

Band-tailed Pigeon (btp) Harvest 2001

A post-season harvest survey was conducted by phone.

A stratified random sample of 2500 btp hunters was drawn from among HIP participants. As part of the HIP process, migratory bird hunters are asked whether they hunted btp in the previous season (2000). We then assume that they had obtained a permit to hunt btp in 2000. They are also given the opportunity to obtain a permit for the year 2001. In the last HIP cycle (4/1/01 through 3/31/02), 4196 hunters obtained a permit for 2001.

The sample is stratified to focus more heavily on repeat btp hunters or those who hunted in 2000 and obtained a permit for 2001. Hunters who did **not** hunt btp in 2000 but did obtain a 2001 permit and those who did not obtain a permit were sampled less heavily. This is the basis for the variable "btpstrat" and stratified results.

If btpstrat =1 then no permit was obtained.

If btpstrat =2 then a permit was obtained for 2001 but did not hunt in 2000.

If btpstrat= 3 then a permit was obtained for 2001 and did hunt in 2000.

1751 hunters were contacted (70% response rate).

Of those surveyed, 110 or 6% reported hunting btp (11 hunters when btpstrat=1, 14 hunters when btpstrat=2 and 85 hunters when btpstrat=3). The number of birds harvested from 0 to 24.

56% reported being satisfied with their btp hunting experience.

Harvest results are provided by strata and by county. Also included is data on number of pigeons observed by county, dates hunted, pigeons bagged for each "bag period" and habitat hunted.

Statewide harvest estimate = 231 ± 102 (129 - 333).

Statewide hunter number estimate= 275 ± 164(111 - 439).

Compared with the 2000 estimate of 287 ± 81 birds harvested and 178 ± 30 hunters.