

NDG&F August 29th Newsletter

Grouse Hunters Encouraged to Submit Wing Envelopes

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department is asking grouse hunters for help with bird management by simply collecting some feathers from harvested birds and sending in wing envelopes this fall.

Wing data allows biologists to monitor production, reconcile bird counts and get a better understanding of the harvest ratio of males to females, and juveniles to adults.

Instructions for submitting wing data are printed on the envelope.

Hunters interested in receiving wing envelopes should visit the Game and Fish website (gf.nd.gov) to order a supply of wing envelopes, or contact the department's main office in Bismarck by phone (701-328-6300) or email (ndgf@nd.gov).

In addition, Game and Fish district offices have a supply of wing envelopes for distribution. District offices are located at Devils Lake, Jamestown, Riverdale, Dickinson, Williston and Lonetree Wildlife Management Area near Harvey.

2013 Pheasant Season Summarized

The number of pheasant hunters and total birds taken were lower in 2013 than in 2012, according to statistics released by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department.

Last year, more than 76,000 hunters (down 11 percent) harvested 447,000 roosters (down 27 percent). In 2012, nearly 86,000 hunters took 616,000 roosters.

Birds bagged per hunter decreased from 7.2 to 5.8, and each hunter spent an average of 4.8 days afield.

Counties with the highest percentage of pheasants taken by resident hunters in 2013 were Hettinger, 9.6; Burleigh, 7.9; McLean, 7.9; Morton, 6.8; and Stark, 5.5.

Top counties for nonresident hunters were Hettinger, 24.8 percent; Bowman, 12.2; Divide, 5.7; Emmons, 4.8; and Adams, 4.

Annual pheasant season statistics are determined by a mail survey of resident and nonresident hunters.

Grouse and Partridge Seasons Open Sept. 13

North Dakota hunters should expect similar to slightly higher numbers of sharp-tailed grouse, Hungarian partridge and ruffed grouse this hunting season compared to 2013. The season opens Sept. 13.

Shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. Sharptails, ruffed grouse and Huns each have a daily limit of three and a possession limit of 12.

Hunters, regardless of age, must have a fishing, hunting and furbearer certificate and general game and habitat license. In addition, hunters age 16 and older need a small game license.

For further season information and regulations, hunters should consult the [North Dakota 2014-15 Small Game Hunting Guide](#).