



## 2020-21 New Mexico Small Game Voluntary Harvest Reports

Small game harvest is managed by the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (Department). A Game Hunting License is required to legally take small game. Submission of a harvest report is voluntary, and license holders are able to make submissions through the Department's online Harvest Reporting System. For license holders who decided to submit a report, information was collected on if they hunted, what species of small game was harvested, the number harvested, and the county of harvest. Hunters may report hunting in more than one county. There were 33,965 license holders who voluntarily reported they did not hunt small game, 2,601 license holders who reported hunting without harvesting, and 3,238 who reported hunting and harvesting. The return rate of all game hunting license holders submitting a harvest report for small game was 28.4%.

Resident small game hunters submitted a total of 3,067 species harvest reports, with the potential that some hunters may have filed more than one report if they hunted multiple species. A greater number of small game harvest reports were filed in 2020-21 compared to 2019-20 (Table 2). Of the license holders who filed a report, hunters were generally satisfied with their small game hunting experience in New Mexico. Species small game hunting ratings ranged from 3.0 to 4.3 out of 5.

Small game harvest can be variable year to year. Small game populations are subject to extreme fluctuations due to annual weather conditions. Poor winter or spring moisture and extreme weather events can reduce the number of breeding adults or lead to poor reproductive success. During years of good weather conditions, populations can rebound very quickly.

This report summarizes the reported harvest data for all small game including: quail (scaled, Gambel's, northern bobwhite, and Montezuma), pheasants, dusky grouse, Eurasian collared-doves, and squirrels (Abert's, gray, red, and fox). Information provided from survey results assists the Department with development of recommendations for future small game harvest opportunities.

Table 2. Comparison of the annual number of harvest reports submitted and number of small game reported harvested.

| Species                       | Reports<br>15-16 | Harvest<br>15-16 | Reports<br>16-17 | Harvest<br>16-17 | Reports<br>17-18 | Harvest<br>17-18 | Reports<br>18-19 | Harvest<br>18-19 | Reports<br>19-20 | Harvest<br>19-20 | Reports<br>20-21 | Harvest<br>20-21 |
|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Scaled Quail</b>           | 1,987            | 41,633           | 1,508            | 27,793           | 1,431            | 24,911           | 988              | 13,943           | 1,013            | 14,161           | 1,087            | 13,271           |
| <b>Gambel's Quail</b>         | 527              | 5,280            | 447              | 4,124            | 487              | 5,014            | 324              | 2,505            | 370              | 3,306            | 637              | 6,782            |
| <b>Northern Bobwhite</b>      | 210              | 2,824            | 152              | 1,838            | 151              | 1,894            | 100              | 1,039            | 104              | 1,392            | 88               | 790              |
| <b>Montezuma Quail</b>        | 65               | 506              | 31               | 147              | 28               | 117              | 22               | 99               | 34               | 164              | 26               | 144              |
| <b>Unknown Quail*</b>         | N/A              | N/A              | 204              | 2,886            | 159              | 2,177            | 106              | 1,315            | 103              | 1,336            | 102              | 974              |
| <b>Pheasant</b>               | 35               | 70               | 40               | 72               | 41               | 89               | 28               | 57               | 33               | 58               | 29               | 53               |
| <b>Dusky Grouse</b>           | 374              | 1,186            | 346              | 1,091            | 273              | 805              | 235              | 652              | 249              | 724              | 373              | 1,100            |
| <b>Eurasian Collared-Dove</b> | 548              | 12,858           | 471              | 14,843           | 451              | 10,915           | 397              | 8,179            | 337              | 5,177            | 381              | 5,594            |
| <b>Gray Squirrel</b>          | 19               | 80               | 21               | 90               | 26               | 101              | 11               | 26               | 14               | 35               | 28               | 107              |
| <b>Abert's Squirrel</b>       | 120              | 547              | 140              | 761              | 148              | 723              | 81               | 361              | 103              | 476              | 144              | 534              |
| <b>Red Squirrel</b>           | 44               | 288              | 34               | 192              | 37               | 153              | 20               | 136              | 41               | 208              | 71               | 533              |
| <b>Fox Squirrel</b>           | 1                | 5                | 2                | 10               | 3                | 8                | 1                | 4                | 1                | 2                | 1                | 1                |
| <b>Unknown Squirrel*</b>      | 86               | 357              | 83               | 308              | 84               | 275              | 64               | 189              | 97               | 347              | 100              | 372              |

\*Some harvest reports were made outside of species ranges. These reports are categorized as unknown species.

## **Species Reports**

### **Scaled Quail**

| <b>County</b> | <b>Hunter Reports</b> | <b>Harvests</b> | <b>Hunter Rating</b> |
|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Bernalillo    | 1                     | 2               | 3.0                  |
| Chaves        | 182                   | 2,482           | 3.6                  |
| Cibola        | 2                     | 8               | 4.0                  |
| Colfax        | 2                     | 27              | 2.5                  |
| Curry         | 25                    | 366             | 3.7                  |
| De Baca       | 25                    | 313             | 4.1                  |
| Dona Ana      | 79                    | 655             | 3.7                  |
| Eddy          | 324                   | 4,469           | 3.2                  |
| Grant         | 23                    | 172             | 4.1                  |
| Guadalupe     | 5                     | 47              | 4.4                  |
| Harding       | 4                     | 45              | 4.3                  |
| Hidalgo       | 23                    | 168             | 4.3                  |
| Lea           | 186                   | 2,729           | 3.4                  |
| Lincoln       | 6                     | 66              | 3.8                  |
| Los Alamos    | 1                     | 30              | 4.0                  |
| Luna          | 67                    | 620             | 3.9                  |
| Otero         | 11                    | 62              | 3.2                  |
| Quay          | 16                    | 207             | 3.7                  |
| Roosevelt     | 36                    | 341             | 3.3                  |
| San Juan      | 5                     | 61              | 3.6                  |
| San Miguel    | 2                     | 6               | 3.0                  |
| Sandoval      | 2                     | 22              | 3.0                  |
| Sierra        | 14                    | 131             | 3.1                  |
| Socorro       | 31                    | 133             | 3.5                  |
| Taos          | 2                     | 3               | 3.5                  |
| Union         | 9                     | 55              | 3.7                  |
| Valencia      | 4                     | 51              | 4                    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>1,087</b>          | <b>13,271</b>   | <b>3.5</b>           |

### Gambel's Quail

| County       | Hunter Reports | Harvests     | Hunter Rating |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Bernalillo   | 3              | 34           | 4.0           |
| Catron       | 10             | 94           | 3.9           |
| Cibola       | 1              | 4            | 5.0           |
| Dona Ana     | 146            | 1450         | 3.7           |
| Grant        | 93             | 992          | 4.0           |
| Hidalgo      | 84             | 1338         | 4.0           |
| Lincoln      | 1              | 3            | 4.0           |
| Luna         | 128            | 1424         | 3.8           |
| McKinley     | 2              | 22           | 5.0           |
| Otero        | 25             | 197          | 3.4           |
| Rio Arriba   | 1              | 8            | 5.0           |
| San Juan     | 7              | 60           | 4.0           |
| Sandoval     | 2              | 10           | 4.0           |
| Sierra       | 51             | 692          | 3.5           |
| Socorro      | 77             | 429          | 3.6           |
| Valencia     | 6              | 25           | 3.3           |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>637</b>     | <b>6,782</b> | <b>3.8</b>    |

\*Reports outside of species range were considered a misclassification and were changed to unknown quail.

### Montezuma Quail

| County       | Hunter Reports | Harvests   | Hunter Rating |
|--------------|----------------|------------|---------------|
| Catron       | 2              | 5          | 4.5           |
| Chaves       | 3              | 19         | 4.0           |
| Dona Ana     | 3              | 11         | 2.7           |
| Eddy         | 6              | 64         | 2.3           |
| Grant        | 4              | 24         | 4.5           |
| Hidalgo      | 3              | 10         | 4.0           |
| Luna         | 2              | 3          | 4.5           |
| Otero        | 1              | 1          | 1.0           |
| Sierra       | 1              | 5          | 5.0           |
| Socorro      | 1              | 2          | 5.0           |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>26</b>      | <b>144</b> | <b>3.6</b>    |

\*Reports outside of species range were considered a misclassification and were changed to unknown quail.

### Northern Bobwhite Quail

| County       | Hunter Reports | Harvests   | Hunter Rating |
|--------------|----------------|------------|---------------|
| Chaves       | 3              | 32         | 3.7           |
| Curry        | 22             | 251        | 3.7           |
| De Baca      | 3              | 28         | 4.0           |
| Eddy         | 15             | 127        | 3.5           |
| Lea          | 18             | 194        | 3.8           |
| Quay         | 2              | 20         | 4.0           |
| Roosevelt    | 24             | 137        | 3.1           |
| Union        | 1              | 1          | 5.0           |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>88</b>      | <b>790</b> | <b>3.6</b>    |

\*Reports outside of species range were considered a misclassification and were changed to unknown quail.

### Unknown Quail

| County       | Hunter Reports | Harvests   | Hunter Rating |
|--------------|----------------|------------|---------------|
| Chaves       | 18             | 240        | 3.8           |
| Cibola       | 1              | 4          | 2.0           |
| Colfax       | 1              | 20         | 3.0           |
| Curry        | 6              | 27         | 3.7           |
| DeBaca       | 1              | 2          | 3.0           |
| Dona Ana     | 3              | 12         | 4.3           |
| Eddy         | 33             | 329        | 3.4           |
| Guadalupe    | 2              | 6          | 3.5           |
| Lea          | 25             | 267        | 3.7           |
| Lincoln      | 3              | 18         | 4.0           |
| Roosevelt    | 1              | 7          | 3.0           |
| San Juan     | 1              | 7          | 5.0           |
| San Miguel   | 1              | 4          | 4.0           |
| Socorro      | 5              | 29         | 3.8           |
| Union        | 1              | 2          | 4.0           |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>102</b>     | <b>974</b> | <b>3.6</b>    |

\*Reports outside of individual species range were changed to unknown quail.

**Ring-necked Pheasant**

| <b>County</b>     | <b>Hunter Reports</b> | <b>Harvests</b> | <b>Hunter Rating</b> |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| <b>Chaves</b>     | 3                     | 5               | 4.0                  |
| <b>Colfax</b>     | 1                     | 2               | 3.0                  |
| <b>Curry</b>      | 2                     | 3               | 4.0                  |
| <b>Eddy</b>       | 8                     | 17              | 3.4                  |
| <b>Rio Arriba</b> | 1                     | 1               | 4.0                  |
| <b>Socorro</b>    | 10                    | 14              | 3.6                  |
| <b>Union</b>      | 3                     | 8               | 4.3                  |
| <b>Valencia</b>   | 1                     | 3               | 5.0                  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>      | <b>29</b>             | <b>53</b>       | <b>3.7</b>           |

**Dusky Grouse**

| <b>County</b>     | <b>Hunter Reports</b> | <b>Harvests</b> | <b>Hunter Rating</b> |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| <b>Catron</b>     | 1                     | 1               | 3.0                  |
| <b>Cibola</b>     | 1                     | 1               | 5.0                  |
| <b>Colfax</b>     | 12                    | 65              | 3.9                  |
| <b>Los Alamos</b> | 3                     | 14              | 3.3                  |
| <b>Mora</b>       | 20                    | 53              | 4.4                  |
| <b>Rio Arriba</b> | 107                   | 314             | 3.9                  |
| <b>San Miguel</b> | 38                    | 92              | 4.0                  |
| <b>Sandoval</b>   | 28                    | 63              | 4.1                  |
| <b>Santa Fe</b>   | 23                    | 61              | 3.6                  |
| <b>Sierra</b>     | 1                     | 1               | 5.0                  |
| <b>Taos</b>       | 139                   | 435             | 3.8                  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>      | <b>373</b>            | <b>1,100</b>    | <b>3.9</b>           |

**Eurasian Collared Dove**

| <b>County</b>     | <b>Hunter Reports</b> | <b>Harvests</b> | <b>Hunter Rating</b> |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| <b>Bernalillo</b> | 4                     | 46              | 3.0                  |
| <b>Catron</b>     | 2                     | 22              | 3.0                  |
| <b>Chaves</b>     | 55                    | 1085            | 4.1                  |
| <b>Colfax</b>     | 3                     | 97              | 3.7                  |
| <b>Curry</b>      | 10                    | 81              | 4.0                  |
| <b>De Baca</b>    | 4                     | 26              | 4.0                  |
| <b>Dona Ana</b>   | 87                    | 1023            | 4.2                  |
| <b>Eddy</b>       | 68                    | 1308            | 3.5                  |
| <b>Grant</b>      | 4                     | 36              | 4.5                  |
| <b>Lea</b>        | 27                    | 326             | 3.6                  |
| <b>Luna</b>       | 11                    | 96              | 3.8                  |
| <b>Mora</b>       | 2                     | 12              | 3.5                  |
| <b>Otero</b>      | 4                     | 25              | 3.8                  |
| <b>Rio Arriba</b> | 2                     | 5               | 3.5                  |
| <b>Roosevelt</b>  | 11                    | 283             | 4.1                  |
| <b>San Juan</b>   | 7                     | 37              | 3.9                  |
| <b>San Miguel</b> | 1                     | 10              | 3.0                  |
| <b>Sandoval</b>   | 3                     | 14              | 5.0                  |
| <b>Santa Fe</b>   | 5                     | 46              | 4.0                  |
| <b>Sierra</b>     | 17                    | 212             | 3.6                  |
| <b>Socorro</b>    | 21                    | 303             | 3.6                  |
| <b>Taos</b>       | 1                     | 3               | 2.0                  |
| <b>Torrance</b>   | 2                     | 20              | 3.0                  |
| <b>Union</b>      | 6                     | 91              | 4.0                  |
| <b>Valencia</b>   | 24                    | 387             | 4.1                  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>      | <b>381</b>            | <b>5,594</b>    | <b>3.9</b>           |

### Abert's Squirrel

| County       | Hunter Reports | Harvests   | Hunter Rating |
|--------------|----------------|------------|---------------|
| Bernalillo   | 3              | 6          | 3.3           |
| Catron       | 28             | 121        | 4             |
| Cibola       | 15             | 85         | 3.5           |
| Colfax       | 1              | 4          | 5             |
| Grant        | 14             | 60         | 4             |
| McKinley     | 4              | 9          | 4.3           |
| Rio Arriba   | 20             | 74         | 4.4           |
| San Miguel   | 2              | 3          | 4             |
| Sandoval     | 14             | 32         | 4.2           |
| Santa Fe     | 8              | 17         | 3.5           |
| Sierra       | 6              | 19         | 4.3           |
| Socorro      | 13             | 44         | 4.2           |
| Taos         | 1              | 2          | 2             |
| Torrance     | 13             | 56         | 3.9           |
| Valencia     | 2              | 2          | 5             |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>144</b>     | <b>534</b> | <b>4.0</b>    |

\*Reports outside of species range were considered a misclassification and were changed to unknown squirrel.

### Red Squirrel

| County       | Hunter Reports | Harvests   | Hunter Rating |
|--------------|----------------|------------|---------------|
| Catron       | 1              | 7          | 5             |
| Chaves       | 1              | 42         | 5             |
| Colfax       | 3              | 113        | 4             |
| Grant        | 3              | 6          | 4             |
| Lincoln      | 3              | 16         | 4             |
| Los Alamos   | 1              | 2          | 5             |
| McKinley     | 1              | 3          | 4             |
| Mora         | 2              | 9          | 4.5           |
| Otero        | 15             | 94         | 4.1           |
| Rio Arriba   | 4              | 17         | 4.5           |
| San Miguel   | 13             | 89         | 4.4           |
| Sandoval     | 13             | 97         | 4.4           |
| Santa Fe     | 4              | 11         | 3.8           |
| Socorro      | 1              | 12         | 4             |
| Taos         | 6              | 15         | 4.2           |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>71</b>      | <b>533</b> | <b>4.3</b>    |

\*Reports outside of species range were considered a misclassification and were changed to unknown squirrel.



### Gray Squirrel

| County       | Hunter Reports | Harvests   | Hunter Rating |
|--------------|----------------|------------|---------------|
| Catron       | 11             | 50         | 3.9           |
| Cibola       | 5              | 14         | 3.4           |
| Grant        | 4              | 23         | 4.5           |
| McKinley     | 1              | 5          | 5.0           |
| Socorro      | 3              | 7          | 4.3           |
| Sierra       | 4              | 8          | 3.5           |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>28</b>      | <b>107</b> | <b>3.9</b>    |

\*Reports outside of species range were considered a misclassification and were changed to unknown squirrel.

### Fox Squirrel

| County       | Hunter Reports | Harvests | Hunter Rating |
|--------------|----------------|----------|---------------|
| Eddy         | 1              | 2        | 3.0           |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>1</b>       | <b>2</b> | <b>3.0</b>    |

\*Reports outside of species range were considered a misclassification and were changed to unknown squirrel.

### Unknown Squirrel

| County       | Hunter Reports | Harvests   | Hunter Rating |
|--------------|----------------|------------|---------------|
| Bernalillo   | 4              | 15         | 4.0           |
| Catron       | 2              | 8          | 4.5           |
| Cibola       | 1              | 2          | 4.0           |
| Colfax       | 1              | 20         | 3.0           |
| Dona Ana     | 1              | 10         | 5.0           |
| Lincoln      | 5              | 16         | 4.8           |
| Los Alamos   | 2              | 7          | 4.5           |
| Luna         | 1              | 10         | 3.0           |
| Mora         | 3              | 21         | 3.0           |
| Otero        | 19             | 78         | 4.1           |
| Rio Arriba   | 15             | 46         | 4.5           |
| San Juan     | 2              | 3          | 5.0           |
| San Miguel   | 9              | 22         | 3.4           |
| Sandoval     | 19             | 74         | 4.2           |
| Santa Fe     | 10             | 31         | 3.9           |
| Socorro      | 1              | 2          | 4.0           |
| Taos         | 2              | 2          | 3.5           |
| Torrance     | 2              | 4          | 3.5           |
| Valencia     | 1              | 1          | 4.0           |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>100</b>     | <b>372</b> | <b>4.1</b>    |

\*Reports outside of individual species range were changed to unknown squirrel.