



Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

• 50379 Hwy 22 • Wolbach, NE 68882 • Phone: 308-293-0102 •

2023-24 Grouse Hunter Cooperator Survey—During the 2023-24 season, 319 wing envelopes were turned between the west (306) and east (13) grouse zones, containing 597 wings. In the west zone, of the 379 sharp-tail wings, 59% were juvenile, whereas 56% of the 180 prairie-chicken wings were juvenile. Overall hunting success was 0.94 grouse per hunter-day, which was higher than in 2022-23, 0.86 grouse per hunter-day (Table 1). In the east zone no sharp-tail grouse were harvested. There were 19 prairie-chicken wings, 37% were juveniles. Hunter success was 1.06 grouse per hunter-day, which was down from 2022-23, 1.23 grouse per hunter-day (Table 2). Harvest in both zones primarily occurred during September and October and declined monthly thereafter (Figure 1).

Table 1. Results of the 2023-24 Grouse Hunter Cooperator Survey west zone.

West Zone			
Month	Sharptails (% juvenile)	Prairie Chicken (% juvenile)	Grouse/ Hunter-day
September	278 (58)	146 (60)	1.36
October	81 (51)	16 (19)	0.67
November	17 (71)	9 (33)	0.55
December	3 (33)	4 (75)	1.00
January	0 (0)	5 (80)	0.83
Totals*	389 (61)	180 (59)	0.94

* Totals include some wings where month of harvest was not reported.

Table 2. Results of the 2023-24 Grouse Hunter Cooperator Survey east zone.

East Zone		
Month	Prairie Chicken (% juvenile)	Grouse/ Hunter-day
September	17 (41)	1.13
October	2 (0)	1.00
November	0 (0)	N/A
December	0 (0)	0.00
January	0 (0)	N/A
Totals	19 (37)	1.06

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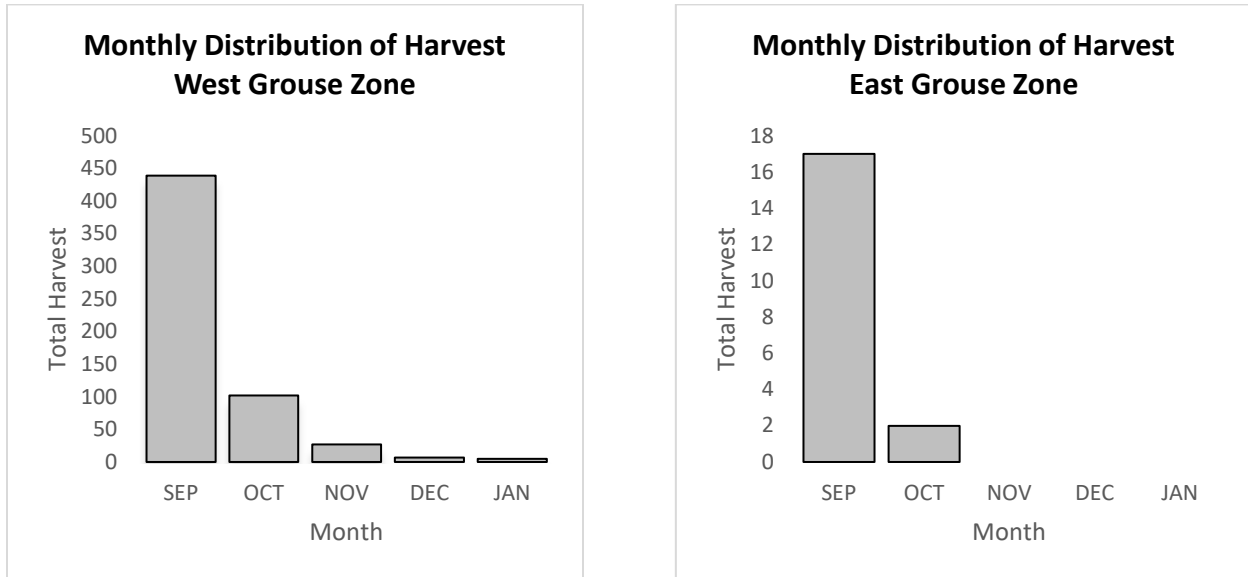


Figure 1. Monthly distribution of grouse harvest during the 2023-24 season.

Production indices for Prairie Grouse 1996-2023

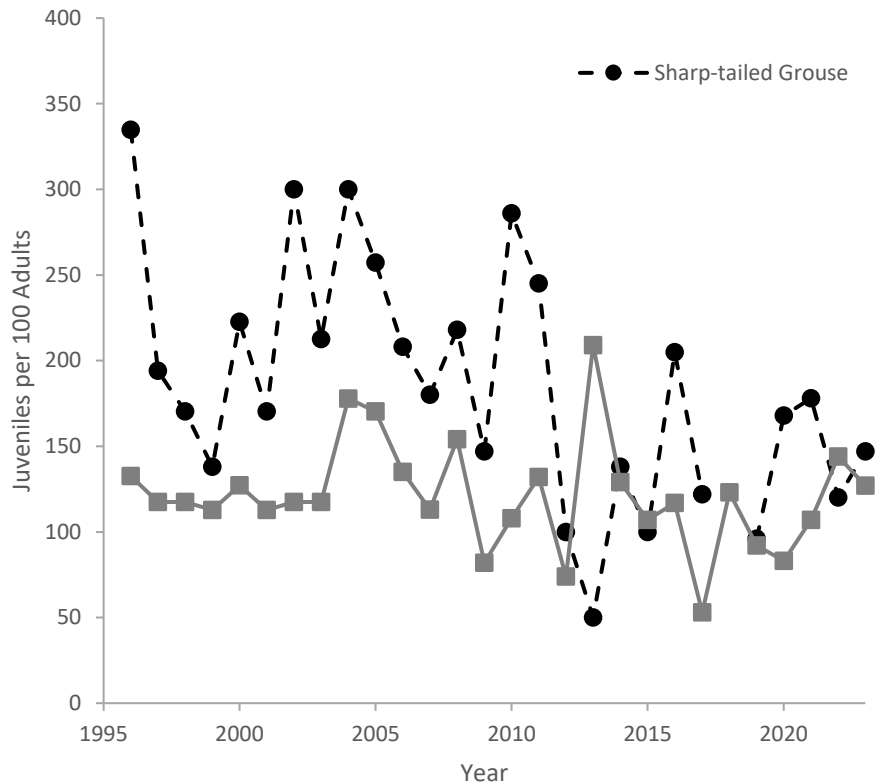


Figure 2. Production indices for prairie grouse harvested by hunter-cooperators in the Grouse Hunter Cooperator Survey, 1996-2023 (East and West Zones combined).

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