

2002/2003 Light (Snow and Ross's) Goose Harvest Report

This report provides information on the estimated harvest of light geese during the regular goose season and the conservation action period. Harvest is reported both on a county and statewide basis. Information is provided on the use of electronic calls and extended hunting hours during the conservation action period. (Colorado did not offer a late light goose only season in 2003.)

A post-season harvest survey was conducted by phone.

A stratified random sample of 2501 potential light goose hunters was drawn from among HIP participants. 1996 (80% response rate) hunters were contacted.

Of the 429 hunters who reported hunting light geese, 283 or 66% reported they had actively hunted light geese during the regular goose season. Fifty-seven percent or 245 hunters reported hunting light geese during the conservation action period.

84% reported being satisfied with their light goose hunting experience.

The leading reason for hunting during the conservation action period was the ability to harvest an unlimited number of geese (38%) followed closely by concern for the environment (37%). Use of electronic callers (14%) and extended hunting hours (9%) were not a factor for the majority of hunters surveyed.

Seventy-eight percent of the 429 hunters surveyed said they would be very likely to participate in future conservation action periods. Eighteen percent were somewhat likely to participate and 4% were not at all likely to participate.

Statewide harvest was estimated at 19,138 ± 4615 (14523 - 23753) for the regular season and 27,395 ± 10,458 (16,937- 37,853) for the conservation action period.

Comparison with 2001/02 survey results:

Comparing only the figures for the combined regular season and conservation action period for both years, harvest was down during the regular season but up for the conservation action period. In 01/02 an estimated 23,551 ± 9,892 birds were harvested during the regular season and 7,594 ± 3,769 during the conservation action period. Hunter numbers decreased from 6,235 ± 945 in the 01/02 regular season to 3,804 ± 570 in 02/03 but increased for the conservation action period (1,323 ± 686 in 01/02 compared to 2,162 ± 400 in 02/03). Total days hunted decreased from an estimated 39,591 ± 10,286 (regular season) to 28,430 ± 5627 (regular season), but increased from 5,016 ± 2,944 (conservation action) in 01/02 to 10,193 ± 3061 in 02/03.

Harvest by Strata, County and Population

Summary tables provide estimates of hunter numbers, days in the field and light goose

harvest by county and population. Estimates are followed by the standard error of the estimate, and 95% upper (UCI) and lower (LCI) confidence intervals around the estimate. For example, the estimated number of light goose hunters in Bent County during the conservation action is 178 plus or minus 1.96(SE) or 1.96(59)= 116 . The range of the estimate is 62 to 294. Estimates of days in the field and harvest are interpreted the same way. State totals are given at the bottom of each column.

(The output wraps around.)

2002-2003 Light Goose Survey Results

Hunted Light Geese During the 2002/03 Season (Sept 28 - Mar 31)?

<u>hunt0203</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Cumulative Frequency</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent</u>
Yes	429	21.49	429	21.49
No	1567	78.51	1996	100.00

Hunted Light Geese During the Regular Season (Sept 28 - Feb 16)?

<u>huntreg</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Cumulative Frequency</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent</u>
Yes	283	65.97	283	65.97
No	146	34.03	429	100.00

Hunted During the Conservation Action (Feb 22-Mar 31)?

<u>huntca</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Cumulative Frequency</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent</u>
Yes	245	57.11	245	57.11
No	184	42.89	429	100.00

Reason for Hunting

<u>Reason</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Cumulative Frequency</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent</u>
Environmental Concerns	92	37.55	92	37.55
Harvest unlimited light geese	95	38.78	187	76.33
Use electronic callers	36	14.69	223	91.02
Hunt after sunset	22	8.98	245	100.00

Satisfaction

Satis	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Strongly Dissatisfied	12	4.90	12	4.90
Somewhat Dissatisfied	12	4.90	24	9.80
Slightly Dissatisfied	12	4.90	36	14.69
Neutral	4	1.63	40	16.33
Slightly Satisfied	14	5.71	54	22.04
Somewhat Satisfied	64	26.12	118	48.16
Strongly Satisfied	127	51.84	245	100.00

Hunt in future Conservation Action Seasons?

future	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Not likely	16	3.73	16	3.73
Somewhat likely	76	17.72	92	21.45
Very likely	337	78.55	429	100.00

Strata

strata	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Did not hunt last year	1396	69.94	1396	69.94
None bagged last year	97	4.86	1493	74.80
1-30 bagged last year	438	21.94	1931	96.74
30+ bagged last year	65	3.26	1996	100.00

Used electronic calls to hunt during the Conservation Action?

<u>usecalls</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Cumulative Frequency</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent</u>
Yes	19	30.65	19	30.65
No	43	69.35	62	100.00

Hunted during the extended hunting hours during the Conservation Action?

<u>sunset</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Cumulative Frequency</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent</u>
Yes	31	50.00	31	50.00
No	31	50.00	62	100.00

Harvest Summaries for State-wide Estimates by Strata

----- Strata=Did not hunt last year -----

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Estimate</u>	<u>Standard Error</u>	<u>LCI</u>	<u>UCI</u>
Days hunted regular season	18932	2682.6	13674	24190
Harvest regular season	6448	1458.6	3589	9307
Days hunted CA season	4740	1383.7	2028	7452
Harvest CA season	11954	4906.9	2336	21572
Days hunted all seasons	23673	3492.8	16827	30518
Harvest all seasons	18402	5171.3	8266	28538
Electronic Call Harvest all seasons	9952	4815.9	513	19391
Electronic Call Harvest CA season	9952	4815.9	513	19391
Extended Hours Harvest CA season	766	294.5	188	1343
Hunters regular season	2679	267.0	2156	3203
Hunters CA season	1148	178.2	799	1498
Hunters all seasons	3298	293.8	2722	3874

----- Strata=None bagged last year -----

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	LCI	UCI
Days hunted regular season	3308	857.6	1627	4989
Harvest regular season	1073	540.4	14	2132
Days hunted CA season	1490	661.3	194	2786
Harvest CA season	596	314.3	-20	1212
Days hunted all seasons	4798	1043.7	2753	6844
Harvest all seasons	1669	619.0	456	2882
Electronic Call Harvest all seasons	30	29.3	-28	87
Electronic Call Harvest CA season	30	29.3	-28	87
Extended Hours Harvest CA season	0	0.0	0	0
Hunters regular season	536	112.8	315	757
Hunters CA season	358	95.5	170	545
Hunters all seasons	864	132.8	604	1125

----- Strata=1-30 bagged last year -----

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	LCI	UCI
Days hunted regular season	4177	401.0	3391	4963
Harvest regular season	5315	798.1	3750	6879
Days hunted CA season	2731	236.5	2267	3194
Harvest CA season	6883	1073.1	4780	8987
Days hunted all seasons	6907	525.9	5877	7938
Harvest all seasons	12198	1544.1	9172	15225
Electronic Call Harvest all seasons	5489	1027.1	3476	7502
Electronic Call Harvest CA season	5489	1027.1	3476	7502
Extended Hours Harvest CA season	892	195.1	510	1274
Hunters regular season	489	28.2	433	544
Hunters CA season	540	28.9	483	597
Hunters all seasons	790	30.1	731	848

----- Strata=30+ bagged last year -----

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	LCI	UCI
Days hunted regular season	2013	389.2	1250	2776
Harvest regular season	6302	1577.1	3211	9393
Days hunted CA season	1231	182.9	873	1590
Harvest CA season	7961	1772.1	4488	11435
Days hunted all seasons	3244	471.6	2320	4169
Harvest all seasons	14263	2926.7	8527	20000
Electronic Call Harvest all seasons	4357	1090.6	2219	6494
Electronic Call Harvest CA season	4357	1090.6	2219	6494
Extended Hours Harvest CA season	2000	728.1	573	3427
Hunters regular season	100	10.8	78	121
Hunters CA season	116	10.8	95	137
Hunters all seasons	151	9.7	132	170

----- Strata=Totals -----

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	LCI	UCI
Days hunted regular season	28430	2871.3	22802	34057
Harvest regular season	19138	2354.5	14523	23753
Days hunted CA season	10193	1562.5	7131	13255
Harvest CA season	27395	5335.6	16937	37853
Days hunted all seasons	38623	3713.2	31345	45901
Harvest all seasons	46533	6170.5	34439	58627
Electronic Call Harvest all seasons	19828	5043.6	9942	29713
Electronic Call Harvest CA season	19828	5043.6	9942	29713
Extended Hours Harvest CA season	3658	809.3	2071	5244
Hunters regular season	3804	291.4	3233	4375
Hunters CA season	2162	204.6	1761	2563
Hunters all seasons	5103	324.0	4468	5738

2002-2003 Light Goose Survey Results

Regular Season Harvest by Counties

<u>County</u>	<u>Hunters</u>	<u>SE (Hunters)</u>	<u>LCI (Hunters)</u>	<u>UCI (Hunters)</u>
Adams	183	71	45	322
Alamosa	59	41	-21	139
Arapahoe	59	41	-21	140
Baca	3	3	-2	8
Bent	171	59	56	287
Boulder	95	50	-3	194
Cheyenne	3	3	-2	8
Conejos	29	29	-27	86
Crowley	51	11	30	72
Delta	88	50	-10	186
Fremont	36	29	-21	94
Garfield	29	29	-27	86
Gunnison	29	29	-27	86
Jefferson	29	29	-27	86
Kiowa	216	60	99	333
Kit Carson	3	3	-2	8
La Plata	29	29	-27	86
Larimer	394	104	189	598
Las Animas	7	4	-1	14
Lincoln	3	3	-2	8
Logan	444	105	239	649

<u>Estimated Harvest</u>	<u>SE (Harvest)</u>	<u>LCI (Harvest)</u>	<u>UCI (Harvest)</u>
422	256	-78	923
118	116	-109	345
206	203	-191	603
579	480	-363	1520
1569	512	564	2573
227	156	-80	533
129	107	-81	338
59	58	-55	172
296	94	111	480
177	174	-164	517
10	9	-7	27
29	29	-27	86
59	58	-55	172
29	29	-27	86
2893	796	1333	4453
1087	902	-681	2855
59	58	-55	172
903	452	18	1789
51	43	-33	136
122	101	-77	321
1262	551	181	2342

<u>County</u>	<u>Hunters</u>	<u>SE (Hunters)</u>	<u>LCI (Hunters)</u>	<u>UCI (Hunters)</u>
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Mesa	121	58	8	235
Moffat	3	3	-2	9
Montrose	62	41	-18	143
Morgan	581	123	341	822
Otero	386	84	222	550
Phillips	29	29	-27	86
Prowers	464	97	274	654
Pueblo	238	72	98	379
Rio Grande	29	29	-27	86
Routt	3	3	-2	9
Sedgwick	172	59	56	288
Washington	3	3	-2	8
Weld	785	141	508	1062
Yuma	3	3	-2	9
Unknown	66	41	-15	146
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4911				

Estimated		LCI	UCI
Harvest	SE (Harvest)	(Harvest)	(Harvest)
89	65	-39	217
0	0	0	0
62	58	-51	176
692	315	75	1309
1987	551	907	3067
0	0	0	0
2408	584	1264	3552
537	197	151	923
0	0	0	0
10	9	-7	27
266	107	56	475
161	133	-101	422
2264	932	437	4092
0	0	0	0
373	348	-308	1054
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19134			

2002-2003 Light Goose Survey Results

Conservation Action Harvest by Counties

County	Hunters	SE (Hunters)	LCI (Hunters)	UCI (Hunters)	Days Hunted	SE (Days Hunted)
Adams	3	3	-2	9	3	3
Arapahoe	29	29	-27	86	118	116
Baca	3	3	-2	8	3	3
Bent	178	59	63	294	688	210
Crowley	103	42	20	186	517	210
Kiowa	190	52	87	293	1306	639
Kit Carson	40	30	-18	98	135	93
Lincoln	3	3	-2	8	19	16
Logan	463	97	273	654	1580	433
Morgan	200	71	61	340	956	429
Otero	186	59	70	303	589	172
Prowers	459	89	285	634	1440	291
Pueblo	60	30	1	119	296	128
Sedgwick	245	66	115	375	823	172
Washington	39	29	-18	96	104	62
Weld	216	77	66	366	839	413
Yuma	63	41	-18	143	125	92
Unknown	62	41	-18	143	651	582
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2545					10193	

LCI (Days Hunted)	UCI (Days Hunted)	Estimated Harvest	SE (Harvest)	LCI (Harvest)	UCI (Harvest)
-2	9	3	3	-2	9
-109	345	206	203	-191	603
-2	8	0	0	0	0
275	1100	1819	760	330	3307
105	929	540	355	-156	1235
53	2558	2047	541	987	3107
-47	317	783	633	-457	2023
-12	51	238	198	-149	625
732	2428	6212	1870	2547	9877
116	1796	548	385	-206	1302
253	926	1892	896	135	3649
869	2011	8550	4423	-119	17E3
46	546	326	137	58	593
486	1160	3300	1263	824	5776
-18	226	244	155	-61	548
31	1648	48	27	-6	101
-55	305	107	89	-68	281
-489	1791	533	388	-227	1294
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27395					