

SAGE-GROUSE

2024 HARVEST REPORT



WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT



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Correspondence

For questions about hunting in Wyoming, call one of Wyoming Game and Fish Department's Regional Offices (contact info available online at <u>https://wgfd.wyo.gov/regional-information</u>), or contact our statewide Customer Service staff at <u>wgf-contact@wyo.gov</u> or (307) 777-4600.

Acknowledgements

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Executive Summary

Each year the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) surveys sage-grouse hunters to estimate harvest, hunter success, and hunter effort. This information helps the Department manage sage-grouse populations and plan next year's hunting seasons. The harvest statistics presented in this report were estimated based on 3,253 responses to a voluntary harvest survey and extrapolated to represent the 6,610 sage-grouse hunting permits issued for the 2024 sage-grouse hunting season. We estimate that 8,198 sage-grouse were harvested in Wyoming during the 2024 hunting season, excluding those harvested by falconry, which are covered in separate report.

TABLE I **SAGE-GROUSE** HARVEST SUMMARY STATEWIDE 2024

RESIDENCY	VALID PERMITS	ACTIVE HUNTERS	TOTAL HARVEST	RECREATION DAYS	DAYS / HARVEST	HARVEST/HUNTER	HUNTER SUCCESS ^a
RESIDENT	4743	2873	5203	6583	1.3	1.8	63.5%
NONRESIDENT	1867	1348	2995	3178	1.1	2.2	76.8%
TOTAL	6610	4221	8198	9761	1.2	1.9	68.9%

^a The proportion of active hunters that reported harvesting at least one bird.

TABLE II SAGE-GROUSE TEN YEAR COMPARISON OF HARVEST AND EFFORT STATEWIDE 2024

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	RESIDENCY	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
VALID PERMITS	RESIDENT										4743
	NONRESIDENT										1867
	TOTAL										6610
ACTIVE HUNTERS	RESIDENT										2873
	NONRESIDENT										1348
	TOTAL	4299	4674	3576	4740	4049	2673	4991	6079	5366	4221
TOTAL HARVEST	RESIDENT										5203
	NONRESIDENT										2995
	TOTAL	10498	10526	7817	10422	7615	5659	8457	11640	12323	8198
RECREATION DAYS	RESIDENT										6583
	NONRESIDENT										3178
	TOTAL	10231	11476	8646	13092	9473	8744	14465	16467	14587	9761
DAYS / HARVEST	RESIDENT										1.3
	NONRESIDENT										1.1
	TOTAL	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.7	1.4	1.2	1.2
HARVEST/HUNTER	RESIDENT										1.8
	NONRESIDENT										2.2
	TOTAL	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.2	1.9	2.1	1.7	1.9	2.3	1.9
HUNTER SUCCESS ^a (HARVEST / ACTIV ^{RESIDENT}											63.5%
Ň	NONRESIDENT										76.8%
	TOTAL										68.9%
											L

⁰ Initial year of comparison for most metrics was 2024.
^a The proportion of active hunters that reported harvesting at least one bird.

TABLE III

SAGE-GROUSE HARVEST, HUNTING PRESSURE, HUNTER SUCESS BY MANAGEMENT AREA 2024

RESIDENCY ACTIVE HUNTERS TOTAL HARVEST RECREATION DAYS DAYS / HARVEST HARVEST/HUNTER HUNTER SUCCESS^a

A-UPPER SNAKE RIVER BASIN

MANAGEMENT AREA

NO HARVEST ESTIMATE - ALMOST ENTIRELY CLOSED TO HUNTING

B - BIGHORN BASIN	RESIDENT	445	667	1037	1.6	1.5	56.9%
	NONRESIDENT	133	257	305	1.2	1.9	65.5%
	TOTAL	578	924	1342	1.5	1.6	59.5%
C - NORTHEAST	RESIDENT	21	41	37	0.9	2.0	88.9%
	NONRESIDENT	16	30	30	1	1.9	90.0%
	TOTAL	37	71	67	0.9	1.9	89.5%
D - UPPER GREEN RIVER	RESIDENT	416	644	959	1.5	1.5	57.1%
	NONRESIDENT	146	286	356	1.2	2.0	79.3%
	TOTAL	562	930	1315	1.4	1.7	64.6%
E - WIND RIVER / SWEETWATER RIVER	RESIDENT	530	1076	1098	1	2.0	70.3%
	NONRESIDENT	195	430	467	1.1	2.2	78.9%
	TOTAL	725	1506	1565	1	2.1	73.2%
F - BATES HOLE	RESIDENT	352	523	623	1.2	1.5	56.5%
	NONRESIDENT	154	354	352	1	2.3	82.5%
	TOTAL	506	877	975	1.1	1.7	66.5%
G - SOUTHWEST	RESIDENT	916	1720	2105	1.2	1.9	64.6%
	NONRESIDENT	579	1305	1238	0.9	2.3	75.6%
	TOTAL	1495	3025	3343	1.1	2.0	69.8%
H - SOUTH CENTRAL	RESIDENT	324	532	724	1.4	1.6	59.2%
	NONRESIDENT	171	333	430	1.3	1.9	69.4%
	TOTAL	495	865	1154	1.3	1.7	63.6%

^a The proportion of active hunters that reported harvesting at least one bird.

TABLE IV **SAGE-GROUSE** LICENSE DATA SUMMARY STATEWIDE 2024

RESIDENCY	VALID PERMITS	NUMBER SURVEYED	RESPONSES	SURVEY RESPONSE RATE (RESPONSES / SURVEYED)	TOTAL RESPONSE RATE (RESPONSES / PERMITS)
RESIDENT	4743	4644	2077	44.7%	43.8%
NONRESIDENT	1867	1841	1176	63.9%	63.0%
TOTAL	6610	6485	3253	50.2%	49.2%