

2003/2004 Light Goose (Snow and Ross's) Harvest Report

This report provides information on the estimated harvest of light geese during the conservation action period (March 1-31). 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.

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. 1797 (72% response rate) hunters were contacted.

Of the 376 hunters who reported hunting light geese, 277 or 74% reported they had actively hunted light geese during the regular goose season. Forty-seven percent or 176 hunters reported hunting light geese during the conservation action period.

80% 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 (34%). Use of electronic callers (14%) and extended hunting hours (14%) were not a factor for the majority of hunters surveyed.

Thirty-seven percent of the 1797 hunters surveyed said they would be very likely to participate in future conservation action periods. Forty-two percent were somewhat likely to participate and 21% were not at all likely to participate.

Statewide harvest was estimated at 24,497 \pm 6,440 (18,057- 30,937) for the conservation action period.

Comparison with 2002/03 survey results:

Comparing the figures for the conservation action period for both years, the estimated harvest was down slightly (but not significantly) for the 03/04 conservation action period. In 02/03 an estimated 27,395 \pm 10,458 (16,937- 37,853) birds were harvested during the conservation action period. Hunter numbers decreased from 2,162 \pm 400 in 02/03 to 1,877 \pm 361 in 03/04 (not a significant decrease). Total days hunted decreased from an estimated 10,193 \pm 3061 in 02/03 to 8,547 \pm 1785 in 03/04 (not significant).

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 79 plus or minus 1.96(SE) or 1.96(32)=63 . The range of the estimate is 15 to 142. 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.)

Hunted Light Geese During the 2003-2004 Season (Oct 4 - Mar 31)?

<u>hunt0304</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Cumulative Frequency</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent</u>
Yes	376	20.92	376	20.92
No	1421	79.08	1797	100.00

Hunted Light Geese During the Regular Season (Oct 4 - Feb 22)?

<u>huntreg</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Cumulative Frequency</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent</u>
Yes	277	73.67	277	73.67
No	99	26.33	376	100.00

Hunted During the Conservation Action (Mar 1-Mar 31)?

<u>huntca</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Cumulative Frequency</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent</u>
Yes	176	46.81	176	46.81
No	200	53.19	376	100.00

Reason for Hunting

<u>Reason</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Cumulative Frequency</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent</u>
Environmental Concerns	59	33.52	59	33.52
Harvest unlimited light geese	67	38.07	126	71.59
Use electronic callers	24	13.64	150	85.23
Hunt after sunset	26	14.77	176	100.00

Satisfaction

<u>Satisfaction</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Cumulative Frequency</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent</u>
Strongly Dissatisfied	15	8.52	15	8.52
Somewhat Dissatisfied	13	7.39	28	15.91
Slightly Dissatisfied	4	2.27	32	18.18
Neutral	2	1.14	34	19.32
Slightly Satisfied	7	3.98	41	23.30
Somewhat Satisfied	38	21.59	79	44.89
Strongly Satisfied	97	55.11	176	100.00

Hunt in future Conservation Action Seasons?

<u>Future</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Cumulative Frequency</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent</u>
Not likely	371	20.65	371	20.65
Somewhat likely	755	42.01	1126	62.66
Very likely	671	37.34	1797	100.00

Strata

<u>Strata</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Cumulative Frequency</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent</u>
Did not hunt last year	1373	76.41	1373	76.41
None bagged last year	95	5.29	1468	81.69
1-30 bagged last year	270	15.03	1738	96.72
30+ bagged last year	59	3.28	1797	100.00

Use electronic calls to hunt during the Conservation Action

<u>useecalls</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Cumulative Frequency</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent</u>
Yes	11	21.57	11	21.57
No	40	78.43	51	100.00

Hunt 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	25	49.02	25	49.02
No	26	50.98	51	100.00

2003-2004 Light Goose Survey Results
Harvest Summaries for State-wide Estimates

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

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	LCI	UCI
Days hunted CA season	3012	625.8	1785	4238
Harvest CA season	4560	1692.8	1243	7878
Electronic Call Harvest CA season	3384	1624.6	200	6569
Extended Hours Harvest CA season	344	210.7	-69	757
Hunters CA season	975	162.3	657	1293

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

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	LCI	UCI
Days hunted CA season	1128	536.9	76	2181
Harvest CA season	1010	773.0	-505	2525
Electronic Call Harvest CA season	356	350.3	-330	1043
Extended Hours Harvest CA season	59	58.4	-55	174
Hunters CA season	208	74.7	61	354

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

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	LCI	UCI
Days hunted CA season	3044	342.3	2373	3715
Harvest CA season	9362	1785.1	5863	12860
Electronic Call Harvest CA season	4114	742.1	2660	5569
Extended Hours Harvest CA season	1190	347.1	510	1871
Hunters CA season	555	41.1	475	636

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

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	LCI	UCI
Days hunted CA season	1363	180.0	1010	1716
Harvest CA season	9566	2036.2	5575	13557
Electronic Call Harvest CA season	5612	1650.0	2378	8846
Extended Hours Harvest CA season	1458	506.2	465	2450
Hunters CA season	138	11.5	116	161

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

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	LCI	UCI
Days hunted CA season	8547	910.8	6762	10332
Harvest CA season	24497	3285.7	18057	30937
Electronic Call Harvest CA season	13467	2456.7	8652	18282
Extended Hours Harvest CA season	3051	651.6	1774	4328
Hunters CA season	1877	183.7	1517	2237

**2003-2004 Light Goose Survey Results
Conservation Action Season Harvest by Counties**

County	Hunters	SE(Hunters)	LCI (Hunters)	UCI (Hunters)	Days Hunted	SE(Days Hunted)
Adams	11	7	-3	26	86	73
Arapahoe	6	5	-4	16	80	73
Baca	11	7	-3	26	52	33
Bent	79	32	15	142	281	103
Cheyenne	40	29	-17	97	52	33
Crowley	17	9	-0	35	109	75
Kiowa	98	19	60	136	460	104
Kit Carson	34	29	-22	91	80	60
Las Animas	62	41	-17	142	186	122
Logan	469	93	287	651	2199	416
Morgan	41	30	-18	100	320	292
Otero	72	31	11	133	225	70
Phillips	6	5	-4	16	6	5
Prowers	375	79	220	530	1289	257
Pueblo	101	42	18	184	512	233
Sedgwick	276	72	135	417	992	252
Washington	6	5	-4	16	11	10
Weld	181	69	46	317	624	312
Yuma	6	5	-4	16	114	104
Unknown	197	70	59	335	871	445

LCI(Days Hunted)	UCI(Days Hunted)	Estimated Harvest	SE(Harvest)	LCI (Harvest)	UCI (Harvest)
-57	229	6	5	-4	16
-63	223	0	0	0	0
-14	117	172	156	-134	477
80	482	1236	444	366	2105
-12	115	29	26	-22	80
-38	256	109	70	-28	246
256	664	3273	1419	492	6054
-37	198	6	5	-4	16
-53	425	1102	785	-436	2640
1383	3015	7163	1861	3516	11E3
-253	893	40	36	-31	111
87	363	308	126	61	555

-4	16	0	0	0	0
786	1792	5942	1757	2499	9385
55	968	1203	635	-43	2448
499	1486	1804	507	810	2798
-9	32	0	0	0	0
12	1236	120	83	-42	282
-89	318	1316	1196	-1E3	3659
-2	1743	670	354	-23	1364

Statewide Total:

County	Hunters	SE(Hunters)	LCI (Hunters)	UCI (Hunters)	Days Hunted	SE(Days Hunted)
	=====				=====	
	2089				8547	
LCI(Days Hunted)	UCI(Days Hunted)	Estimated Harvest	SE(Harvest)	LCI (Harvest)	UCI (Harvest)	
		=====				
		24497				