

2019 Sharp-tailed grouse Harvest Report

The 2019 sharp-tailed grouse report provides information on the estimated harvest of mountain sharp-tailed grouse. A stratified random sample of 3,500 sharp-tailed grouse hunters was drawn from among Harvest Information Program (HIP) participants. The sample was stratified as follows:

- 1 = Not likely to hunt
- 2 = Somewhat likely to hunt
- 3 = Very likely to hunt
- 4 = Very likely to hunt \geq 3 years

The post-season survey, conducted by telephone and email, contacted 1,518 (43.3% response rate) hunters. In total, 28 respondents, or 1.8%, reported they had hunted sharp-tailed grouse in 2019 and 10 (35%) reported harvesting sharp-tailed grouse. Statewide harvest was estimated at **219 \pm 147 (73 – 366)**.

Comparison with 2018 survey results:

Harvest was higher than 2018 when an estimated 114 \pm 99 (13 – 214) grouse were harvested. Hunter numbers in 2019, estimated at **449 \pm 188 (260 – 637)** were higher than 2018 when 214 \pm 121 (126 – 369) reported hunting. Days hunted was much higher **1,601 \pm 776 (824 – 2377)** in 2019, from 705 \pm 384 (323 – 1,086) in 2018.

Discussion

According to survey data, sharp-tailed grouse harvest increased by more than 90% between the 2018 and 2019 harvest estimates, while total hunter numbers and days hunted nearly doubled between years. Similar increases are common in the historic harvest data set for Columbian sharp-tailed grouse.

As part of this analysis, CPW calculated an estimate of average birds harvested per hunter from 1999-2015. In 2018 hunters averaged 0.46 birds per hunter, suggesting that average hunting success was much lower than the long term average of 1.6 birds per hunter.

Hunter Statistics and Harvest Estimates by Strata and County

The following summary tables provide estimates of hunter numbers, days in the field and sharp-tailed grouse harvest statewide and by county. Estimates are followed by the standard error of the estimate, and 95% upper (UCI) and lower (LCI) confidence intervals around the estimate. Summary tables provide estimates of hunter numbers, days in the field and sharp-tailed grouse harvest state and by county. Estimates are followed by the standard error of the estimate, and 95% upper (UCI) and lower (LCI) confidence intervals around the estimate.

**2019 Sharp-tailed grouse harvest,
by strata**

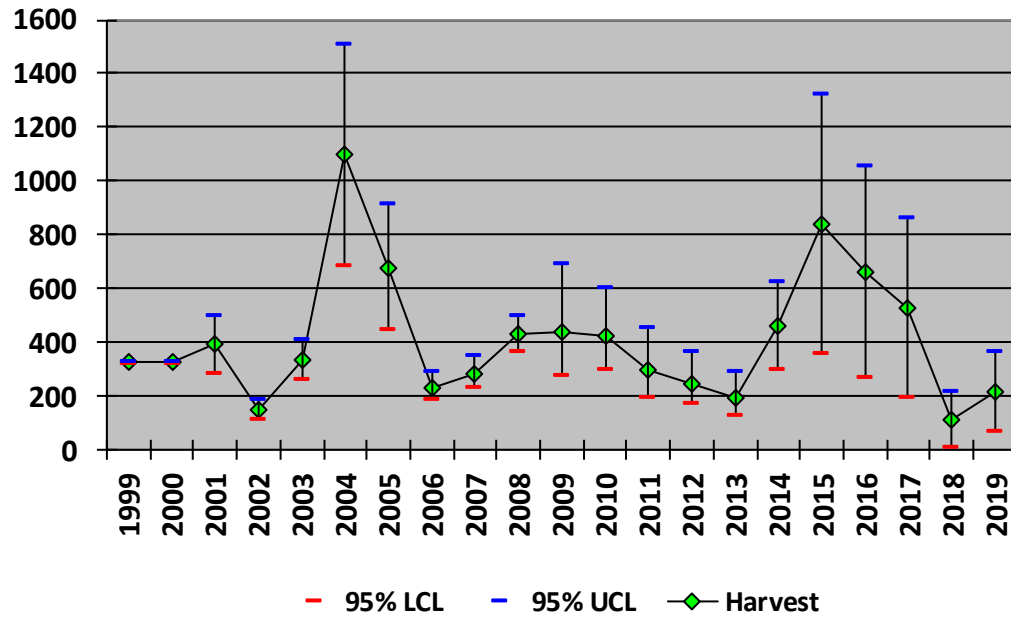
Strata	Hunters	SE (Hunters)	LCL (Hunters)	UCL (Hunters)	Days Hunted	SE (Days Hunted)	LCL (Days Hunted)	UCL (Days Hunted)	Harvest	SE (Harvest)	LCL (Harvest)	UCL (Harvest)	CV
Not Likely	124	47	61	253	601	254	271	1331	53	39	14	195	75%
Somewhat Likely	194	73	96	394	638	279	281	1450	0	0	Na	Na	Na
Very Likely	96	41	43	215	249	113	107	580	0	0	Na	Na	Na
Very Likely for >3 years	35	9	21	58	112	42	56	227	166	64	81	343	38%
Total	449	96	260	637	1601	396	824	2377	219	75	73	366	34%

**2019 Sharp-tailed grouse harvest,
by county**

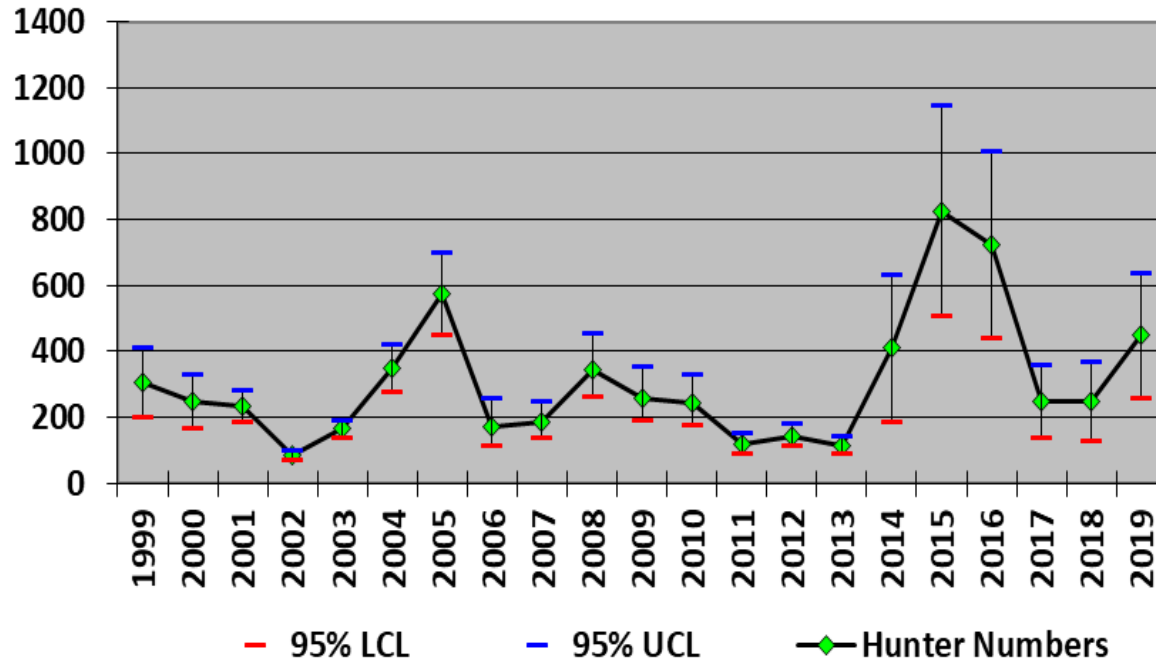
County	Hunters	SE (Hunters)	LCL (Hunters)	UCL (Hunters)	Days Hunted	SE (Days Hunted)	LCL (Days Hunted)	UCL (Days Hunted)	Harvest	SE (Harvest)	LCL (Harvest)	UCL (Harvest)
Routt	575	183	313	1058	554	201	279	1102	171	71	78	372
Moffat	148	57	71	308	386	158	179	836	49	30	16	149
Rio Blanco	115	66	40	327	115	81	33	399	0	0	NA	NA
Unknown	593	228	286	1229	564	278	226	1406	0	0	NA	NA
Total	449	96	260	637	1601	396	824	2377	219	75	73	366

*Hunters could provide up to 3 counties when asked “where did you harvest sharp-tailed grouse?”

Sharp-tailed grouse Harvest Estimates,
Colorado (1999-2019)



Sharp-tailed grouse Hunter Numbers Colorado (1999-2019)



Sharp-tailed grouse Hunters and Harvest Colorado (1999-2019)

