

Game Management Survey – Statewide Analysis

(All Respondents Weighted by County of Residency)

With Species Hunted Restrictions

December 12, 2007

This analysis includes a limited number of questions that were broken down by species hunted limitations. For instance, in question 6 below, we only analyzed the answers from those who indicated they hunted pheasants. To contrast those answers with the statewide totals from all respondents, look at the answer to question 6 from the overall statewide analysis.

6 - Would you support or oppose a youth pheasant hunt prior to the regular pheasant season?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt pheasants in question 11

[N = 424; 95% C.I. = $\pm 4.9\%$]

39.3% - Strongly Support

32.9% - Support

12.4% - Undecided

9.4% - Oppose

5.9% - Strongly Oppose

26 - What deer seasons do you hunt in NH? (Check all that apply.)

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt deer in question 11

[N = 1925; 95% C.I. = $\pm 2.3\%$]

45.3% - Archery

65.0% - Muzzleloader

96.6% - Regular Firearms

0.0% - None

27 - Which do you prefer as a method for managing deer populations?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt deer in question 11

[N = 1905; 95% C.I. = $\pm 2.3\%$]

37.1% - Antlerless Permits

62.9% - Days of Either Sex

28 - If a reduction in antlered buck harvest is required to achieve management objectives, which method would you prefer? (Check one.)

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt deer in question 11

[N = 1869; 95% C.I. = $\pm 2.3\%$]

38.2% - Restricting harvest to certain antler point classes

26.2% - Shortening seasons

27.7% - Reducing antlered buck bag limits

7.9% - Other

(Specific suggestions for other are listed separately)

29 - When you hunt deer in NH, which deer are you most interested in taking? (Check one.)

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt deer in question 11

[N = 1907; 95% C.I. = $\pm 2.3\%$]

19.1% - A trophy buck

22.5% - Any antlered deer

44.9% - Any adult deer

13.5% - Any deer

30 - Besides NH, what other states or provinces do you hunt deer in? (Check all that apply.)

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt deer in question 11

[N = 1925; 95% C.I. = ±2.3%]

- 15.4% - VT
 - 20.8% - ME
 - 13.9% - MA
 - 9.4% - NY
 - 9.7% - PA
 - 1.4% - NJ
 - 2.6% - CT
 - 3.4% - Quebec
 - 31.9% - None
- (Other responses listed separately)

31 - Do you support or oppose the current season timing and dates for deer hunting in NH?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt deer in question 11

[N = 1897; 95% C.I. = ±2.3%]

- 15.2% - Strongly Support
- 57.0% - Support
- 14.7% - Undecided
- 10.5% - Oppose
- 2.5% - Strongly Oppose

32 - Which of the following changes in the current season timing and dates for deer hunting in NH would you support? (Check all that apply.)

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt deer in question 11

[N = 1925; 95% C.I. = ±2.3%]

- 28.7% - Delaying the start of the archery season to October 1st
- 25.4% - Moving the muzzleloader season after the firearms season
- 21.7% - Ending the archery season with the close of the regular firearm season
- 7.4% - Shortening the regular firearms season
- 25.1% - Splitting the muzzleloader season with a portion before and after the regular firearms season
- 18.0% - Making a portion of the muzzleloader season for open sights and exposed hammer guns only

32 - Continued

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt deer in question 11

Limited to those respondents indicating they archery hunt in question 26

[N = 872; 95% C.I. = ±3.4%]

- 21.5% - Delaying the start of the archery season to October 1st
- 23.0% - Moving the muzzleloader season after the firearms season
- 12.6% - Ending the archery season with the close of the regular firearm season
- 9.2% - Shortening the regular firearms season
- 23.4% - Splitting the muzzleloader season with a portion before and after the regular firearms season
- 17.2% - Making a portion of the muzzleloader season for open sights and exposed hammer guns only

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt deer in question 11

Limited to those respondents indicating they muzzleloader hunt in question 26

[N = 1251; 95% C.I. = ±2.8%]

- 28.8% - Delaying the start of the archery season to October 1st
- 18.2% - Moving the muzzleloader season after the firearms season
- 22.0% - Ending the archery season with the close of the regular firearm season
- 7.4% - Shortening the regular firearms season
- 27.0% - Splitting the muzzleloader season with a portion before and after the regular firearms season
- 17.2% - Making a portion of the muzzleloader season for open sights and exposed hammer guns only

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt deer in question 11

Limited to those respondents indicating they regular firearm hunt in question 26

[N = 1860; 95% C.I. = ±2.3%]

29.4% - Delaying the start of the archery season to October 1st

25.5% - Moving the muzzleloader season after the firearms season

22.0% - Ending the archery season with the close of the regular firearm season

6.5% - Shortening the regular firearms season

25.4% - Splitting the muzzleloader season with a portion before and after the regular firearms season

18.0% - Making a portion of the muzzleloader season for open sights and exposed hammer guns only

33 - Do you support or oppose limiting NH hunters to a single antlered buck per year?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt deer in question 11

[N = 1905; 95% C.I. = ±2.3%]

19.3% - Strongly Support

33.2% - Support

19.9% - Undecided

19.0% - Oppose

8.5% - Strongly Oppose

34 - Do you support or oppose the use of crossbows by all licensed bow hunters during the archery deer season?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt deer in question 11

[N = 1910; 95% C.I. = ±2.3%]

8.4% - Strongly Support

19.4% - Support

14.4% - Undecided

26.3% - Oppose

31.9% - Strongly Oppose

34 - Continued

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt deer in question 11

Limited to those respondents indicating they archery hunt in question 26

[N = 870; 95% C.I. = ±3.4%]

10.1% - Strongly Support

17.7% - Support

11.9% - Undecided

23.7% - Oppose

36.6% - Strongly Oppose

35 - Do you support or oppose the use of bait for hunting deer?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt deer in question 11

[N = 1906; 95% C.I. = ±2.3%]

5.9% - Strongly Support

21.5% - Support

19.7% - Undecided

26.3% - Oppose

26.6% - Strongly Oppose

36 - Do you support or oppose deer feeding, excluding food plots?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt deer in question 11

[N = 1909; 95% C.I. = ±2.3%]

6.9% - Strongly Support

26.4% - Support

23.2% - Undecided

24.3% - Oppose

19.3% - Strongly Oppose

41 - Do you support or oppose an overlap of the bear season with the regular firearms deer season?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt bear in question 11

[N = 618; 95% C.I. = $\pm 4.0\%$]

28.5% - Strongly Support

50.6% - Support

8.8% - Undecided

7.9% - Oppose

4.3% - Strongly Oppose

42 - If you hunt bear in NH, what method(s) of hunting do you employ? (Check all that apply.)

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt bear in question 11

[N = 624; 95% C.I. = $\pm 4.0\%$]

79.3% - Stalking

31.3% - Baiting

6.8% - Hounding

1.7% - Do not hunt bear

43 - Have you personally experienced a conflict as a result of the overlap of bait and hound hunting for bears in the last 4 years?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt bear in question 11

[N = 607; 95% C.I. = $\pm 4.1\%$]

4.6% - Yes

95.4% - No

43 - Have you personally experienced a conflict as a result of the overlap of bait and hound hunting for bears in the last 4 years?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt bear in question 11

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt with bait in question 42

[N = 195; 95% C.I. = $\pm 7.2\%$]

7.8% - Yes

92.2% - No

44 - If you hunt bear in NH, which season option best fits your preference as a bear hunter?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt bear in question 11

[N = 569; 95% C.I. = $\pm 4.2\%$]

25.5% - Bear seasons where methods (i.e. bait, hound, still) are mutually exclusive even if it results in a shorter season

74.5% - Bear seasons where methods overlap in varying degrees potentially accommodating longer hunting seasons

45 - If you hunt bear over bait in WMU's C1, C2, D2, E, F, G, I1, J1 or J2 where 2 bait sites are allowed, do you typically employ 1 bait site or 2 bait sites during the bear season?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt bear in question 11

[N = 168; 95% C.I. = $\pm 7.8\%$]

69.3% - 1 bait site

30.7% - 2 bait sites

46 - Which NH turkey season(s) do you participate in? (Check all that apply.)

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt turkey in question 11

[N = 958; 95% C.I. = $\pm 3.2\%$]

82.8% - Spring Season

48.4% - Fall Archery

25.0% - Fall Shotgun

2.4% - None

47 - If the turkey population could accommodate additional harvest, what action would you prefer?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt turkey in question 11

[N = 944; 95% C.I. = $\pm 3.2\%$]

15.8% - No action

- 36.1% - Liberalized Spring Season
- 38.2% - Liberalized Fall Shotgun Season
- 9.9% - Liberalized Fall Archery Season

48 - If the spring season were liberalized, which option would you prefer?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt turkey in question 11

[N = 903; 95% C.I. = $\pm 3.3\%$]

- 60.6% - A second bird in the bag
- 39.4% - Extended daily hunting hours

49 - How would you rate spring turkey hunting pressure in NH?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt turkey in question 11

[N = 923; 95% C.I. = $\pm 3.3\%$]

- 10.8% - Heavy
- 51.5% - Moderate
- 35.6% - Light
- 2.1% - None

50 - How would you rate "hunter interference" in NH during the spring turkey season (hunter interference is defined as hunters calling or walking in on birds you are working)?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt turkey in question 11

[N = 907; 95% C.I. = $\pm 3.3\%$]

- 7.7% - Heavy
- 28.3% - Moderate
- 49.0% - Light
- 14.9% - None

51 - If you hunt during the spring turkey season, which statement best describes your hunting behavior?
(Check one.)

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt turkey in question 11

[N = 845; 95% C.I. = $\pm 3.4\%$]

- 34.1% - I only shoot toms (adult gobblers)
- 50.5% - I prefer to shoot toms, but will shoot jakes (sub-adult gobblers)
- 15.3% - I shoot toms or jakes without distinction

52 - NH Fish and Game currently uses volunteers to help stock pheasants in Southwest NH. If the use of volunteers were statewide, would you be willing to commit to participate in a volunteer stocking program?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt pheasant in question 11

[N = 405; 95% C.I. = $\pm 5.0\%$]

- 68.8% - Yes
- 31.2% - No

53 - Do you own 50 or more acres of old field habitat that you would be willing to include in our pheasant program as a stocking site?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt pheasant in question 11

[N = 383; 95% C.I. = $\pm 5.1\%$]

- 2.6% - Yes
- 97.4% - No

54 - How would you characterize hunting safety on the NH pheasant hunting sites?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt pheasant in question 11

[N = 413; 95% C.I. = $\pm 4.9\%$]

- 5.8% - Poor
- 25.2% - Fair
- 57.2% - Good
- 11.8% - Excellent

55 - The current grouse season runs from October 1 - December 31. Should the grouse season be: (Check your preference.)

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt grouse in question 11

[N = 915; 95% C.I. = $\pm 3.3\%$]

9.6% - Shorter

16.9% - Longer

73.5% - The same

56 - The current daily bag limit for grouse is 4. Should the daily bag limit on grouse be: (Check your preference.)

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt grouse in question 11

[N = 915; 95% C.I. = ±3.3%]

3.6% - Increased

19.8% - Decreased

76.6% - Remain the same

57 - The 30-day woodcock season opening date was recently delayed from the traditional October 1st date to October 6th, to provide greater hunting opportunity in early November when migrant birds are more likely to be available. Do you support or oppose this change?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt woodcock in question 11

[N = 362; 95% C.I. = ±5.3%]

23.2% - Strongly Support

52.5% - Support

18.0% - Undecided

4.2% - Oppose

2.1% - Strongly Oppose

58 - Do you hunt waterfowl in NH?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt waterfowl in question 11

[N = 325; 95% C.I. = ±5.6%]

94.2% - Yes

5.8% - No

59 - If you hunt waterfowl in NH, what percentage of your waterfowl hunting occurs in each zone? (Do not include the "%" sign in your answer, just the number)

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt waterfowl in question 11

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Median
Inland Zone	273	5	100	86.99	100
Coastal Zone	123	0	100	35.68	25

60 - If the total duck kill has to be reduced, which is your preference?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt waterfowl in question 11

[N = 315; 95% C.I. = ±5.7%]

29.0% - Shorter seasons

71.0% - Reduced bag limits

61 - The waterfowl season traditionally opens on a weekday. Do you prefer a weekday opening or would you prefer a weekend opening?

Limited to those respondents indicating they hunt waterfowl in question 11

[N = 314; 95% C.I. = ±5.7%]

60.8% - Weekday

39.2% - Weekend