

Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Project №: W-15-R**Title of Job: 2017 Grouse Wing Cooperator Survey**

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A total of 15 wing envelopes was returned by 8 cooperators in 2017 in the west zone, containing 40 wings (Table 1). Approximately 55% of the 20 sharp-tail wings returned were juvenile, whereas 25% of the 20 prairie chicken wings were juvenile (Figure 1). Overall hunting success was 1.25 grouse per hunter-day, lower than in 2016. Harvest occurred mostly in September, declining monthly thereafter, with no harvest reported for December or January (Figure 1).

Table 1. Results of the 2017 prairie grouse cooperator survey, statewide.

Month	Wings Returned		Grouse/ Hunter-day*
	Sharptails (% juvenile)	Prairie Chicken (% juvenile)	
September	18 (61)	18 (28)	1.85
October	2 (0)	1 (0)	0.75
November	0 (NA)	1 (0)	1.00
December	0 (NA)	0 (NA)	0.00
January	0 (NA)	0 (NA)	0.00
Total	20 (55)	20 (25)	1.25

* Based on reported harvest rather than on wing sample.

Figure 1. Production indices for grouse harvested by hunter-cooperators in the Grouse Cooperator Survey, 1996-2017.

