

Project №: W-15-R-0069

Job: E2

Title of Job: 2011 Prairie Grouse Cooperator Survey



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We received 105 envelopes containing 222 grouse wings from 62 cooperating hunters and East Zone permit holders in 2011. Participating hunters reported harvesting 289 grouse during the 2011-12 season (1 September-31 January), for an average of 1.21 grouse harvested/hunter-day. The statewide sample contained 76 sharp-tailed grouse wings (71.1% juveniles) and 146 greater prairie-chicken wings (56.8% juveniles). Statewide there were 2.46 juveniles/adult sharptails and 1.32 juveniles/adult prairie chickens.

We 45 envelopes containing 143 wings from 16 West zone cooperating hunter. Of the wings returned, 76 were sharp-tailed grouse (71.1% juveniles/ 2.46 juveniles/adult) and 67 were greater prairie-chicken (52.2% juveniles; 1.09 juveniles/adult). From the East zone, we received 60 envelopes containing 79 wings from 46 East zone permit holders (60.8% juveniles; 1.55 juveniles/adult).

**Table 1.** Results of the 2011 Grouse Hunter Cooperator Survey (West Zone).

Month	Wings Returned		Hunter-days	Grouse/ Hunter-day <sup>a</sup>
	Sharptails (% juvenile)	Prairie Chicken (% juvenile)		
September	49 (100)	47 (55)	59	1.63
October	18 (67)	12 (58)	17	1.76
November	7 (71)	1 (100)	5	1.60
December	1 (100)	0 (NA)	1	1.00
January	1 (100)	7 (14)	5	1.60
Total	76 (71)	67 (52)	87	1.64

<sup>a</sup> Based on wing sample.

**Figure 1.** Monthly distribution of harvest based on cooperator reports and annual production estimates based on wing samples (1996-2011).

