

Project N°: W-15-R**Job N°:** E2**Title of Job:** 2007 Prairie Grouse Cooperator Survey

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We received 153 wing envelopes from 70 cooperating hunters in the East and West grouse zones in 2007, containing 428 grouse wings. Hunters reported harvesting 490 grouse during the 2007 season (15 September through 31 December 2007), for an average of 1.63 grouse harvested per hunter-day. The wing sample contained 221 sharp-tailed grouse (64% of which were juveniles) and 207 greater prairie-chickens (53% of which were juveniles). Statewide, there were 1.80 juvenile sharp-tailed grouse per adult and 1.13 juvenile greater prairie-chicken per adult.

We received 66 wing envelopes from 48 hunters in the East Grouse Zone, containing 82 greater prairie-chicken wings (49% of which were juveniles). Hunters in the East Zone reported harvesting 119 greater prairie-chickens. The age ratio in the East Zone was 0.95 juvenile prairie chickens per adult. In the West Grouse Zone, we received 87 envelopes from 22 hunters, containing 346 grouse wings. Hunters reported harvesting 371 prairie grouse. We received 221 sharp-tailed grouse wings (of which 64% were juveniles) and 125 prairie chicken wings (of which 56% were juveniles). There were 1.80 juvenile sharp-tails per adult and 1.27 juvenile prairie chickens per adult in the West Zone.

Table 1. Results of the 2007 Grouse Hunter Cooperator Survey (West Grouse Zone)

Month	Wings Returned		Hunter-days	Grouse per Hunter-Day*
	Sharp-tails (% Juveniles)	Prairie Chickens (% Juveniles)		
September	102 (51)	76 (54)	94	2.15
October	89 (76)	43 (61)	71	1.87
November	28 (79)	6 (50)	14	2.43
December	2 (0)	0 (NA)	2	1.00
Total	221 (64)	125 (56)	181	1.91

*Based on reported harvest, rather than wings returned

Figure 1. Monthly distribution of harvest based on cooperator reports and annual production estimates based on wing sample, 1996-2007.