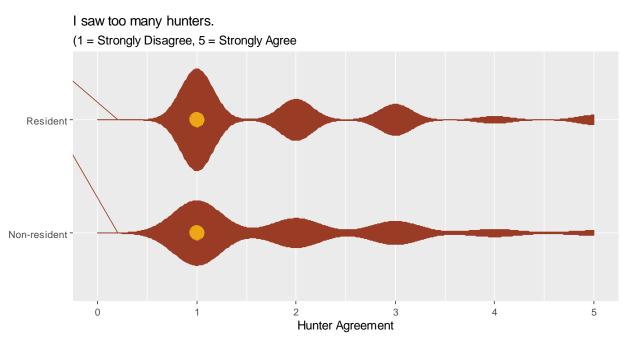
| "I was satisfied with the number of turkeys I saw." |               |         |          |          |         |       |          |
|---|---------------|---------|----------|----------|---------|-------|----------|
|   | Number of     | Average | Strongly |          |         |       | Strongly |
| District  | Respondents   | Score   | Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Agree    |
| Northeast   | 628           | 3.20    | 98       | 112      | 123     | 157   | 138      |
| Northeast   | 020           | 5.20    | 15.6%    | 17.8%    | 19.6%   | 25.0% | 22.0%    |
| Northwest   | 396           | 2.15    | 53       | 86       | 79      | 100   | 78       |
| Northwest   | 390           | 3.15    | 13.4%    | 21.7%    | 19.9%   | 25.3% | 19.7%    |
| Couthoast   | F.C.0         | 2.00    | 85       | 108      | 148     | 143   | 85       |
| Southeast   | Southeast 569 | 3.06    | 14.9%    | 19.0%    | 26.0%   | 25.1% | 14.9%    |
| Southwest 811                                       | 2.20          | 112     | 150      | 189      | 184     | 176   |          |
|   | 3.20          | 13.8%   | 18.5%    | 23.3%    | 22.7%   | 21.7% |          |

**Table 25**. Respondents agreement with the statement, "I was satisfied with the amount of land open to public hunting," by Nebraska Game & Parks Commission administrative districts. Agreement was measured on a 5-point scale (1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree), and is based on 2,404 responses. Determination of which district to assign a respondent to was made based on the county the respondent reported they hunted in the most. The most frequent selections are in highlighted. The mean agreement score across regions was 3.02.

|               | "I was satisfied with the amount of land open to public hunting." |          |          |          |         |       |          |  |
|---------------|---|----------|----------|----------|---------|-------|----------|--|
|               | Number of   | Average  | Strongly |          |         |       | Strongly |  |
| District      | Respondents   | Score    | Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Agree    |  |
| Northeast     | 628   | 2 02     | 68       | 101      | 297     | 93    | 69       |  |
| Northeast     |   | 628 2.93 | 10.8%    | 16.1%    | 47.3%   | 14.8% | 11.0%    |  |
| Northwest     | 200   | 2.25     | 31       | 49       | 126     | 114   | 76       |  |
| Northwest     | 390   | 396 3.35 | 7.8%     | 12.4%    | 31.8%   | 28.8% | 19.2%    |  |
| Couthoost     | 500   | 2.00     | 74       | 103      | 246     | 94    | 52       |  |
| Southeast     | Southeast 569   | 2.90     | 13.0%    | 18.1%    | 43.2%   | 16.5% | 9.1%     |  |
| Southwest 811 | 2.00  | 91       | 116      | 370      | 143     | 91    |          |  |
|               | 3.00  | 11.2%    | 14.3%    | 45.6%    | 17.6%   | 11.2% |          |  |

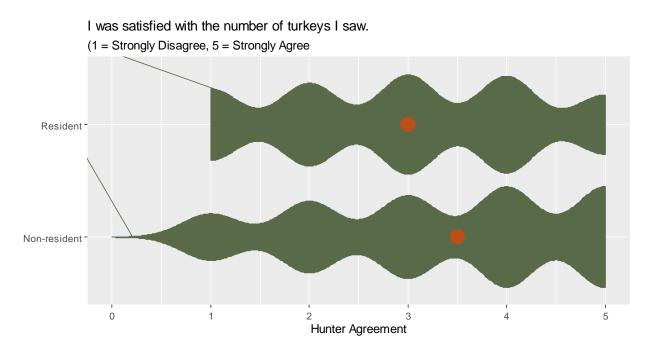
**Table 26**. Respondents agreement with the statement, "Overall, I was satisfied with the quality of my turkey hunting experience," by Nebraska Game & Parks Commission administrative districts. Agreement was measured on a 5-point scale (1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree), and is based on 2,404 responses. Determination of which district to assign a respondent to was made based on the county the respondent reported they hunted in the most. The most frequent selections are in highlighted. The mean agreement score across regions was 3.72.

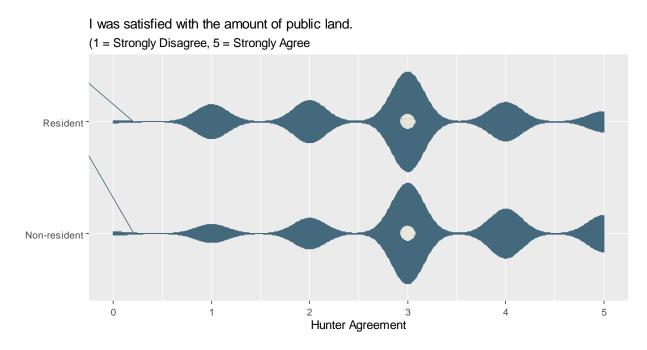
| "Overall, I was satisfied with the quality of my turkey hunting experience." |             |          |          |          |         |       |          |     |     |
|--|-------------|----------|----------|----------|---------|-------|----------|-----|-----|
|  | Number of   | Average  | Strongly |          |         |       | Strongly |     |     |
| District   | Respondents | Score    | Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Agree    |     |     |
| Northeast  | 628         | 2 75     | 34       | 74       | 119     | 188   | 213      |     |     |
| Northeast  | 628         | 628 3.75 | 5.4%     | 11.8%    | 18.9%   | 29.9% | 33.9%    |     |     |
| Northwest  | 200         | 200      | 396      | 2 69     | 21      | 47    | 87       | 118 | 123 |
| Northwest  | 590         | 3.68     | 5.3%     | 11.9%    | 22.0%   | 29.8% | 31.1%    |     |     |
| Southoast  | t EC0       | F.C0     | ECO      | 2.65     | 32      | 63    | 132      | 185 | 157 |
| Southeast 569  | 3.65        | 5.6%     | 11.1%    | 23.2%    | 32.5%   | 27.6% |          |     |     |
| Southwest 811  | 2 76        | 35       | 90       | 171      | 254     | 261   |          |     |     |
|  | 011         | 811 3.76 | 4.3%     | 11.1%    | 21.1%   | 31.3% | 32.2%    |     |     |



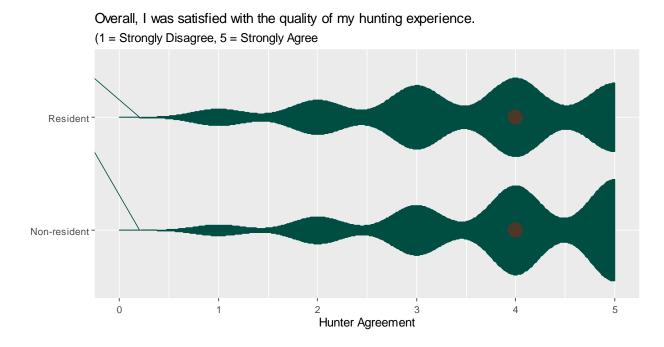
during the spring 2019 turkey season by residency. The dot indicates the median score.

**Figure 4**. Hunter agreement with the statement, "I was satisfied with the number of turkeys I saw," regarding their experiences during the spring 2019 turkey season by residency. The dot indicates the median score.





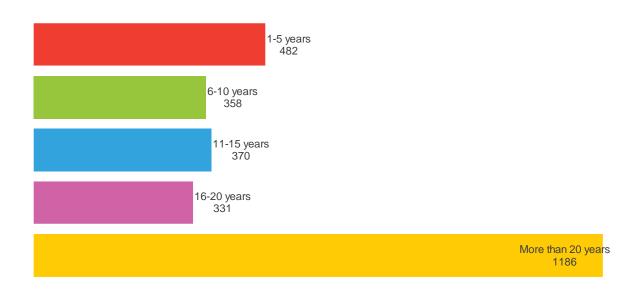
**Figure 6**. Hunter agreement with the statement, "Overall, I was satisfied with the quality of my hunting experience," regarding their experiences during the 2019 spring turkey season by residency. The dot indicates the median score.



|   | Hunters Accompanying | Number Accompanied |
|---|----------------------|--------------------|
| Youth hunters less than 16 years old    | 425                  | 422                |
|   | 45%                  | 422                |
| New adult hunters at least 16 years old | 342                  | 334                |
|   | 37%                  | 554                |
| Women                                   | 272                  | 247                |
|   | 29%                  | 247                |
| Apprentice license holders              | 70                   | 57                 |
|   | 7%                   | 57                 |

**Figure 7**. Total number of years of experience hunting turkeys reported by hunters who hunted during the 2019 spring turkey season.

Total



|  | Total | Resident | Non-resident |
|--|-------|----------|--------------|
| Availability of public land to hunt                  | 705   | 244      | 461          |
|  | 26%   | 20%      | 31%          |
| Family and/or friends who live in state              | 1067  | 532      | 535          |
|  | 40%   | 44%      | 36%          |
| Ability to hunt a different or particular subspecies | 926   | 170      | 756          |
| of turkey  | 34%   | 14%      | 51%          |
| Availability of permits                              | 1655  | 706      | 949          |
|  | 62%   | 59%      | 64%          |
| Permit costs   | 778   | 381      | 397          |
|  | 29%   | 32%      | 27%          |
| Number of permits allowed per hunter                 | 920   | 327      | 593          |
|  | 34%   | 27%      | 40%          |
| Hunter success rate                                  | 944   | 353      | 591          |
|  | 35%   | 29%      | 40%          |
| Turkey population abundance                          | 1461  | 605      | 856          |
|  | 54%   | 50%      | 58%          |
| Other  | 362   | 234      | 128          |
|  | 13%   | 19%      | 9%           |

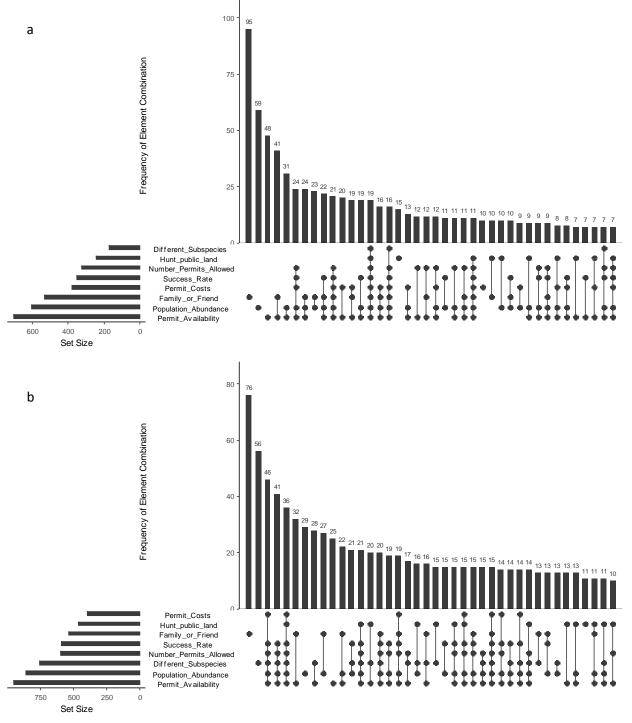
**Table 28**. Factors influencing resident, non-resident, and total hunters' decisions to hunt turkeys in Nebraska during the 2019 spring season. (Choices with  $\geq$ 40% selection are in bold.)

**Figure 8**. Word cloud of hunters' "Other" responses regarding the factors influencing their decision to hunt wild turkeys in Nebraska during the spring 2019 season. See Appendix 2 for a complete list of comments.

If other, please provide further details.



**Figure 9**. Set figure showing frequency of combinations of selections made by resident (a) and non-resident (b) respondents when indicating which factors determined why they hunted in Nebraska during the 2019 spring turkey season. The bar chart in the lower left shows overall frequencies of options. The dot-and-line figure to the right of this bar chart indicates the possible combinations of selections made by respondents. The column chart at the top indicates the frequency of each of the combinations.



**Table 28.** Type of lodging resident, non-resident, and total hunters used when hunting turkeys in Nebraskaduring the 2019 spring season.

|   | Total | Resident | Non-resident |
|---|-------|----------|--------------|
|   | 459   | 459      | 459          |
| Hotel/motel                             | 31%   | 31%      | 31%          |
|   | 19    | 19       | 19           |
| Commercial campground (e.g., KOA)       | 1%    | 1%       | 1%           |
| Public camping site (e.g., state parks) | 204   | 204      | 204          |
|   | 14%   | 14%      | 14%          |
| Private residence of family or friends  | 480   | 480      | 480          |
|   | 32%   | 32%      | 32%          |
| Airbnb or similar service               | 68    | 68       | 68           |
|   | 5%    | 5%       | 5%           |
| Personal residence                      | 115   | 115      | 115          |
|   | 8%    | 8%       | 8%           |
| Other                                   | 139   | 139      | 139          |
|   | 9%    | 9%       | 9%           |

**Figure 10**. Word cloud of hunters' "Other" responses regarding the type of lodging non-resident hunters used while hunting wild turkeys in Nebraska during the spring 2019 season.



**Table 29.** Total number of days non-resident hunters stayed in Nebraska during their spring 2019 turkeyhunt, as well as days per non-resident spring turkey respondent.

|   | Non-residents |
|---|---------------|
| Total days stayed in Nebraska during hunt | 6579          |
| Days per responding hunter                | 4.57          |

**Appendix 1**. Unedited text responses from hunters who indicated that they would not hunt in Nebraska again to the question, "Why not?"

turkey numbers seem to be way down

I am 79 years old. The terrain is lovely but too taxing for my age.

Didn't see many turkeys, and only hens

You guys are killing way to many turkeys in the NW part of the state. You need to go to one tag per person & stop trying to make money of the turkeys! I have been hunting g them.for 35 years I know what I'm talking about.

Too far to drive and tags are too high for lack of birds what were seen.

More hunters than turkeys

non-resident prices are (have been) ridiculously high. You can dismiss this comment by saying you put it vote by the Nebraska residents who - naturally - don't want non-residents adding hunting pressure and who fail to recognize the fuel, food, lodging, and misc income we bring into the state. I would bring my kids (not youth age) if it were cheaper. You would make more in permits, more food, more lodging, etc ... and everyone would win. But I won't do it for \$100+ per permit. It's silly I pay that much for myself.

My son will be 16 in September an no longer qualifies for youth tags, we are slowly being priced out of the hobby. He enjoys hunting 1-2 days a year for deer/turkey, but not worth it for >\$100 in tags, stamps, for 1 deer and 1 turkey. We cannot be losing this hunters during their high school can college years, it is hard to get them back.

Not the numbers if birds I was looking for

Bird numbers seem to be declining over the past five years. I am not sure if it is a general phenomenon or simply the land I have permission to hunt.

Numbers are dropping where I hunt and the birds that remain will NOT respond to a call with decoys as we have always done!

Didnt see or hear many birds at all, worst turkey hunt in my 45 years of hunting.

Not enough turkeys you need to cut out the fall season and cut out jakes for the adults.

Dr. Lusk, My brother and I are from Gering have been hunting Turkeys since the first legal hunt in the 60s. In the last two years we have seen some 120 out of state hunters to just one Nebraskan from Dalton. We have been hunting Dawes County and are disgusted with the Nebr Game and Parks turkey hunting Promotion. The Quality of the hunt has become Zero and so very dangerous. There is not enough Public land with green trees in Dawes County to host this horde of rude and clueless so called hunters. I saw sights this year that I've never seen in my 50 years of hunting. The Game Comm fails to tell these hunters that 1/2 of Dawes, Sheridan and Sioux have been burned by fires over the last 30 years. So where there are green trees there are way too many hunters. Oh and lets shoot a Merriam's Turkey, good luck with that, with crossbreeding and the introduction of Rios has diluted the Merriam's pure strain. Twice I had clueless out of state hunters come into our camp wondering if there brown tail faned turkey was a Merriam's. The Game Comm fails to mention this. But this is a big part of the promotion. We need to stop this promotion to the out of state hunters and return a safe and Quality hunt back to the locals. I own two hunting properties in Western Nebraska and I am done with letting them hunt. We need a change of attitude and not worry about the all mighty dollar and don't let the Governor proclaim our state as the number one turkey state. This does no good. I sent a long letter to Doug Zingula over my concerns and he said the Game Comm would look at it. I won't hold my breath or hunt turkeys again in Nebraska. Thanks for your time Howie

Came for a Merrimam. And I got one. Super experience. If I was younger and had more money I be back time and time again

Appendix 1. Continued

Lack of big mature toms in the area.

Too many hunters not enough turkeys

Turkey numbers are low or they are all highly pressured on public lands. I used to hardly ever run into many other hunters, but this year I couldn't get away from them. Nebraska's advertising for turkey hunting has worked, but it's been at the sacrifice of many hunters' experience.

No turkeys in Nebraska

Too many hunters and not enough turkeys

Too many hunters not enough turkeys!!!!!

Poor gobbler/hen ratios few adult toms on public areas that I hunted (3). Most toms seen on private land not available for hunting. Public land adult male turkeys are overhunted like most states. Saw lots of hens and a fair number of jakes. Season too long especially for public lands.

I have been hunting turkeys in NE for the last 20 years. We have seen the population declining over that time period to the point now that it is not worth the expense to make an out of state trip to NE. We had better hunting at home!

Too many hunters. Too few turkeys on public land in area I hunted.

The outfitter I hunted with had over hunted his land

This was my 5th year hunting Turkey's in Nebraska. We saw more hunters on the first day than we saw all the year before, and the Turkey population was way down from years prior. It will be a few years before I will be back.

Too many hunters for the number of hunters.

The out of state non resident adult cost of tags is getting out of control. I appreciate the cost of youth tags for non residents but it is becoming un affordable as an adult to justify that for Turkey.

Over the last 10 years, I have observed a decreasing trend in turkey numbers. The lack of harvest accountability and required reporting has led to vague harvest reporting and unreliable data. With each hunter allowed to shoot 3 turkeys in the Spring and 2 or more in the Fall, I believe over harvest associated with cyclical turkey populations is leading to the decreasing trend. To sum it up, hunting is additive to decreasing turkey numbers. The Commission and GFP needs to lower the number of tags to 2 in the Spring and 1 in the Fall. Quit looking at turkey sales purely from a monetary standpoint!

If based solely on 2019 I wouldn't travel that far to see two turkeys a day.

No place to stay and not enough birds.

Can't find a reliable outfitter.

Until something is done to get the bird population up in the Northwest corner of the state I will not hunt. Areas like Pine Ridge and Soldier Creeks with public access has to much pressure. There are birds in some of these areas but not enough to handle pressure. There are also birds in places on private lands where public hunters cannot get to them. I would not mind going back to one bird harvest.

Tag price.

Turkey numbers are too low

The price of a tag for a resident turkey hunter is too high. Period.

If you have read my last ten surveys you would know

Low number of birds.

not enough turkeys seen. not 1 was a Merriam's, both were eastern's, maybe hybrids

Appendix 1. Continued.

Turkeys we found were mostly all on private land. Except for a very few, they were not really in the open public areas that we found. From the hype from the state DNR and number of available tags we had expected to see more birds.

Most of the turkeys were on private ground surrounding the National Forest. The timber was burned off on the National Forest leaving most of it wide open. Hotshots told us that the Merriam's population had been dropped a bunch in the last couple of years. So, I doubt that I go back to Nebraska to hunt Merriams.

To many hunters, not nearly enough public land available for those hunters, & not nearly as many turkeys as the 1st year I ever came out to hunt. Every year we see fewer & fewer turkeys than the previous year & more hunters.

I will return as long as I feel you are opening more habitat to public hunting

Lack of access to land

Lack of good hunting opportunities with a reasonable chance of success.

Not enough public land. Landowner permission was more difficult than in neighboring states.

Out of state permits are to expensive. A one time deal to spend time with a resident friend

Where we hunted there wasn't many turkeys

There is not enough land near Hamilton county that has turkeys. This is my four year without one, I will not hunt for them anymore

I have been hunting in Nebraska for over a decade continuously and have seen the numbers steadily declining. This past year was by far the lowest in population size. I believe it is because of reduced underbrush and cover. Ranchers are running cattle in every hedge row and square inch of land possible. The habitat is hammered. Tags are expensive and they just went up

Very little access to public hunting areas in the national forest, most public land is bordered by private land so there is no access to it.

Archery season is just too early- generally poor weather and birds grouped up. Then gun season opens as soon as conditions get decent, and that's of little interest to me. Get super crowded quick on the limited public opportunity. Birds get immediately pushed to private. Most archery hunters I know in Colorado and Nebraska feel the same. Once gun season opens the birds don't get a break.

I will go back to Colorado and New Mexico. Little more of drive but I have seen more birds in both states and limited three years in row. Friend talked me into going with him to Nebraska this year. Saw birds every day but never got bird to work. I did see number of Turkey hunters along road every day but none in field.

Public Hunting there sucks. Poor if any boundary markings or posts. Secondary rural roads to hunting areas which should be gravel roads are nothing but pure mud roads. Can't Nebraska afford to gravel their rural roads like lowa does? That's crazy that people who live there have to deal with such poor road conditions.

Too many hunters. Not enough land

It was near impossible to figure out what was public land and what was private. I have hunted 6 times in Nebraska. My last time was in 2005 and I was really surprised at the low bird numbers. I hunted hard at least 8 hours every day, covered lots of ground, and was shocked.

I will wait for the fall season to better my chances to bag a turkey

I will want to get another state under my belt. I did enjoy Nebraska.

license cost too high

Appendix 1. Continued.

We had a terrible experience. Saw a total of 3 Jake's the whole time we were on "prime" hunting land. We were guaranteed to be successful but walked the majority of the property and didn't see anything for 3 days. Not even hearing gobbles. Saw more turkeys going home back to WI. Very disappointed.

its just too costly. i own an entire quarter of land in Harlan county but still pay over 100\$ to hunt turkeys. plus the travel time etc. i guess ill just hunt turkeys in TN. it really upsets me how much money it costs to hunt out of state turkeys. i'd like to bring my grandsons and or son-in laws. to hunt but its just not worth it.

State areas are over run with hunters.

I'm not really sure, there was a lot of burnt areas, closed off hunting areas, and a lot of cut down trees.

Concerned about overall population of birds, too expensive of a tag to buy when you dont see many birds. I think you need to consider reducing the number of tags people can buy. I dont think its necessary to kill 3 birds per person

Cost of travel.

Probably go to another state with less hunters

4 lion killed mule deer one lion killed Turkey found in 5 days hunting. Too many cats for me

Way too many hunters and very few birds, I even got shot at.

Not sure if it was worth the 20 hour drive

The number of turkeys have dwindled. There's not as many turkeys as there use to be. There seems to be less and less turkeys every year. Please stop the allowing hunters to hunt hens.

Low Turkey #'s. I may hunt again but not in pine ridge national forest. #'s was very bad there. Seen turkeys on private all the way along I80

It was bucket list hunt I got what I wanted a beautiful 4 yr old merriam Turkey.

To many out of state people here hunting and the price of a in state tag is ridiculous for a person to have to spend to go out and see out of state people leasing up the land or hunting on our public grounds

To damn expensive!!!!!!!!!!! \$30.00 for a turkey!! come on,,, You want more people to hunt and you charge to much,,, Hell \$12.50 for 1 turkey is plenty,, Deer is same thing want to kill more longer season and cheaper permits,,,,,,

Hunting area doesn't seem to have the number of Turkey to make with the 270 mile drive.

Didn't see any within range.

Merriams turkeys in the pine ridge district numbers seem lower than expected.

There's not enough public ground and Everytime I see them they're on private ground. It would take so long to figure out who even Owens it to ask permission, I don't see the point in bothering. This is the 3rd or 4th turkey tag I've bought and got skunked for all of them. Better quit while I'm behind.

Did not harvest a turkey after long days. May was very wet.

Almost no turkey seen.. what was seen were hens.. I never did get full draw. Never had a shot .

Not worth effort. No huntable population

I probably will hunt them but not on a regular basis like I used too. The lack of birds and the number of hunters makes the hunting less than enjoyable. Also a lot of those hunters don't have any respect for others.

I have hunted Nebraska 3 times in the last 10 years and hunting pressure is much higher. Turkeys were a lot harder to call in close because of the hunting pressure.

Appendix 1. Continued.

\$109 + 25 = \$134 plus lodging and transportation of another\$500 is too much. It has to be close to the most expensive meat from hunting when considering other small and big game animals and waterfowl and

upland birds in the lower 48 states.. The cost makes it an elitist sport that I can't afford and justify and I can't afford to take my grandsons hunting with me.

Too far to travel.

Very few birds in the area since the farmers have removed most of the habitat. Saw numerous raccoons, skunks, opossums, and coyotes. How about a bounty on those egg eating, hen killing pieces of crap like South Dakota did?

Put in the time on Public Land in the area that I live and did not see a single turkey on huntable public land while hunting.

Other states I feel better quality Birds are if I want to take a merriam quality bird.

didn't see any

Seen serious decline in the population across the last ten years. To the point I'm not certain I will return. This spring was a serious shock to the point I felt concerned about the population. I never thought this would or could happen in the area I have hunted.

Low numbers, poor quality of public hunting land

I feel in Keya Paha county the turkey population is critically low since the fire and has not recovered. Additionally, I have seen first hand an increase of Mountain Lions that I believe are a factor. Last year saw 3, this spring have seen to female with twin cubs on trail cameras.

Way too much pressure and less birds. I've hunted Nebraska 4 out of the last 5 years. Less turkey's every trip. More hunters then ever before.

It's too expensive for non residents and the hunting is less than exceptional

Way to many hunters. Keep seeing advertising for hunters to go there. 5 years ago hunt and hunting pressure wa an awesome experience

The cost of the permit is too high.

Not enough public ground available to hunt and the price of the permit is too high for one bird!

It used to be much easier. The birds are not as many and aren't as active

Not enough birds I think coyotes and bobcats are getting them

Because the small pockets of turkeys are getting hunted to hard and the Toms are shot off and leaves nothing to breed the hens . areas need to be regulated different then just state wide and the Fall turkey hunting period is to long and to many bird on one permitt. I don't even hunt the turkeys on my own land, because of the hunting preasure around it.

really not sure i want to go back but much of the public hunting spots the access roads have been closed plus many trees have been cut down and this year there was several fresh controlled burn spots one was still smoking everywhere and had a couple of actual flaming trees

too many hybrids

I hunted both north and south nebraska. Harlan county lake core land was impossible to hunt due to all the recraeational tragic. The NWTF project lands had been completely destroyed due to trucks mud ridding . I saw 3 hens and 1 gobbler in 5 days. Heard only 2 gobbles. The pine ride had birds but very few. All the birds were scared to death and most all were jake.

Population has crashed at least 75% over the past 5 years in Frontier County.

Nebraska is over selling the turkey season. we don't have that many birds. numbers have been down for the last 5 years in a row... now almost none... Stop over selling to the out of state hunters. focus on management and not on the almighty dollar.... sad. used to be a great turkey hunting state... now just hungry of out of state cash...

**Appendix 2**. Unedited text responses from hunters indicating "other" factors that influenced their decision to hunt turkeys during the spring turkey season in 2019.

Friend invited me on the trip with him

My dad took me to try and harvest a merriams

My dad takes us on Hunting vacations that incorporate family time with a mix of hunting

availability of private land to hunt

Late season compared to my home state

We have a fabulous guide service "Beamers Guide Service"

Good reviews with guide service

Tradition

I hunted on my property

We hunted on private land. Paid out the nose and it was overhunted. He said call birds from eighbors Own land

Own land

Late season. The end of May was the only option for my hunting party.

own farm

Turkey meat

Season starting in March. This is a huge deal to me

Invitation from friends to hunt in NE

Live here. Long Season

My wife and I enjoy Turkey Hunting

early archery only season

enjoy watching them come to call and decoy

i enjoy being outside and hunting turkeys. You get to see and hear many types of wildlife also.

My daughter was invited by a friend for youth hunt.

Proximity to where I live.

Family tradition.

Hunt my own ground

I own 160 acres of land adjoining the Thomas Creek Wildlife Management Area in Keya Paha County

I love hunting and enjoy the challenge and my family enjoys the meat

I hunt my own land in Nebraska

Love turkey hunting

I went with friends who had been there before

I depend on our public lands. I have no where else. Loads of out of state hunters all over

Access to private land

Friends from out of state wanting to hunt here

I enjoy hunting

access to private property

Use to be very few out of state hunters, now that is all we see!

outfitter

Fun activity

Appendix 2. Continued

Something to do. Permit cost is horrible. Lack of public land is embarrassing.

| Because I live in Nebraska   |
|--|
| Just love doing it   |
| My husband has a hunting lease there.  |
| I owe property   |
| Live in the state  |
| Friends  |
| Went with relatives.   |
| A contact friend who lives in SD nearby.   |
| I live here  |
| My land  |
| Thats a bad ? Some of the factors negatively influenced my decision and some positively influenced   |
| l live in Nebraska.  |
| Terrain, landscape   |
| Season that extended through month of May. Friend had hunted in past with high success.              |
| Your state does a FANTASTIC job promoting hunting and outdoor education and I am supportive          |
| Guided hunt  |
| Just the time of year. Fun thing to do, especially with my son, in the spring.                       |
| Travel to see the Sandhill Migration as well, so the timing works. Also just a beautiful state!!     |
| I enjoy turkey hunting and live and own land in Nebraska   |
| Nebraskans are friendly, nice people; it's been fun getting to know them a bit. Plus, good food.     |
| Non resident landowner   |
| A friend passionate about hunting and harvesting wild game   |
| I live here. This survey is more for out of staters eh?  |
| Hunting with a friend  |
| Leased land  |
| Nebraska has over advertised turkey hunting Facebook is bad enough numbers are way down I have hunte |
| Friend owns the land.  |
| Turkeys are on the land that I own and/or farm.  |
| Wast told by outfitter that I could easily get 2 turkeys   |
| Season dates, time off to hunt, hunt Kansas also came in 4 days earlier                              |
| I hunt because of the decades plus that I have hunted the NW corner of the state.                    |
| I have refused to hunt turkey in my home state for the last 4 years because of the price of a permit |
| Enjoying time with friends   |
| I hunt multiple states and Nebraska is 1 of them. #'s were down dramatically from last year though.  |
| Group started hunting here years ago   |
| a friend asked me to go  |
| Friends going to Nebraska  |
| Annual spring turkey hunting trip.   |
| Tradition, enjoyable - Favorite week of the year that is non-negotiable for me to miss               |
| Appendix 2. Continued.   |
| United on my own lond with a LO normit   |

Hunted on my own land with a LO permit

| I choose to hunt turkeys because I like to be outdoors.<br>Memorial hunt for a friend that past<br>Close to residence<br>Had an invitation to hunt on a large area of private land<br>I live in Nebraska<br>Archery only season<br>great people<br>Friends have been there before.<br>I own the land hunted<br>Had a lease<br>Relative ease of getting permission on private land<br>Family brought me to Nebraska for my first turkey hunt.<br>We own land that has turkeys on it.<br>US Super Slam<br>I love to hunt turkeys and I have been doing it for 50 years.<br>I come to the area for work occassionally<br>I live to hunt turkeys and I have been doing it for 50 years.<br>I come to the area for work occassionally<br>I live lose to turkey areas.<br>I live here.<br>I landowner<br>Just enjoy hunting.<br>First time<br>Uncle who lives out of state meets me there to hunt because of past success he has had in Nebraska<br>Season Length<br>Have a second home in Nebraska.<br>I and owner<br>Hadn't done it before and wanted the challenge<br>traded a hunt<br>I own land three.<br>Hunting with my father.<br>I've been hunting father.<br>I've been hunting father.<br>I've been hunting is area for about 4 years. I know landowners and local business well now.<br>wish grant with the Catch-A-Dream Foundation<br>private property that allows me to hunt<br>Guide<br>Turkey hunting is 1 of my passions<br>Private land owned by a friend.<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Friends<br>Frie |  |
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| Close to residence         Had an invitation to hunt on a large area of private land         Ilive in Nebraska         Archery only season         great people         Friends have been there before.         I own the land hunted         Had a lease         Relative ease of getting permission on private land         Family brought me to Nebraska for my first turkey hunt.         We own land that has turkeys on it.         US Super Slam         Ilove to hunt turkeys and I have been doing it for 50 years.         I come to the area for work occassionally         Ilive close to turkey areas.         Ilive here.         landowner         Just enjoy hunting.         First time         I just like to be out hunting and being able to share the experience with new hunters         Uncle who lives out of state meets me there to hunt because of past success he has had in Nebraska         Season Length         Hadari done it before and wanted the challenge         trade a hunt         I own land there.         Hunting with my father.         Tve been hunting this area for about 4 years. I know landowners and local business well now.         wish grant with the Catch-A-Dream Foundation         private land owned by a friend.         Turkey hunting is 1 o  | I choose to hunt turkeys because I like to be outdoors.  |
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| Uncle who lives out of state meets me there to hunt because of past success he has had in Nebraska<br>Season Length<br>Have a second home in Nebraska.<br>land owner<br>Hadn't done it before and wanted the challenge<br>traded a hunt<br>I own land there.<br>Hunting with my father.<br>I've been hunting this area for about 4 years. I know landowners and local business well now.<br>wish grant with the Catch-A-Dream Foundation<br>private property that allows me to hunt<br>Guide<br>Turkey hunting is 1 of my passions<br>Private land owned by a friend.<br>I deer hunted with the same guide/outfitter the late 2018 deer season.<br>Friends<br>friend's recommendation<br><b>Appendix 2.</b> Continued.   | First time   |
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| Have a second home in Nebraska.land ownerHadn't done it before and wanted the challengetraded a huntI own land there.Hunting with my father.I've been hunting this area for about 4 years. I know landowners and local business well now.wish grant with the Catch-A-Dream Foundationprivate property that allows me to huntGuideTurkey hunting is 1 of my passionsPrivate land owned by a friend.I deer hunted with the same guide/outfitter the late 2018 deer season.Friendsfriend's recommendationAppendix 2. Continued.   | Uncle who lives out of state meets me there to hunt because of past success he has had in Nebraska |
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| Hadn't done it before and wanted the challengetraded a huntI own land there.Hunting with my father.I've been hunting this area for about 4 years. I know landowners and local business well now.wish grant with the Catch-A-Dream Foundationprivate property that allows me to huntGuideTurkey hunting is 1 of my passionsPrivate land owned by a friend.I deer hunted with the same guide/outfitter the late 2018 deer season.Friendsfriend's recommendationAppendix 2. Continued.  | Have a second home in Nebraska.  |
| traded a hunt I own land there. Hunting with my father. I've been hunting this area for about 4 years. I know landowners and local business well now. wish grant with the Catch-A-Dream Foundation private property that allows me to hunt Guide Turkey hunting is 1 of my passions Private land owned by a friend. I deer hunted with the same guide/outfitter the late 2018 deer season. Friends friend's recommendation Appendix 2. Continued.  | land owner   |
| I own land there.<br>Hunting with my father.<br>I've been hunting this area for about 4 years. I know landowners and local business well now.<br>wish grant with the Catch-A-Dream Foundation<br>private property that allows me to hunt<br>Guide<br>Turkey hunting is 1 of my passions<br>Private land owned by a friend.<br>I deer hunted with the same guide/outfitter the late 2018 deer season.<br>Friends<br>friend's recommendation<br>Appendix 2. Continued.   | Hadn't done it before and wanted the challenge   |
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| l've been hunting this area for about 4 years. I know landowners and local business well now.<br>wish grant with the Catch-A-Dream Foundation<br>private property that allows me to hunt<br>Guide<br>Turkey hunting is 1 of my passions<br>Private land owned by a friend.<br>I deer hunted with the same guide/outfitter the late 2018 deer season.<br>Friends<br>friend's recommendation<br>Appendix 2. Continued.   | I own land there.  |
| wish grant with the Catch-A-Dream Foundation   private property that allows me to hunt   Guide   Turkey hunting is 1 of my passions   Private land owned by a friend.   I deer hunted with the same guide/outfitter the late 2018 deer season.   Friends   friend's recommendation   Appendix 2. Continued.  | Hunting with my father.  |
| private property that allows me to hunt<br>Guide<br>Turkey hunting is 1 of my passions<br>Private land owned by a friend.<br>I deer hunted with the same guide/outfitter the late 2018 deer season.<br>Friends<br>friend's recommendation<br>Appendix 2. Continued.  | I've been hunting this area for about 4 years. I know landowners and local business well now.      |
| GuideTurkey hunting is 1 of my passionsPrivate land owned by a friend.I deer hunted with the same guide/outfitter the late 2018 deer season.Friendsfriend's recommendationAppendix 2. Continued.   | wish grant with the Catch-A-Dream Foundation   |
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| I deer hunted with the same guide/outfitter the late 2018 deer season.<br>Friends<br>friend's recommendation<br>Appendix 2. Continued.   | Private land owned by a friend.  |
| Friends<br>friend's recommendation<br>Appendix 2. Continued.   |  |
| Appendix 2. Continued.   |  |
| Appendix 2. Continued.   | friend's recommendation  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

| Friend owns land there   |
|--|
| Friend owns land there   |
| Different place  |
| Just wanted to hunt  |
| I own the land   |
| leased property  |
| Early March archery season allowing for opportunities to hunt turkeys early in year                  |
| Leased propert access  |
| The challenge, and good eating birds   |
| Hunted with a friend who had friends   |
| Private land which I lease   |
| Went with group as guest   |
| Hunting with grandson  |
| I enjoy hunting them and have permission on private land to avoid the minimal public land opportunit |
| Special trip w old friends.  |
| Friends referenced   |
| Highly recommend Outfitter I used  |
| non resident youth turkey license cost   |
| Less people  |
| Finished Kansas season with several days to spare and decided to drive 45 minutes to Nebraska        |
| Proximity I live to the border of Nebraska   |
| Private ground access  |
| Guided hunt offerd in the area combined with a hunt location in Kansas                               |
| My aunt is a landowner   |
| I live here.   |
| I live here  |
| Friends go there every year  |
| Permission to hunt private land  |
| It's where I live.   |
| Enjoyment of the sport   |
| Friends know a land owner who lets us hunt exclusively for a reasonable fee.                         |
| Different terrain type   |
| Went with friends  |
| I live here  |
| My family hunt turkeys   |
| A chance to spend time with my family in the outdoors.   |
| My family hunt turkeys. I also took my son out to get his first bird.                                |
| Resident of state, did not need to travel a long distance or pay high fees to hunt                   |
| it was a referral to an outfitter  |
| I live here and I want to shoot turkey   |
| Appendix 2. Continued.   |
| I bought two properties  |
|  |

| Hunting with a relative!   |
|--|
| I live in Nebraska and love the outdoor and love to hunt and fish                                    |
|  |
| Home   |
| Time allotted for recreation   |
| I've been hunting turkeys for over 30 years and I enjoy it and the wildlife you see during the hunt. |
| Hunt close to home   |
| Private land available   |
| I enjoy the outdoors and Turkey hunting in general.  |
| resident   |
| Close to home  |
| I LIVE HERE  |
| Another opportunity to hunt for meat.  |
| Opportunity to experience nature   |
| able to hunt on private land. I enjoy turkey hunting.  |
| own land   |
| I live here  |
| l live in Nebraska.  |
| Older sibling  |
| turkeys taste good, can hunt close to home   |
| My first time turkey hunting   |
| Season comes in earlier than home states   |
| I live in Nebraska. It's the only state I can afford to hunt, barely.                                |
| It is fun.   |
| Just moved here and had never hunted turkeys before.   |
| I love hunting turkeys!  |
| Tradition  |
| Location   |
| Local  |
| I live here.   |
| love hunting them  |
| Saw it on Randy Newberg's YouTube Channel  |
| Hunt with dad  |
| Just like to hunt  |
| I LIVE HERE. I like to turkey hunt   |
| Just like to hunt turkeys  |
| My particular success rate from the past 8 yrs of hunting NE   |
| I like the meat  |
| I own the land we hunt   |
| Time with family   |
| Appendix 2. Continued.   |

FYI, I've heard a lot of hunters voice concerns about the taking of hens, I agree we should stop.

| Hunting close to home  |
|--|
| The amount of personal time I have. And suitable weather.  |
| Have access to sufficient amount of private land.  |
| Previous experiences   |
| Access to ground that used to hold good numbers of birds   |
| I just like to archery hunt turkeys  |
| A friend asked me to join him one day.   |
| Access to private land owned by relative   |
| I live in Nebraska   |
| My boyfriend is a hunter and helped me get into hunting  |
| I enjoy the experience of hunting and calling in Toms.   |
| I was invited to participate in a guided, private land hunt.   |
| i live in state and have a friend who lets me hunt on his ground                                     |
| I live in Nebraska so that's where I hunt  |
| Nebraska is my state of residence and I need places to hunt relatively close to home.                |
| none of the above  |
| Its where we live  |
| I was able to take my 3 sons hunting   |
| Introducing my son to turkey hunting.  |
| Great time to be in the woods and fun hunting.   |
| Resident and it is a tradition.  |
| we have a camper at lake mac   |
| Chance to hunt for the 46 year with the same friends I hunted with starting in 1973.                 |
| Turkey Hunting with family is what we do every spring because of the challenge and excitement        |
| i like to hunt when possible   |
| I enjoy hunting and calling even when unsuccessful   |
| I'm a hunter, as well as my kids so we'll always hunt. Numbers seem down, hunters high               |
| I love to be outdoors and this gives me one more reason to get out in the woods                      |
| CO vets org partnered with PRBE to hunt on their land.   |
| Close to home  |
| Uh, because a resident hunter should be a choice? I hunted Nebraska because I live here.             |
| Its my home state and can hunt public land within 30 minutes of my house.                            |
| I hunted with my dad and brother   |
| I wanted the old boss Tom of the bunch. So I left the Jake's alone.                                  |
| l enjoy it   |
| Like to hunt turkeys in the spring   |
| I live here, so I'm hunting here, no. special. Your above responses appear to cater to non-residents |
| Started turkey hunting in early 90's with college friend and have only missed 1yr since.             |
| Just a good hunt for turkeys. Active talking birds.  |
| Appendix 2. Continued.   |

Wanted to take my daughter and grandson hunting

| It is where I live.  |
|--|
| Just love to turkey hunt tags are too expensive  |
| Food   |
| Private land close to home   |
|  |
| I enjoy hunting in general.<br>Available time to hunt  |
|  |
| Hunting on my aunts land   |
| Just enjoy hunting and being outdoors. I believe bird numbers are down a lot in parts of the state.  |
| Family time! hunting with husband and kids is a great family outing                                  |
| Guide  |
| On way to KS & opens before for archery  |
| I live here and it's freaking turkey season  |
| Hunting with my father   |
| Triends  |
| just like getting outdoors and turkey hunting is a good way to do that in the spring                 |
| Live to hunt   |
| Available access to private land I get to hunt   |
| That is were I live. Did not have to travel very far.  |
| Outdoors   |
| Home state   |
| resident - the # of non-res hunters in Knox cty is overwhelming, we need to charge more for non res  |
| The challenge and it keeps me hunting when I could be fishing, enjoying my old car or working on our |
| It is the State of residence   |
| I hunt private land and the turkey numbers seem to be way down from previous years                   |
| I own the land I hunt on   |
| Access to private land to bunt   |
| Private hunting.   |
| the challenge of a hunt  |
| 10 y/o girl and her first hunt w/grandpa   |
| Having someone to hunt with  |
| live here  |
| I live on an average and there was a tombbumping around in my neighborhood so I tried to kill him    |
| I hunt on family owned land.   |
| food   |
| I wanted to shoot one  |
| meat   |
| I live here  |
| Guided service   |
| I just love to see and hunt Turkeys and i live in Nebraska all my life, I also love to see them.     |
| Appendix 2. Continued.   |
|  |

Just fun to have a Tom respond to your calls.

Land owner availability

I like to hunt.

ability to hunt with my brother

Residency

I have a deer hunting lease and house in Nebraska.

I just enjoy hunting and had never done it. Just wanted to try it.

Just love to hunt, and get out in the woods.

I have found some private land. Way too many out of state hunters leasing up the land

It is what I do and I have a great place to do it

Like to hunt

just wanted to hunt them

It's the only hunting season open in the spring.

Family land to hunt on.

I had permission to harvest a turkey on private property, otherwise I wouldn't have hunted.

Too liberal on number of permits allowed. Turkey populations really declined over last 10 years

It's where I live. Don't appreciate the rise in cost of permits.

Lease land to hunt

just like to hunt

Stories from friends and family.

To take kids out and friends came from out of state to hunt.

used to love turkey hunting when there were turkeys... almost all gone now...

Meat. My family and I love to eat wild turkeys. From the start of humans hunting, it was for meat.